

Section_Liaison_Consultant_Report_FALL_2006
October 9, 2006
By Jim Morris

I have now prepared my Section Happenings column in the *AIS Bulletin* for five issues starting with the October 2005 issue and running through the October 2006 issue. With a deadline two months prior to the publishing date I have worked to provide timely and informative Section and Cooperating Society news and data not readily available to all AIS members. I continue to be encouraged by information provided and questions posed by the various organizations' leaders and editors.

Section heads have suggested that my column be supported and supplemented by varietal and garden pictures. I have requested this of our Editor and hopefully this will occur soon.

The meeting of the Section presidents on May 23, 2006 was attended by representatives of HIPS, MIS, SIGNA, SJI, SSI, SPCNI and RIS. Missing in action were the Dwarf Iris Society, the Spuria Iris Society and the Aril Society International. Unanimous conceptual support (discussed at later individual Section board and membership meetings) of those attending was expressed for:

- a. Inclusion of Sections and Co-operating Societies in the on-line E-Join membership provision proposed for the AIS website
- b. Usage of PayPal as an option to process payment for membership dues
- c. Consistent, standard but separate line-item listing in the *AIS Bulletin* for Overseas memberships to either charge or absorb (individual Section decision) extra postage for Section bulletins. It was agreed that Section Presidents were to communicate their positions on these topics directly to John Jones, AIS Electronic Services & Website Chairman.

The *AIS Bulletin* editor was in attendance and so was made aware of the Sections' position on Overseas membership dues listings in the *AIS Bulletin*. Editor Filardi expressed concern about the Sections' position on this and has later said it can't be done. Subsequently, most Section heads said they can live with the Editor's position but did express disappointment that this minor change couldn't be accommodated.

The Median Iris Society President, Perry Dyer, has requested that I present an MIS Board of Directors-approved proposal to the AIS Board of Directors. This proposal for a Ben R. Hager Cup funded by MIS for the Best Median seen at the annual AIS National Convention is attached. It represents two years' worth of investigation and discussion by many members of the Median Iris Society. Please give it your attention and serious consideration.

Thank you.