

President's Report for the November 2018 AIS Board Meeting, Portland, Oregon

As President, I have been in contact with various board members and committee heads, regarding aspects of their responsibilities for AIS. Rather than comment on these consultations and discussions, I will defer to the reports of individuals and committees, reflecting the work and results on various projects. I prefer to add comments, where appropriate, at the time of the report of the individual or committee.

Contracts signed and/or extended

Kathleen Sonntag as Editor of the 2020 Centennial Bulletin supplements

Jane Milliman for Design and Layout of the 2020 Centennial Bulletin supplements

Teleconferences: Since the spring convention, I have conducted 3 tele-videoconference board meetings. These were in June, August, and September, and all were well attended by board members and visitors. Each meeting was about one hour in length and allowed the board to have information review, discussion time, and actions on a variety of topics. We have now had interim board meetings in addition to the traditional spring and fall board meetings for the past two years. So, we have averaged about 7 teleconference board meetings per year for these two years. These meetings, I believe, have served to better inform the board and to provide a more efficient decision process. They have also increased the meeting time for board members over the course of a year. I think (hope) that these interim teleconferences have also resulted in a more engaged board of directors.

Dwarf Iris Society (DIS): I have been in contact with members of the Dwarf Iris Society board of directors in a facilitative role regarding their decision on either dissolution of the DIS and merging with the Median Iris Society or to reorganize and continue as a viable society and AIS Section. That decision at the time of this report is still pending. I have requested and received advice and direction from the AIS legal counsel on various aspects of the decision, and how to move forward with either decision.

Committee Appointments: A few committee appointment positions remain open or are newly open. Other positions were filled or renewed over the past months since the spring convention. All newly open positions and other committee appointments will be addressed by the incoming president near the end of this board meeting. A few positions will possibly remain open until appropriate replacements can be appointed.

This is my last report as President to the Board, and I want to take this moment to thank all of the officers, Directors, committee chairs and members of committees for your time, efforts and cooperation over the past three years and beyond. It takes all of you to make this society function and for the board to manage all that it does. And, I greatly appreciate all of the help, advice, and consideration that you all have given me. Your friendship has been a wonderful bonus. Thank you.

Gary White

President, American Iris Society