



IFYE NEWS

The Official Publication of the International
Four-H Youth Exchange Association of the USA



Nov/Dec 2011



Mastering the Bounce

Alan Lambert, IFYE Association President

I was reading an article recently that talked about companies, entrepreneurs and leaders who experienced a bit of fall from grace. When down and out, they could have easily stayed there, given up hope, their dreams and themselves, but they didn't. Instead of collapsing, they *bounced*, and they came back stronger, better and more equipped to achieve greatness than ever before.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the board members who are completing their terms: Grace Elliot (Region A), Marian Huey (Region B), Art Deisher (Region C), and Kim Reaman (Region D). Their time, effort and progressiveness in moving this organization forward is greatly appreciated.

Incoming board members beginning their 3-year terms in 2012 include: Norma Wu (Region A), Stephen Mullen (Region B), Richard Wagner (Region C), and Art Tenbrink (Region D). Association Board officers in 2012 will be: President, Alan Lambert; Vice President, Richard Wagner; Secretary, John Wells; and Treasurer, Norma Wu.

In this metaphor, let us become 'the ball', and visualize *The Bounce*. There are four distinct phases.

- 1. The Fall:** Each day we experience minor setbacks in our lives that require us to bounce back. But there is a difference between falling and failing. *The Bounce* converts a fall into victory, and the harder we fall, the higher we can bounce.
- 2. The Impact:** Making Impact, hitting bottom, bends us out of shape. We are tested and morphed. Do we allow the impact to explode us or absorb it and use it to spring? This smack of impact can be what musters the focus, energy and fight needed to become something we might never have driven ourselves to be otherwise. This impact creates the energetic force to launch us in opposite and positive directions.
- 3. Restoration:** The moment the ball begins to regain its shape is defined in our ability to rebound decisively, and restore our identity and sense of purpose. We stop mourning where we once were, and start focusing on where we are going.
- 4. Elevation:** We rise again ... and most often higher than we were before *The Bounce*. Most often it is because of the energy and focus we put into our efforts. Do you remember the "SuperBall"? A neat little rubber ball from the 1970's that REALLY reached amazing heights ... because of *The Bounce*.

I see IFYE in this same situation: a simple four-step process. Not easy, but simple. IFYE has been in phase one for quite a while and recognize that phase 2 is now. The leadership and efforts of the Reposition Committee are setting the stage for phases 3 & 4. Their efforts and enthusiasm, beginning in February 2011, are contagious to the Association Board. They have been exploring ways to reinvigorate IFYE, and the committee's report in this issue will share some of those results.

We have a ways to go, but we hope to have some exciting news for everyone as we approach the 2012 National IFYE Conference in Nebraska. As Martin Luther King, Jr. has said, "*Faith is the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase.*" Make your plans now to attend and have a direct voice in the future of IFYE.

Seasons Greetings

Glædelig Jul og Godt Nytår

Felices fiestas



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Tilokotfo taKhisimisi

Frohe Feiertage!



Hyvää Joulua ja Onnellista Uutta Vuotta



Tilokotfo taKhisimisi

Joyeuses fêtes



メリー クリスマス

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Reposition Committee

Activities

Art Deisher, Chair

Since the last newsletter, your Reposition Committee has had 2 conference calls, a trip to see Russ Mawby and a trip to Washington, D.C. We have also developed a partnership agreement worksheet for use with potential partners and met with the current IFYE coordinators conducting programs in their states. It has been a busy time and there is a lot to report to you.

The conference calls were used to streamline the Association Goals for 2012 to only those goals that influence the potential partners. We removed all the internal Association goals such as "Recognition" to produce a more manageable document when talking with partners under consideration. The "What makes IFYE Unique" document and the goals were summarized on one page and sent to the potential partners we met with in Washington, D.C. so they would be ready to talk when we arrived.

The meeting with Russ Mawby, 1948 IFYE (MI to United Kingdom) and Chairman Emeritus W. K. Kellogg Foundation, was to inform him on IFYE, 4-H Council and 4-H Headquarters activities during the past year and to seek his guidance as we moved forward. Russ was supportive of the efforts already undertaken by the Association and the Reposition Committee. The meeting was very helpful and concluded with Russ supporting the Washington, D.C. trip the committee was making the following weekend. He offered a personal connection suggestion for us to meet with when we were at the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU) meeting.

The following points clarify the direction the Reposition Committee will take on behalf of the Association Board.

1. The IFYE Association should step-up-to-the-plate and not worry about the past and find positive ways to get the alumni enthused and participating in an exchange program that stresses the roots of the successful program from the early years of IFYE.
2. National orientation and debriefing for exchangees is essential for the bonding of participants and their understanding of the importance of becoming an

active, supportive participant in the IFYE Alumni Association.

3. Getting back to the farm/rural demographics for host families and exchange delegates might go a long way in helping to manage the risk component in the program that is a concern.
4. Potentially changing our name will not change the fact that we work with 4-H alumni, but keeping IFYE will maintain world-wide recognition and identity.

Since our meetings, an anonymous IFYE alumni has volunteered to reimburse the 2012 conference registration of all those 2010 and 2011 returning IFYE exchangees who attend conference. This offer has been accepted by the Association Board and the eligible individuals will be contacted.

The Association President, Alan Lambert, has been in communication with the Washington, D.C. contacts that were established in our first trip last February. Alan set appointments for November 7 and 8 with USDA/NIFA, Foreign Agricultural Services (FAS), APLU, the State Department, and USAID. Six of the ten Reposition Committee members met with these entities. The FAS, USDA/NIFA, and APLU have the most promise for our continued efforts. Alan will continue to communicate as needed with them.

But, the most exciting development in Washington, D.C. was the impromptu meeting that the committee representatives had with American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF)! Committee member Barbara Spangler called the American Farm Bureau national office. She was connected with Margaret Wolff, Executive Director, Organization Department. She was an IFYE from Pennsylvania to Japan in 1990! Margaret (Margee) brought Dan Durham, Executive Director, American FB Foundation for Agriculture into the meeting.

Both Margee and Dan were very interested in what we were offering and proposing. They explained the policy-making process that FB uses and suggested ways we can use that process and at the same time use the Young Farmers and Ranchers (YF&R)

Continued on Page 3

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Reposition Committee Activities
Continued from Page 2

Do, Do Dues
Art Deisher, IFYE Association Treasurer

organization to advance our progress. Using both methods simultaneously, they were thinking FB would be eager to expand their international footprint beyond the four exchanges they are currently sending and receiving from Germany through their McCloy program.

They suggested that our committee, or representatives of the IFYE Association, attend their upcoming conferences this winter. Dates and locations will be provided to us soon. They suggested a recent IFYE give a talk to the attendees. If getting on the program was not possible at this late date, they suggested we have a static display.

To explain the possibilities and excitement for the FB partnership would fill the rest of this newsletter. Suffice it to say, action is being taken to have an IFYE presence at the YF&R Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan in February 2012.

As discussed at the IFYE conference in New England last June, IFYE is also working to have a presence at the National 4-H Collegiate Conference in Reno, Nevada in April 2012.

IFYE is on the move and we will likely start using MailChimp/ email updates to keep you informed in a more timely fashion. For those without email, we will continue to use the newsletter to keep you updated.

Thank you to all of the IFYE alumni that have paid dues in 2011! Your participation and support is greatly appreciated.

In October, the IFYE Association reached a new recent-year record for number of members. For the fourth consecutive year, we have seen our annual membership numbers grow. We now have 254 members that have paid. The number continues to grow almost daily. This is good, but why is it important?

Annual dues provide the majority of the operational income for the Association. Interest from life members dues and operational donations provide the remaining needed revenue.

Twenty-five percent (25%) of the IFYE database are life members, paying an average of about \$150 each. (Current life memberships are \$300 for individuals and \$400 for couples). Even with 254 annual members, that is only about six percent (6%) of the possible annual members on the database. So, allowing for rounding, only 30% of the alumni are dues-paying members. Probably, only in baseball is a 30% achievement level considered a success! I cannot think of any other area where 30% is passing or acceptable! We have a lot of work yet to do.

As the Reposition Committee gets the IFYE Association prepared to be worthy of consideration by a national entity, **we need your help**. Eventually the Association, through the fundraising arm (the IFYE Foundation), is going to need to approach companies and grant organizations for funds. Participation through **membership needs to be at 47% or better** for funding success to be maximized. So, if you have not paid dues for 2011, please use the clip-out below.

Annual dues are requested each calendar year, unless you are a life member. Even though we are in the waning days of 2011, it is important you pay \$25 for this year. If you are financially able to send \$50, please do so and it will be credited for 2011 and 2012.

Again, the Association thanks those who have paid dues and encourages the rest of you to help us with your participation by paying \$25. Each one of you will be setting a record in IFYE membership growth!

IFYE SHOPPE
(www.ifyeusa.org/shoppe/)



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Association Membership, Contributions & Address Updates

Name: _____ FIRST MI LAST New Address/Information?

Maiden Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone: _____

Program: _____ State Represented: _____ Host Country: _____ Year: _____

Extension Staff: _____ Host Family: _____ Friend of IFYE: _____ Other: _____

E-mail: _____

Prefer mailings via: E-mail _____ Postal _____ Both _____ Remove from mailing list? _____

Annual Membership Dues @ \$25 single/\$40 married couple (calendar year) \$ _____

Life Membership @ \$300 single/\$400 married couple \$ _____

Contributions to IFYE Association General Operational Support *
(Contributions are Tax Deductible to the Extent Provided by Law*) \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed Thank You! \$ _____

*The IFYE Association is an IRS approved 501(3)(c) non-profit charitable organization.

Please make checks payable to:
IFYE Association of the USA
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IFYE FOUNDATION of the USA

President's Report - Norm Bauer

There have been some changes in the Board of the IFYE Foundation. At the June conference in CT, three new members were elected to the Board, as three long-time members terms expired.

Retiring from the Board were Dick Tenney, Secretary, Mary Ottmar and Maurice Johnson. We thank these members for their dedication and devotion to the Foundation.

Coming on the Board are: Keith Ferris, Michigan; Andrea Maille, Pennsylvania; and Doug Pierson, New York. These new members are a great addition and I know they will provide new ideas and innovation in fundraising.

Also, Charles Larson requested to discontinue his service as an advisor to the Board. Maurice Johnson has agreed to provide his service as advisor.

The Foundation Board has supported international exchanges through grant requests at a level that is within its income. The contributions that come from IFYE's are pretty much the sole source of monies available. The operational cost of the Foundation is quite low, so it allows most of the income to support exchanges.

We are disappointed that the coin project is on hold and, in all probability, the Foundation wouldn't receive any benefit, even if it moves forward. A year ago, this looked like a windfall opportunity. Whatever will be will be.

The "reconnect" committee has been renamed to the "repositioning" committee

and there may be some progress in providing the over-19 exchange program. Meetings in early November in Washington DC will provide answers that both the Association and Foundation Boards are anxious to learn. Stay tuned.

If you haven't provided an e-mail address to either the Association or Foundation Boards, please do so. The fastest and least expensive way to communicate is through e-mail. Yes, we know not everyone has the capability.

Many in our country are experiencing difficult times. Whether they are out of work or the rise and fall of the markets has them hurting, we realize the situation can be hard. The Foundation is very dependent on your support and we thank you for all the past support you have provided. Everyone who has experienced a cultural exchange knows its value. It is hoped that the Foundation can continue to support these opportunities in the future.

Maybe we aren't committed to the \$1.2 million that the coin project would have required, but we do need to find corporations and trusts that are willing to give to the cause. We have a product to sell, cultural exchanges to a foreign country. Let's start our engines.

May this season of holidays provide you and your family all the joy and togetherness that anyone could want. If you are near a college or university that has foreign students, invite one or more to your home to experience an American family holiday.

CONTRIBUTIONS:

8/23/2011 - 10/10/2011

- I - IFYE Patron (\$1,000+)**
- F - Foundation Fellow (\$500+)**
- Y - Youth Sponsor (\$250+)**
- E - Excited Member (\$100+)**

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Bonnie Schneider Mielke
Doris M. Noellsch
Tom & Jo Ann Trail
S - Supporter (up to \$100)
Rob & Tara Brown
Andrew & Amy Hetletvedt
W. J. Miller
Mary A. Moon
Larry Wachtel

Anniversary Fund (years)

IN HONOR OF

The Wedding of David Danielson & Carrie Eppelheimer
Rob & Tara Brown
CARRIE & DAVID DANIELSON
Andrew & Amy Hetletvedt
HALGERT & EVERETT HOLLIDAY
Linda Labrie

IN MEMORY OF

LOIS (NOELLSCH) ENGLBERGER
Doris M. Noellsch
MARY WENGREN
W. J. Miller
Larry L. Wachtel



2011-2012

IFYE Foundation Board Officers



Standing (L to R): Bud Aupperle (Treasurer), Paul Langseth (Secretary), and Mil-dred Weidemann (Advisor)

Sitting: Marj Loyd (Vice President) and Norm Bauer (President)

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Make checks payable to IFYE Foundation of the USA, Inc.
Mail to: IFYE Foundation, 29470 Saxon Road, Toulon, IL 61483

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.
The IFYE Foundation is an IRS-approved 501(3)(c) non-profit charitable organization.

2011 IFYE Orientation and Welcome Program Report

Summary of Report Prepared by Deryl Waldren (KS-Poland 1977)

The 2011 IFYE Orientation and Welcome Program was conducted at the Best Western Airport Inn and Conference Center, Wichita, Kansas. It began on Friday morning, June 17, 2011 with the arrival of inbound and outbound IFYEs and concluded after lunch on Monday, June 20, 2011.

The purpose of this program was to conduct a national orientation for both inbound IFYE participants and outbound IFYE participants at one location. One major goal of the orientation was to “provide the participants with the knowledge, skills, and aspirations to have a successful IFYE program while in the USA or abroad. Exchange programs provide opportunities for young adults to develop a “world view” including a global perspective and the skills and importance for living in a global society.”



2011 inbound and outbound IFYEs

Participants were 16 inbound and 5 outbound IFYEs, 14 planning committee members, and one speaker for a total of 36. Outbounds were: Zach Fox (CO to Germany), Kayla Gray (CO Scotland/Greece), Sarah Northup (CO to Estonia/Switzerland), Michele Stork (KS to Norway), and Kendra Burchak (MT to Germany/Denmark).

Sixteen inbounds were from Switzerland (3), Austria (1), Germany (3), Sweden (1), England (1), Scotland (2), Taiwan (3), N. Ireland (1), Finland (1).

Activities included: introduction activities (such as a series of name games), educational tours, workshops, country presentations, and a cultural simulation.

• Workshops centered around

- *Photography* – a time to interactively learn more about photography and how to better use their camera, a PowerPoint lecture presentation, questions and answers, and with one-on-one assistance to learn about changing camera settings
- *Blogs and Media Tips* - allowed participants to learn how to set up their own personal blog to better capture their IFYE experiences while gone. The workshop was experiential in that the trainer showed how easy it is to set up a blog on the web using Internet connectivity in the hotel. Several IFYEs created their own blogs for their IFYE experience during the IFYE orientation and welcome program. The second part of the workshop included tips in working with the media while gone from home. Martha Denney, Director of International Education, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO was the speaker.
- “Packing Your Cross-Cultural Survival Kit
- *Overview of 4-H Youth Development* presented by Deryl Waldren

- “*Life in the Land of Oz*” – a cultural simulation - Jennifer Pfortmiller shared a hands-on experiential activity where the group was divided into two cultures, and the second group had to pick up on cues from the dominant culture. Not following the cultural norms caused participants to be kicked out of the culture. It was very realistic as to what participants may feel in another country when they don’t speak the language well, and do not understand the culture at any level.

- **Educational tours** allowed participants a chance to get to know each other better in an informal setting while learning about the historical and current area. Tours included in this orientation were Cosmosphere and Salt Museum, as well as CowTown.



IFYEs riding a covered wagon in CowTown in Wichita, KS.

Deryl Waldren indicates that “We presented a good mix of educational workshops and sessions, speaker, group builders/mixers and tours. We plan to make the flow of them go better next year, being able to space them out over the three days.”

The Kansas IFYE Orientation and Welcome Planning Committee accomplished its over-all goal for 2011, and looks forward to working with the IFYE Foundation of the USA, Inc. in 2012.”



IFYE Foundation Board of Directors for 2011 & 2012:

Standing (L to R): Dale Yonker (IL), Bud Aupperle (IL), Maurice Johnson (ID) - outgoing, Paul Langseth (MN), Betty Stephenson (CO), Norm Bauer (IL), Bob Ellis (GA)

Sitting: Keith Ferris (MI), Richard Tenney (NY) - outgoing, Marjorie Loyd (KS), Andrea Maille (PA)

Missing from photo: Doug Pierson (NY) and Mary Ottmar (IA) - outgoing

San ban oh! American Youth Leadership Program with Mongolia (June 15-July 15, 2011)

Kim Reaman



http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/cia11/mongolia_sm_2011.gif



Kim's host family, (left to right) Sodo, Haliunaa (sitting on dad's lap), Kim and Ankha. Sodo works at World Vision and Ankha is a middle school English and Russian language teacher.

University of Wyoming 4-H Specialists, Kim Reaman (1984 IFYE Nebraska to Jamaica) and Warren Crawford received a grant from the United States Department of State, Educational and Cultural Affairs Office to administer the American Youth Leadership Program with Mongolia. The program is open to any youth, 15 to 17 years of age, who live in the western United States. The three-year grant is designed to help youth grow into global citizens through a cultural exchange and explore the similarities

and differences in environmental issues which Mongolia and the western United States share.

The 4-week exchange is a partnership between Wyoming 4-H and the Mongolian 4-H Youth Organization. One of the unique aspects of the grant is that it includes the Mongolian host brothers and sisters, along with the American participants, in all of the activities for the duration of the program. Twenty-nine youth and five adults from the western United States participated in the program this year.

The first week of the exchange involved cultural training in Ulaanbaatar, the capital city of Mongolia. Ulaanbaatar has a population of over 1 million people and is known by Mongolians as simply U.B. Most of the American participants were from ranches, farms or small towns in the Western United States and our first lesson was how to cross the streets in U.B. Traffic, as in many



Sugarjav, sharing milk tea with her host sister Kristy (WY).

capital cities in developing countries, is chaotic with an abundance of cars and not enough traffic lanes or pedestrian cross walks. The Mongolians were good teachers – all American participants learned to traverse the streets safely!



Erin (OR) and Kira (AK), two American delegates reading to Nomuna, a Mongolian 4-H member from the children's book which Erin donated to Mongolia 4-H.

Cultural training in U.B. included language training, English classes for the Mongolians and

Mongolian classes for the Americans, workshops highlighting cultural differences and similarities visits to historical and cultural sites and events around the city, team building activities and a community service project. Each American participant on the exchange, was asked to bring a children's book to donate to the Mongolian 4-H Youth Organization's reading project. In total, the American delegation donated 70 children's books to Mongolian 4-H. During the stay in U.B., an American participant commented on their surprise at how technologically connected the Mongolian teens were "they use all the same things we do, cell phones and Facebook".



Host dads making hkorhog, a traditional meal prepared with goat and root vegetables. It is cooked over coals with hot stones inside the pan.

Each American participant had an opportunity to live and learn with their host family.. Since the Mongolian youth had been hanging out with the American participants in U.B., they already knew their host brother or sister and the transition to the two-week host family



(L) Jed (WY), received a calf and a horse hair rope for his 18th birthday. (R) Mongolian women milking yaks in Tsetserleg.

stay was easily made. So many special things happened during the host family stays: birthdays were celebrated, we learned about Mongolian traditions, visited local herder families, toured coal and copper mines to learn about land reclamation and became part of our Mongolian families lives. One of the American participants shared *"I can't believe how quickly I was accepted into the family. I have a little sister (4 years old) there and she loves me."*

The entire group gathered together for the final week in a tourist Ger camp. Here we learned how to make traditional dairy products, construct a ger, attended Naadam festivities, and spent many hours hiking in the beautiful mountain terrain. We also organized our own Ger camp Naadam competitions. The opening ceremony included singing the American and Mongolian national anthems followed by a fashion show for participants to show off their Mongolian *deels*, a traditional Mongolian dress.



(L to R) Lhagvadorj, Christine (AZ), Temenjargal, and Oyundari, learning to construct a Ger, the traditional home used by nomads.



(L) Munkhtushig modeling a modern Deel.



(R) Erynne (OR) modeling a traditional Mongolian dress.

The three "manly" competitions held during Naadam include wrestling, horse racing and archery. While all three competitions were held in our Ger Naadam, a few changes were made to each. The horse racing involved stick horses, archery was won by the

individual who could throw the most stones into a bucket and of course a female division was added to the wrestling competition.



Warren (WY), Program Coordinator, riding his horse across the finish line.

Below Left: Mongolian wrestling



Below Right: Erin (WY) wrestling Nomuna in the female division.

Throughout the exchange, focus group discussions were conducted with the American youth participants to process their experience, discuss issues they might be dealing with and to garner what was being learned. One of the groups summarized *"[We] view our similarities as being much more extensive than expected. Other than not sharing a language, [there are] many overlaps: similar humor, games, music, troubles (family alcoholism, environment, etc.)"*

A powerful closing ceremony wrapped the experience up for everyone. The breadth of the program was captured in a slide show which highlighted photos taken throughout the program and many stories were shared for the first time or retold at the bonfire. As with any program that touches so many hearts, it was difficult to say good bye. The memories will be cherished forever by the American and Mongolian participants.



Munkhtushig and Jessica (WY) making connections.

Detailed information about the American Youth Leadership Program with Mongolia is available on the Wyoming State 4-H web site: <http://4-h.uwyo.edu/Mongolia.asp> The application deadline for the 2012 trip is January 15, 2012.

The Mongolian 4-H Youth Organization, established in 2009, has been designated as the recipient of funds raised in the silent and live auction during the upcoming National IFYE Conference in Omaha. Thank you for your interest in and willingness to support this effort. *More information about this project is planned for the Jan/Feb issue of the IFYE NEWS.*

2011 European IFYE Conference

23-30 July 2011 Metsäkartano Resort, Finland

Crystal Yonker

Upon arrival at the secluded Metsäkartano Nature Tourist Centre, imagine our surprise when real Finnish military border guards checked our IFYE visas. Some of us did not have "proper documentation" and were taken to the army tents to be interrogated! Before the evening meal, those detained were escorted to headquarters and released to IFYELand authorities.

(Pictured below in the formal country photo, entering IFYELand from the USA were: (Back row - L to R): Beth Gehrke (Switzerland 1979), Larry Wachtel (Sri Lanka 1969), Lewis Bordeaux (Japan 1966), Helen Obernagel (France 1978), Laura Schick (Luxemburg 1999); Middle Row (L to R): Anna Parker (Finland 1998), Sally Narhi (Taiwan 1970), Dale Yonker (Turkey 1963), Ruth Trail (The Netherlands 1982), Crystal Yonker (Spouse); Kneeling: 2011 IFYEs Sarah Northup from Colorado to Estonia and Switzerland and Andrew King from Massachusetts to Finland.

Following the formal opening of the 53rd European Conference on Sunday morning (with 130 delegates from 17 nations), the Empress of IFYELand, Sirkku Laurila, married her fiancé, Juha Orava. Only the bride, groom, and minister knew of the wedding plan! The reception followed with champagne and delicious traditional Finnish wedding cake.

The skilled, talented, and strong children and teenagers from the Royal Circus of IFYELand entertained us in the afternoon. Next, IFYEs went to circus school to learn (try to learn!) skills to do what they had just seen ... including acrobatics, riding a unicycle, high/tight wire walking, juggling, magic, and spinning plates on a stick. That evening, at dinner, the Empress decreed "Circus" with creative costumes and delegates providing the entertainment.

Each evening, everyone looked forward to the IFYELand News Report "TV broadcast", followed by traditional Finnish entertainment ... as well as American DJ (Andrew King) providing music for dancing.

Winter IFYELympic tribe competitions were held at Vuokatti, a sports complex with a 2 mile long cold (-5° C) tunnel used for winter sports training. Tribes competed in cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and kick sledge relay events.

Before breakfast, each delegate chose a pair of hand-knitted wool socks from the clothesline – part of the 150 pair knitted

by IFYEs, their relatives and friend all over Finland. These prized socks were worn at the after-ski sock hop that evening.

Summer IFYELympic competitions (held at Metsäkartano the following morning) included beach games, a type of shuffleboard, archery, quilt designing and sewing, and "sort of" formula 1 (pedaling a car around the course in exactly 40 seconds *slowly* - which was not an easy task for competitive personalities!

Academic classes acquainted delegates with Finland's geography, history, peoples, cultures, religions, languages, industries, and humor. Sewing (an international language) was "spoken" in the piecing of 40+ quilts (40-50 cm) that were made to be given to newborns at a Kuopio hospital designed by the tribes. The John Deere fabric from the USA was very popular.

Tours were offered to: the Koli nature area, a fertilizer factory, a brewery museum, an 1880's traditional "slash and burn" farm, and a dog sled business including 75 dogs. One tour was to a nursery owned by a Finnish IFYE to Idaho and Vermont whose specialty is growing certified strawberry "mother" plants, as well as several varieties of strawberries, and berries that are a specialty of Finland.

Although Midsummer occurred more than a month prior to the conference, we were treated to a Midsummer party where we enjoyed swimming, dinner, a sing-along, and a bonfire on the beach. The traditional Midsummer menu included: baked salmon, special potato salad, Karelian pies, and delicious Finnish crepes. If one's tummy still had room, roasting a sausage on a stick was in order. There was no lack of food, good companionship, or entertainment.

The last day of the conference was called "Well Being and Well Doing" consisting of activities that were less demanding and more relaxing. Included were: morning yoga on the beach, sauna (pronounced *sow-na*), peat sauna, fishing, berry picking, swimming, and boating.

The Empress' Gala Farewell Dinner was a gourmet feast with an entrée of roast elk with coffee gravy and dessert of cloudberry parfait with chocolate cloudberry sauce. It was a wonderful evening with delicious food and interesting conversation with new and old friends.

The next morning, with hugs and "See you in Sweden in 2012", sleepy delegates boarded the IFYELand Express on the first leg of their trips home. The distant railway station in Siilinjärvi and airport in Kuopio gave passengers time to reminisce about their marvelous and amazing week in Finland.



Left: Just before the conference, there was a serious shooting incident in Norway. Because it was a national day of sorrow in all of Scandinavia, all flags were flown at "half mast".



Right: USA IFYE Group at Conference (Names listed above in article)



Left: Sarah Northup in a game of swamp soccer. Others joining in were Beth Gerke, Andrew King, and Helen Obernagel; other US participants became spectators and cheerleaders!



Right: Ruth Trail at the Empress of IFYELand's Gala Farewell Dinner.

News From /About Alums

Dr. Lois Englberger (MO India 1970), nutritionist and public health advocate, was widely known in nutrition circles for promoting the value of healthy local foods for people's cultures, health, environments, economies and food security. Her academic accomplishments/activities included activities for decreasing vitamin A deficiency in children. (See "In Memoriam" page 12.)

Over 1000 varieties of bananas exist in the world today - many local to a geographic area. The work of Dr. Lois Englberger with this fruit surpasses many accomplishments in locating sources of Vitamin A and promoting this and other local foods - as in the case of the people of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).

Below, is a list of some of the Internet sites with more information on the life and work of Lois Englberger and those of the Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP), as well as related organizations with which Lois shared and promoted nutrition.

"Pohnpei State Mourns and Honors Dr. Lois Englberger" (http://bild-art.de/kpress/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1512&Itemid=2)

"Cooking up success for local foods in Pohnpei" (<http://www.new-ag.info/en/focus/focusItem.php?a=1418>)

Karat Bananas (http://www.underutilized-species.org/features/bananas_on_stamps/september2008_micronesia_banana_stamps.pdf)

Lois Englberger (<http://www.promusa.org/tiki-index.php?page=Lois+Englberger>)



The September 2011 50th year reunion of Peace Corps brought this photo of the IFYE alumni to light! They were part of the first Peace Corps Volunteer group to Brazil along with Warren Schmidt (center right) during their PC training program in January 1962. They performed home economics and agricultural activities/education alongside the Brazilian Extension Agents, reports Myra Jean McBride Anderson.

The seven IFYE alumni who joined the Peace Corps in 1962 in a continuation of international activity are pictured with Warren E. Schmidt (center right), Director of IFYE Program 1948-1965, and Coordinator of the first 4-H Peace Corps project.

(L to R) Angelica Simmons Walton (VA Switzerland 1959 - deceased), Corinne A. Hay (NJ France 1957); David A. Dodge (WY Pakistan 1960), Myra Jean McBride Anderson (OR Japan 1959), Priscilla Thorsrud Dolan (CA New Zealand 1960), Dale E. Swenson (WI Mexico 1958 - deceased 1962 in an auto accident while in Brazil), and W. Francis Pressly (NC Italy 1951) Director of the 4-H Peace Corps program in Brazil from January 1962 to December 1964.

Marty Holben Froman (MI Netherlands 1978) reports, "My high school daughter became friends last school year with an exchange student at her school from The Netherlands. She is still in contact with him every day thru Skype and texting. We discovered recently that his best friend's mother was one of my host sisters when I was in The Netherlands in 1978. She was only six at the time and was the youngest in my 4th host family. What a small world it is!"

Harlen Persinger (IA Norway 1970) has an article on IFYE in the November 2011 issue of the "Wisconsin Agriculturist" magazine - Page 73 entitled "4-H Memories from Abroad". The article can be viewed online at <http://www.wisconsinagriculturist.com>

Henrietta Hensler (MI Luxembourg 1956) reports that the Michigan Branch of the Woman's National Farm and Garden has given IFYE scholarships to Michigan IFYEs every year since 1948. On behalf of the IFYE Association, thank you to you and other donors for your support toward "Peace Through Understanding."



Congratulations to the 2011 National 4-H Hall of Fame Laureates who were inducted into this honor in October.

Included in the 15 inductees were: (L - R) Ted Hutchcroft (IA United Kingdom 1951) and W. Francis Pressly (NC Italy 1951).

Other 2011 inductees included Wayne E. Carlson - (MN host father to 36 IFYEs).

In a presentation last month, Peace Corps Volunteers who served under Francis during their time in Brazil indicated that "Although we were inspired, passionate, and eager volunteers, we are all too aware of the critical role Francis played in our success and in our contribution to Brazil." Another commendation mentioned, "He was courageous when necessary, humble and modest to a fault, gracious and understanding in his approach, and steadfast in his commitment to our goal and to our wellbeing. He was our mentor, our hero, and our friend."

Francis, commenting on his own experiences, mentioned "... so many good memories of the years I spent with co-workers here and across the country and around the world."

One of Ted's memories of being one of 31 exchangees on the 2nd IFYE experience was of Dr. Ed Aiton accompanying them to Europe on the SS. Marine Shark ... and then continuing to tour Europe making country contacts for future IFYE exchanges.

The National 4-H Hall of Fame was established in 2002 as part of the 4-H Centennial Project of the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA), and partners with National 4-H Council and 4-H Youth Development, USDA. The honorees are nominated by their states based upon their exceptional leadership at the local, state, national and international levels.

For more information on these and other inductees, please visit <http://nae4ha.com/hof/>





54th National IFYE Conference - July 24-28, 2012 Embassy Suites - Downtown/Old Market Omaha, Nebraska

“Heartland Heartbeat.....Reaching Out” is the theme of the 54th National IFYE Conference. The conference will be held at the Downtown/Old Market Embassy Suites in Omaha, Nebraska. The Embassy Suites is located downtown in the heart of Omaha’s Old Market District. It is about five minutes from Eppley Airfield. Free shuttle service to and from the airport to the hotel is provided. If traveling by car, there is easy access from I-29 and I-80.

Omaha is located in the heartland of the USA and offers museums, culture, shopping, agriculture, as well as being the home of the College World Series.

The conference will offer fun, education, IFYE business, and lots of time to make new friends and renew friendships. We hope you will share your talent with us at our very own “IFYE’s Got Talent” on opening night. In addition, you may compete for “Nebraska Treasures”. It is sure to be an evening filled with lots of fun and laughter!

The tours will provide something for everyone. The Henry Doorly Zoo is one of the most popular attractions in Omaha. There will be an opportunity to visit the Mead feed lots and a hay processing plant for small animals. See where the Omaha Police Mounted Patrol Unit trains. A walk along the longest pedestrian bridge to link two states provides a safe crossing from Omaha to Council Bluffs over the Missouri River. Located in Council Bluffs is the Union Pacific Railroad Museum which houses one of the oldest corporate collections in the nation. You will also be able to visit the Strategic Air and Space Museum and Boys Town.

We will have two service projects this year. One of our very own Nebraska IFYE’s has been involved in starting 4-H in Mongolia. We will reach out to that program by raising funds with our live and silent auctions and “hands-on” making of book bags for their 4-H projects during one of our workshops. For those who want, we will volunteer at the “Open Door Mission” on Friday. We will help sort and package clothing. If you have room in your bag, you can bring along clean, used clothing and blankets to donate.

The International Banquet on Friday evening will be held at the Swanson Gallery, inside the historic Durham Museum. The Durham was previously known as Union Station and had been used by the Union Pacific Railroad. It was a showpiece for headquarters of the railroad. The Swanson Gallery exhibits will be open before the banquet at no additional cost. We ask that you dress in your country attire for the banquet if possible.

A display area will be available to share your international programs, state activities, future conference sites, etc.

We have some exceptional workshops planned for Wednesday. You can sign up for the workshops when you check in at the conference. We’ll be learning about rain water gardens, family trees, travel tips and ideas, a taste of Nebraska, Laws of Leadership, and of course, a hands-on project for our Mongolian 4-H friends.

Our “Children’s Program” will provide supervised activities for children ages 5-12 all day on Wednesday and Friday morning. On Thursday the children will go with parents/grandparents on their tour, and on Friday afternoon the children may participate in the service project or enjoy free time with parents/grandparents.

For more information on the conference, please contact Barb Batie 308-325-2247 (cell) 308-324-2541 (home) email bbatie@atcjet.net or on Facebook @ Barb Batie.

To make your reservations, contact the Embassy at 402-346-9000 for the \$119 per night rate. Our Group Name is International 4-H and Group Code is MI4 (M as in Mary, I as in Igloo and the number 4)

CONFERENCE TOURS

Monkey Around with Us. Visit the Henry Doorly Zoo. Your day can be as long as you want. A free shuttle is available to return to the Embassy when you want. Included in the day is admission, IMAX, rides on train, tram, carousel & “skyfari” and lunch.

Heartland Agriculture. Includes Animal Science, Mead Feed Lots, Ashland Packers with a BBQ lunch, and a Hay Plant.

Trails to Rails. Take a walk across the Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge and visit the Union Pacific Museum. A box lunch will be included.

Strategic Brother Tour. Visit the Strategic Air & Space Museum and a tour of Boys Town. You will eat lunch at Boys Town.



2012 National IFYE Conference

July 24—July 28, 2012

Embassy Suites

555 S 10th St., Omaha, NE

Conference Registration

(please use separate sheet for each conference registrant)

First Name: _____ Nickname for Badge: _____ Last Name: _____
 Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Country: _____ Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please list my information in the Conference Attendees' Directory Yes or No Your IFYE Region (circle one) A B C D

I will / will not participate in "IFYE's Got Talent (Tuesday evening). Title or Type of Talent _____
 (Items needed—if any) _____

Tell us about your 4-H International involvement:

Name of Program: _____
 Year: _____
 Home State/Country: _____
 Host State/ Country: _____
 Host Family
 Friend of 4-H
 Other: _____

Please select one of the following tours, all of which will take place on Thursday during the Conference. (Please select your first and second choice.)

- _____ Monkey Around with Us (*Henry Doorly Zoo*)*
- _____ Heartland Agriculture (*Animal Science, Mead Feed Lots, Ashland Packers & Hay Plant*)
- _____ Trails to Rails (*Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge & Union Pacific Museum*)*
- _____ Strategic Brother Tour (*Strategic Air & Space and Boys Town*)

* walking is a part of this tour

For additional conference information or questions contact:
 Barb Batie 308-324 2541 (home) 308-325-2247 (cell)
 E-mail: bbatie @ atcjet.net facebook @ Barb Batie

For dietary and/or other requests please contact Barb Batie

Hotel Reservations: Conference headquarters will be at the Embassy Suites, Omaha Downtown/Old Market, Omaha, NE FREE shuttle is available from Eppley Airfield. Embassy parking fee will be \$5/night. Conference group rate is \$119 per room per night (1-4 persons per room), plus applicable taxes. Reservations must be made by June 22, 2012 to guarantee rate. Make reservations by calling 402-346-9000. Mention **Group Name: International 4-H and Group Code: MI4** (M as in Mary, I as in Igloo and the Number 4 when making reservations)

Banquet Attire (Friday, July 27, 2012):
 Your country attire (if possible)

In the event of an emergency during the conference, please indicate a contact person and phone number: _____

....not responsible for accidents....

All Conference attendees are expected to be members in good standing of the IFYE Association of the USA in order to participate in the Annual Meeting.

Registration Fees include all scheduled Conference activities beginning Tuesday evening through Friday's International Banquet. Please place an X next to the appropriate fees in the following chart: (Note: Travel, housing/hotel and parking fees are the responsibility of individual)

Registration Type	Fee	X
Postmarked before March 1, 2012	\$340	
Postmarked before June 1, 2012	\$375	
After June 1 and On Site	\$425	
Tuesday, July 24 Only	\$100	
Wednesday, July 25 Only	\$150	
Thursday, July 26 Only	\$150	
Friday, July 27 Only	\$150	
Banquet Only	\$75	
Children (age 5-12) full-time	\$250	
Children per day Wed/Thurs/Fri	\$100/day	
TOTAL		

Payment is required upon submission of registration.

Return this form with check payable to:

National IFYE Conference

Attn: Boni Edwards

PO Box 507

North Platte, NE 69103

or

payment may be made online at

Nebraska 4-H Foundation

www.ne4hfoundation.org

Click on events.....Select IFYE Conference

Cancellations/Refunds: All refund requests must be made in writing and mailed to the above address. Refunds, less \$75 administrative fee, will be made if cancellation/refund request is postmarked prior to June 15, 2012. Refunds will not be issued after June 15, 2012 except in the case of medical or family emergency. All refund requests are subject to the \$75 administrative fee.

“Opt-in” to MailChimp

Alan Lambert

Over the past two years, over 1,800 of our members have helped the Association minimize publication-related expenses by their willingness to receive IFYE information via email.

In the past, we have encountered some technical difficulties with emailing to a large number of recipients at once. In order to avoid this problem, and to make disseminating information to the membership efficient, the Association Board approved using a service (MailChimp) that emails notification of IFYE newsletters and other information to you via the Internet.

If you have not done so, and wish to receive information electronically via the MailChimp option, please go to <http://www.eepurl.com/ciaVr> and complete the brief instructions.

The site will ask you for your email address, first name, and last name. After you have completed the requested action, click on the ‘subscribe’ button. You will receive a confirmation email in our inbox from IFYE LIST. Open that email, and complete the brief instruction. That is all there is to it!

If at any time you wish to cancel, you can opt-out. In any case, the printed and mailed communication is always available, if desired.



Region D Meeting April 12-15, 2012 Reno, NV

Robert Doster (wdoster@cox.net)

Come join the Region D group in April in Reno, NV.

- Meeting to include:
 - Program as part of National Collegiate 4-H Conference to help promote awareness of international program opportunities
 - Region D Planning Meeting for potentially hosting 2014 National IFYE Conference
- Camaraderie
- Hotel: Grand Sierra Resort, Reno, NV
- Airport: Reno-Tahoe Int'l Airport
- Nearby activities/areas
 - Skiing, if weather permits
 - Lake Tahoe (30 miles)
 - Las Vegas (450 miles)
 - Sacramento (150 miles)
 - San Francisco (250 miles)

International Four-H Youth Exchange
Association of the USA
PO Box 2332
Carson City, NV 89702-2332

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Moving? New 911 Address?

Send mailing label corrections to IFYE NEWS
(return address above OR
vwarner@sbcglobal.net)



In Memoriam

We have received information concerning the passing of the following IFYE alumni and supporters of IFYE. *Although some are not during this year, to the best of our knowledge, they are individuals whose passing has not been noted in the IFYE NEWS to date.*

PRIOR TO 2011

- Donald C. Andrews (March 07, 2007)** (MA Sweden 1950)
- Aileen (Micheli) Bugas (March 05, 2000)** (WY Italy 1951)
- Rolf V. Craft (January 09, 2009)** (IA Pakistan 1959)
- Barbara Dee Immega (March 10, 2003)** (WI Botswana 1986)
- George A. Jefferson, Jr. (October 01, 2003)** (OR Uruguay 1954)
- Max Koone (January 13, 1980)** (AR Israel 1962)
- Bryan Koontz (July 23, 2004)** (WI Poland 1963)
- Katherine (Middleton) (DeMint) Liedtke (December 2002)** (KS Israel 1962)
- Vrle T Minto (December 30, 1997)** (CA Tunisia 1952)
- Charles Peal (July 06, 2003)** (TN UK 1949)
- Eloise (Lorch) Rippie (2000)** (KY Denmark 1951)
- Hortense (Burton) Robinson (January 04, 2009)** (WY Finland 1950)
- Sarah K (Adkins) Singletary (February 17, 2004)** (GA Norway 1952)
- Richard Vogel (August 31, 2009)** (ND Host Father and IFYE Association USA member)

2011

- Dick Becker (September 22, 2011)** (IN Scotland 1953)
- Lois (Noellsch) Englberger (September 29, 2011)** (MO India 1970)
- Ann Elizabeth Erman (October 29, 2011)** (CA Poland 1963)
- Susanne (Graham) Fisher (October 15, 2011)** – Florida State 4-H Leader; National 4-H Hall of Fame (2005);
- Walt Loflin (November 02, 2011)** (husband of Courtney Loflin – CO State Coordinator – 4-H International Programs)
- William Jones Monin (February 25, 2011)** (KY Jordan 1955)
- Edith (Frame) Poates (September 21, 2011)** (VA New Zealand 1954)
- Lola (Rigel) Porter (August 25, 2011)** (PA England/Wales 1960) – spouse of Glenn Porter (PA Nepal 1961)
- Estelle (Cooksey) Rayton (August 06, 2011)** (Wife of Virgil Rayton - WA Austria 1967) and spouse/life member of IFYE Association

