The American Iris Society
News & Notes - Spring 2020

The Covid-19 pandemic has increased the frequency we publish issues of News & Notes. An issue announcing we were considering cancelling the 2020 Convention was quickly followed by the actual cancellation notice. These two March issues were followed by two issues in April.

We also have created a page in the Iris Encyclopedia to summarize the cancellations within AIS. This can be updated between issues. This and the Iris Shows by Date, the Regional Spring Meetings, and the Regional Fall Meetings pages are all sources members can consult for recent changes.

Another innovation spurred by the pandemic is the Daily Iris Puzzle. This has been extremely popular. The page itself, on the Iris Encyclopedia, was viewed more than 1300 times in April.

News & Notes is one of the rapid response ways we can communicate with our members. Others are social media (World of Irises, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube), the AIS website (the front page and the News page are where topics would be most visible), AIS Talk (so all of the Board can directly reach all AIS members and the public), and the Iris Encyclopedia (probably on the main Iris Encyclopedia page would be most visible). **How might we use these together more effectively?**

Also, AIS Talk needs updated so it can function properly. The Board specified (AIS Fall 2004 Minutes - doc file - thanks to John Jones for the reference): 1. Only defined leadership could post and reply. **2. All postings should be public, readable by everyone.** The second part has not been implemented on AIS Talk which limits use in News & Notes and other communication channels. **How can we correct this?**

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News & Notes Editor
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