

4-H International Exchanges 2006 and the Future

and....a Little History

National 4-H Headquarters at USDA issued a clarification statement last fall on the status of 4-H International Programs. It helps answer the many questions that have been raised by 4-H International exchange alumni, Extension staff, Country Contacts, and others.

There will be no nationally sanctioned 4-H exchange programs. Programs and participation are a decision of each state Extension Director and State 4-H Leader and the state must take full responsibility for the programs. Programs for 4-H age youth and volunteers who serve them should focus on the 4-H World Citizenship theme. Programs designed for those 20 years and older should not carry the 4-H Name and Emblem, and will fall under the International Programs office of USDA in the CSREES Higher Education unit.



The complete statement, Status of 4-H International Education Programs, is found on page 5. Though many state 4-H programs provide for some aspect of the 4-H World Citizenship

theme, very few any longer provide for 4-H International exchange opportunities.

4-H International has an inspiring history. The need for a formal structure to support and promote 4-H International exchanges led, in part, to the establishment in 1948 of the National 4-H Foundation, one of the two predecessor organizations of National 4-H Council.

IFYE was the pioneer 4-H International exchange program. Richard Tenney, OH-France 1959, shares a story of the early impetus for the exchange - see "In the Beginning ... " on page 4.

Several other 4-H exchange and training programs were developed as a result of IFYE. 4-H International participants assisted with youth programs in other countries through the 4-H International Youth Development Project (YDP) and 4-H Peace Corps programs. Others include the Professional Rural Youth Leader Exchange (PRYLE), International Extension 4-H Travel Seminars, the Young Agricultural Specialists Exchange (YASEP), Agricultural Training Programs, and various special programs at both the state and national levels. 🛧

Peaked? for "The Peak Experience" Colorado Springs, Colorado August 23-27, 2006



Colorado alumni beckon....they and the "Peaks" hope you are Peaked and Planning for "The Peak Experience!" Register today - rate increases April 1.

Special recognition is planned for those celebrating their 1st, 25th and 50th Anniversary of their participation. Other groups planning reunions contact Betty Stephenson - 303/659-6448 or email

bstephenson@worldnet.att.net.

Registration form is found in last issue of IFYE News or on the website. More conference information - see page 5.



Kathleen Solveig Flom "First Lady of the National 4-H Center" July 14, 1913 - December 12, 2005

4-H International exchange alumni and Extension/4-H friends around the country and the world will remember Kathleen Solveig Flom, 92, who spent most of her life involved with the 4-H program. She died December 12, 2005, at a retirement home in Rockville, Maryland.

Donald T. Floyd, president of National 4-H Council, referred to Kathleen as the "First Lady" of the National 4-H Center, during the memorial service on January 8, hosted by Council and held at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

A memorial service was also held at the Clovia Sorority House in St. Paul, Minnesota, on December 26. Burial took place at the Flom family plot in Belview, Minnesota, on December 23.

Kathleen is remembered as a strong supporter of 4-H International and other international development, education and exchange programs, and as "hostess with the mostest" at the National 4-H Center. See related articles on pages 2 and 3.

In 1996, when Kathleen retired (a second time), a small conference room, Kathleen's Corner, at the Center was dedicated in her honor. Plans to renovate it were underway when word came of her death. It will feature the history of the Center and its half century of support for 4-H.

Memorial Contributions....and a Challenge!

Kathleen's family requested that memorial contributions be for the renovation of Kathleen's Corner. As we went to press an anonymous donor made a challenge grant matching all contributions between February 1 and April 15 up to \$10,000. It is hoped the dedication can be on what would have been Kathleen's 93rd birthday - July 14, 2006.

Contributions should be sent to:

National 4-H Council, Wachovia Bank, PO Box 75375, Baltimore MD 21275-5375.

Please indicate "Kathleen's Corner" on the memo line of the check.

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IFYE Association of the USA



Memories, Thoughts, Thanks!

Most of you knew or knew of Kathleen Flom, long time staff member of National 4-H Council. I was privileged to have known her for a half century starting in 1956 when on a fellowship with Council.

Her last years were in the Hebrew Home, a retirement facility near us. I saw her fairly often. It was a joy to help with her mail, visit, and add a few touches to her room. I was prepared, with the boxed Christmas tree marked "Kathleen," to visit her the next morning when we received a call from her nephew, Steve, that she had passed away.

Kathleen was very proud of her 4-H and 4-H International connections. As she had to scale down, some things that followed her all the way - 4-H awards, the 50th Anniversary World IFYE Conference photo, and her 4-H Hall of Fame recognition.

I have to share a story about a visit soon after she moved to the Hebrew Home. She would often tell me that the priest had been in to visit. After a few times, I ask, "Do you mean the Catholic priest?" Her response, "No, the Lutheran priest." I asked her if she meant the Rabbi? "Oh yes," she said, "that's what they call him here."

Gwen Western El Sawi, MN-India 1969, Dick Angus, MN-Italy 1956, and I were honored that Kathleen had requested that we share memories at her memorial service. Sue Kleen Benedetti, WY-India 1966, coordinated the service.

* * *

Remember the young woman pictured above (top right)? She is Lindsey Marie Ferris, daughter of fellow Michigan IFYE, Keith, MI-New Zealand 1969, and Pam Ferris, who attended several National IFYE Conferences as a child. Lindsey, 26, passed away suddenly



Kathleen Flom with the late Norm and Dorothy Mindrum (above left) at the National 4-H Center. Norm was president of National 4-H Council at the time. Kathleen (center) with the globe alumni presented to the National 4-H Center at the time of the 50th Anniversary World IFYE Conference in 1998. Lindsey Marie Ferris (above right)

on January 29 in Germany from bacterial meningitus. She was a Special Agent civilian employee assigned to the Air Force Office of Special Investigation at the Spang-dahlem Air Base. Commendations from friends around the world were shared at her memorial services and in the online guest book. It would make any parent proud. Keith and Pam can be very proud...what a great representative of our country!

Wonder who that is behind the podium in the photo below (lower left)? That's Duain Vierow, MN-Netherlands 1957, during the National IFYE Conference last June. He and David White (right), Association president, presented me with the IFYE Association's award for alumni who have contributed significantly to 4-H International Programs. My thanks and sincere appreciation!

* * *

It has been my privilege to work with 4-H International Programs - both professionally and as a volunteer for 50+ years. I have seen the ups and downs and am saddened by the current situation. Alumni share some of the blame. We have not always provided the impact on 4-H that the Extension Service expected.

I appreciate what the IFYE program has done for the overall development of 4-H International programs. However, it has been disappointing that IFYE gets emphasized to the point that other programs get overlooked.

The U.S., through USAID, Extension, Peace Corps and 4-H, provided considerable support to countries around the world from the 50's into the 70's in developing youth programs similar to 4-H. Such support is minimal today.

As Extension Service/4-H funding and staffing patterns change, my hope is that the role it can play on an international level will not be abandoned!

Mel Thompson Michigan-Turkey 1953 Editor, IFYE News 🛠

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IFYE NEWS / WINTER 2006

Kathleen Solveig Flom

"First Lady of the National 4-H Center" • 4-H Educator and International Home Economist July 14, 1913 - December 12, 2005



1950's

Kathleen Solveig Flom was an active 4-H member when growing up in Belview, Minnesota. She won two Minnesota grand championships earning two trips to the National 4-H Congress in Chicago in one year and was a Minnesota delegate to the "National Boys and Girls 4-H Club Camp" (now National 4-H Conference) in Washington, D.C., in 1934.

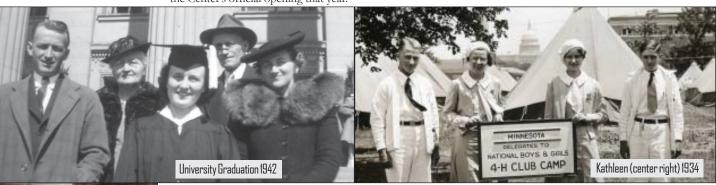
On completion of her Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics from the University of Minnesota in 1942, she began her career with the Cooperative Extension Service in Minnesota as a County Home Economist and 4-H agent. She was promoted after 18 months to the position of Assistant State 4-H Leader where she served for 11 years.

Kathleen moved to the Washington area in 1954 to join the staff of the National 4-H Foundation (now National 4-H Council) where she served as the Regional Program Leader for Europe and the Far East for the International Farm Youth Exchange (IFYE).

In 1959, she played a major role in the opening of the new National 4-H Center, National 4-H Council's headquarters in Chevy Chase, Maryland. A highlight of her life was serving as host to President Eisenhower on the occasion of the Center's official opening that year.



2004



She spent 1960-1962 as a home economist with the British government working in Uganda, East Africa. On her return to Washington in 1963 she served as Consultant for International Programs for Women Leaders, with the Extension Service at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In 1965 she became Assistant Leader for 4-H International Programs at the National 4-H Foundation. She was promoted in 1971 to Assistant Manager and Home Economist for the National 4-H Center (now National 4-H Youth Conference Center). She served in this position until her retirement in 1979.

She coordinated and led the International Extension 4-H Travel Seminar to Botswana, Kenya and Swaziland in 1973.

After she "retired" she continued to serve full time at the National 4-H Center until 1999 as a Special Projects Consultant and delighted visitors with her comprehensive knowledge of 4-H and the Center.

Kathleen was a member of the American Home Economics Association, board member of International Home Economics Services (IHES), Inc., the Society for International Development, Phi Upsilon Omicron (National

Africa Travel Seminar 1973

Home Economics Honorary), Epsilon Sigma Phi (National Extension Honorary), Clovia (4-H sorority), the UN Association, and was an honorary life member of the IFYE Association of the USA.

She received a National Recognition Award as a Partner in 4-H in 1990 and had a room at the National 4-H Center, Kathleen's Corner, dedicated to her in 1997. In 1998, 4-H International exchange alumni honored her during the World IFYE Conference in Washington, D.C. as part of the 50th Anniversary celebration of 4-H International Programs.

She was named to the National 4-H Hall of Fame in 2002.

Related article and Memorial Contribution information for "Kathleen's Corner" at the National 4-H Center - see page 1. With the late Les Nichols of Council staff 1970's

WWW.IFYEUSA.ORG

With friend Kirsti Hirvensalo of

Finland's 4-H Staff 1955



In The Beginning....

Four 4-H'ers in New York State Provided Strong Impetus for 4-H International Exchange Programs

by Richard W. Tenney

Nearly 40 years ago I was researching the background for my Master's thesis at Penn State University. The title of the thesis was to be, "The Influence of the International Farm Youth Exchange Experience on the Educational Development and Occupational Choice of the United States Delegates." The introductory chapter, which included information about the historical background of IFYE, contained the following sentences: "In 1946, four students at Cornell University, all of whom had been 4-H members, got together and discussed how 4-H could help bring world peace. They felt that the 4-H type program would be wanted and enjoyed by youth in other countries and that understanding was a key to peace."

In early November 2005, I received an E-mail that stated: "I found this morning through the IFYE website that you are the Secretary of the IFYE Foundation Board of Directors. Back when I was a student, four of us had a little to do with the beginnings of IFYE. It would be nice to meet you..." So recently, nearly 60 years after that beginning, Mary Lou and I got the opportunity to talk to one of those "four students" and learn the details of what has been recognized as the beginnings of the IFYE program. Bernard "Bud" Stanton, Professor Emeritus of Agricultural Economics at Cornell University (and his wife Lara) came to our home for lunch and we discussed what happened in 1946.

In 1946 a campus 4-H organization existed at Cornell University. As was typical of the times, they held regular meetings and then square danced. As they got to know each other, they began to reflect on what the future held following the end of World War II. One evening when they were together, Bud, Anne Dickinson, Donald Sullivan and Germain Marion discussed their belief that understanding was a key to world peace.

Bud was from a dairy farm in Albany County and was studying agricultural economics. Anne was preparing for a career in Home Economics Extension work. Don and Gerry were both from dairy farms in St. Lawrence County in northern New York. Gerry was an Animal Science major. Don, a war veteran, though from the farm, was in the College of Arts and Sciences and wanted to go into government work.

They shared their discussion with Martha Leighton, Assistant State 4-H Leader, who was the faculty advisor to the Campus 4-H Club. Bud said, "she probably talked about their discussion with Al Hoefer, New York State 4-H Leader." Within a week they were invited to meet with Al and share their thoughts with him. In Al's office they talked about their idea of the need for peace and understanding and raised the idea of living with families in other countries. Al asked, "How would you fund it?" They didn't have an answer to the question, but felt that if the idea was good enough the money would come.

Al talked to Ed Aiton, National 4-H Field Agent (the "Father of IFYE"), and the next weekend they found themselves together in a car with Al and headed for Washington, DC. On the trip to Washington they found plenty of time to explore and discuss their ideas. In Washington they met Ed Aiton, and had meetings with their elected representatives, various foreign attachés and State Department and Department of Agriculture personnel.

Their idea was "good enough" and, in the atmosphere of the need for greater international understanding and cooperation following World War II, the money was found to start the IFYE program. The Ford Foundation was a major donor to the program and its start. The IFYE program began as a two-way program in 1948, with 17 youth from the United States going to seven countries of Western Europe, while six young Europeans came to the US.

From this beginning, the IFYE program has grown to involve nearly 4,900 U.S. participants/members of the IFYE Association today. There have been exchanges with over 110 countries; nearly all states have sent delegates; there are more than 150 IFYE couples; and countless partici-



Dick and Mary Lou Tenney, Dhio delegates to France 1959 and Columbia 1960, respectively, bring Bud Stanton (center) up-to-date on 4-H International exchange programs and give him a recent copy of IFYE News.

pants have held important positions in government and business - both in the US and abroad.

"What," you ask, "of those people who were key players back in 1946?" None of them became IFYEs. Martha Leighton was assigned the position of New York State IFYE Coordinator. Anne Dickinson Murray worked in Home Economics Extension at the University of Delaware and in Maryland. Gerard Marion earned his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, worked in Kansas for many years before returning to Wisconsin and became a nationally recognized cattle judge. Donald Sullivan went on to graduate work at Princeton and went into the diplomatic corps of the Department of State with numerous overseas assignments in the foreign service program. Bud Stanton earned his M.S. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Minnesota, received a one year fellowship to Oxford University, earned a Ph.D. at Minnesota and then joined the faculty at Cornell University. In addition to chairing the Department of Agricultural Economics, he has worked with the World Bank in Iran and taught a semester in China and at the National University of Australia.

As Mary Lou and I sat talking to Bud and his wife, we realized how much he and others, that we don't even know, have influenced our lives and that of thousands of other IFYEs. We were so happy to be able to thank him personally, on behalf of all IFYEs everywhere, for the inspiration that he and three other young students shared and acted upon to help bring "Peace Through Understanding."

2006 Association Awards Nominations Due April 15

IFYE Association Recognition Award nominations for 2006 are due April 15. Recipients will be announced at the International Banquet during the annual conference in August.

- There are four categories of awards:
- Friend of 4-H International
- Commendation for Contributions to International Understanding
- Meritorious Service to 4-H International Programs by Extension
 personnel
- Outstanding Contributions by 4-H International Alumni to 4-H International Programs.

Information/nomination forms available from Sally Narhi, 13634 N. Laird Road, Pelkie MI 49958 - Telephone 906/338-2849 or E-mail snarhi@up.net ☆



Status of 4-H International Education Programs Issued by National 4-H Headquarters at USDA Supported by National 4-H Council Endorsed by the National 4-H Leadership Trust

There will be no nationally sanctioned 4-H exchange programs. Each state will have to make a decision regarding how they might want to manage different components of their International Education program. It will be up to each state to decide whether they will continue to include an exchange component in their portfolio, and for each state to decide if they will ask for help from the 4-H International Program Committee (IPC) to manage those activities for them. If they decide to continue an exchange program, the state must take full responsibility for the program.

Exchange programs may be conducted under the auspices of a State 4-H Program but it must clearly indicate which state (and institution) is accepting responsibility for the program. Should several states wish to work together; one state (institution) will still need to accept responsibility for conducting and managing the program on behalf of the others.

- a. Exchange programs should address 4-H priorities, goals and essential elements.
- b. Develop best practices and standards related to exchange programs (interstate, international). This can be distributed in the form of a handbook (web based). It will include: program management guidelines, legal guidelines, risk management guidelines, volunteer management guidelines and essential elements of a positive 4-H youth

development program.

c. Explore options of how to manage all multi-state, 4-H age, international exchange programs and through fee generation have the ability to support management expenses including staff. Exchanges should be a part of a sequential learning experience, not a stand alone activity. Risk management and program quality are the forefront of concern.
4-H International Education Programs should focus on "world citizenship" especially emphasizing cultural understanding and should work to integrate these concepts into multiple levels of programming.

- 4-H World Citizenship programs should be designed for 4-H age youth and the volunteers who serve those youth;
- Programs designed for adults (20 and older) should not carry the 4-H Name & Emblem, but should fall under the International Programs office of USDA in the CSREES Higher Education unit.

The 4-H International Programs Committee, a 501(c)3 organization, can help foster the world citizenship program goals, and can provide assistance and coordination for exchange programs. However, programs must still be tied directly to a state and cannot be perceived as general or national-level 4-H exchange programs.



Neat Tangkapipop, American Field Service exchangee from Thailand (above left) spent the 2004-05 school year in Clarksville, Maryland. She was hosted by Wendy Feaga, leader of the Hare Raisers 4-H Club, and her family. Neat took a special interest in 4-H and was keen to explore the counterpart Thailand Yuwa Kasetkorn program. She helped with the 4-H float and prepared an exhibit on 4-H Around the World (above) for the county fair before her return to Thailand.





2006 National IFYE Conference "The Peak Experience" Colorado Springs, Colorado August 23-27

The Colorado IFYE Association extends a special welcome to all. The program revolves around the theme – "The Peak Experience: Turning Adversity into Opportunity." In addition to information in the last issue of IFYE News, they send the following alerts.

Conference Service Project: An auction will raise funds for Futures for Children, a program providing quality education for American Indian children. Each state is asked to provide a basket of things representative of the state.

The IFYE Singers are looking for talented men for their acapella group. Contact Ken Holton - 401/596-9544 or email: kpholton@riconnect.com

Beth Gehrke, Matron of the IFYE Society of Ladies Young (ISLY) is on the prowl....interested joiners should contact her - 847/697-2538 or email: bcgehrke20@aol.com. The big question: Who will be the honorary ISLY in 2006?

Reunions - see page 1 for special plans and contact.

Visit the website - www.ifyeusa.org - for information on tours and other conference updates. 🛠



The Sixth Asia-Pacific (ASPAC) IFYE Conference was held in Pattaya City, Chonburi, Thailand, September 4-8, 2005. Over 200 alumni from nine countries attended.

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IFYE Foundation of the USA

IFYE Foundation Contributions

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The Value of Giving

Contributors to the IFYE Foundation have often honored a loved one or friend. Memorial gifts honor those who have lived a life of service. Making gifts in recognition of others offers a wonderful way to affirm your personal priorities and values.

Gifts in cash or check are the most common method of giving. They are convenient and tax deductible as allowed by law. Other property, such as stocks and bonds which may have gained in value, offer the benefit of tax savings with the opportunity to avoid capital gains tax on any increase in value.

Consider a gift which will continue the impact of your international experience. Designating the IFYE Foundation as beneficiary in an insurance policy or your will extends your values to others.

Contributions should be sent to: Treasurer, IFYE Foundation, 29470 Saxon Road, Toulon, IL 61483.

For a brochure or information about special gifts you might wish to consider, contact Norman Bauer, President, IFYE Foundation, 111 Woodland Trail, Anna, IL 62906; nbauer@aj-internet.net or 618/833-3228



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The IFYE Shoppe...

IFYE Shirts

Children, **"Future IFYE" tshirts** youth sizes 6-8, 10-12 and 14-16 at \$6. Each shirt has a colorful design on a light gray background.

Adult, **IFYE "Flag" t-shirt** white with full-color IFYE logo and 12 flags of the world. Available in XL, \$12; and XXL, \$14.

IFYE golf shirts are 100% pre-shrunk cotton. Embroidered green and white with "4-H International" over IFYE logo. Tricolored polo white with green collar and sleeve trim and blue placket, available XL \$32. Putty color polo available S, M and L \$29.

Baseball caps cotton or mesh fabric. Cotton cap in khaki with adjustable band \$14. Logo on cap embroidered in green and white with "4-H International" over IFYE logo. On green mesh hat, IFYE logo silk screened in white; . adjustable with plastic band \$4. Other Items ★ Travel/waist pack with IFYE logo embroidered in green \$5. ★ Post-it Notes \$1.25 for a 50sheet pad.

☆ IFYE logo slide, \$1

★ IFYE logo lapel pin, \$4

Volume Purchases Having an event? IFYE merchandise available on consignment. Contact manager: Leona Noffsinger-Maggitti.

How to Order

Complete order form. Mail with check/money order payable to: *IFYE Association of the USA* Email or call to check availability (240/367-0126, email

maggittil@adelphia.net). 🛠

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The IFYE Association has recently received word of the death of the following 4-H International alumni, spouses and Association supporters and members:

★ Lindsey Marie Ferris, daughter of Keith, MI-New Zealand 1969, and Pam Ferris, January 29, 2006, Hastings, MI

★ Jane Wiechert Uhrig Funderburk, NE-Japan 1968, May 17, 2005, Dover, DE

☆ Ronald E. Bath, NE-Brazil 1958, November 3, 2005, Auburn, NE

☆ Geneva Mae Sanford Foster, SD-Ireland/N. Ireland, 1952, mother of Steven J. Foster, SD-Netherlands 1975, September 9, 2005, Brookings, SD

★ Kathleen S. Flom, National 4-H Council's "First Lady of the National 4-H Center," December 12, 2005, Rockville, MD

Leonard L. Harkness, Minnesota
 State 4-H Leader for 31 years,
 October 27, 2005, Roseville, MN
 Norman C. Mindrum, first
 President, National 4-H Council,
 June 6, 1995, Downer's Grove, IL
 Dorothy E. Mindrum, wife of
 Norman C. Mindrum, September
 20, 2005, Downer's Grove, IL

Please help the IFYE Association update their records to reflect all 4-H International exchange alumni and spouses, program staff and other Association members who are deceased. Please send full name, State-Country-Year or relationship to program, date of death, and address at that time, to **melvinhi@aol.com** or mail to IFYE Association, 5811 Lone Oak Drive East, Bethesda, MD 20814. Deceasedments, corrections and updates are appreciated.

IFYE Association Memberships 2005

The following completes the list of 2005 dues paying members: Joann Chalmers Amend Jennifer Barton Dean A. Bloch Cathleen Feige Cummings Catherine Wareing Dill Ruth Benson Drummond Dennis E. Elgrim Ann Elizabeth Erman Roger W. Fox Erle C. Gross



International Four-H Youth Exchange Association of the USA 5811 Lone Oak Drive East Bethesda, MD 20814-1843

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IFYE Association Life Memberships

The IFYE Association recognizes the following who have become life members, bringing the total life memberships to 1,130. Jerry R. Davis, MI-Germany 1953 John B. Geurtze, NY-Germany 1951 Eilene A. Rueden, WI-Netherlands 1980 Jolene Rueden, WI-Australia L. Arthur Warren, CO-Finland 1974 Victoria Fehrman Warren, MO-Germany 1978 George M. Williams, WV-Algeria 1955

Rollie F. Henkes Robert L. Horton Diana Duncan Jaun Allan S. Johnson Karen Rexford LaRoche Kateri M. Maille Virginia Falter Olson Howard F. Parks Kenneth Peirce Diane Dameron Plummer Aletha Symens Prouty Paula E. Riddle Maxine Harris Sayre Donald J. Sederstrom James P. Tobin Shirley Werner Witmer

IFYE Association Memberships 2006

The following recently became 2006 dues paying members: David B. Bills Keith L. Brown Roger W. Fox Carol Richardson Hendrickson Robert L. Horton Roy E. Hranicky Irlene Rawlings Huntington Barbara Ness Jaquith Bruce I. Keeney Amanda Tumm Lee Rachel Johnson Lewis LeRoy A. Mabery Jack L. Morse Alton N. Nelsen Susan Wiley Nesbitt Suzanne Schriefer Neufang Erna Wagner O'Brien Howard F. Parks Gwen E. Riedl Roger A. Sherer Franklin C. Wilson Connie Zuehlke Wright



IFYE Association Contributions

The following have recently provided contributions in support of the IFYE Association: Marjorie Dunn Area In memory of Dale Swenson Marjorie Dunn Area In memory of Marjorie Roeckers Oswald Majorie Dunn Area In memory of John Stanley David B. Bills Natalie Bosecker Eleanor Burkman In memory of Donald W. Burkman Erle C. Gross Mary Kay Heisler Roy E. Hranicky Bruce I. Keeney Sidney A. Montague In honor of 1952 Delegates Alton N. Nelsen Gwen E. Riedl Kimberly D. Scamman Warren E. Schmidt In memory of Marjorie Schmidt Mable Ann Davis Sherrill Laura Neu Vix George M. Williams In honor of my 50th Anniversary

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