

President's Report to the May 2016 AIS Board Meeting, Newark, New Jersey

In remembrance of the AIS members who have passed away in the past year or so, I ask for a moment of silence at the beginning of the spring board meeting. Among those members are Carolyn Bridges, David Cadd, Margaret Cameron, Badger Carney, Betty Coyle, Albert Detwiler, Orville Dickhaut, Gordon Green, Dr. Norlan Henderson, Claire Honkanen, Anton (Tony) Huber, Lech Komarnicki, Jerry Kuck, Kitty Lack, Gayle Maynard, Elizabeth McEwen, Donald Robert Saxton, Jim Schnellinger, Steven Stevens, James Van Hook, and Opal Wulf.

- 1) Contracts signed and/or extended
 - a. Printing IRISES, by Sundance Press for 3 years, same cost and terms
 - b. Jim Morris as Managing Editor of IRISES
 - c. Jaime Cloud for the Summer 2016 issue of IRISES
 - d. Jane Milliman for the Fall 2016 issue of IRISES
- 2) I thank the two guest editors of IRISES for the past 4 issues. All four issues were beautiful and well done. Jaime Cloud and Jane Milliman have each edited 2 issues and we are contracting for them to each produce one more issue before consideration of an editor of the publication. I also thank Jim Morris for his work in managing the production of all four issues and his work in that capacity going forward.
- 3) I appointed Andi Rivarola as the chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee and he was approved by the board. Andi will report the activities of that committee to the Board.
- 4) I appointed Ron Killingsworth to continue as Advertising Editor for the AIS Bulletin. He was approved by board vote.
- 5) I Signed the agreement giving exclusive license to the AIS for use of the 2020 Centennial Logo (Fleur de Lis), created by Lori Galetti. More information regarding the use of this logo can be provided by the 2020 Centennial Committee.

Finally, I am deeply honored to serve as AIS President. It has been a very long time since another President of AIS has come from Region 21... Dr. Harry Everett, who also lived in Lincoln, Nebraska, was the second President of AIS and served from 1934 to 1939 (The usual 3 year terms were a few years away at that time). I greatly appreciate all those who have served before me, whether as President or as a board or committee member or as a regional or affiliate leader. That service, dedication, and generosity have made AIS the amazing society that it is. And now, it is up to this board and its committees to continue the work, innovation, dedication necessary to get us to the 100 year mark and beyond. In the 17 years I have been attending AIS Board meetings, (first as a regional officer, then as a board member), there have been major changes with electronic services and the website, the AIS Bulletin, development of the Iris Encyclopedia, and the way we conduct our business and communications. We will need to be just as innovative in our future, both short term and longer term, if we are to remain vital. So, going into this convention and board meeting, I ask each of you to think about what we as a board of directors can do to improve AIS, grow the society, and provide useful and meaningful services to our members. Suggestions and help from the general membership are always welcome.

Gary White
President, American Iris Society