

Webmaster Annual Report 2018  
Laetitia Munro, HIPS Webmaster

The Website has been fairly stable this year with no outages to speak of, and also no major changes. We have added new information on the Breeders Collection Program. The ID Committee has made some improvements and streamlining to the ID request form and process. Now the requests will be posted on a new ID Committee Forum where our Committee members will weigh in and discuss the iris before a response is sent to the requester. In addition all requests submitted will be archived for future reference, and the Forum visitors are encouraged to leave their suggestions about an unknown iris ID at any time.

About 100 new iris profiles were posted in the gallery, and some poor quality pictures were replaced with those of better quality.

We will soon be offering a link to our new Guardian Gardens Forum which is near completion. The forum will be open to our Guardian Garden members. While the Forum is for GG Gardeners only, we encourage anyone interested to read about this program and join if they are interested in saving endangered iris.

Mike Unser is working on updating his very extensive Kleinsorge compendium, adding new and better photos. This work is in our digital library, and not many people know about it, but it is such a good document that perhaps we will feature it on the website in a more prominent area when it is completed. It is perhaps the most extensive work on Dr Kleinsorge's creations and is excellent reference material.

I continue to get inquiries on an almost daily basis. Many folks want to join or renew and need assistance. Others simply request information. We field about 150 inquiries in a year. Some of the more interesting ones included a request from Mollie Dohrmann to use some of our photos for a exhibit on Iris Hybridizers native to Tennessee (which I gave my OK for, provided HIPS was credited with the photographs), Jill Whitehead secretary for BIS who also wanted some photos for the BIS yearbook , and another woman who was writing a book to include douglasiana iris and David Douglas, and one who was researching Violet Insole.

We are always looking for ways we can improve our website, offer features it may not have, and change things to keep it fresh. We are hoping that we can improve on our membership database, and I have already created design specs, if only I had the time to follow up with it.