11th World IFYE Conference 08 - 16 September 2018



Hosted by IFYE Association of the USA, Inc.

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Map of Cruise





Greetings

Dale Yonker, USA Representative - World IFYE Board

Greetings, fellow IFYE Travelers. The cruise we enjoyed for our World IFYE Conference is now part of our fond memories of Alaska and a trip of a lifetime.

This report is targeted to folks who attended the conference plus those who are trying to decide if IFYE Conferences are an activity they would like to participate in fully. One axiom is that "we must have fun" to make a conference worthwhile. We hope this report will convince you that "we definitely had fun". Friendship, education, and camaraderie are essential in evaluating a plan for an IFYE conference.

When determining a location in North America for hosting the 2018 World IFYE Conference, we considered that many overseas visitors had seen much of the mainland. Therefore, we chose Alaska USA to give folks a much broader view of North America. Also, we chose a cruise to allow time to conduct a conference while traveling to majestic locations and visiting indigenous populations. In addition, a pre-conference visit to Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada added to the overall experience.

We chose two expert leaders to organize the cruise and conference: Kim & Toni. The result of their planning is shown in the next pages with photos and text. Their planning was superb and the weather was spectacular.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the 11th World IFYE Conference in September 2018. Enjoy the report as you relive your experiences. We hope to see you at the next World IFYE Conference in Austria in 2023.



273 individuals participated in the 11th World IFYE Conference from 22 countries.

45 individuals participated in the "Celebrate with '68" 50th Anniversary Brunch.

12 individuals participated only in the pre-cruise events.

Celebrate with '68 (India)

Friday, 07 September 2018



In September 1968, fifteen young USA adults from fourteen states met in Washington, D.C. to begin a journey to India that would have lasting impact on each of their lives. Fifty years later (almost to the day), nine of those delegates (plus spouses and friends) met in Vancouver, B.C. in advance of the 2018 World IFYE Conference. It took about one year to locate everyone and develop the plans for the gathering. (Six delegates were not able to attend.)

The highlight of the gathering was the day spent viewing slides, sharing memories, telling stories, and thinking of everyone in the delegation. (Everyone was asked to bring a few slides from 50 years ago. Two of the delegates were even able to locate and bring slide projectors.) The group also had a great time learning about what has happened over the past fifty years with those in attendance (families, children, grandchildren, careers, travel, etc.). As we departed, all agreed that we need to do this again, but we can't wait for another fifty-year celebration!









11th World IFYE Conference Report













Celebrate with '68

Saturday, 08 September 2018

Barbara Maidment, 1968 Oregon to Uganda and past World President, welcomed 45 former exchangees, spouses, and guests to the 50th anniversary of their exchange on the Saturday morning before the cruise. Barbara welcomed all by recounting some of the more memorable world events from 1968.

A delicious brunch was readily consumed and Barbara then invited the exchangees to stand, introduce themselves, and tell one memorable thing that occurred during their exchange. Much laughter ensued and heads nodded in agreement as those present recalled moments of deep embarrassment, deep challenges, awkward moments, and life-changing learnings. Still plenty of stories left to tell.

Almost everyone has returned, some more than once, to their host countries. Some have named their children after favored host family members. A show of hands revealed that almost everyone is still in touch with one or more host families. Considering that 50 years have now passed, we all agreed that this is more than your average interaction. As young adults we went, we saw, we blended in ... and we remembered.





These nine IFYEs to India met a day earlier to share memories from their particular '68 country group. (See pages 2-3.)



1968/69 IFYEs to India - leaving in September and returning 6 months later! Glad so many could make it to this $50^{\rm th}$ reunion!

1968/69 India group enjoying a luncheon at the "Celebrate with '68" in the company of friends, children, and spouses.





Four of the summer 1968 group were available to reminisce at our get-together celebration prior to the beginning of conference.

(Left to Right): Represented here are IFYEs who were hosted in Uganda, Sri Lanka, Iran, and Israel.

Underway on the Cruise

Sunday, 09 September 2018



After processing for the cruise by going through USA customs in Vancouver (Canada), we boarded Holland America's ms Noordam. Before we could get underway, everyone attended the mandatory evacuation drill.

It took great negotiating by Cruise Specialists & equally great concessions by the cruiseline but, during dinner, IFYEs were allowed to sit at any table in a designated area.

IFYE tradition and part of the fun at meals is sitting with different people. Each person has an interesting story. How often can you comfortably visit with so many people from multiple countries, cultures, backgrounds in a matter of hours?







Speed IFYE

Sunday, 09 September 2018

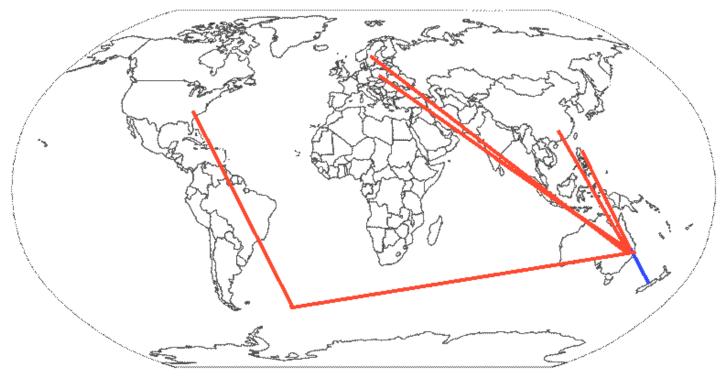
On our first night at sea, 150 of us met to play "Speed IFYE". IFYEs met in the Crow's Nest to learn more about each other by finding people who met a criterion on their list.

IFYE Bingo directions: When you meet a person that is described in the box, write their name in the box. Find a different person for each box.

Once their card was filled with names, they received a prize.

I went on IFYE exchange in the 1970's	This is my first WORLD IFYE conference	I have never met this person before.	My suitcase weighed over 20 kilograms/44 pounds this trip	I work to support or promote IFYE
I am planning to attend WORLD IFYE 2023 in Austria	I'm a proud IFYE friend	I promise to post a picture on social media using #worldIFYE	This is my first cruise	I went on IFYE exchange more than once
I went on IFYE exchange in the 1990's	This trip is my first visit to Canada		I am from Asia	I am from Oceania
I am from Europe	I went on IFYE exchange in the 1950's or1960's	I am wearing an IFYE shirt right now	This trip is my first visit to the USA	I went on IFYE exchange in the 1980's
I am from North America	I was a member of 4-H	I went on IFYE exchange in the 2000's or 2010's	I was a member of Young Farmers	I have been to multiple WORLD IFYE Conferences

Participants were also given a world map on which to draw a line from their home to their IFYE home(s) and to the home of those of the people they met during this social activity.





Monday, 10 September 2018

The Opening Ceremony kicked off in the ship's Vista Lounge on Monday morning. While photos of each of the 22 countries represented at the conference were projected, delegates stood to be greeted. We also recognized the many countries that hosted delegates, honoring the spirit of our exchange program.

Dale Yonker, the US representative on the World Board, welcomed the 273 participants. Matti Kuykendall shared some fun facts and photos of Alaska. After a presentation by Dr. Shin-Shin Chen of Taiwan on the status of 4-H programs in Asia, there was time for reconnecting with old friends and enjoying champagne provided by Cruise Specialists.

(Right) US delegates, Mary Crave and Bob Ellis, were Masters of Ceremony.













































Song of Peace

This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine. This is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine. But other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine. But other lands have sunlight, too, and clover, and skies are everywhere as blue as mine. Oh, hear my song, thou God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine."

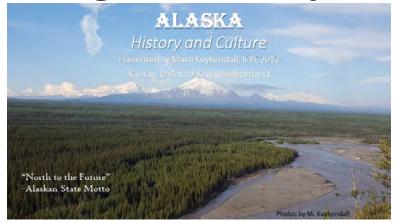
Lyrics: Lloyd Stone 1934

Tune: From Finlandia by Jean Sibelius 1899





Opening Ceremony (continued)









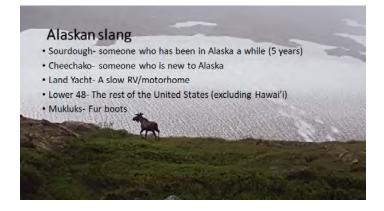








Denali "The Great One" North America's tallest peak (20,310 ft. or 6,190 meters above sea level) and highest of the 7 summits (highest mountains on each of 7 continents) Named Mount McKinley in 1896 after President William McKinley Alaskans have always called it Denali, but it was only officially renamed in 2015 Growing 1 mm per year 1913: Hudson Stuck, Walter Harper, Harry Karstens and Robert Tatum are the first to reach the south summit. Only 1 in 3 can see Denali when they visit, it is usually covered in clouds







Opening Ceremony (continued)

WHAT IS NOW, AND THEN? ~ THE SURVEY OF ASIA & AUSTRALIA 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

Dr. Shin-Shin Chen, Associate Professor, Department of Social Work, Chaoyang University of Technology, Taiwan, R.O.C. Dr. S.L. Yen, Executive Supervisor, National IFYE Association, Taiwan, R.O.C.

Sponsor: Global Vision Network



Project Overview

Background

No society in the world can prosper without healthy youth; therefore youth are among the most valuable assets of any nation. The youth are our future and ultimately, their well-being is vital to the well-being of the entire world.

An international nonprofit organization ~ Asia 4-H Network was launched at the 1st Asia 4-H Network Conference in Korea in August, 2012. In this conference, except Dr. P. Bai Akridge who was the Director of Global Projects from National 4-H Council, U.S.A. at that time, the other participants were from 12 Asian countries including Australia.

Highlights

*Out of 9 countries, there are 5 countries with 4-H clubs developed (Cambodia, Japan, Korea, Mongolia and Taiwan).

*There are two countries with other clubs similar to the 4-H clubs (*Vietnam – 4T Clubs; Australia – Rural Youth Organizations of Tasmania*). The data that the Australia leader provided represented the situation of the island state of Tasmania, not the whole nation.

*There are two countries without 4-H clubs (China and Indonesia).

Conclusion

 4-H was the organization that taught young people leadership skills and how to positively impact their communities. Its mission is to help youth become fully prepared for transition to adulthood and to develop youth as self-reliant, contributing individuals with marketable life skills to succeed in today's society.

The international objectives of the 4-H movement are to develop character, self-confidence and good leadership qualities; to undertake agricultural and other projects which are of interest to members in a businesslike manner; to be good citizens with a sense of civic pride and to be willing to work for the good of the community; to teach members how to enjoy life and appreciate the environment.

4-H has empowered youth to be responsible for themselves and to make a difference in their lives, it is critical for any country to invest in the lives of their youth. Hope this study will help you gain more insights in developing and working with youth.

A Time to Meet and Greet

It was interesting to discover where people traveled to before the conference and their plans afterwards. Some of the Europeans traveled extensively before - such as up the US West Coast or across Canada. Some fellows from N Ireland were going to Hawaii after the conference! Some were using the time after to visit with friends and / or relatives on the way home. Others had plans to visit former host families.

Before the cruise, some of us even "ran into" friends - What fun to be walking down the streets in Vancouver and hear your names called! After quick hugs, we finished our activities or all of us continued to wander and tour Vancouver together.

Even during the conference, there were several ways to socialize and otherwise meet.



Joyce (left) has participated in all 11 of the World IFYE Conferences. What a great way to be able to catch up with friends, make new friends, and to see many countries one might not see otherwise.



Time was found to network with potential IFYE country partners to rejoin the IFYE exchange program.



European IFYE Regional Meeting

Full Day at Sea

Monday, 10 September 2018

Monday morning on the ship will be remembered for years to come. It will probably make it into the IFYE annals! Those who were able to walk, walked like drunken sailors. Those who were unable to walk were peaked around the gills. It felt like a childhood game ... great fun for the walkers.

Later in the day, those who didn't think it was grand fun compared motion sickness bracelets & other cures. By noon, the fun was over and everyone could walk with ease. Those with special bracelets continued to wear them as an "insurance policy".

At the Opening Ceremony of the IFYE World Conference, occasionally, the speakers had to balance themselves by holding on to the podium. Dale Yonker, who welcomed everyone to the North American World Conference, did so hands free.

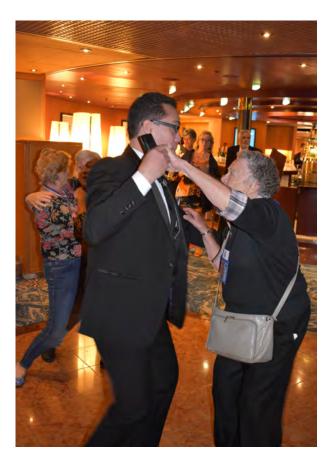
On Monday, it was a shipboard "tour day". The kitchen tour, for example, consisted of filing through the kitchen. It was very clean. We saw food being prepped for that day's meals.

Large posters were displayed on the kitchen walls with pictures of all the meals that would be served in each dining room each day for the week.

Some of us watched an America's Test Kitchen live demonstration of two ways to cook salmon. The cooking science was enlightening. The chef/demonstrator was excellent.







Everyone in our group of 273 seemed to be enjoying the cruise. There was always someone available to visit with or some activity to do. (IFYEs can make their own fun!)

Selfie Scavenger Hunt

Monday, 10 September 2018

Your mission: Follow the clue to your destination and take a "Silly Selfie" of your group at that destination. Please go in order of your team's questions so the groups will be spread out.

- 1. Where big announcements are made and EVERYONE gathers.
- 2. Need your questions answered? Go here.
- 3. Are we in Las Vegas, or are we on a ship?



- 4. This famous U.S. President led us through our Civil War, abolished slavery, and has the Capitol of Nebras ka (and this location) named after him.
- 5. Get your shop on and avoid some taxes.
- 6. If only the Titanic had more of these, maybe Rose wouldn't have had to lose Jack in the ocean.
- 7. You're going to need to go here after eating on the ship all week!
- 8. Marco?! Polo?! There'll be another social activity here later in the week. Bring your sunscreen!
- 9. Game of Thrones fans will know this nickname for members of the Night's Watch. Hint: A Raven's Roost.
- 10. The sport for this court was invented in America in 1891 and includes a 5-member team.





11th World IFYE Conference Report

Ketchikan

11 September 2018

The arched sign across the street proclaims: "Welcome to Alaska's First City, Ketchikan, The Salmon Capitol of the World."



What a magical feeling to wake up and realize we were docked <u>in</u> Ketchikan! When we went to bed, we were at sea. When we awoke, we were practically on Water Street! Ketchikan gets 152 inches of rain per year! (That is nearly 13 feet of rain!) Many people told us how lucky we were as we didn't experience a single drop of rain during our visit to Ketchikan.

Conferees selected their own activities at Ketchikan and other ports of call. Some of the activities that were shared for this report are highlighted over the next several pages.

<u>Great Alaskan Lumberjack Show</u>

The show explained how trees are cut, the apparatus to deliver the trees down the mountains, and how the logs are guided down the rivers. There is a lot of science and physics involved in the timber business.

Lumberjacks are athletes in their own right. Did you know there are competitive college lumberjack teams? There are also professional competitions. All the men in the show in Ketchikan are champions in some event.





Creek Street was built over the water because it was too difficult to blast away the rocky hills surrounding the creek. Much of the town is actually built over the water.

Creek Street is also known as Ketchikan's old red light district.

Also, during prohibition, bootleggers would smuggle Canadian whiskey at night to the houses of prostitution and backroom saloons as many of the houses on this street had hidden "trap doors" underneath the house just to receive delivery of the whiskey and other prohibited goods.

Canoeing by Creek Street (Make sure you have a brightly colored canoe to keep from being mistaken as a food animal!)





Fisherman figure from "The Rock" - opposite side of the bronze sculpture to the right.



"The Rock" in downtown Ketchikan features seven life-size figures from Ketchikan's past: Chief Johnson, a logger, a fisherman, a miner, an aviator, a Native woman drumming, and an elegant lady in her 1890s finery. This bronze sculpture is the first in Ketchikan.

Chief Johnson, a Tlingit chief, symbolizes how his people were the first to make Southeast Alaska their home.

Saxman Native Village and Totem Pole Park

The Cape Fox Dancers performed in the Beaver Clan house of the Tlingit village. Dale Yonker accepted the invitation to wear one of their beautiful capes and join the dancing. The red design on the black wool cape indicates the tribe(s) of the dancer.

The village is in a forest on a mountain overlooking a lake. As we looked at the Totem Poles, our guide explained how to "read" the story they told. Each Totem includes a symbol of its tribe.

A totem may be 3-4 feet in diameter and 30 feet tall. They are not protected from the weather; consequently, they only last about 60 years. We watched Totem carvers at work perhaps carving replacements or ones with new stories.

The only complaint is that we did not have enough hours in port to experience and do all that we would have liked to have seen and experienced.



Ketchikan (continued)





11th World IFYE Conference Report



The totem pole originated in the Pacific Northwest and Southeast Alaska.

Totem poles from Alaska are carved from cedar, which is rot-resistant and grows in the rainforests in Southeast Alaska.

Totem poles are carved to display characters and ancient stories, which is why totem carvings often include fish, eagles, bears, ravens, human faces and even supernatural figures.





Historically, totem poles were never fully painted.

However, when something was to be painted, a mixture of chewed cedar bark and salmon eggs was used, along with certain powders for pigment, as a type of oil-based paint.



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Pub Trivia Night

11 September 2018

A good crowd gathered in the Crow's Nest to compete in a travel-themed four-round trivia contest. We split into teams and answered questions on IFYE history in the US, matched flags to the 22 countries of our conferees, filled in a map of Africa, and we tested our knowledge of international airport codes.









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The IFYE motto (in English) is "Peace Through Understanding". What language did Google Translate it into?

Stamp my Passport!

My travel plans are listed below by the national capital's largest airport ... in code! What stamps will I have in my passport by the time I return home? The continents are listed as a hint. Good luck!







How well do you know the continent of Africa? While Africa has a total of 54 countries, we have listed 15 countries for you to identify. Write the name of the country next to the corresponding number.

Good luck!

Juneau

12 September 2018



(Above) One of a series of 10 stainless steel sculptures

The sculpture is a combination of two iconic ecological Alaskan shapes — a whale fluke and an eagle's wings in flight. Set against the landscape of mountains and ocean, the sculptures will create a recognizable character for the waterfront and bring a contemporary aesthetic to the social and economic life of Juneau.

Confined by water and landlocked by glacial mountains, Juneau doesn't even have a road linking it with the outside world. Air and water are the only ways to come in and get away.





(Above) The world-famous Red Dog Saloon has provided hospitality and fellowship to travelers and local patrons since Juneau's glorious mining era.

Early-day proprietors provided dancing and long-time entertainer "Ragtime Hattie" played the piano in her white gloves and silver dollar halter top.

The Red Dog Saloon has had several different locations in Juneau. In 1988, the saloon was moved, intact, to its present location.

In 2008, the saloon was purchased by a group of local Juneauites who continue the tradition of providing hospitality, fellowship and entertainment to weary travelers and local patrons alike.



Waterfall at Mendenhall Glacier

Mendenhall Glacier is one of the 38 large glaciers that flow from the 1,500 square mile expanse of rock, snow and ice known as the Juneau Icefield. As glacial ice continues to build, gravity pulls the ice down slope on its 13-mile journey to Mendenhall Lake.



The Goldbelt Mount Roberts Tramway is the only aerial tramway in southeast Alaska. Cars rise 1,800 feet from the cruise ship dock in downtown Juneau. It is one of the most vertical tramways in the world.



Those who went on a whale watch/Mendenhall Glacier photo safari ended up seeing eight hump back whales that day.



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Juneau prides itself on having an abundance of resident and migratory birdlife including bald eagles. The eagle, shown on the right, was seen while whale watching.

Also, black bears live here being attracted by the salmon that come here to spawn.

(Left) When hiking the Mt Roberts Trail, conferees were able to see this totem carved into a live tree.



08-16 September 2018

Skagway

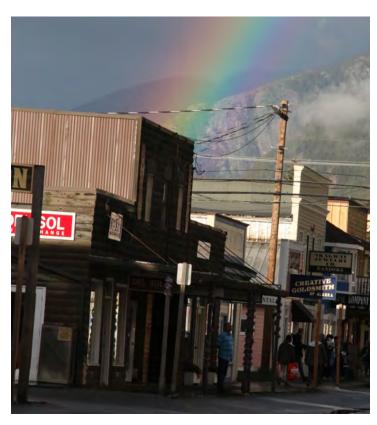
Thursday, 13 September 2018



Skagway is often considered the Sunshine Capitol of southeast Alaska as it only receives 27 inches of rain annually.

Well ... it seemed that most of the 27 inches came during the few hours the IFYEs were there! Downpours were followed by drizzle followed by downpours.

Although the rain was miserable, IFYEs were dressed "for the occasion" and did not get cold.



In 1897, Skagway went from a single homestead to a population of 10,000 when gold was discovered in the Klondike. Many prospectors started their trek to Canada's Yukon from Skagway. The current town has preserved the buildings from that time. Several museums are housed in the original buildings.

Of course, like any of the current cruise ship port towns, Skagway has abundant tourist attractions.



At the National Historic Park Visitors Center and museum, there was a video about the Klondike Gold Rush and the grueling walk up the Chilkoot trail.

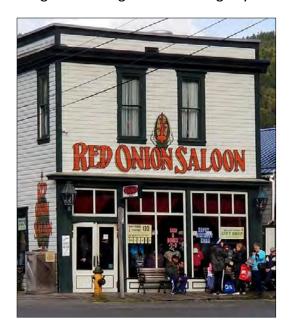
A walking tour of the town was led by a Park Ranger (in the rain). He told of the history of the buildings and the colorful characters who inhabited or passed through Skagway.

A Gold Rush Saloon Experience.

A reenactor "madam", dressed in period dress, drove a mini-bus up a mountain to a lookout point. There was a beautiful view of the scenery, the town below, and the ships in the harbor. During the short ride, she told stories of Skagway's colorful history.

At the tavern, the infamous "Soapy" Smith (reenacted by her real-life husband) greeted the group. He entertained with stories and songs. With "Soapy's" help, each person in the audience prepared several libations of the period. (Non-alcoholic versions could also be made.)

"Soapy" Smith swindled naïve prospectors. One of his schemes was to charge \$5 to send a telegram to folks back home. No telegram message ever left Skagway.







The prospectors endured unbelievable hardships. Very few struck it rich. Many died. Most only had an adventure to relate years later to their grandchildren!



Skagway (continued)



The White Pass and Yukon Route is a Canadian and U.S. Class II 3 ft narrow-gauge railroad linking the port of Skagway with Whitehorse, the capital of Yukon. This railroad system has no direct connection to any other. The trip up to White Pass summit took 2.5 hours. Wood stoves were in each car for warmth





The 40-mile round-trip excursion climbs from tidewater at Skagway to the Summit of the White Pass - a 2,888 foot elevation.

The trip traced the original route to the White Pass Summit, passing Bridal Veil Falls, Inspiration Point and Dead Horse Gulch. The panorama of mountains, glaciers, gorges, waterfalls, etc. kept us taking photos to share later. The original 1898 Klondike Trail is worn into the rocks that we passed.



The "Flat Girls" were also along on this 11th World IFYE Conference -Check them out at the foot of the totem!



Scene along the White Pass and Yukon Route



Enjoy the dogsled ride of a lifetime! Miles of pristine wilderness, crystal lakes, waterfalls, and glaciers.

For the dogsled portion of the tour at Caribou Crossing, you ride in a specially-designed dry-land 6-passenger training cart.

Some participants also checked out the young pups back at the training camp!

And back to our home away from home after a day of touring this part of Alaska!



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Glacier Bay

Friday, 14 September 2018

As the glacier "calved", large pieces of ice fell into the sea making huge splashes of water accompanied by a loud sound similar to a clap of thunder. What a thrill!!!

Although there were many people on the ship, the vastness of Glacier Bay surrounded by magnificent mountains seemed very peaceful. The sky was a clear brilliant blue with pure white clouds. The atmosphere intensified the colors of the vegetation, the mountains, the sea, and the glaciers. The beauty was breath-taking. Words cannot describe the colors or the feelings of awe and peacefulness while in Glacier Bay.

Reasons for the different colors of ice in the glaciers.

Glacial ice is different than regular ice. Glacier ice is so blue because the dense ice of a glacier absorbs every other color of the spectrum except blue.

In glaciers, the pressure causes the air bubbles to be squeezed out, increasing the density of the created ice. Large quantities of water appear to be blue, as it absorbs other colours more efficiently than blue. A large piece of compressed ice, or a glacier, similarly appears blue.

https://nsidc.org/cryosphere/glaciers/questions/types.html









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There are 616 officially-named glaciers in Alaska and many more unnamed glaciers. The Alaska Almanac estimates that Alaska has 100,000 glaciers. There are approximately 1000 glaciers in Glacier Bay National Park.

Common Questions and Myths About Glaciers - Glacier Bay ... https://www.nps.gov/glba/learn/nature/common-questions-and-myths-about-glaciers.htm



Ice calving is also known as glacier calving or iceberg calving. It is the breaking of ice chunks from the edge of a glacier. It is a form of ice disruption and is normally caused by the glacier expanding. The sounds are very powerful.

Glacier Bay (continued)









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Polar Pool Party





Polar Pool Party – IFYEs met at the Sky View Pool to mingle, swim, and/or enjoy the hot tubs.









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Gala Night

14 September 2018









11th World IFYE Conference Report













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08-16 September 2018

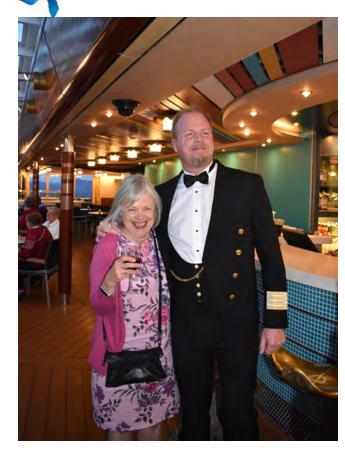
Gala Night (continued)











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08-16 September 2018



Saturday, 15 September 2018

The closing ceremony was held from 3:00 - 5:00 PM in the Vista Lounge on board the Holland America ms Noordam. Many attendees chose to wear country dress for the ceremony. Mary Crave and Bob Ellis served as co-emcees.

A recap of the week in photos was one of the highlights of the event. Thank you to all the IFYEs who shared their slides from the week on and off the ship. Special thanks to Cathy Drake for helping gather the photos.

The European IFYE Association made a presentation inviting everyone to come to Austria for the 12th World IFYE Conference in 2023.

Special wedding ceremonies were celebrated with a humorous skit.

We closed with the IFYE "Song of Peace" followed by a time to mingle.

Group photos by country were taken in the Vista Lounge. NOTE: Photos shown here may include individuals who were hosted by the country as well as those who are from that country.





INDIA JAPAN





GERMANY







WALES



ENGLAND



DENMARK

Closing Ceremony (continued)



KOREA



ISLE of MAN



THE NETHERLANDS



NORTHERN IRELAND



SCOTLAND





NORWAY SWEDEN



AUSTRALIA

Closing Ceremony (continued)





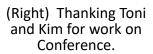
FINLAND

THE PHILIPPINES



R.O.C. TAIWAN









(Above)
Taiwan's gift
to World IFYE
Conference.





Austria invites you to the 12th World IFYE Conference (and 65th European Conference) to be held in 2023.



Two couples, one from USA and one from Australia, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversaries with a renewal of wedding vows during the conference's closing ceremony.

Seward & Post Tours



The Kenai Fjords National Park & Kenai Peninsula included the following activities:

- Kenai Fjords National Park Cruise
- SeaLife Center in Seward
- Homer
- Anchorage and the Anchorage Museum where there was a great First People exhibit.

Some conferees took time to see Denali (At least they tried to!) and Talkeetna while others took time after conference to just do a little more sightseeing on their own.



Most sea lions are found in the Gulf of Alaska. The Western lion is listed as endangered.



Talkeetna Lodge - trying out a "ski-doo"









A trip to the Farmers' Market in Homer provided some beautiful huge red raspberries - a great treat for those who purchased them!



Taking a moment to relax on this post-conference adventure!

Seward & Post Tours (continued)

Two Australians joined 24 from the USA on IFYE Post Conference Tour #2. After leaving the ms Noordam, the group immediately joined others from the World Conference to board a small ship for a tour of the Kenai Fjords.

The scenery was beautiful, and wildlife was spotted (eagles, whales, sea otters, porpoises). However, the sea was quite choppy at times!

The following day the group headed to Talkeetna, at the foot of Denali. Unfortunately, the clouds didn't clear enough to see Denali or the Northern lights. However, along the way, stops at some beautiful scenery and the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center made the trip worthwhile. Bears, wolves, moose, sitka deer, elk, and reindeer were admired at the conservation center.

The Talkeetna Lodge was a good place to spend two days on dry land with no requirement to "move along". The town of Talkeetna was a good place to walk, browse, shop, and take yet one more boat tour. On the last day of the tour, the group stopped at the Musk Ox Project and enjoyed watching and learning about the animals and feeling the softness of their wonderful wool, called *quivet*¹.

¹ The musk ox has a two-layered coat. Quivet is the inner wool of the musk ox and is the layer which the animal sheds each spring.







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The *quivet* from the musk ox feels really soft!



The porcupine is found throughout Alaska except the Alaska Peninsula and Kodiak, Nunivak, and St. Lawrence islands.





Many great bear photos taken on this trip! One thing that makes Alaska unique is that all three species of North American bears (black, brown, and polar) flourish here. Even if you don't see a bear, you will never be far from one; Alaska is often said to be bear country.



Seward & Post Tours (continued)





"Living Our Cultures, Sharing Our Heritage: The First Peoples of Alaska" Exhibit - Anchorage Museum. This is part of a long-term exhibition arrangement on loan from the Smithsonian Institution for hands-on study by Alaska Native elders, artists, and scholars.



Conference Committees



Co Chairs: Kim Reaman and Toni Frank

Toni Frank and Kim Reaman (World Conference Co-Chairs) would like to thank the following IFYEs and friends who helped make the 11th World IFYE Conference a great success:

Opening and Closing Ceremonies: Mary Crave and Bob Ellis - Also, for bringing so much personality and fun to the Opening and Closing Programs

Social Activities: Matti Kuykendall and Anna Parker. They provided leadership to the FABULOUS social activities on board the ship – and all the IFYEs who helped or participated!

Website: Keith Ferris and Virginia (Ginny) Warner; also to Ginny for the endless hours on the registration process and website updates

Country Photos: Cathy Drake and Harlen Persinger

Country identity: Linda Pursley for making sure the U.S. IFYEs had red, white, and blue bandanas

Coordination of the 1968 Brunch: Barbara Maidment

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2018 World IFYE Conference Report Committee:

Virginia Warner (Chair), Dale Yonker, Kim Reaman, Toni Frank, Crystal Yonker, Alice Sedgwick, Ruth Trail, Harlen Persinger, Anna Parker, Matti Kuykendall, Vicky Warren, Norma Wu, and Nancy Maxwell-Rich.

The committee wishes to thank and acknowledge all the conferees who shared stories, thoughts, and photos to help create this report.



Through Understanding