



IFYE NEWS

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



Summer 2008



Enjoy A Visit to the Nation's Capital Reunite and Celebrate 60+ Years of 4-H International Programs

4-H International Exchanges alumni, former IFYE Fellows, Program Assistants and 4-H International Programs Staff – make Washington, D.C., and the National 4-H Conference Center your destination in early December! It's an opportunity to spend some time in the Nation's Capital, and to join in a Reunion and Celebration of 60+ Years of 4-H International Exchanges and Assistance to Youth Programs Around the World – **Saturday, December 6, 2008!**

You can tour the National 4-H Center - including a visit to Kathleen's Corner, the room at the Center dedicated to the late Kathleen S. Flom, join in a reception of fellowship and enjoy a dinner and program while paying tribute to what you have known, what has been and what will be, and join in a memorable rendition of the "Song of Peace!"

You could also enjoy your nation's capital before and/or after the celebration – a day, days, a week! If interested, lodging is available at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Information and rates are available on request.

Return the reservation form (page 7) by October 30 - it will be a treat; not a trick!

Don Floyd, president of National 4-H Council, will join in and visit with us about the potential for 4-H's future global impact. There will be a report on current programs, reflections on the past 60+ years and a focus on the future.

This is the 60th Anniversary year of IFYE, the first 4-H International exchange program. We celebrate 1948 as the beginning of the IFYE program. It actually started a year earlier - though the logo had not yet been introduced – when a group from Europe came to the U.S. And look at what has evolved since – Teen Caravans, YDP, PRYLE, 4-H Peace Corps, the Japanese exchanges, ATP, 4-H Travel Seminars, AWE, YASEP, and many other special programs.

A. G. Kettunen, Michigan's state 4-H leader from the 1920s to 1956, often shared that 4-H was emphasizing citizenship from its very beginning. 4-H International relationships began as early as the 1920s when Extension staff were helping countries organize programs similar to 4-H. Kettunen, of Finnish ancestry, assisted in the founding of 4-H in Finland; thus, a "60+" Anniversary Celebration of 4-H International Programs.

A challenge to all involved with 4-H: An Image of Excellence includes an International Dimension! ☆



2008 U.S. IFYE Delegates and Inbound IFYE Exchangees - Orientation in Michigan



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IFYE Association of the USA



Celebrations! Reunions! Opportunities to renew friendships, reminisce, and learn what is planned for the future. Michigan and Ohio held 60th Anniversary Celebrations and the New England and Southern Regions held reunions (see pages 4-5) in Maine and Georgia, respectively.

A Celebration of 60+ Years of 4-H International Programs and Assistance to Youth Programs Around the World will be held at the National 4-H Center on December 6. Enjoy some of the nation's capital at the same time. Make your reservations by October 30 - see page 1 - reservation form on page 7.

Fellow Michiganians attending the Michigan event included (above l-r) Harvey Warrick, OH-Austria 1951; Mel Thompson, Turkey 1953; Fred Henningsen, Germany 1955; Max Benne, Denmark 1957; Murray Sayre; Maxine Harris Sayre, Sweden 1955; Frank Kapp, OH-Pakistan 1958; Jean Stewart, Turkey 1962; and (seated) Rhoda Kelly Reini, Greece 1954; Marian Pike Huey, Norway 1955; and Ralph Daily.

Ohioans at the Ohio event (below l-r) with Bea Cleveland, retired State 4-H International Program Leader, included 1960 delegates Alicia Lemar Hamilton, Philippines; Bernard Erven, Jordan; Mary Lou Miller Tenney, Colombia; and 1959 delegates, Virginia Eddington Aupperle, Australia; Bea; Dick Tenney, France; and Don DeWeese, Pakistan.

At left is an art piece from an exhibit at the Michigan event from the Michigan 4-H China Youth Art Exchange with Shondong Province. Below it is the large clover in the Great Hall at the new Ohio State 4-H Center (page 4).

2008 U.S. IFYE Delegates and Inbound IFYE Exchangees (photo on page 1) visited Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan, during the orientation conducted by Michigan 4-H International staff and alumni.

Enjoy this issue.

Mel Thompson
Michigan-Turkey 1953
Editor, IFYE News ☆

Eleanor Inman Smith Judges Georgia International Competition Encourages Alumni and 4-H Cooperation

Eleanor Inman Smith (left), GA-Ireland/N Ireland 1957, and U.S. IFYE Association Board member, traveled from her Texas home to judge the International Competition at the Georgia 4-H Congress in Atlanta. Her aim and hope is to get 4-H International exchange alumni more involved in 4-H International education and exchange programs and to build a better working relationship between alumni and state and county 4-H staff.

She is joined here during the Georgia competition by Jeff Buckley, Georgia's State 4-H staff coordinator for 4-H International Programs. ☆



President *Larry Zilliox* ☆ **Vice President** *Marianne Roseberry* ☆ **Secretary** *Becky Grandle* ☆
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Best wishes for a great fall season!

Today as I write this column, I am preparing to leave for the World IFYE Conference in Adelaide, Australia. The excitement is building as plans come together and the correspondence invites you to be part of the 4-H International fellowship. We truly have a great organization that allows us to interact on a worldwide basis. Friendships open many doors giving us new insights to how this world functions and why it is important to support each other through the good and bad times.

President's Message



Larry J. Zilliox
YDP, MN-Botswana 1968
President, IFYE Association



As our economy goes through some rocky times, we all feel like pulling in our resources to conserve for the unknown future. For some the days are bleak already, while others continue on their merry way.

Recent trips to Guatemala and Africa reaffirmed why we need to keep open minds and share our pocket books with others in the world. While headlines are announcing rising costs in food and fuel in our country, we find that many countries are also having similar trends creating desperate needs for the poor. Kenya was facing a fifty percent inflation rate while I was there further weakening their ability to purchase the necessities. Many of the poor live on a dollar a day and it is stretched to the limit.

As 4-H International exchange alumni and friends, we have a rich experience to call upon to help us explain to our friends and neighbors why it is important to support others in these trying times. Take time to support those in need in your community but also set aside a portion of your funds for those in need in other places. The world can only become a better place for all if we raise the bottom rung of the ladder. ☆



Ray Focht and His Work with the Maasai in Kenya

Ray Wright Focht, OH-Iran 1956, hails from Ohio and Wyoming. He recently wrote Bea Cleveland, long-time Ohio's 4-H International Program Leader, "I think we have a lot in common. You spent much of your life in service to others - 4-H, IFYE, and more...and I, late in life, in a beautiful land half way round the world, attempt the same." He went on to say that, without 4-H and IFYE, life in Kenya, where he has lived 14 of the last 20 years, could not have been realized. To Bea, "Thanks!"

Ray has been living and helping the Maasai fulltime for the last six years. He is referred to as Mzee (great Old Man) amongst the village people. There is one older man in Entsekera, age 84 and the grandfather of Moseka, a boy deaf since birth who Ray has housed and supported in his

Kenya home (above and left with village friends).

Providing encouragement and building self-confidence amongst young Maasai is his goal. Recently, they built a dam. The resulting lake will provide needed water for cattle and a pipeline directly to the school and village. They've built many homes and a footbridge across a swamp, which allows children access to the school. With support from a Colorado friend, they've provided school sweaters for over a hundred students. Water is critical, needs are great, funding is needed," Ray emphasizes.

Ray's wife, Patricia York Focht, IA-Switzerland 1956, passed away on September 7, 2000. They met on the Queen Mary when returning home from their IFYE experience. ☆



1953 Delegates to Austria



1953 Don and Bernice 2003



Citizens of the Year

Citizens of the Year Don and Bernice Rydrych Don Authored "The Farm Homesteads of Bass Lake, Minnesota"

Don Rydrych and Bernice Loy Rydrych met when both were IFYE delegates to Austria in 1953, representing Idaho and Pennsylvania respectively. They are pictured (above left) along with the late Ted Porstman, a fellow 1953 IFYE to Austria from Iowa. Aldean Knoche Banker of Kansas was also a member of the delegation.

Don retired as a research agronomist from Oregon State University, having served with the OSU Experiment Station and Extension Service in Pendleton for 38 years. His research led to the development of major weed control practices in the Columbia Basin.

He participated in a 1989 People-to-People program to the USSR.

Bernice retired as a faculty secretary at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton.

Don and Bernice were named Citizens of the Year in 2002 by the Helix, Oregon, Chamber of Commerce. In 2006, Don received the Diamond Pioneer Agricultural Achievement Registry Award for contributions to the Agricultural Sciences Industry of Oregon.

In 1998, Don published a historical documentary he authored, "The Farm Homesteads of Bass Lake, Minnesota," that describes the lives of 24 families that homesteaded in northern Minnesota in the early 1900's. The book is available from Don at: Box 415, Helix OR 97835; e-mail rydflow@helixtel.com. ☆



Ohio Dedicates New State 4-H Center Celebrates 60 Years of 4-H International Programs Alumni Raise \$340,000+ for International Room and Flags

April 4, 2008, was a historic day for the Ohio Extension Service and 4-H program. Ohio dedicated its new Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center (below) on the campus of Ohio State University. Over 500 attended. Ohio 4-H International exchange alumni and friends raised over \$329,000 for the Center's International Room (left) and over \$7500 for international flags that hang in the International Room and the Center's Great Hall (bottom left). The Center is the first "green" building on the campus. They are seeking LEED certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) administered by the U.S. Green Building Council.

The Center was the site of Ohio's 60th Anniversary of 4-H International Exchange Programs June 18-19. Over 75 exchange alumni (above) attended along with over 50 family members and friends. It was a weekend to remember! It started with a reception and International Dinner and a presentation/discussion with Bea Cleveland, Jim Marquand, and John Mount, former state 4-H International program leaders. Saturday included a tour of the Center, international programs update, recognition of program and International Room and Flag donors, and a tour of the OSU campus.

Ohio 4-H International program leadership is now provided by Extension 4-H Specialist Kathy Cox, YDP to Botswana 1975-76, and Mary Lynn Thalheimer, Program Manager, 4-H International Programs.

Of special interest in the International Room is a quilt (left) purchased and donated by Dick and Mary Lou Miller Tenney, OH-France 1959 and Colombia 1960, respectively. The blocks are signed by 12 of the 17 pioneer 1948 IFYE delegates. The quilt was made by Carolyn Gorham Guest, VT-Poland 1976, for the auction at the 1991 National IFYE Conference in New England. The fabric is from a Rhode Island textile mill in about 1900. The intricate stitching is unique with a repeated pattern of small figures holding hands in a circle - most appropriate for the International Room! ☆



Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center at Ohio State University



Michigan Celebrates 60 Years of 4-H International Programs Six IFYE Alumni Inducted into Emerald Clover Society

Michigan 4-H International alumni and friends celebrated Michigan's 100 years of 4-H and 60 Years of 4-H International Programs on May 31 at Kellogg Center on the campus of Michigan State University.

Sally Narhi, Taiwan 1970, (right) president of the Michigan 4-H International Association, extended greetings, and along with Shirley Cubitt Garrity, England/Wales 1956, and Henrietta Vereyken Hensler, Luxembourg 1956, paid tribute to deceased alumni and association members.

Dr. Lou Anna K. Simon, president of MSU, extended greetings via video, and Dr. Cheryl Booth, Assistant Director of Extension for 4-H, and Elizabeth Knox, 4-H Program Leader for Global and Cultural Education, provided updates on Michigan 4-H and 4-H International Programs. Russ Mawby inspired the group with reflections of 4-H and 60 years of 4-H International programs and a vision for the future.

Also in attendance was Renee Applegate, Michigan's State 4-H International Exchanges coordinator.

Cheryl Howell, Executive Director, Michigan 4-H Foundation, reported on the Michigan 4-H International Endowment and introduced the Founding Contributors (above right 1-r): Jim and Henrietta Hensler; Charles, Ireland/North Ireland 1952, and Wilma Gruner; Keith Brown, Nigeria 1953; Mel, Turkey 1953, and Linda Thompson, and Russ, United Kingdom 1948, and Lou Ann Mawby. Founding members unable to attend include Darlene Allen, wife of the late C. Dean Allen, Germany 1950; Sharon Fritz, Korea 1969; Eleanor, Australia 1965, and Walter Goff; Kathleen Fojtik Stroud, Mauritius 1969; Mary Garlick Wahl, Italy 1961; and Donald Wissman, Australia 1959.

A month later, six Michigan IFYE alumni were in a group of 24 Michigan 4-H alumni inducted into the Michigan Emerald Clover Society (right). They included (1-r) Sharon Fritz; Patricia Johnson Brown, Sweden 1966; Max Benne, Denmark 1957; Ray Borton, Netherlands 1952; and Don Wissman. Norman Veliquette, Brazil 1965, was unable to attend. ☆



Northeast - Regional 4-H International Reunions – Southern

4-H International alumni and friends in the Northeast and Southern Regions held their annual reunions during the summer to celebrate and focus on the future of 4-H International exchange programs. Several alumni from across the country attended. A highlight and surprise at the Northeast reunion - Louise Osborne and Francis Spinks were celebrating their 50th anniversary as IFYEs to Sweden. Neither knew the other would be attending and it had been 40 years since they last met.

Those attending the Northeast Region reunion (left), hosted by Jim Morgan at his home in Cape Neddick, Maine, included (back row) Ellen Paine, Ken Holton, Jim Morgan, Caroline Gardner, Judy Harvey, Liz Robvertson, Jim George, Ray Tarantelli, (middle row) Prue Holton, Carol Hagen, Francis Spinks, Louise Osborne, Janelle and Adriana George, and holding the flag - Dave Osborne and 2008 IFYE from Estonia, Siiri Nork.

The Southern Region reunion (right) was held at the home of Bob Ellis (far right) in College Park/Atlanta, Georgia. Those attending were (front row) Eleanor Smith, Kris Beard, Dottie Nelson, Sue Hovey, Crystal Yonker, (second row) Guests (2), Shawnda Gregory, Guest, Ruth Trail, Barbara Spangler, Caron Beard, Connie Fukudome, Judy Stewart, Emily Stewart, (back row) Guest, Dale Yonker, Art Deisher, Beth Deisher, Laura Schick, Roger McCoy, Hedwig "the Cook," and Bob Ellis. All guests were with Dottie Nelson. ☆

IFYE Foundation of the USA



What is Success?

Last November, I wrote that the IFYE Foundation was hopeful they could support each 4-H International outbound in 2008. The contributions received during the fall 2007 campaign have made that hope come true for every 2008 U.S. delegate on a WorldWise-coordinated summer program. Each received a \$75 scholarship, which was deducted on their invoice. We also provided financial support for the IFYE participants orientation conducted in the Mid-west.

To say it was appreciated by the outbounds is an understatement. I have received thank you cards from just about everyone who participated in the program. One even sent a card from Australia to say what a wonderful experience she was having.

This is the moment the Foundation has been seeking for several years. Many of us remember that our "out-of-pocket" costs were all that we paid for our opportunity to be a participant. Our travel expense was paid by contributions from corporations and trusts. Now that may be possible

again if we can demonstrate the uniqueness of 4-H International exchanges.

The time for a new fall campaign is upon us and we will again seek your support. However, we are going to make it a little easier by providing a "contribution form" at the bottom of this page. Remove the coupon, complete the information, include your donation and mail to the IFYE Foundation. This can be done throughout the year.

It is your contributions that have provided the support that the outbounds received. Although you haven't seen the many thank you cards, let me assure you they were written individually and express appreciation. Let's give the 2009 participants more to be thankful for next year by increasing our contributions. Include the IFYE Foundation in your financial planning – wills, trusts, insurance policies and other ways of giving a future to 4-H International Exchanges.

Norman C. Bauer, President ☆

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Carol H. Hagen

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Circuit Rider Kottwitz

Cleo Kottwitz, MO-Brazil 1957, a retired United Methodist pastor, continues his ministry portraying Rev. Jacob Lanius, a Missouri Circuit Rider, who served the Missouri Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1831-1851. Cleo developed the program in 1984 for the 200th anniversary of Methodism, and has been performing ever since - before and after retirement. It "makes history of frontier circuit riders come alive" he emphasizes. Cleo also volunteers with Heifer International, a global nonprofit working to end hunger and poverty and care for the Earth (www.heifer.org). ☆



Matchmaker Musser

Nyla Bock Musser (left), WI-Finland 1957, met Leena Toikka Doty (center), Finland-US 1958, during her IFYE experience in Finland. She encouraged Leena to apply. When Leena was in the U.S. they attended an IFYE Conference, during which Leena met Ted Doty, IA-Nicaragua 1957. They married, lived in Washington, Switzerland, and settled in Luumaki, Leena's hometown in Finland. Lois Bredlow Spaulding (right), WI-Australia 1954, lives near Nyla and they all got together during Leena's visit last October. Nyla's daughter was a Rotary exchange to Australia, fell in love, and married an Australian. Nyla loves to visit Australia, where they have four grandchildren. By the way, Leena credits Nyla for both being an IFYE and for being her matchmaker! ☆

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FIRST MI LAST

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

60th CELEBRATION RESERVATIONS \$40 X _____ \$ _____

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Total Amount Enclosed Thank You! \$ _____

* (Optional) Contribution in Memory of _____

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Acknowledgement (omitting amount) should be sent to: _____

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Please make checks payable to IFYE Association of the USA.

Mail to: IFYE Association of the USA

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Celebration of 60+ Years of 4-H International Programs

National 4-H Conference Center - Saturday, December 6, 2008

(Note Information on Page 1 of This Issue)

Reservation Form

Please complete the appropriate information on the above form.

_____ We plan to attend the Celebration

_____ We would like information on lodging at National 4-H Center

The Open House, Reception, Dinner and Program Fee is \$40/person

Names (for name tags): _____

Send reservation form and check to "IFYE Association" at address above.

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Share the news or story! About you or a friend!
New job? Written a book? Received an honor?
Send to melvinhi@aol.com or 301/493-5301 ☆

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www.ifyeusa.org - or contact Leona Noffsinger-
Maggitti at maggittil@comcast.net or 240-367-0126
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Dues Are Due!

Paid Your Dues? Now is the time.
Dues paid from now through end of the
year will be for 2009. If you didn't pay in
2008, you can double the amount and be
credited for both! Many thanks!
2008 and new Life Memberships
will be listed in the
fall issue of IFYE News.

**Use the form above for your dues,
contributions, and
60th Celebration Reservations**

In Memoriam



11 September 2001
The WTC Towers
A Pennsylvania Field
The Pentagon
☆☆☆

The IFYE Association has recently received word of the death of the following 4-H International alumni, spouses, staff, family members, and Association friends, members, and supporters (L-Life Membership):

☆☆ **Kenneth R. Harper**, WV-France 1957, March 30, 2008, Franklin, WV

☆☆ **Olive Gilbert Irwin**, North Ireland-MI/KS 1955, married a Kansan, **Jack Irwin** in 1957 and they chose to live half way between Kansas and North Ireland in Long Beach Island, NJ, retired to PA, July 29, 2008, Greencastle, PA

☆☆ **Nancy Maxfield**, wife of **Robert Maxfield**, VT-Ecuador 1957, July 2, 2008, Queechee, VT

☆☆ **Marjory G. McBurney**, mother of **Jayne McBurney Cubilla**, OH YDP to Panama 1985/86. Marjory was a Connecticut 4-H member and represented 4-H as a Goodwill Ambassador touring post-World War II Europe. She met her future husband from Ohio, at National 4-H Conference in 1952. July 7, 2008, Ashland, OH

☆☆ **Donald McCarthy**, husband of **Jane Riemenschneider McCarthy**, MD-Greece 1977, June 30, 2008, Mendham, NJ

☆☆ **William E. Skelton**, began his career in 1940 as state 4-H leader and then director of Extension in Virginia and was a supporter of 4-H International programs. August 30, 2008, Blacksburg, VA

☆☆ **Beulah Jane "Boo" Bertsch Stephens**, IN-Germany 1952, L-0219, August 6, 2008, Fort Wayne, IN



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U.S. Alumni at 50th European IFYE Conference

The 50th European IFYE Conference was held in Strickhof, Lindau, Switzerland in July 2008. Six U.S. alumni attended, along with two spouses. They are (l-r) Jerred Micek, TX-Switzerland 1999; Beth Micek; Lew Bordeaux, MI-Japan 1966; Amanda Brandt, MT-Switzerland 2008; Sally Narhi, MI-Taiwan 1970; Crystal Yonker; Dale Yonker, CO-Turkey 1963; and Eric Dunn, MT-Switzerland 2004.

Sally Narhi (lower left), who delivered greetings from U.S. alumni and the IFYE Association of the USA, traveled to Switzerland via Finland, the country of her paternal heritage. While in Finland, she visited Ari Ilottu, Finland-US 1985, and his family (below right). Sally's family was one of his host families when in Michigan. Man-Jyun Lu, Taiwan-Finland 2008 (back left) was being hosted by Ari's family at the time. She also visited Aila Brunni Tulonen, Finland-US 1972 (below center left). ☆



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