

YOUTH_REPORT_FALL_2006

I have not received an updated report on youth activity from the AIS Membership Secretary since June 5th, 2006, even though in the past I have requested notification of new youth members immediately so that I may mail out their youth packets ASAP instead of quarterly. This leads me to conclude that no new youth members have joined since June 5th, 2006.

We have a total of 279 youth members in AIS. I have heard that the new administration at the Southview School has decided to discontinue the Classroom Iris Projects, which will result in a loss of 47 youth members. As one of the more active CIPs, this decision must have been distressing to Jean and Jim Morris, who have supported these CIPs and the youth members involved for years. However, when one door closes, another one opens.

Region 15 is pleased to add 3 CIPs from Tucson to the AIS roster. There are a total of 72 youth members, some of which are special education youths integrated into the 3 classes. Special credit should be given to Kathy Chilton, RVP of Region 15, who first approached the teachers about AIS and the programs available. They are extremely excited with the curriculum and projects in their future.

Sales of the youth t-shirts are continuing, and I will have a selection of sizes available at the Fall Board Meeting for purchase. Price is \$15 plus \$2 S&H. Profits have enabled me to offer nice cash prizes for the coloring contest participants, and to be open to requests for funding of special projects. The new General Youth Fund will also enable me to fund items such as a new youth ITJ pamphlet that I hope to have available next Spring before the annual horticulture shows.

Bob Plank and I have been working together on the AIS Youth Protection Policy Guidelines, which he will present to the Board. I feel these guidelines are a necessary addition to the AIS Youth Program.

As always, I am available to anyone with an interest in promoting youth in AIS. I'd like to thank all of those people, too numerous to mention, who have supported the program with suggestions, contributions, articles and donations. I appreciate you and your efforts more than you'll ever know.

Cheryl Deaton, AIS Youth Chair