



# IFYE NEWS

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## Expansion of IFYE Program to Africa



Alan Lambert  
IFYE National Program  
Director  
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I recently returned from a 2 ½ week trip to Africa to expand the IFYE program. We will now have three-month IFYE programs in Morocco and Kenya from mid-September to early December 2022 and future years. Morocco will be sending IFYEs to the USA in 2022. Kenya will host US IFYEs in 2022 and prepare to send IFYEs to the USA in 2023. A program with Tanzania is not possible at this time without financially supporting Tanzania 4-H (the hosting organization.)

*Morocco* - Morocco formed a new non-governmental organization (NGO), the

Moroccan Association Agriculture Youth Ambassadors (MAAYA) to partner with the IFYE Association of the USA, Inc. The partnership efforts began by reaching out to a contact that I had met at previous European IFYE Conferences, and his personal connection with the Governor of the prefecture of Meknes, Morocco. That office utilized its contacts to bring together individuals representing government, non-government, education, and private industry to form a working group who have established an organizational structure. The working group met in person with me to customize a Memorandum of Agreement, and then proceeded with an official signing ceremony.

*Kenya* - The opportunity to establish an IFYE program with Kenya has come together because of networking. IFYE Board member Carolyn Hansen knows individuals at Illinois State University, who know individuals in Kenya. Through this connection and Zoom meetings, a working platform was established whereby a trip to Kenya was the next logical step in getting things vetted. A Memorandum of Agreement will likely be completed by late December 2021 or early January 2022.

Kenya will be forming a volunteer organization of community leaders from various backgrounds to administer the program. Pat Hutsell (1972 IFYE from Nebraska to Kenya) relayed important information to me while I was in Kenya about one of her host families, and the knowledge of the Kip Keino Foundation (Kip Keino was the 1972 Olympic 1500 meters silver medalist). The foundation established housing and education for orphanages as well as additional projects. A Kenya IFYE partnership with this foundation is under development

The Kenya IFYE program host families will likely initially be geographically located in the area near the city of Eldoret, Kenya.

*(Continued on page 4)*



Beginning 5th from left: Mohammed El Boudidi, Morocco IFYE Vice President; Alan Lambert IFYE Association of the USA, Inc. National Program Director; Samya El Hissen, Morocco IFYE Secretary General; Jaouad Chami, Morocco IFYE President

Other individuals are from academia and business involved in production agriculture and NGOs.



Left to Right: Kip Keino, Alan Lambert, and Kenya IFYE Coordinator; Catherine Gichunge



Jan Dennis Wood,  
President  
IFYE Association of the  
USA, Inc.  
[jwood@ifyeusa.org](mailto:jwood@ifyeusa.org)

Happy Fall to everyone,

As 2021 edges toward the end of the year, we can report mixed blessings at the IFYE Association of the USA, Inc. You'll remember that all our international partners shelved their exchange programs in 2021 forcing IFYE USA to do the same. However, we made good use of the time.

#### Africa

Alan Lambert, National program Director, has just returned from Africa where he signed a Memorandum Of Agreement (MOA) with Morocco to partner as a host country. He also made

progress in Kenya and Tanzania. (See pages 1 and 4 where Alan provides more details.) We want to say, "Great Job, Alan." Having a presence in Africa after several years is a wonderful step forward and will help IFYE with fundraising as well as placing Outbound candidates.

At this time, we have 21 applicants designated and approved or in the process of being approved for participation in our 2022 programs. As Alan mentioned in his article beginning on page 4, more applications are expected with a goal of 26 approved outbound IFYE applicants for 2022.

#### Meeting with Potential IFYEs at Conferences

Two Board members (Roger Sherer and Carolyn Hansen) and I recently staffed a booth at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis.

The young FFA students were attracted to our booth by the U.S. map and had fun selecting the exact location of their hometown. We talked with several hundred students, getting "interest" cards from more than one hundred. About 20 attendees may have immediate (2022) interest because they are already 19 or older. Younger students also expressed a high level of interest, so we'll surely have future IFYEs from the group. We had fun; it reminded Carolyn, Roger, and me why we keep doing volunteer work for IFYE.

Vicky Warren and Roger McCoy staffed the IFYE Association booth at the 2021 Agriculture Future of America Leaders Conference (AFA) November 12. They indicated that there was quite a bit of interest in receiving college credit for the IFYE exchange program. They also talked with individuals who were interested in their businesses working with the Association to help find inbound and outbound partnerships and applicants.

#### Annual Giving Campaign

My final comment in this newsletter is to humbly ask for your support for the IFYE Annual Giving Campaign which ends December 31<sup>st</sup>. Cindy Barnett, Ken Gordon, and the Marketing Committee have been reaching out to alumni and other IFYE Family members since August asking for your support to reach our 2021 target of \$60,000. This Association has been making progress in finding outside financial support, but we're not in the comfort zone yet. You'll see from Alan's and Ken's articles that the program is growing after two years of COVID-induced program suspensions. Please do whatever you can to help IFYE send all our 2022 candidates to our host country partners. (See Page 11.)

Thank you in advance for your continued support of IFYE USA.



FFA members "pinned" their hometowns while learning about future "host homes."



*season's greetings*

## Impacting Students and the World

One example of paying forward from the time of our IFYE experience is shared in an article this month from the College of Communication and Information (CCI) at the University of Tennessee. Sam Swan (Missouri to Sri Lanka 1970) is retiring after 37 years of working at the college.

Among his many accomplishments, he "led the first international study abroad program for CCI in 2000, which evolved into what is now called Global Programs. In 2019, 116 students participated in international programs, placing CCI as the second leading college on campus for student involvement in study abroad programs."

Read more of Sam's accomplishments here: <https://cci.utk.edu/2021/12/01/cci-professor-sam-swans-retires-after-37-years-of-impacting-students-and-the-world/>

## IFYE Fundraising Efforts Starting to Show Promise

Much of my efforts for IFYE in 2021 have been focused on fundraising. Fifty-six funding inquiries and proposals totaling \$138,500 were sent to foundations. Twenty-nine proposals to corporations totaling \$105,000 were submitted in 2021, and seven commodity checkoff boards have been contacted with more than \$200,000 being requested.



Ken Gordon  
Executive Director  
[kgordon@ifyeusa.org](mailto:kgordon@ifyeusa.org)

about the grants from the Sorghum Producers and Compeer Financial will be released soon. Check the IFYE website (<https://ifyeusa.org>) under News & Events to read more.

Over this past year, more than \$500,000 has been sought by IFYE. We have contacted many business leaders, Extension Educators, government officials, and foundation officials and find most still don't know about IFYE, our history, our beginning and how we first aligned with 4-H. We are continuing our efforts to raise awareness of IFYE among our audiences, but we have to look at it as a marathon, not a sprint. With increased awareness comes increased funding. They go hand-in-hand.

There are challenges ahead for IFYE. We must continue our efforts to fundraise, our efforts to gain recognition and awareness, our efforts with the 2023 Farm Bill, and growing our participant numbers and country agreements. There is much work yet to be done, but as we move IFYE forward to gain the prominence that was once enjoyed by our organization, I see a bright future.

Results from these efforts garnered \$45,000 from the Halle Foundation, \$13,060, from the National Sorghum Growers, and \$25,000 from Compeer Financial. We hope we will soon hear from other organizations who are reviewing proposals.

News releases for these supporting contributions are being issued. The news release about the [Halle Foundation grant has been issued](#) and can be read on the IFYE website. News

*How you can help:* As an IFYE or other member of the IFYE Family, you may have friends in industry who could help guide efforts in fundraising, or country contacts who can help expand our international reach. Please give it some thought; if you have ideas, contact a Board member. Their contact information can be found at <https://ifyeusa.org/about/board.html>. We look forward to hearing from you.

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## IFYEs Get Their Kicks on Route 66 Bloomington-Normal (June 30 – July 2, 2022)

Carolyn Hansen, Co-Chair  
[chansen@ifyeusa.org](mailto:chansen@ifyeusa.org)

Circle the dates of June 30 – July 3, 2022, to attend the IFYE Annual Conference. The Illinois IFYE Alumni Association and the IFYE USA Board of Directors are co-hosting next year's program in Normal, Illinois. The Marriott in Uptown Normal is the site for our conference filled with fun, friendship, and education relevant to our organization and mission.

*Preconference Activities* - We hope you'll arrive a day early (Wednesday, June 29) to join us for the all-American pastime – baseball in the Corn Crib as we watch the Normal Cornbelters play against another mid-Western team. The following morning, we are adding a pre-conference workshop centered around agriculture and food insecurity led by IFYE Kate Garrity (Michigan to India 2018) who is studying community nutrition in her PhD program. After the workshop, please join us as we go to the [MidWest Food Bank](#) for a service project. Others of you may enjoy an all-day tour to visit historic sites including the Abraham Lincoln Museum in Springfield. All these opportunities are Thursday, prior to the evening opening of the conference. We are finalizing plans for a variety of fun and engaging workshops that will help us advance the work of the Association and a variety of tours covering a wide array of interests will be offered.

*Reunions* - We are encouraging reunions for IFYEs from 1972, 1982, 1992, 2002, and 2012. Let's keep or renew the IFYE friendships we established at orientation and debriefing and celebrate together. Life is too short to wait 50 years. For IFYEs of those years, we hope you will communicate with your class of IFYEs. Please contact [info@ifyeusa.org](mailto:info@ifyeusa.org), if you need help in locating members,

*Other activities* - Our conference in Bloomington-Normal is the perfect place to kick off a family vacation. Chicago, St. Louis, and Indianapolis all have great 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations. (Although much smaller, Bloomington has a holiday celebration at Miller Park and the fireworks are great.)



(L to R) Johanna Burck and Carolyn Hansen (2022 Conference Co-Chairs) helping Faye Worley and Delbert Frericks (2021 Conference Co-Chairs) ring the end to the 2021 National IFYE Conference.

More information and details will be coming your way in the months ahead! See you on Route 66!



L to R: Alan Lambert IFYE USA National Program Director; Susan Abraham, Tanzania 4-H CEO; Joseph Desideri, Tanzania 4-H Program Manager

Tanzania - I had met Susan Abraham, the CEO of Tanzania 4-H, several years ago and had maintained sporadic contact with her during the past decade. The timing of visiting Morocco and Kenya (Tanzania's neighbor to the north) prompted an opportunity to visit Tanzania firsthand as well. Although the conditions are not conducive to an IFYE exchange program at this time, future opportunities will continue to be explored.

#### *IFYE Experience for University Credit*

September in-person and Zoom meetings with university faculty and staff at Illinois State University, Iowa State University, Midland University (Fremont, NE), Purdue University, Michigan State University and Ohio State University have further explored the opportunity for students from those universities who participate in the IFYE program to attain academic credit.

IFYE has shared a foundational structure for academic credit; each university currently has established criteria for international programs to achieve academic credit. The IFYE applicant and their faculty advisor will be the driving forces to develop the educational criteria needed for academic credit from each respective university.

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## 2022 CURRENT APPLICANTS

Alan Lambert, National Program Director

### *Outbound Applications*

As of this writing, I have received 21 IFYE applications; six individuals had applied in either or both 2020 and 2021. Unfortunately, these applicants could not participate due to the programs being suspended because of the COVID-19 pandemic. They are now thrilled to be able to participate in 2022. More applications are expected with a goal of 26 approved outbound IFYE applicants.

We have a couple of slots open yet for individuals to participate in the summer program for the IFYE-United Soybean Board partnership. Those individuals will have their IFYE program enhanced with experiences related to soybean world trade issues with assistance from the USDA Foreign Ag Service (FAS) and the United States Soybean Export Council (USSEC) in specific international markets. Those host countries are yet to be identified and the determination will be aided by USSEC. Your help in finding appropriate candidates will be most helpful.

Current applicants (most of whom have been interviewed and country placement is pending) include:

**Abby**  
(Missouri)



#### **Current status/future goals**

- Currently in Juris Graduate Law School
- 2021 Bachelor of Science degree in Agribusiness with emphasis in Public Policy and Plant Science
- IFYE-United Soybean Board Applicant

#### **Ag-related experience**

- 4-H, Missouri 4-H Council
- Grew up on a row crop and cow/calf operation
- Two agricultural internships

**Alec**  
(North Carolina)



#### **Current status/future goals**

- Master's degree in Environmental and Natural Resources
- Bachelor of Science degree in Economics
- IFYE-United Soybean Board applicant

#### **Interests**

- Creating economic models of agricultural markets and international trade
- Water quality and global access due to climate change
- Agricultural labor supply and markets, international trade and water quality

*April  
(South Dakota)*



**Current status/future goals**

- Bachelor of Science degree
- IFYE-United Soybean Board applicant
- Second generation IFYE family

**Previous International Experience**

Family has hosted over 30 exchanges through a variety of programs

**Ag-related experience**

- 4-H
- South Dakota State FFA officer
- Practical experience in Agritourism industry and plans to build own business
- Runs and creates content for the social media pages of a South Dakota farmers' organization
- Learning about different kinds of agriculture to help advocate and inform people about the truths and importance of how agriculture is involved in every part of our lives

*Carly  
(Michigan)*



**Current status/future goals**

Pursuing Master's degree in Crop and Soil Science

**Previous International Experience**

- Traveled to Central America with FFA for a cultural and agricultural immersion trip visiting and helping on various farms
- Traveled to Asia through a national student leader exchange program living with host families in four different parts of one country
- Participated in the Entrepreneurship and Development: Agriculture & Environment Studies program in Central America

**Ag-related experience**

- Research Assistant in Weed Science
- FFA member for four years and raised sheep, chickens, helped in the greenhouse, and participated in educational programs
- Studied Crop and Soil Sciences, working in potato breeding, corn, wheat and soybean breeding, and weed science
- Field crop research

*Catherine (Catie)  
(Colorado)*



**Current status/future goals**

- University student studying biomedical sciences
- Currently assisting on a research project studying [Pygmy Slow lorises](#)
- Working for a center helping to care for elderly residents and people with dementia

**Ag-related experience**

- Working at the Pueblo, CO zoo
- Participated in FFA Vet Science for four years

**Interests**

- Interested in both veterinary/human medicine and in land stewardship and sustainability
- Within veterinary and human medicine, areas of interest include comparative medicine and working with the elderly
- While working for Soil Stewardship, developed an interest for sustainable pesticide and fertilizer use, the importance of native plants, and organic waste recycling

*Dexter  
(Michigan)*



**Current status/future goals**

- Mechanical Engineering major
- Current degree path is mechanical engineering with a global engineering concentration to develop and design common products that people across the world use in their day-to-day life
- Plans to work in product design for sustainable consumer goods

**Ag-related experience** - 4-H, Robotics team

**Interests**

- Internships in engineering fields and pharmacy technician
- Creates products that make people's lives easier and more efficient
- Sustainability and planning to eliminate any materials from personally created designs that would harm the environment

*Ellen  
(Missouri)*



**Current status/future goals**

- Graduating from university in May 2022; major in Agriculture with emphasis in Ag Economics, Policy & Business. Minor in Ag Communications
- *IFYE-United Soybean Board applicant*

**Ag-related experience**

Recently completed an internship with the university Soybean Genetics Lab

**Interests**

- Ag Economics and Science Communication
- Agriculture Advocacy and Food Security
- Environmental and agricultural policy, having researched and written several papers on this topic

*Esperanza  
(Iowa)*



**Current status/future goals**

- Currently in Master's Program in Political Science and International Relations
- Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science (specializing in Equine & Bovine)

**Ag-related experience**

23 years experience in organic agriculture

**Other Information**

- Student Services Specialist 1 - coordinating emergency funding and support for undergraduate students
- Assists in the retention of "at-promised" students
- Advises as the coordinator of university's Academic Program for Excellence (APEX)

*Fiona  
(Kansas)*



**Current status/future goals**

- College student; Interactive Art Management for those with disabilities
- Business minor and learning more about how economies across the globe function and adapt to global changes

**Ag-related experience**

- 4-H
- Horticulture

**Other Information**

Student worker in college philanthropic and alumni relations department

*Jaiden  
(Iowa)*



**Current status/future goals**

University student

**Ag-related experience**

- 4-H, FFA
- Two summers as a farm laborer
- Two summers internship - drafting of surveying and engineering plans, helping with land surveys and acting as a construction observer
- Attended national soil evaluation contest, placed first as an individual in national livestock quiz bowl
- Attended farm field-days
- Interned with agricultural engineering firm
- Officer for Conservation Club; Communications Officer for [Climate Reality Campus Corps](#)

**Interests**

Agriculture, conservation, water quality, climate change

*Johari  
(Missouri)*



**Current status/future goals**

- Bachelor of Science degree in 2022 with double major in Food Science and Global Food Systems. Minor in Ag Business

**Ag-related experience**

- Led a group of five students to Springfield, Missouri to study their efforts in a sustainable ecosystem focusing on water, energy, and recycling
- Works in the university office to help plan and organize multicultural student conferences and activities as well as mentoring [Project ImPACT](#) students weekly. Also, assists any full-time staff on pending projects, programs, and office work

**Josie**  
**(Iowa)**



**Current status/future goals**

Graduating 2022 with Bachelor of Arts degree

**Ag-related experience**

- 4-H
- Worked in a soybean research lab for two years

**Interests**

- Environmental toxicology
- Holistic health and wellness
- Public health
- Role of food and water in society

**Other**

- Community Advisor for student residents
- Grew up in a rural Iowa community



**Kelsey**  
**(Nebraska)**



**Current status/future goals**

- Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science
- Plans to join family ranch in Nebraska

**Ag-related experience**

- 4-H
- FFA Family, Career and Community Leaders (FCCLA) Three-time National Medalist, State Officer and National Officer candidate
- Care and feeding on a family cow/calf operation

**Marit**  
**(Iowa)**



**Current status/future goals**

University Global Resource Systems (GRS) major

**Previous International Experience**

- Worked with farmers in Uganda
- A minor in Women and Gender Issues after seeing women's issues in Uganda
- Completed an ecological restoration project at the US Virgin Islands National Park

**Ag-related experience**

- Works part time as a social media Communications Assistant at Practical Farmers of Iowa
- Teaches a 10-week Leadership and Professionalism course to Freshmen and Sophomore GRS students at university with two other university senior GRS students
- Has served as an AmeriCorps volunteer at [LSI Global Greens](#) in Des Moines, IA working with former refugee farmers to run a farmers' market. Worked with the farmers to help combat challenges like language barriers, COVID-19, and land access
- Served as a cultural ambassador at university paired with an international student to complete different activities

**Nora**  
**(North Dakota)**



**Current status/future goals**

Tourism and Hospitality degree

**Ag-related experience**

- 4-H and 4-H Ambassador
- Worked for South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks
- Farm and ranch background implementing USDA Conservation Programs including: no-till planting, leaving standing grain for wildlife, harvesting while leaving an escape path for wildlife, burning off weeds to reduce herbicide usage, and installing solar wells
- Activities and businesses in sustainable agriculture, market gardening, agritourism, and community building

**Rachel**  
**(North Carolina)**



**Current status/future goals**

Graduating from university in May 2022 with Bachelor of Science degree in Ag Business

**Ag-related experience**

- 4-H, FFA
- Currently working on the family's dairy farm; helping with the planting, drilling, and harvesting of crops and working/caring for cattle. Plays a huge role in the planting & harvesting of crops. Comfortable using equipment and being around livestock
- *IFYE-United Soybean Board applicant*

**Interests**

- Agriculture, economics, and environmental advancements
- Sustainability and advancements

*Sarah  
(Colorado)*



**Current status**

2021 High school graduate

**Ag-related experience**

- 4-H, FFA
- Background in livestock industry (market beef and sheep) consumer science and decisions.
- Raised and showed cattle and sheep for seven years
- Interested in agriculture - specifically livestock and related industries and how they are similar and unique in different countries around the world

**Interests**

- Consumer science - sewed clothes and costumes and made handmade jewelry for at least seven years as well as competing in Consumer Decision Making 4-H Competition at the state and national levels
- Owns a small business making and selling wire-wrapped jewelry, and has participated in Denver, CO Startup week

*Sophie  
(South Dakota)*



**Current status/future goals**

- Currently working as a registered nurse at a state penitentiary
- Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing
- Minors in Spanish and Health Education
- Third generation IFYE family

**Interests**

- Traditional and organic gardening and farming
- Small business functions
- Childhood education

**Other experiences**

Gained experience in obtaining and processing labs, critical thinking, nursing judgment, working as a team member, medication administration, communication skills, and management of emergency situations

*Tori  
(Georgia)*



**Current status/future goals**

- 2022 Master of Science degree in Food Safety and Policy which entails research, teaching, and Cooperative Extension work
- 2020 Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science

**Ag-related experience**

- 4-H, FFA
- School
- Agriculture passion developed through various internships

**Interests**

Advocates for the ag industry and educates consumers on where their food is coming from - especially in food safety and beef production

*Traci  
(Kansas)*



**Current status/future goals**

- Currently, a second-grade teacher
- 2019 college graduate majoring in Elementary Education

**Ag-related experience**

- 4-H including: working with sheep, chickens, gardening, rockets, photography, fiber arts, food, and woodworking
- State finalist for study of the Great Plains ecosystem

*Tyler  
(Indiana)*



**Current status/future goals**

- Currently working (3.5 years) as a crop protection sales representative promoting, supporting and servicing row crop chemicals that are sold through the direct customer to the end-users, American farmers
- 2015 university graduate with Bachelor of Science degree Applied Agriculture Economics
- *IFYE-United Soybean Board applicant*

**Ag-related experience**

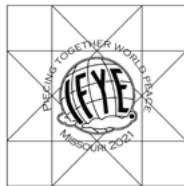
- Currently responsible for giving technical recommendations on herbicide programs to keep corn and soybean fields clean from weeds all season
- Ten years with production agriculture (corn, soybean, wheat) - Raised and worked on the family farm: machinery operations, record keeping, input decisions



## Highlights from 2021 National IFYE Conference - Branson, Missouri

*"Piecing Together World Peace"*

In September, Branson hosted 136 IFYEs, SPIFYEs, host families, and friends – including one future IFYE and 23 of the IFYE Family attending for the first time.



### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunions

The conference opened for 16 IFYEs from 1970 and 1971 who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries (one group a year late) with friends and family. In addition to the sharing at their luncheons and throughout the conference, the two year groups donated \$2,707 total to support the IFYE program (\$2,200 from the 1970 group for the outbound program and \$507 from the 1971 group for the inbound/outbound orientation). THANK YOU, golden anniversary IFYE friends!



1970 Group - Front row - L to R: Sally Narhi (MI to Taiwan), Jon Roberts (IN to Panama), Betty Jo Smith-Roberts (KS to Ecuador), Karen (Threlkel) Mosteller (KS to Nicaragua - YDP). Back row - L to R: Harlen Persinger (Iowa to Norway), Sandy Hofacker (MI to Venezuela), Bev (Laesch) Hornickel (IL to Panama), and Herman Suchland (MO to Sweden)

### Opening Ceremony and Program

The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary participants (1970 and 1971), along with Missouri IFYEs and SPIFYEs, opened the conference with the traditional parade of country flags. Harlen Persinger (1970 IA to Norway), a Vietnam War veteran, was given the honor of carrying the American flag.

During dinner, suddenly people at half-a-dozen tables stood up and started singing. Those new friends we were making at dinner were entertainers! Their final song had the group leading us in "The Song of Peace" to continue the opening ceremony which included:

- The traditional ringing of the Swiss bell by the conference Co-Chairs, Faye Worley (1975 MO to Denmark) and Delbert Frericks (1964 SD to Switzerland.) *(The bell was a gift from the IFYEs of Switzerland to the IFYEs of the United States.)*
- Reinstating the tradition of passing the IFYE Peace Pipe from outgoing to new Association President. *(The first IFYE Peace Pipe was presented to the Association by Ed*

*Aiton in 1954 at the IFYE conference in Kansas, with the intent for it to be passed from president to president. Ed was instrumental in creating the IFYE program and has often been called the "Father of IFYE."*)



L to R - Jan (Dennis) Wood Association President receiving IFYE Peace Pipe from Immediate Past President, Victoria (Fehrmann) Warren.

### Tours

On Friday, the late-summer weather offered sunshine and warmth for a day of tours.

- Agriculture of the Ozarks was proudly displayed by students and faculty of the College of the Ozarks. At this college, tuition is free for all students in exchange for working 15 hours each week during the school year. Individuals on this tour:
  - Visited student workstations including stained glass windows, candle-making, dairy barn, sale barn, meat processing, and a working grain mill.
  - Learned that the student dairy workers are taught to milk cows by hand – no robots.
  - Enjoyed a farm-to-table lunch cooked by students using student-grown food.
  - Visited Patriots Park containing memorials from the Korean War through the Global War on Terrorism as well as a Gold Star Memorial. Three SPIFYEs on the tour, Rodney Vogts, Leon Mostellar, and Jim Hornickel - Vietnam veterans - took the opportunity to have their picture taken in front of their memorial
- "Let Branson Entertain You" participants enjoyed two shows: Hot Rods & High Heels and the Hughes Brothers. IFYE Caron Beard (1969-70 OR to New Zealand) was recognized by the Hughes Brothers for having the longest lasting marriage of those in the audience – 60 years on September 17<sup>th</sup>!
- During the Ozarks Legacy and Legends tour, this group:
  - Enjoyed an IMAX film introducing them to area history and folklore, including how the Civil War tore families apart as Missourians supported both North and South.



Nora Larson (ND) with IFYE Hannah Nordby (ND to Taiwan and Thailand 2018) and Thursday night speaker at conference.

- Was introduced to “The Shepherd of the Hills.”
- At Top of the Rock, the group drove golf carts on a winding path enjoying magnificent views of the Ozarks as well as caves, waterfalls, and geological formations. Laughter and stories could be heard everywhere on this scenic and historic hop-on, hop-off cart tour. The tour group also enjoyed the most complete American Indian Museum in the country. After lunch, Elevate Branson was blessed with a mountain of winter weather outer clothing donations brought to Branson by our conference participants. Elevate Branson, seeks to provide solutions to the homeless crisis. By June 2022, “Elevate” hopes to have 24 tiny houses ready for living at a modest rent.

*Evening Programs*

On Thursday and Friday evenings, attendees had the chance to relive their IFYE experience through the eyes of recent IFYEs Hannah Nordby (2018 ND to Taiwan and Thailand) and Elizabeth Otte (2019 MO to Germany and Argentina).

Friday night’s live auction was lively and quick, thanks to auctioneer extraordinaire SPIFYE Milton Mains and several bidding wars. The live auction brought in \$3,375.

Conferees then reconvened to another room for the chance to bid on additional items in both a silent and a “brown bag” (raffle tickets) auction. The grand total from the three auctions was \$6,433; this will be used toward Association operating expenses.



*The quilt bidding war between Vicky Warren and Judy Hahne Stewart (1978 MO to United Kingdom) for the Russian doll quilt made by SPIFYE Marty Tarter was won by future grandmother Judy.*

Saturday night’s International Banquet and reception was followed by Mike Walker treating the conferees to a rollicking good time with his musical impressions. A crowd favorite was his duet between Louis Armstrong and Kermit the Frog.

There is so much tradition woven into IFYE! The closing candlelight ceremony, complete with readings and singing “The Song of Peace” during the last night of IFYE Conference

was special as always. The Swiss IFYE bell was rung again and the 2021 IFYE conference was declared officially over although socializing continued in the Hospitality Rooms.



*Michiganders gathering prior to the International Banquet.*

*Sunday and Farewell*

Rev. Cleo Kottwitz (1957 MO to Brazil) led an inspiring inter-faith service. A local violinist provided the music; IFYE Family members read from a variety of sacred texts. The names of IFYEs, SPIFYEs, and other IFYE Family members who we learned since last Memorial Service had passed on were announced.

*Thank you*

The Missouri IFYE Alumni Association appreciates all who braved the pandemic to attend and renew friendships and make new friends! The conference would not have been possible without the help of the many IFYEs and SPIFYEs, Missouri natives, transplants, and “returnees” who displayed the IFYE spirit to make a successful conference.



*One of the table decorations created for the International Banquet .*

Thank you and looking forward to seeing you at the 2022 conference in Normal, Illinois!



*Thank you, Missouri!*

## Annual Giving Campaign

Cindy Barnett, Co-Chair Marketing Committee

[cbarnett@ifyeusa.org](mailto:cbarnett@ifyeusa.org)

THANK YOU to those of you who have already donated to The Annual Giving Campaign launched in August. Our goal is to raise \$60,000 by December 31.

Your donation gives us the opportunity to continue recruiting outbound IFYEs and host families and support our ongoing program costs. You can donate to the Annual Giving Campaign through the IFYE website by clicking on the [Ways to Give link](#) on the home page ([ifyeusa.org](http://ifyeusa.org)) or by mailing your check as shown below on the Donation form .Please add "AGC 2021" to your check memo.

Help us reach our goal of \$60,000! We can do this! If you have not donated yet, please consider giving a tax-deductible gift to IFYE this year. THANK YOU!!



## IFYE Annual Giving Campaign 2021

Please use this form when donating to our Annual Giving Campaign 2021.



Investing in IFYE is investing in our young adults and the world they will lead. Investing in IFYE helps to build a stronger world! Thanks for your donation to the Annual Giving Campaign 2021!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

IFYE Program \_\_\_\_\_ Year(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Country(ies) \_\_\_\_\_

IFYE Family \_\_\_\_\_ (Host family, business, PRYLE, Friend of IFYE, etc.)

Please accept my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Diamond level (\$5000 and above)

\_\_\_\_\_ Silver level (\$100-\$499)

\_\_\_\_\_ Platinum level (\$1000-\$4999)

\_\_\_\_\_ Bronze level (\$10-\$99)

\_\_\_\_\_ Gold level (\$500-\$999)

\_\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed

Please send your check to: Pat Hutsell, Associate Treasurer ([pathutsell@gmail.com](mailto:pathutsell@gmail.com))

3670 N Bayou Hills Road

Parker, CO 80134-5111

303-519-0765

( USE ONLY if wishing help in paying online by credit card)

Credit card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ CVC Number \_\_\_\_\_

Zip code of credit card \_\_\_\_\_

Or you may donate online by credit card at: <https://ifyeusa.org/ways-to-give/>

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, you may share my name and donation level on IFYE's annual donor list.

Only your name will be shown. All personal information is protected.

\_\_\_\_\_ I prefer my gift(s) remain anonymous.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please contact me. I have questions about giving.

## CONTACT US

Wishing to receive IFYE communications via email instead of hard copy? No longer hearing from us? Needing to update your contact information? Please make sure we have your latest/contact information by

Emailing us at [info@ifyeusa.org](mailto:info@ifyeusa.org) with your current contact information OR

Texting/calling 207-701-7484

THANK YOU

IFYE Association of the USA, Inc.  
PO Box 216  
Williamsburg, MA 01096

POSTAGE

### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

#### Moving? New 911 Address?

Send mailing label corrections to IFYE NEWS (return address above) OR  
[vwarner@ifyeusa.org](mailto:vwarner@ifyeusa.org)

## In Memoriam

*The passing of the following individuals has come to our attention since publication of the IFYE NEWS (Spring/Summer 2021)*



Visit: <https://ifyeusa.org>

LM = Life Member

SPIFYE = Spouse of an IFYE

**Donald Breidenbach** (South Dakota to Belgium 1957)  
August 06, 2021

**Lisa Anne (Abercrombie) Byler** (Virginia to Finland 1994) March 09, 2019

**Margaret (Cook) Casey** (Kentucky to Brazil 1954)  
October 01, 2017

**Viola E (Steigerwalt) Christman** (Pennsylvania to England/Wales/Luxembourg 1955) August 05, 2012  
LM

**Ruth F Dawson** (Iowa to Denmark 1955) Date of death unknown

**David A Dodge** (Wyoming to Pakistan 1960)  
May 21, 2021

**Caroline S Gardner** (New Hampshire to Korea 1970)  
September 30, 2021 LM

**James Gleason** (Michigan to Austria 1958) June 28, 2021  
LM

**Linda S (Reynolds) Gleason** (Illinois to Poland 1976)  
May 24, 2011

**Friedrich (Fred) J Henningsen** (Michigan to Germany 1955) December 08, 2020

**Donald E Herr** (Ohio to Brazil 1951) February 02, 2020

**Dr. Susan (Lewis) Holder** (New Mexico to Denmark; Cooperative Extension – Mississippi) February 05, 2021

**Paul H Kipps** (Virginia to Colombia 1958) June 14, 2021

**Charles L Lang** (Cooperative Extension)  
November 07, 2013

**William (Bill) Lefes** (Pennsylvania to Switzerland 1949)  
May 19, 2021 LM

**Nancy B Leidenfrost** (Cooperative Extension)  
July 06, 2019

**Marie L Lofgren** (California to Austria 1952)  
June 23, 2020 LM

**Jeannine (Beishline) Michael** (Pennsylvania to Sweden 1962) May 15, 2021 LM

**Sally J Morway** (Vermont to Germany 1962)  
December 14, 2020

**Elinor G Olsen** (California to Switzerland 1957)  
March 01, 2019

**Lydia T Palma** (Philippines to USA 1963)  
February 19, 2021

**Robert (Bob) H Pederson** (Wisconsin Host Family)  
August 16, 2012

**Ann (Shilling) Perl** (Iowa to Greece 1967)  
March 25, 2020

**Virginia (Montgomery) Peterson** (Colorado to Belgium 1956) July 25, 2021

**Clarence “Bubber” M Pippin, Jr** (Georgia to Egypt 1955) October 30, 2020

**Georgia M (Bergstrom) Plumadore** (Minnesota to Thailand 1964) August 01, 2020 LM

**Betty L (Jackson) Ralston** (West Virginia Cooperative Extension) March 17, 2021

**Deanna (Swenson) Rice** (Montana to Switzerland 1959)  
October 18, 2018

**John “Norman” Schleicher** (New Jersey to Chile 1958)  
January 13, 2021 LM

**Linda L Schultz** (IFYE from Washington to New Zealand 1975 and YASEP from Washington to USSR 1977)

July 09, 2021 LM

**Patricia D (Wetherell) Smith** (Missouri to Israel 1955)  
December 26, 2020

**Ronald Tarter** (Illinois to Finland 1968) August 13, 2021  
LM

**Ivan Thor** (Iowa to Mexico 1952) April 25, 2012

**Spurgeon (Spud) Wentzell** (Connecticut to Philippines 1970) March 29, 2021

**Shirley A (Werner) Witmer** (Pennsylvania to Sweden 1959) December 30, 2017