



ILLINOIS

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October 2023

2023 IL IFYE Fall Meeting

The IL IFYE Fall Meeting will be held Saturday, October 28th in Normal IL at the home of Jim Schmidt. Jim and his committee have planned a great day.

**Home of Jim Schmidt
2355 Cascade Court, Normal IL**

Agenda/Activities

- 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast**
Attendees bring breakfast items to share.
- 9:15 a.m. Membership Meeting**
- 10:00 a.m. Rebecca Pratt IFYE Experiences Presentation**
- 10:45 a.m. Depart for Lexington**
- 11:00 a.m. Tour of ISU Farms**
25578 ISU Farm Lane, Lexington, IL 61753
<https://agriculture.illinoisstate.edu/facilities/farm/>
- 12:20 a.m. Depart for lunch**
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch at Kemps Upper Tap** — 305 W Main Street, Lexington
- 1:50 p.m. Depart for Lexington Castle**
10 N. Spencer St. Lexington, IL
- 2:00 p.m. Tour of Lexington Castle**
<https://www.wglt.org/illinois/2015-10-26/lexington-castle-historic-building>
- 3:30 p.m. Leave Castle for Normal**

4 p.m. Tour Colene Hoose Nature Natural Play Park-

600 Grandview Dr, Normal, IL

<https://www.wglt.org/local-news/2023-08-24/colene-hoose-natural-playground-is-nearing-completion-but-there-are-some-rules-you-should-know>

5 p.m. Return back to Schmidt Home. Drinks/Snacks and Order Pizza — Hang out.

There is no official fee for each stop, but it is suggested each participant pay a \$5 donation to the ISU Farms and The Outdoor Nature Classrooms/Play Park. The IL IFYE Association will make a \$25 donation to Lexington Castle. Lunch will be at your own expense.

PLEASE let Jim know by OCTOBER 23rd if you will be coming so he can let the places know how many to expect.

ACCOMODATIONS: Jim (309-824-1113) has a queen bed and sectional for Friday and or Saturday night. Bev Hornickel (309-830-4810) has 3 queen beds for Friday and or Saturday night.



From the President

Hello IL IFYEs and friends,

It is hard to believe that it is fall already.

Thank you to all who have done things throughout the year near home.

I was able to present information about exchanges and hosting at the county international night.

Thank you to Jim, Paul, Linda, Bev, and Shelly for helping during the State Fair. Our display was included in the scavenger hunt that the kids/families completed for prizes. It was a great way to promote global citizenship.

A small group of IL IFYE joined other US IFYEs at the world conference in Austria. The next world conference is 2028 in New Zealand — start planning now to complete a bucket list destination.

We can talk about the US 75th IFYE celebration when we meet.

Toni



Our Sympathy

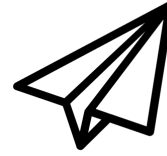
The IL IFYE Association extends its sincere sympathy to Jonna Burck, IL IFYE Past President & Conference Co-Chairman, on the death of her husband. Phillip Burck died June 28, 2023, and the funeral was on July 8, 2023. Several IL IFYEs were able to attend the visitation or funeral. The IL IFYE Association sent a Peace Lilly as a tribute for Phillip.

IL IFYEs Help Promote IFYE

IFYE was an exhibitor at the Commodity Classic Trade Show to recruit future IFYE participants, create awareness with many farmers, and meet with representatives of agri-businesses in hopes of raising funds! Rebecca Pratt and Phillip Wessel (both 2022 IFYEs sponsored by the United Soybean Board) along with Mary Springer (IFYE Grant writer) and Carolyn Hansen (IFYE Interim Executive Director), attended the Commodity Classic from Thursday, March 9, 2023, through Saturday, March 11, 2023, in Orlando, FL.



L to R - 2022 Illinois IFYEs, Rebecca Pratt (to Norway and Thailand) and Phillip Wessel (to Germany), visited with IFYE alumnus Steve Censky (Minnesota to Republic of China - 1985) at the Commodity Classic held in Orlando, FL this past spring, March 9-11, 2023. Censky is the current American Soybean Association CEO. (Photo by Mary Springer - March 11, 2023).



Email Address, Please!

If you have an email address, please send it to me so IL IFYE can keep you informed of important IFYE news and actions needed. IL IFYE does not sell or give out your email address to others. Postage has gone up, so please send your email address to; wachtell1945@gmail.com

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and email address.

12th World IFYE Conference

The 12th World IFYE Conference was held in Velden Austria August 27th to September 2nd. Those from Illinois who attended were: Dale & Crystle Yonker, Pau & Denise Rice, Eff & Anita Embree, Carolyn & Scott Brummel, Hope Heslop, Beth Gehrke, and Toni Frank. Mary Kay Munson, IL IFYE Member also was in attendance.

And now an afternoon activity as seen by Crystal Yonker:

Wed August 30, 2023

The European Afternoon began about 2pm in the assembly hall at the IFYE World Conference site. After a brief welcome and explanation of the events, we witnessed a Scottish dance demonstration. Many of the Scots were wearing their kilts or their clan banner across their torsos.

After David Patterson and Mary Turner demonstrated, everyone was invited to participate. (Remember in past years I have mentioned my favorite bachelor from Isle of Skye? Alan is an enthusiastic Scottish dancer.) The combined international groups did two round dances. Many looked “winded” by the end of the long songs.



Different European countries had tables with “Taste of...” set up. Representative Specialty food samples and drinks were available. The IFYEs were glad to explain about their sampling’s.

Instruction for Crafts and games were available. Knit samples made that afternoon would be put together for a blanket/afghan to be given to a charity.

The Germans had a matching game. One was to match the town or geographical area with the food or drink product from that area of Germany. When successful, one could taste a sample of the product. ~ since we had recently as well as over the years been in Germany and with lots of guidance, we were successful. Dale tasted the drink made from the Heide (Heather). (Last week we spent time at the Heide with our niece and her husband.)

A game from Switzerland (?) included a die, bulky mittens, scarf, hat, knife and fork and a packaged bar of chocolate. There were rules but with successful opening, one could then eat some chocolate.

The Finns had a tranquil experience. Part of which was watching a long video with English captions about a fellow on a 6-day crossing of the snowy terrain on skies. ~ the tranquility of that was so successful that Dale and I each took a snooze.

The afternoon was very successful. We were introduced to cultural crafts, dancing, food and drink. It was also a great way to meet and greet. We were able to visit it with “old” friends. From former conferences as well as meet new friends.

I believe everyone has an interesting story. Usually, it is like peeling an onion. You have to peel several layers before you get to the good part. With IFYEs you don’t have to peel many layers! With IFYEs it is almost instant friendship. I love it!

Some countries you may not have thought about that participated were Slovenia, Estonia, Luxembourg, Belgium, Hope you enjoyed my Taste of Europe.

IFYE STATE COORDINATOR REPORT

Diana Ropp from Normal, The Rob Pratt Family of Hopedale (Daughter Becca was a 2022 IFYE to Norway and Thailand) and Becky and Kenneth Doyle from Gillespie were hosts to Bae. Many thanks to Ray and Carol Ropp who hosted our farewell party in early September. Thank you for providing wonderful opportunities for our IFYE.



Delaney Smith, a 4-H and FFA Alumna, who attends Parkland Community, left early September for three months in Thailand. Before leaving she caught up with Bae and Becca to learn more about her

new host country. Some of you may have met Delaney last summer when she was a member of the panel at Normal conference that discussed international travel through IFYE and the States' 4-H International Program. We hope she will join us at our Spring meeting. You can learn more about Delaney by going to IFYEUSA.org, click on the Learn More About Our Representatives tab/box on the homepage of the website.

Plans are underway for accepting applications for the 2024 IFYE year. We anticipate an increase in the participant fee to keep in line with the increase of travel expenses. The decision will be made at the Board meeting in Louisville. In the meantime, it is time to recruit a new member. Please think of young adults who would make great IFYE representatives. We are in a unique position of having a strong state organization to help support the candidates.

Just as we are looking for new participants, we are always in need of new host families. It is critical that we expand our IFYE family to include new members. Please be thinking about families you know who would be open to welcoming an IFYE into their home and hearts.



While we are thinking about new participants and families, we also would like to reach out to our Illinois membership to serve on national IFYE committees and the Board of Directors. Marketing, Finance, Digital Media, Development and Program all need additional members to help complete the work of IFYE. We are looking for individuals who are committed to the idea of Peace Through Understanding.

If you haven't already, we ask you to consider contributing to the 75th Anniversary Campaign. This year we are combining the Annual Giving Campaign and this special fundraising campaign in order to reach the goal of \$150,000. This amount is necessary to keep our program relevant and running!

For more information about all these opportunities, please contact the Illinois IFYE State Coordinator, Carolyn Hansen, 309-261-1705 or email her at carolynsh7480@gmail.com

Remember:

Sign up for Fall IFYE Meeting by October 23rd by calling Jim at 309-824-1113 or sending an email to him at: Jaschmidt12@gmail.com

Contact Jim or Bev Hornickel (309-830-4810) for possible overnight accommodations.

