

## Youth Report by Cheryl Deaton

Fall 2019

We currently have 411 youth members enrolled in AIS. 150 are in the Coarsegold Classroom Iris Programs of which I believe there are 4 (3 actual classes and an afterschool program); 47 are in the CIP at Cobb Mountain Elementary 4th grade class run by Cindy Leonard, and there are 43 youth members in the various CIPs supervised by Mrs. Jean Morris.

We maintain a membership of approximately 400 yearly. This year we have been fortunate to receive irises donated by the Mesilla Valley Iris Society. We were hoping to receive promised AIS Convention irises, but that donation has not materialized as of this writing. I have a commitment from Region 23 for the 2020 youth irises as they will not be available from the 2020 Convention. Thanks to Nancy Price for being the Youth Webmaster for the youth website, [www.AISYouth.com](http://www.AISYouth.com).

My budget remains at \$1500 per year, and I have come in under budget the past few years, but with rising costs of shipping and materials, I do not wish to decrease the budget. We have maintained dues at \$8 without the Bulletin and \$12 with the Bulletin, which covers most of the costs of materials, newsletters and handbooks and postage, plus prizes throughout the year.

I am thinking of producing a Coloring Book/Word Search pamphlet for sale at the Centennial Convention, but as of now it is only an idea in my head.

I appreciate all the support from the many youth mentors who help to share their love of irises with the kids, and keep the program strong. We need more adults to take a few minutes of their time and share a rhizome, some history, or just help kids to plant irises in their garden and make the world a better place.

As always, I am available with information and resources to help anyone encourage youth participation in AIS.

