

**Report of the Registrar-Recorder
and
Registrations Committee**

The 2006 Registrations and Introductions booklet was shipped to the Publications Sales Director in the second week of February, 800 copies were printed at a cost of \$1726.10, shipping was \$274.80 for a total of \$2000.90 or \$2.50 per copy. The smaller press run increased per unit cost over previous runs of 1200. Faster preparation of the R & I index of registrants/registrations and introducers/introductions has been achieved, although not yet totally shifted to automated preparation. We hope to further reduce preparation time of the next R & I.

The 2006 Registration year ended with 1,152 registrations and 969 recordings of introductions—less registrations than 2006 but an all time high for intros, (some of this total was due to non reporting of 2005 intros). Registrations in 2007, thus far (1 April), are at 400, greater than the same date in 2004, even with 2005.

We have coded algorithms for both Soundex and New York State Identification and Intelligence System phonetic codes, converted all Check List names to these codes and tested the ability to electronically check for ‘sound-alike’ names. Unfortunately, too high a percentage of unacceptably close names slip through, thus no magic bullet for winnowing out homonyms other than knowledge, experience and intuition yet exists.

There is a request before the AIS Board of Directors that duplication of a persons name or a place name be prohibited regardless of differences in spelling or pronunciation. Hybridizers selecting names for their new cultivars would have to consider an additional criteria in choosing a unique name. Implementation of this policy would require translation of all existing Check List iris names not presently rendered in English and a name check of new registrations run against this list.

The difficulties that epithets in American Indian, Russian, Japanese, etcetera, would engender is daunting. Scrutiny of 59 thousand existing iris names and translation of all non-English names to produce a translated listing is a non trivial task. We do not recommend favorable consideration for approval of this suggested policy.

Anne and Mike Lowe,
Registrar/Recorder