

YOUTH REPORT

Spring 2011

Currently the youth numbers are staying fairly steady at just under 200. Those regions or clubs with active and enthusiastic adults seem to have the most success. Unfortunately, there are many youth who are active in their clubs, but for some reason they do not belong to AIS. I am hoping that with the new "e membership" that the numbers will start to climb, especially in the teens age group.

We continue to have 3 Classroom Iris Projects, 2 in Missouri and one in Washington. I am hoping to have two more start within the next few months in California. With the budget reductions and the new requirements for teachers, it is very difficult to get any public school teachers to join the program, but private school and troop leaders are still interested.

Alex Harding has won the 2010 Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement, but is unable to attend the convention because he is having his wisdom teeth extracted. Alex's sister Claire, and his cousins Jessi and Sarah will be attending. This will be Sarah's first convention and she has been trying to pack since Mother's Day! It will be an all girls' event this year. First Runner-up is Sarah M. Green of Lincoln, Nebraska, and the Second Runner-up is Sean Pennington of Beaufort, Missouri.

The Ackerman Essay winners have been determined. In the junior division (ages 12 years and under), the winner is Chelsea Curlee from Region 17, and in the senior division (ages 13 years and up), the winner is Jarrett Raulerson from Region 4.

The issue of identified photos of young people on the websites continues to occur, much to my dismay.

I am still looking for a webmaster for the youth website and always welcome any suggestions, pictures or articles about youth participation.

Cheryl Deaton, AIS Youth Chair