

## Report of the Registrar-Recorder and Registrations Committee, Spring 2009

The 2009 Registration year ended 30 November with 1135 registrations and 838 recordings of introduction. Registrations in 2010 thus far (23 May) are running behind previous years although consistent with the past early decade's registration numbers. Reserves are at an all time record level as many hybridizers are stockpiling names before the 1 July price increase.

400 copies of the 2009 R & I were shipped to the Storefront on 18 Feb 2010. This was the latest we have yet been. Loss of our oil heating plant on 3 Nov, with the subsequent conversion to heat pumps and necessary upgrading of electrical service dragging on until 23 December created 'interesting times' in the Lowe household. Frequent electrical interruptions while rewiring and efforts to 'keep the pipes from freezing' produced most of the R & I delay.

An overseas hybridizer submitted 113 registrations with missing information in 2009. We requested that the missing information be furnished and converted the registrations to reserves until the missing info is provided. There is some doubt that the information will be obtained although the hybridizer has stated in his National Bulletin that the info can be furnished to any individual on inquiry.

Assembly and proofing, in house, of the 2009 Check List is proceeding. Ascertaining the correctness of hybridizers addresses is proving to be a non-trivial task, with particular difficulty in obtaining information on those individuals who have died during the past decade. We learned of the death of a hybridizer in our Region that was unknown to the RVP, membership Chairman and Bulletin editor and only came to light in a passing conversation. The ancillary information, hybridizers' addresses, AIS garden cultivar awards, overseas Dykes Medal winners, and Primo Firenze winners for the decade Check List is proving to be time consuming in assembling.

Information on 8643 cultivars appeared in the 1999 Check List. The 2009 Check List will have data on 10779 cultivars. Cultivar pages in the '99 took 496 pages with the book totaling 559 pages. There will be approx 615 cultivar pages in the '09 book if hybridizers' verbosity has not greatly increased. The Award listing will also be commensurately larger. The 2009 is going to be a massive tome indeed unless Mike can finesse body point size without compromising legibility. The '99 body text was set in Helvetica at 8.25 points, the 2009 should not go below 8.00 points considering that the audience for a printed Check List is somewhat more elderly than average. The AIS Board in conjunction with the Storefront will need to weigh anticipated demand carefully in setting a press run. Target date for submission to a printer is early months of 2011 with the goal of availability at the 2011 Spring Convention.

Scanning, OCRing, and proofing the 1939 and 1949 Check Lists continues as time permits with the '39 complete through the 'Gs' and the '49 thru the 'Bs'. Subsuming the data into the 1950—2010 eCheck List database is proving to be a very interesting task.

The Board should be mindful that the present Registration/Recorder team is in the eighth and ninth decade of life and the Board would be well advised to be prospecting for a younger set of individuals to take over the Registrations office.

Anne and Mike Lowe,  
Registrar/Recorder  
23 May 2006