

## Report of the Registrar-Recorder and Registrations Committee

It would appear that 2009 registration numbers are somewhat inflated by an effort to be included in the decade Check List. At this point, 28 Oct., the registration count is 350 greater than at this time in the registration year which had the highest total registration count ever. We fervently hope that our efforts to persuade registrants to register earlier in the reg. year has been effective and that we will end the year with a total number of registrations that will not exceed the saddle binding R & I format.

The Board will need to set the print number of the 2009 R & I. Historically demand for the decade end R & I has been less than that for the earlier years of the decade.

Print figures for the run-up to the previous and current decade end are as follows:

1997—800; 1998—700; 1999—700; 2000—1,000; 2001—800

2006—800; 2007—500; 2008—520 (20 comp copies)

Online provision of R & I data is reducing demand for paper, this trend will continue and accelerate. However, Statutory Plant Registration Authorities are mandated to provide printed registration data and elimination of this requirement is far down line.

All AIS awards, 1920 through 2008 have been entered into the Registrar cultivar database (eCheck List) and will appear in the IrisRegister.com listings. We are inputting the 1939 and 1949 Check Lists into the eCheck List and when completed the data will be added to IrisRegister.com vice the present name only '39 & '49 data. We have completed through the 'Fs' on the '39 and 'Bs' on the '49 Check Lists.

As one step in preparation for compiling the 2009 Check List we are proofing all cultivar names in parentages in the eCheck List (the most egregious and numerous errors occur in parentages) and we have completed 1950 — 2009 through the 'Ms' (an automated 'pedigree name check' function programmed into the Registrations database has greatly reduced errors, 2004 and on). Keith Keppel and Phil Edinger have been exceptionally helpful in deciphering and suggesting corrections in the cases of wildly wrong spellings of parentage cultivars in earlier years.

The Store Front, in consultation with the AIS Board, will need to consider the press run number for the 2009 Check List. At some point Print on Demand will become a viable option although the profit margin on a 4 dollar book sold for 17 will far exceed that possible on POD. The yearly R & Is may well provide a good bellwether for easing into the POD option with a much smaller impact on initial outlay, storage demands and down-line profits.

It took Keith Keppel five years to shake replacement Registrar/Recorders out of the trees. The Board should be mindful that the serving Registrar and Recorder are in their 70s and 80s and began to consider possible future replacement candidates. As a complex suite of interrelated databases is now employed in running the Registrations office, a fairly high level of computer competency must be added into the mix of iris knowledge, clerical and publishing abilities requisite in accomplishing the duties of this office.

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