



# IFYE NEWS

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



Spring-  
Summer 2006

## Kathleen's Corner Fund A Tribute to Kathleen S. Flom



National 4-H Council reports that the Kathleen's Corner Fund in tribute to Kathleen S. Flom, "First Lady of the National 4-H Youth Conference Center," is nearing its goal of \$40,000 for renovation of the room named in her honor and memory. Surpassing the goal will enable an even more complete educational emphasis on the history of 4-H, the Center, and Kathleen's legacy of sharing the story with the many visitors to the Center from the U.S. and around the world.

More complete information is found on pages 8 and 9, along with a list of donors as of May 31, 2006, and information on how 4-H International exchange alumni and others can become part of the tribute! ☆

## Roger J. Wenzel ....And His Greek Sheep Bells

Roger J. Wenzel, WI-Greece 1953, died on March 28, 2006, 53 years from the time he was preparing for his IFYE experience.

He returned from Greece a changed man... with a traditional Greek costume and a set of personally sound-coordinated Greek sheep bells he collected. He played the "Song of Peace" on those bells for the Interfaith Celebration during the 50th Anniversary World IFYE Conference in Washington in 1998. Already into the onset of Alzheimer's disease, he feared he wouldn't get through it. He did. And beautifully! (See page 12.) ☆



## 2006 National IFYE Conference "The Peak Experience: Turning Adversity into Opportunity"

It's soon! But...there is still time to register for the 2006 National IFYE Conference, August 23-27, in Colorado Springs, Colorado!

Colorado Springs is only an hour south of Denver, located just below the Rocky Mountains at the base of the well known Pikes Peak. It's a major tourist center with its own airport and tons of activities to occupy any family and satisfy any interest.

It is being held at the newly-remodeled Colorado Springs Sheraton Hotel with a spectacular view of Pikes Peak.

The conference program will feature Robert "Bob" Sakata who was among the Japanese Americans to be evacuated from the west during World War II. A strong supporter of 4-H, Sakata will share and relate his family experience of "turning adversity into opportunity" in support of the conference theme.

Conferees will be able to understand why President Theodore Roosevelt said that to describe the beauty of the area "bankrupts the English language." And you'll view the city from Pikes Peak, where Katharine Lee Bates was inspired in 1893 to write "America the Beautiful," an anthem our nation still sings today.

Tour opportunities during the conference include a choice of White Water Rafting in Bighorn Sheep Canyon, the Royal Gorge and the renowned Royal Gorge Bridge, Air Force Academy, Glen Eyrie/Miramont Castle/Manitou Springs Shopping, Van Briggle Pottery and the Pikes Peak Cog Railroad, the Olympic Training Center, Helen Hunt Falls/Seven Falls, and a Colorado Ranch Tour. Those who are attending the conference should be sure to register for the tour of their choice.

Additional information and the registration form are available on the website, or by contacting Laura Schick at 303-886-9521 or [Laura.A.Schick@WellsFargo.com](mailto:Laura.A.Schick@WellsFargo.com), or Deryl Waldren (registration) at [dwaldren@co.boulder.co.us](mailto:dwaldren@co.boulder.co.us) or 303-678-6381.

**Look! Focus! The Peaks Are Expecting You!**



Photo courtesy of Experience Colorado Springs at Pikes Peak

**National IFYE Conference - August 23-27, 2006 - Colorado Springs, Colorado**

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# IFYE Association of the USA



Photo left: Samata Sarana mission staff in Mutwal-Colombo, Sri Lanka.  
Photo right: Kathleen Flom (right) with (l-r) Patchanee Natpracha, Thailand-US 1963;  
Thompson; Janet Ahlstrom Risinger, MN-Trinidad and Tobago 1978;  
and Jim Morgan, IA-Switzerland 1975, at the National 4-H Center 1982.

## Friendships, Tributes, Impressions, Reminders!

As a person gets older, we realize more and more our mortality. The recent death of Roger Wenzel, WI-Greece, who was in my group in 1953, is a reminder. Though our paths didn't cross often, we have been close friends ever since. See pages 1 and 12.

The Kathleen's Corner Fund is a beautiful tribute to Kathleen Flom. It is going to make it possible for National 4-H Council to feature the history of 4-H and 4-H International programs in a way that reflects Kathleen's enthusiasm as she told the story so often to National 4-H Center's visitors from around the country and the world. See pages 1, 8 and 9. You can still be part of this recognition.

Congratulations to Roger McCoy, the newly elected president of the IFYE Association. He outlines the challenges as he sees them, in his column on the next page.

There are some fascinating stories in this issue involving alumni and their families on pages 4 through 7 - recognition, mission related, host experiences, impact on 4-H and communities, spreading global understanding... and don't miss the article on Paraguay on page 9. They are all indicative of the impact of 4-H International exchanges.

And you'll be interested in the story on page 6 about Erik Weihenmayer, a blind educator, who made it to the top of Mount Everest and works with youth to

help them transcend adversity and focus beyond their vision. And don't miss the article on page 5 about the changes in the world's language system.

I was back in Sri Lanka earlier this year for the third time in three years. It was wonderful to again be with family, and to have the opportunity to visit friends, former exchange participants and staff (see photos below), and to witness the progress since the Tsunami of December 26, 2004.

Remember Samata Sarana? It's the mission program I've been connected with for over 15 years. The challenges in the past year have been even greater as they strive to help resettle those affected by the Tsunami in addition to the ongoing work they do with the poorest of the poor on the streets, along the coast, and in the shanty towns.

Our son Dean completes his three-year assignment with our Embassy this summer. We will all miss that Sri Lanka connection, but it will be wonderful to have the family nearby once again.

The challenges of the world are great! Hopefully, we as individuals and the Extension/4-H program as a whole will have a positive impact on them!

See you in Colorado!

*Mel Thompson*  
*Michigan-Turkey 1953*  
*Editor, IFYE News* ☆



Mel Thompson (right) meeting with Janitha Wattegedera Herath (second from left) Sri Lanka-US 1974, and her family, son Sanjaya "Kusan", Mr. Herath, and son Indika, and Mr. and Mrs. H. Premaratne. Mr. Premaratne was formerly director of the Sri Lanka Young Farmers Club program.

**President Roger McCoy** ☆ **V. Pres. Prue Holton** ☆ **Secretary Sally Narhi** ☆  
**Treasurer Beverly Osterberg** ☆ **IFYE News Editor Mel Thompson**, melvinhi@aol.com,  
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## "IFYE Without 4-H !?"

That may sound like heresy, but I believe it is a future that must be contemplated by the IFYE Association.



The limited scope of today's 4-H International Education Programs was outlined in the Winter 2006 issue of IFYE News. Should 4-H continue to evolve in its current direction, of becoming a program for elementary school age children, there is a real possibility that today's

limited exchange programs, if not all 4-H international programs may cease to exist. However, as long as they do exist, they should be a major focus of our association, but not necessarily the ONLY focus.

I attended my first IFYE Conference in 1969 at Ames, Iowa, and have only missed three or four since. During that time, our Association has made a number of adjustments to support the ever-changing 4-H Program. In 1973 we changed our name to "International Four-H Youth Exchange" from "International Farm Youth Exchange." We also dropped Alumni from the name to allow membership to interested individuals who had not gone on an IFYE exchange trip. When 4-H dropped the IFYE Program in the early 1990s, we took over the operation of the exchange program and operated it up until the last few years. Programs designed for adults (20 and older) are no longer allowed to use the 4-H emblem or name. The changes in the 4-H program have been dictated by fifty years of changes in the U.S. population, society and politics. In the case of 4-H programs, the changes reflect the 4-H market of today, not the 4-H market of 20-50+ years ago.

The IFYE Program was spawned by 4-H, and we all have a great deal of love and respect for 4-H. I believe the IFYE Association is like an adult child that is torn between going on with its life, or giving up its own identity to care for an aging parent (4-H). The changes mentioned above are not unlike the aging parent who must restrict their activities to match their physical capabilities. As the "4-H parent" declines in capability (program scope), do we restrict our activities to that of the "4-H parent," or do we use the lessons and skills learned from the parent to grow and explore outside the 4-H box?

Where does this leave the IFYE Association of the USA? Like the child in the above analogy, we must decide who we are and what our role in life will be. As your president this year, I will work with the board of directors to chart a course for our association's future.

I hope to see many of you in Colorado Springs. Colorado IFYE alumni have planned an exceptional reunion and conference.

Roger McCoy  
Missouri-New Zealand 1968  
President ☆



## Roger L. McCoy Elected President IFYE Association Board of Directors

The IFYE Association of the USA Board of Directors elected officers for 2006 at a meeting early this year. Roger McCoy, MO-New Zealand 1968, was elected president. Roger is a Certified Financial Planner and Registered Investment Advisor with Raymond James Financial Services in Cameron, Missouri. He has served as financial advisor to the board for several years.

Prue Brown Holton, CT-Costa Rica 59, was elected vice president; Sally Narhi, MI-Taiwan 70, secretary, and Beverly Osterberg, VT-Sweden 65, treasurer. Jennifer Barton, NH-Botswana 97, serves the treasurer and the board as bookkeeper and coordinator of financial records.

Retiring officers included David J. White, OR-Philippines 79, president; Mary Kay Munson, KS-India 65, vice president; Jennifer Barton, treasurer; and Melvin J. Thompson, MI-Turkey 53, past president.

Board members completing their three-year term included Jennifer Barton, Duain W. Vierow, MN-Netherlands 57; Mary Kay Munson, and Paul-Baptiste Baca, NM-Finland 90. ☆

## Southern Region Winter Gathering



Southern Region alumni held their annual Winter Gathering last February in The Villages near Ocala, Florida. It was hosted by Duain and Donna Vierow. Attending were (standing l-r) Paul Kaminen; Kris Beard; Ken Holton; Don Bunn; Bob Ellis, IN-Gambia 71; Caron Beard, OR-New Zealand 59; Duain Vierow, MN-Netherlands 57; Murray Sayre; and Betty Ann Crump. (front row l-r) Sally Narhi, MI-Taiwan 70; Suzanne Davis Bunn, NC-Switzerland 55; Maxine Harris Sayre, MI-Sweden 55; Marian Pike Huey, MI-Norway 55; Prue Brown Holton, CT-Costa Rica 59; and Fran Nuhn. Not in the picture: Jean Adams Miller, VA-Finland 54; Wayne Miller; Lynn Wolfe; and Donna Ford Vierow. ☆



## 4-H International Anniversary Fund

The Anniversary Fund was established by the 1948 IFYE delegation on the occasion of their 40th Anniversary and endorsed by the IFYE Association at the National IFYE Conference in Kansas in 1988. All 4-H International participants are asked, on their five-year anniversaries, to donate a minimum of \$1.00 for each year since participation. These funds are used to support exchanges. Contributions should be made payable and sent to the IFYE Foundation of the USA (see page 10).

1956 IFYE Delegates! A Challenge! Several 1956 IFYEs are aiming at 100% participation on the occasion of your 50th Anniversary!

Please respond today! ☆

## Ukraine 4-H FLEX Student with South Dakota Family

Olya Vitkovska from the Ukraine spent the last year with Dennis and Kay Solberg in Watertown, SD, during which time she attended Watertown High School. The following are excerpts about her experience from a recent article in the SD IFYE Newsletter:



Olya with host mother, Kay Solberg

"Hi! Everybody! My name is Olya (Ohla) Vitkovska and I am a FLEX (Future Leaders Exchange) student from Ukraine. I am staying in Watertown, South Dakota, with my host family Kay & Dennis Solberg. Kay owns a teacher's store called "Classroom Connections" and Dennis is on the city council. They have two sons, Mark and Mathew. Mark lives in Colorado; Matt lives nearby with amazing twin daughters Brooke and Breanna. The girls spend a lot of time with us and we always have lots of fun.

"I have an opportunity to experience American lifestyle, food and school and visit some beautiful places in the U.S. In August we went to Minneapolis to the Mall of America! It was amazing. In February I went skiing to Black Hills with the Lenards family! We had so much fun! In March I went on the biggest and the most wonderful trip of the year, the trip to Las Vegas. We stayed there for a week and I saw everything I could possibly dream about. All the hotels with different styles, roller coaster, laser shows, and an I-Max theatre with the seven story high and wide screen. I have never seen anything like this in my life before.

"The Watertown High School made quite an impression on me. It is the biggest school I have ever attended—1300 students. This school has an unusual block schedule, which offers many different subjects and every student a school laptop. This year I took English, German, Journalism, Genetics, Psychology, Photography, American History, and Introduction to Business and Art.

"I was a student manager for the school dance team and I practiced with them every single time I could. It was the most amazing time I have ever had. I am also on the staff for the school newspaper, "Purple and Gold."

"My year in the United States is over and I feel that this was the best year in my life. I want to thank both my host family and my real family in the Ukraine."★



## Beverly and Bill Seabloom Shoreview's 2006 Heritage Family

Beverly Norris Seabloom, MN-Austria 1955, and her husband, Bill, were recently named Shoreview's (MN) 2006 Heritage Family.

Bill grew up in Shoreview and never left. Even when attending the University of Minnesota he was home every weekend. He is proud to show you the photo of the original Seabloom home, which still exists (see photo inset), but with a second story.

Bill and Bev were married in 1957 after meeting at a 4-H event where Bill managed lighting and sound for various booths. Bev was in charge of a food demonstration booth. Bill always made time in his schedule to be at her booth when samples were available. Imagine that!

Dr. Bill worked with Lutheran Social Services, during which time he completed his doctoral program. Bev is a retired Snail Lake school teacher.

They are both active in the community. Bill was on the Human Rights Commission and a Boy Scout leader. Bev was a leader for the homemakers' organization. Both remained active with 4-H and are still active with the Shoreview Community Center.

They maintain some of Bill's family Swedish traditions. Bev adds an Austrian flavor from time to time...and always has that wonderful smile!

Both have attended several National IFYE Conferences. Their son lives in Corvallis, Oregon...so Corvallis it is for the conference in 2007!★

## Elbert "Bert" Hutchison Communicator Extraordinaire

Elbert "Bert" Hutchison, OH-Australia 1952, grew up in Xenia, Ohio, and at one time thought Wisconsin was in Canada. Now, he and his wife Nancy, have lived in Hartford, Wisconsin, for almost 40 years.



Bert has been a professional communicator and marketer for all of his adult life—known widely for his presentations on "Improving Your Communications." Listening, asking the right questions, remembering (memory!), and the "Golden Rule" all played into the theme. Time flies...and he isn't as involved with speaking engagements as in the past. He claims "age" to be a factor, but his enthusiasm for service is still strong.

He was a broadcaster, USDA Information specialist, product and marketing manager, and an advertising agency senior executive.

He serves on the Board of Directors of the Hartford Library, is active in Rotary, and is President of the Hartford Historic Preservation Foundation.

In fact, Rotary has been a part of his life ever since he graduated from Ohio State and was an IFYE to Australia. The Xenia Rotary Club helped pay his way on that "totally awesome" adventure, as he describes it. He joined the Hartford Rotary Club after moving to Wisconsin, has served as its president, and earned the distinction of being named Rotarian of the Year in 1998-99.

A communicator extraordinaire!



Joy Swan Bickford, WI-New Zealand 1952, remembers Bert well. They traveled together and both remember that—at that time—it took three days to get to Australia by air via Hawaii and Fiji! Joy said to remind him of the return to Honolulu when two or three of the engines quit.

Bert and Joy both attended the second National IFYE Conference at Camp Ohio in 1953 (see page 7), held soon after their return from the "land down under." The delegates to the South Pacific left in the fall and continued on around the world - returning home via Europe by ship in the late spring!★





## Mission-Minded Schmidts in Costa Rica and Mississippi!



Jennifer Yucavitch Schmidt, left with wheelbarrow and far right above. Mark Eck, above right front, in shorts and baseball cap. Santa Hans Schmidt distributing gifts (bottom left) and seated proudly in his Ford truck pulling a tractor trailer stuck in the mud!

Hans and Jennifer Yucavitch Schmidt will tell you that their IFYE and 4-H International Youth Development Project (YDP) experiences had an important impact on their lives.

Jennifer, IFYE and YDP MA-Botswana 1986 and 1988 respectively, ventured to Costa Rica in the summer of 2005. Hans, IFYE MD-Taiwan 1989, was in Mississippi during the 2005 holiday season.

Jennifer led a group of 22 youth and parents from their church to Monte Verde, Costa Rica, where they helped build a parsonage. The group included Mark Eck, MD-United Kingdom 1981, his son, Alan, and two other 4-H'ers. "My goal was for the youth from our very rural area to 'step outside the box,' experience the world, and aspire to whatever comes their way in the future," Jennifer wrote. They plan a return trip to Costa Rica in 2008.

Hans was part of a Queen Anne's County group who traveled to Waveland, MS, last December with truck loads of Christmas gifts, food, books, and other supplies. "The eye of Hurricane Katrina went directly over the town making the town look like a giant landfill," wrote reporter Tammy Stafford of the QAC's Record Observer, traveling with the group.

4-H International is a Schmidt family affair! Hans' dad, Walter, was a Maryland IFYE to Austria in 1956. Walter's late brother, Oscar, went to the Netherlands in 1949. ☆



The world's language system is undergoing rapid change because of demographic trends, new technology, and international communication. These changes will affect both written and spoken communication. English may not be the dominant language of the future and the need to be multilingual will be enhanced. Although many languages are going extinct, new ones are emerging in cities and extended social groups.

David Brown, a writer, is the author of the following story that will be of interest to those involved in 4-H International exchanges and other similar educational programs. It tells of observations by David Graddol, a British linguist, in an essay in the journal *Science* in early 2004.

"Advice to a baby born today anywhere in the world: Learn English. Advice to a baby born of English-speaking parents: Learn another language. Good choices would be Chinese, Hindi, Arabic or Spanish.

"Graddol says the world's language system...has reached a point of crisis and is now rapidly restructuring." He speculated that English may turn out to be the essential language for life in the 21st century, but noted that the percentage of the world's population calling English its native tongue will

## World's Language System Changing

fall steeply over the next 50 years.

"With 1.1 billion native speakers, Chinese in its various dialects, has the largest number of native speakers today. English is second, with 372 million. Close behind are Hindi/Urdu (316 million), Spanish (304 million) and Arabic (201 million). Rounding out the top 10 in descending order are Portuguese, Russian, Bengali, Japanese and German.

"In 2050, Chinese will lead the list of the native languages of the world's young people - those 15 to 24 years old. Chinese will have about twice as many native speakers - at 166 million - as each of the next four languages.

"In the mid-20th century, 9 percent of the world's people grew up speaking English. In 2050, it will be 5 percent," Graddol said.

"The near future will also see the extinction of hundreds of languages. There are about 6,000 in existence today, but 90 percent 'may be doomed to extinction, with much of this loss happening in the coming century,'" Graddol said. ☆



## Blind Lesley University Alum Challenges Students About Their Life's Vision



Photo courtesy of Ted Fitzgerald

Ever heard of Erik Weihenmayer (pictured above with seeing-eye dog)? Lesley University? That's what Linda A. Pursley, OH-Greece 1973 and Lesley staff member, thought! Erik Weihenmayer is blind and a graduate of Lesley's School of Education.

Pursley and her son, Nathan (pictured right front), participated in a "Touch the Top: Profile in Courage Program" last fall. Nathan and some 1500 other Boston-area elementary and middle school students, gathered at the Wang Center in Boston to hear Erik share his inspirational story of courage, hope and persistence in the face of adversity.

Weihenmayer went blind at 13. Defeated? Not a chance. He went on to become a world-class athlete - a mountain climber, skier, runner, biker, paraglider - and more importantly, an educator. He has scaled the highest peaks on all seven continents, including Mount Everest.

His book, *Touch the Top of the World; a Blind Man's Journey to Climb Farther than the Eye Can See*, is being used as the basis of a teaching curriculum in Boston schools.

A former middle school teacher, Weihenmayer believes that these students are at a stage in life where choices start to take shape. "Life is an ongoing process of reaching out in the dark," Weihenmayer said. "When you try something new, it's like you're climbing blind. But that process can lead to fantastic adventures."

He has taught blind children in Tibet to rock climb and led six of them on a month-long climb to the Rombuk Glacier on Mount Everest. He more recently led a group of blind children on the Inca Trail in Peru.

For more information on Weihenmayer and Lesley University and some fascinating reading, visit [www.touchthetop.com](http://www.touchthetop.com), [www.lesley.edu](http://www.lesley.edu), and [www.climbingblind.org](http://www.climbingblind.org). ★

## South Dakota IFYE Association Annual Meeting



The South Dakota IFYE Association met recently in Huron. Some of those attending were (back l-r) Jerry Micheel, Finland 1963 finance officer; Rosemary Moeller; Alan Lambert, Germany 1980, vice president and summer Labo Coordinator; Leann Walls, Greece 1978, president; Sandee Prouty-Cole, Australia 1990; and (front l-r) Liz Gorham, Iowa-Costa Rica 1967, SD Extension 4-H Liaison; Charlotte Brown, High School Program and Labo Flex coordinator; Aletha Symens Prouty, Scotland 1956, IFYE program coordinator; and Marlys Christensen. ★



## Shelly Allbee Pellegrino Spreading Global Understanding



The Pellegrino family - Stephen, Shelly and Kate, Danielle and Ricardo.

Shelly Allbee Pellegrino, MO-Italy 1981, grew up in an active 4-H family in Missouri in the outskirts of Lee's Summit. From then on, the world has been her pursuit.

Brother Dereck Allbee's experience as a Missouri delegate to Trinidad and Tobago in 1977, was her inspiration. As a result, "My experience in Italy changed me profoundly," she wrote. After her return she told her mother, "I am going to marry someone from someplace exotic."

Five years later, she married Ricardo Pellegrino from Argentina, an exchange student at Central Missouri State, where she attended. Ricardo's grandparents emigrated from Italy to Argentina during World War II.

Shelly works as an International Career Con-

sultant with Ricklin-Echikson Associates, helping accompanying spouses transition their career and interests. Husband Ricardo is Senior Director for Latin American Operations with Schering Plough. Both are headquartered in New Jersey.

In 20 years of marriage, they have relocated 10 times. Their children were all born on different continents. Son Stephen, 17, was born in New Jersey, Kate, 13, in Belgium, and Danielle, 5, in Venezuela.

Shelly sums it all up, "I am eternally grateful to those who had the vision to launch a program that truly changed my destiny. I share my story to show how one seed, planted, can spread global understanding and peace." ★

## "4-H Ain't All Cows and Chickens"

Carolyn Smith Ivey, NC-Norway 1949, loves the title of this article. She suggested it. She has been the Organizational Volunteer 4-H Leader for the Northeast McLeansville 4-H Club in North Carolina, for over 42 years. The club is sponsored by the Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church.

The members participate in the usual 4-H projects, but, as Carolyn emphasizes, Community Service is their major focus!

After learning there were no factories making small plastic bottles in Haiti and Kenya, the group has collected and shipped thousands of used medicine bottles to two medical missions in Kenya and one in Haiti. One member donated 15 inches of her hair to Locks of Hair to make wigs for children undergoing cancer treatments.

The following are among the long list of their service projects:

- donated and packed supplies for Hurricane Katrina victims.
  - purchased a commemorative stone for a church cemetery of former slaves.
  - collected cancelled stamps to raise funds for the World Hunger Fund.
  - gave vegetables from their individual gardens to senior citizens.
  - collected canned foods, cooked and served meals for homeless shelters.
  - packed backpacks of school supplies for children of military parents.
- And Carolyn points out, "the list goes on and on."

Carolyn's parents hosted Margit Kvelprud Vindegg from Norway in 1949 when Carolyn was in Norway. They moved back to Kentucky, their home state, when Carolyn was a senior in college and continued to host



Members of the North Carolina NE McLeansville 4-H Club with the commemorative stone marker they purchased for a church cemetery of former slaves. (Don't look for Carolyn. She's taking the photo.)

exchanges. Carolyn shared that she had met "Mr. Wonderful" and remained in North Carolina.

Carolyn and her husband have hosted 46 inbound exchanges from over 20 countries, most of whom experienced some of the club's service projects. Many, with spouses and families, have revisited over the years. She is happy and proud to tell you that their daughter, Janice Ivey Dudley, was also a NC IFYE to Norway 37 years later in 1986.

## From the Archives.....

### National IFYE Conference, Camp Ohio, Ohio, Summer 1953



The second National IFYE (Alumni) Conference was held September 1-4, 1953, at Camp Ohio, Ohio. The theme was "Spreading the Influence of IFYE." Participating in a panel discussion entitled "What We Think IFYE Alumni Can Do" were state Extension and 4-H staff members (l-r) Loren Goyen, Kansas; Bea Cleveland, Ohio; James A. Klein, Pennsylvania; C. P. Lang, Pennsylvania; J.P. Schmidt, Ohio, and Rodney Langseth, MN-Norway 1948, panel coordinator. Norman Mindrum of the Minnesota 4-H staff and later president of National 4-H Council, also participated on the panel. (The first national conference was held August 21-24, 1952, in the Black Hills near Rapid City, South Dakota. Fifty years later the 50th Anniversary conference was held nearby in Spearfish, South Dakota, June 26-30, 2002.)





*Tribute Gifts to "Kathleen's Corner"  
at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center  
in the honor and memory of Kathleen Solveig Flom*

***Emerald Level (\$1,000+)***

Richard R. Angus  
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Ruth Flom  
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Susan W. and Dana L. Halbert  
V. Joseph and June C. McAuliffe  
(In Memory of Jean E. Burand  
and Marsha Midgely)  
Dwight E. Palmer

***Green Level (Up to \$119)***

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C. Dean Allen  
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Winifred P. Anderson  
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John and Katie Aylsworth  
Gwen Bacheller  
Shirley L. Barber  
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Nora and Barry Breindel  
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Wayne and Mary Ellen Carlson  
Harlan and Jeanne Carter  
Bea Cleveland  
Jean Cogburn  
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Harlan G. Copeland  
(In Memory of Ann Mullendore Copeland)  
June G. Dickinson  
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Stanley Dreyer  
Ronald C. and Phyllis Drum  
Thomas and Ruth Drummond  
Mary Steimel Duru  
Margery and Charles Elliott  
Helen Fahning Enstrom  
Beverly and Norman Everson  
Esther Faugstad  
Betty Fleming  
C. J. Gauger  
April Gower-Getz and David Getz  
(In Memory of Elsie Carper)  
Janett A. Gibbs  
Virginia C. and Garrett F. Gobeli  
Madeleine Greene  
Evelyn D. Harne  
Richard and Geraldine Heavner  
Henrietta Hensler  
John and Bernice Hibbard  
Alberta D. Hill  
Peg Hoffman  
Roy and Patricia Hougen  
Jon E. and Margaret B. Irby  
Ronald and Pamela Iverson  
Curtis and Mary Johnson  
for Adolph Gunelson Family  
Glenice Rugland Johnson  
Jim Kemp  
Lois McClure Kemp  
Louise and R. A. Kilpatrick  
Gladys W. Knapp  
(In Memory of J. O. Knapp)  
Gerhard Knutson  
Larry L. Krug  
Verle E. Lanier  
Marian O. Larson  
Paul and JoAnne Leatherman  
Nancy Leidenfroest  
Patty Lesefske  
(In Honor of Barbara Anoskey)

Ruth T. Lewis  
Sandra L. Lignell  
Vandora Linck  
Rainy Linn  
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Lorraine Hofmann Weier  
Mary Wengryn  
Donald R. and Myrna Whaples  
Antoinette N. White  
Eugene "Pete" and Zona Belle Williams  
Neva N. Wing  
Anne S. Woodhams  
Helene and Mark Zeug  
D.C. Association of Family & Consumer Sciences





## *"Kathleen's Corner"* *A Tribute to Kathleen S. Flom*



Kathleen in her Indian Sari with Professor Sundaram, Educational Attache with the Embassy of India in Washington, D.C., during the India-Pakistan IFYE Mid-point Conference, Waseca, Minnesota, 1954.

The Kathleen's Corner Fund at National 4-H Council has reached nearly \$40,000 in less than six months. What a wonderful tribute to the "First Lady of the National 4-H Youth Conference Center," as Donald Floyd, president of National 4-H Council, referred to her earlier this year. The fund will make it possible to continue her legacy of telling the story of the Center and its contribution to 4-H and young people throughout the U.S. and the world.

4-H International exchange alumni and friends can still add their name to the growing list of contributors honoring Kathleen and her lifetime of service to 4-H and the worldwide network of similar programs. She was a strong supporter of the many participants who passed through the Center enroute to their life-changing international experiences.

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.

Many thanks to Kathleen's family, Extension 4-H colleagues, 4-H International alumni, and her many friends listed on page 7 who have already responded. The campaign goal will not only be achieved, it will be surpassed! And, the history of 4-H will be shared through Kathleen's Corner—a conference room at the Center named in her honor. It is hoped the renovation can be completed and dedicated to her memory in October 2006. Those who have questions about Kathleen's Corner or would like more information on the specific plans should contact Sue Fisher at 715-386-6043 or [sfisher@fourhcouncil.edu](mailto:sfisher@fourhcouncil.edu).



Lorraine Hofmann Weier, IL-Netherlands 1955, wrote after learning of Kathleen's death and plans for Kathleen's Corner. "Today I am mailing my contribution. I couldn't help but reminisce a bit about how important she and Les Nichols were as we prepared for the adventure. Going back to my diary entry dated June 20, 1955, I found a direct reference to them. They had accompanied our group on the overnight bus trip to Quebec from where we embarked. They had actually come aboard to bid us adieu. My entry read, "The whistle sounded and final parting words were spoken. Les and Kathleen walked up the gangplank and as we waved and watched they seemed like parents to us." I think of the hundreds of young people they prepared so thoroughly for what would be a life-changing experience. How grateful we are for their dedication through so many years."

At the time of Kathleen's last birthday, Gunver Graversen Penton-Lodge, Denmark-ISA 1957, wrote, "How exciting it was to be in the U.S. and be photographed on the Capitol steps with Kathleen Flom. You were an important link in my stay, and I so appreciate what you and so many others did for us then and continue to do for young people from far and near." And Shelly Albee-Pellegrino, Missouri-Italy 1981, wrote, "Your commitment to 4-H is an example to us all. Thank you for all you have done. Happy Birthday!"

A message received from Pieter R. Dijkhuis, Netherlands-USA 1956, as we go to press: "My sympathy. I do remember her as I met her yesterday. She was a personality with a bright radiation." ☆

## **4-H Exchanges ...Paraguay Impact**

A. Lois Redman, OR-Sweden PRYLE 1967/68 and South Asia Travel Seminar 1974, and former State 4-H International Program Leader in Oregon and Kansas, has been involved with the Kansas-Paraguay Partners program for many years. Now retired, she visited Paraguay for the fourth time last fall on a Good Will tour with 18 other Kansas Partners supporters.

As part of the tour, Redman and Clara Dubbs, a strong supporter of 4-H and the Partners, made contact with many of the Paraguayan participants who had come to Kansas on the IFYE or PRYLE programs over the years. The results—amazing! They met at least 12 alumni—most of whom are now professionals with the Extension Service, elementary/high schools, University Research and Teaching programs, agriculture and business ventures, and government service.



Some they met are pictured above (l-r): Rosa Vera 1986, Sara Ortiz 1986, Norma Gomez 1986, Redman, Romona Alcaraz 1988, Dubbs, and kneeling - Clotilde Benitez 1987 and Jose Meranda 1991.

Paraguayan exchangees continued to come to the U.S. through 1996.

Each alum they met was given a "Forever 4-H" T-shirt like the one being worn by Rosa Vera, professor and researcher in Foods and Nutrition, pictured below. Her adopted son, Marcelo, with a 4-H pin, proudly shared that his mom "learned English when she was in Kansas." Rosa and Marcelo had come to the airport to bid them farewell.

Redman wrote, "I'm sure there are other alumni doing great work in Paraguay that we didn't see. These Paraguayans are a wonderful example of how 4-H International exchange programs contribute to making the world a better place." ☆



# IFYE Foundation of the USA

## Foundation Supports Exchanges Encourages Contributions

IFYE alumni and Friends of IFYE have been very gracious in their giving over the years. Even though IFYE exchanges were minimal in recent years and the IFYE Foundation had the resources, we weren't able to provide much support due to lack of participants.

That has changed and the Foundation is proud to announce that your contributions are at work with the following programs in 2006:

Colorado - Outbound Delegate to Botswana - \$1600  
Kansas - Outbound Delegate to Botswana - \$1600  
Colorado/Kansas - Inbound from Botswana \$3200  
Illinois - Orientation for inbound/outbounds - \$3563  
Indiana - 24 Outbound Delegates to Poland - \$2000  
World Wise - Finnish IFYE Representative - \$3000

In addition, the board approved \$300 for the registration fee for each inbound participant who attends the 2006 National IFYE Conference in Colorado Springs.

The contributions you made two or three years ago are finally being put to work. We have received less total contributions the past two years, but the average per person giving has remained fairly constant.

To continue support at this level, we will need your contributions. Although the Foundation Board hasn't made the decision to have a fall campaign, it would seem apparent that we will be asking you for your continued support.

The IFYE Foundation Board thanks you for making it possible to provide the above funding. The reward: IFYE exchanges are growing. Hopefully, the Foundation can continue to help make it happen.

See you in Colorado Springs,

Norm Bauer  
Michigan-Turkey 1957  
President ☆



## 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 ☆



## IFYE Foundation Board of Directors

(Members numbered l-r (t)op/(b)ottom)

President—Norman C. Bauer, MI-Turkey 1957, Anna, IL  
nbauer@aj-internet.net (t1)

Vice President—Marjorie M. Loyd, KS-Israel 1968, Topeka, KS  
mloyd1@cox.net (b1)

Secretary—Richard W. Tenney, OH-France 1959, Brooktondale, NY  
rwt1@cornell.edu (t3)

Treasurer—Eldon R. "Bud" Aupperle, IL-Chile 1954, 29470  
Saxon Road, Toulon, IL 61483-9205 aupperlee@bhc.edu (b4)

### Members

Mary E. Henningsen Ottmar, IA-Netherlands 1971 (t6)

Douglas Putnam, CT Supporter

Betty Stephenson, IA-England/Wales 1952 (b2)

Thomas Trail, ID-Nepal 1956 (t7)

Mildred C. Weidemann, VA-Israel 1955 (t5)

Maurice E. Johnson, ID-Sweden 1954 (t2)

Robert Ellis, IN-Gambia 1971 (t4)

Paul Langseth, MN-New Zealand 1978 (t8)

### Advisors

Charles Larson, CT-Denmark 1948

Russell G. Mawby, MI-Great Britain, 1948 (b3)

Ex-Officio—Roger McCoy, MO-New Zealand 1968, President, IFYE Association

## IFYE Foundation Contributions

### Foundation Fellow (\$500+)

Eldon R. & Virginia Edgington Aupperle - In Honor of Hugh Wetzel

Summit Credit Union - In Memory of Donald Stauffacher

### Excited Member (\$100+)

Robert E. Ellis

Kathy Toniskoetter Haule - In Memory of Kathleen S. Flom

Donald L. Ingle

Esther M. Nichols - In Memory of Kathleen S. Flom

Pfizer Foundation - Matching Gift (Thomas Frangione)

Tom & Jo Ann Trail

### Supporter (Up to \$100)

Warren Ames III

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Susanne G. Fisher - In Memory of Kathleen S. Flom

Christopher Hill

Verle E. Lanier - In Memory of Kathleen S. Flom

Louis & Nyla Bock Musser - In Memory of Kathleen S. Flom

and Roger J. Wenzel ☆



## Hubert J. Wetzel Inducted - National 4-H Hall of Fame

Hubert J. "Hugh" Wetzel was inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame last fall in a ceremony held at the National 4-H Center in Maryland just outside Washington, D.C.

Hugh provided the leadership for 4-H International programs in Illinois for nearly 35 years. He retired in 1982 from the Illinois state 4-H staff.

He was involved in the development of the IFYE program from its beginning. In the mid-1960s he led one of the first 4-H Member International Exchange programs to Europe. That program later transitioned into the 4-H Teen Caravan and then the IFYE Ambassador program.



Hubert J. Wetzel

A 4-H member when growing up, Hugh joined the Extension Service following his university graduation. He also helped establish the 4-H connection with the National Junior Horticulture Association.

He continues his involvement with the Illinois 4-H Foundation, the Illinois IFYE Association and is a life member of the IFYE Association of the USA.



Others inducted into the National Hall of Fame in 2005, who were closely connected to 4-H International programs, were Dr. Glenn M. Busset, Kansas; Dr. Susanne G. Fisher, Minnesota; H. Joe Myers, Oregon; and the late W. Sherard Wilson of Maryland.

## Association Memberships, Contributions & Address Changes

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ New Address/Information?

FIRST MI LAST

Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Program: \_\_\_\_\_ State Represented: \_\_\_\_\_ Host Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Extension Staff: \_\_\_\_\_ Host Family: \_\_\_\_\_ Friend of IFYE: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

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!  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* (Optional) Contribution in Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
Contribution in Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Acknowledgement (omitting amount) should be sent to: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name/Address/ZIP

Comments/Questions: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to IFYE Association of the USA.  
Mail to: Jennifer Barton, IFYE Association of the USA,  
653 Meadows Rd. #1, Jefferson, NH 03583.**

For contributions to the IFYE Foundation of the USA, see previous page.

## The IFYE Shoppe...

### IFYE Shirts

Children, "Future IFYE" t-shirts 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. Tri-colored 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 50-sheet 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](mailto:maggittil@adelphia.net)). ★

## Order Form

Send with payment to: IFYE Shoppe,

11127 Old Frederick Road, Thurmont, MD 21788

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Item	Qty.	Size/Color	Price
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	_____	\$ _____

Shipping & Handling (see below) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping & Handling  
Up to \$30.00 \$4.00  
\$30.01-\$75.00 \$6.00  
> \$75.01 call for quote



# In Memoriam

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

- ★ Walter Berezowskyj Jr., CT-India 1969, August 16, 2005, Guilford, CT
- ★ Wylene Seften, wife of the late Henry Seften, International Programs, USDA, Brooklyn, CT
- ★ Ruth E. Shane, Coordinator, 4-H Citizen Ambassadors, February 8, 2006, Moscow, ID
- ★ Roger J. Wenzel, WI-Greece 1953, L-1020, March 28, 2006, Louisville, KY

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](mailto:melvinhi@aol.com) or mail to IFYE Association, 5811 Lone Oak Drive East, Bethesda, MD 20814. Deceasedments, corrections and updates are appreciated. ★



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

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Send mailing label corrections to the IFYE  
News return address above or  
[melvinhi@aol.com](mailto:melvinhi@aol.com)

## Roger J. Wenzel 7 April 1931 - 28 March 2006

Roger Wenzel, WI-Greece 1953, returned home that year with memoirs in his suitcase, but no personal belongings — he had given all of the latter to his Greek families who “needed them worse than I did.” He returned a changed man.

Roger died on March 28, 2006. He was killed in an auto accident. Their home has been in Louisville, Kentucky, since his retirement from the ministry about ten years ago. He had suffered from Alzheimer’s disease the last few years.

The 1953 alumni and many others will remember Roger and the Greek sheep bells he brought home. He had “sound” selected them during his time in Greece and made great music - always ending his IFYE presentations playing the “Song of Peace.” Many will remember them from past IFYE conferences and the 50th Anniversary World IFYE Conference in Washington in 1998, where he played them for the Interfaith Celebration.

Roger served as vice president of the IFYE Association of the USA in 1955. Both Roger and his wife, Donna, are life members.

During his years of ministry since ordination in 1957, he served congregations in Mineral City and Kettering, Ohio, Fort Wayne and Elkhart, Indiana, and Middletown, Kentucky.

Phyllis McInturf Brown, OH-Sweden 1954, tells of the time a group was enroute to the IFYE Conference in Kentucky and they were stopped for speeding. Roger told the state trooper that they were guests of the State of Kentucky. Neither car got a ticket!

When enroute to their host countries, the groups going to Greece and Turkey transferred to Greek and Turkish ships, respectively, after docking in Naples, Italy. A few days later, the delegates to Turkey docked in Athens. They took advantage of the few hours available and taxied to the Acropolis. And who did they meet while there — Roger and the other delegates to Greece! Small world! ★



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