

American Iris Society President's Report November 2013

By Jim Morris

My report includes topics for discussion under the appropriate officers and committees. It is presented here so that you can think about the topics a bit before we discuss them in the proper order.

1. We were saddened to hear of the passing of former AIS president Clarence Mahan on September 28, 2013. Clarence was our president from 1998 to 2001. There will be a brief obit in the October/November issue of *Irises*, The Bulletin of the American Iris Society, to be followed with a more expansive tribute in the January/February issue.
2. It is my pleasure to announce that Kathleen Sonntag of Region 14 has accepted the position of Editor of *Irises*, The Bulletin of the American Iris Society. Kathleen will begin with the January 2014 issue (deadline of November 1, 2013). She has been in touch with our publisher Gene Mandish of Sundance Press in Tucson, AZ for publishing requirements and will interface with outgoing editor Kelly Norris for transition files in the next weeks following her daughter's wedding.

Kathleen has most recently been involved with publication of the Region 14 *The Bulletin*. She brings a wealth of editor/writer/e-design/computer skill instruction experience from diverse employers General Dynamics, CTB/McGraw-Hill, Tor House Foundation, Monterey Peninsula College, three combined school district Adult Schools, as well as freelance positions. She is a Master Gardener and has edited the Monterey Bay Master Gardener *Newsletter*. She is proficient in Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat Professional, Adobe InDesign 5.5, Photoshop 3, iPhoto, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access. She has been an instructor and technology coach in both Mac and Windows operating systems.

Please join me in welcoming Kathleen to her new position as AIS Editor! She may be contacted at kathwrites@gmail.com or in Carmel, CA at 831-626-4151. A big thank you for our outgoing editorial team for their services.

In August 2013 I closed out the Portland, OR AIS Bulletin account which resulted in a refund from the U. S. Postal Service of \$1,213.13

3. AIS should consider eliminating the Arthur J. Nelson Award under the Exhibitions Committee.
4. List the MIS 50th Anniversary Issue in the Storefront; \$20 picked up in person; \$26 if mailed. Recent mailing expenses were \$6.15 per copy.
5. AIS does not and will not recognize any affiliate or regional legal counsel as we have AIS counsel for all our membership. Do we need an ombudsman with experience in conflict resolution?
6. The 1940 Dykes Medal for 'Wabash' was recently accepted from family members of hybridizer Mary Williamson and was placed in the Wells County Historical Museum in Bluffton, IN, where Mary lived.

7. AIS members who are hybridizers assisted author Benita Lee Green, www.plantxing.com, in her delightful articles posted in September 2013, The Intersection of Plants and People, “Obsessed with the Unique.”
8. It has been suggested that AIS consider breaking the 10-year checklist information into two five-year checklists. Considerations include checklist size and freshness of info.
9. Iris registrations. Discuss trademark disclaimer under Intellectual Properties committee.
10. Iris Encyclopedia. Discuss content and goals and appropriateness of some info such as obits.
11. Executive session for various administrative and legal issues.