

## President's Report, May 2015 by Jim Morris

This is my third year of a three-year term as President of the American Iris Society. Year two was marked by my attendance and representation of AIS at the iris conventions (in our fall 2014) of the Iris Society of Australia and the New Zealand Iris Society. I met and spent significant time with ISA president Carmel Niland and NZIS president Alison Nicholl.

In Australia, I learned of the 2013 bush fires in the Blue Mountains that caused cancellation of that year's annual convention ultimately resulting in a superior 2014 gathering. In New Zealand, I was apprised of the 2004 government ban on plant importation that has resulted in their trial gardens, such as the one maintained by the South Canterbury Group, main emphasis being shifted from plants to imported seeds. They especially want and need tall bearded and Siberian iris seeds.

I wish to express my appreciation to Kathleen Sonntag, who edited six issues of *IRISES, the Bulletin of the American Iris Society* as she moves on to do the research on a book she is writing.

I am pleased to announce the appointment of two guest editors for the next two issues: first, **Jaime Cloud** of Shreveport, LA, who will edit the summer issue (she will need immediate article help) with a one month slipped deadline to June 15; and, second, **Jane Milliman** of Victor, NY, who will edit the fall issue. They are both interested in filling the editor position on a regular basis.

Jaime Cloud is a graduate of Centenary College of Louisiana and is sole proprietor of Cloud 9 Designs, L.L.C. She is editor and layout designer of *Fleur de Lis*, the quarterly journal of The Society for Louisiana Iris.

Jane Milliman's education is in ornamental horticulture from Finger Lakes Community College. She is publisher of *Upstate Gardener's Journal* and a gardening columnist with the Rochester, NY *Democrat and Chronicle*.

Please join me in welcoming Jaime and Jane as they strive to maintain the quality of *IRISES*. Content, as always, will be dependent on input from our members.

Several other topics for the AIS board meeting will be brought up under the appropriate committees.