



# ILLINOIS

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## September 2019

### Fall IFYE Meeting

The Fall IL IFYE Membership meeting will be Saturday, October 5, 2019 at the home of Larry Wachtel, **15048 North Haarmann Avenue: Effingham IL 62401**

**9 to 10 AM** Coffee, Juice, Snacks available

**10 AM** **Business Meeting**

**12:30 PM** **Lunch** at Larry's Home

**1:30 PM** Leave for 3 Mini Tours:  
John Boos Block Factory  
Mid America Motorworks & MY Garage Museum  
The Cross

**6 PM** **Dutch Treat Supper** at an area Restaurant

**Directions:** Take Exit 160 on I-57 and go west on IL 33 to Lake Sara Road/1000 West (Phillips 66 on corner). Turn left, South and go 1.7 miles to "T" intersection with North Shore/1500 North. Turn Left, East and go ½ mile to North Haarmann Avenue. Turn Left, North and I am 3<sup>rd</sup> house on right. 6 cars can park in Driveway.

Cost of Lunch will be about \$6.00 per person and payable when you arrive. However, Reservations are needed for Lunch and Evening Meal—if staying for that event. (form at end of Newsletter)

If overnight accommodations are needed there are several motels at the 160 Exit and 159 Exit. Exit 160 is 5.5 miles to my home.



# Letter from Sue Herren

To: The IL IFYE Board.

I have thought long and hard and this decision was not made lightly. I have decided it is best for the organization and myself that I resign as the IL State Coordinator and as the President of the IL IFYE Association. Please accept this email as my official resignation.

Susan Herren.

## Vacancies to Fill

Illinois IFYE now needs to fill two positions: President Elect and State IFYE Coordinator. If you are interested, please contact Jonna Burck at 847-809-6950 – cell or [jonnaburck@yahoo.com](mailto:jonnaburck@yahoo.com)

We need to fill these positions at the Membership meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

## From the President

Happy Almost Fall!! My favorite time of year is the fall, and with the very wet spring, and sometimes too hot summer – bring on the crisp, cool autumn days, as far as I am concerned.

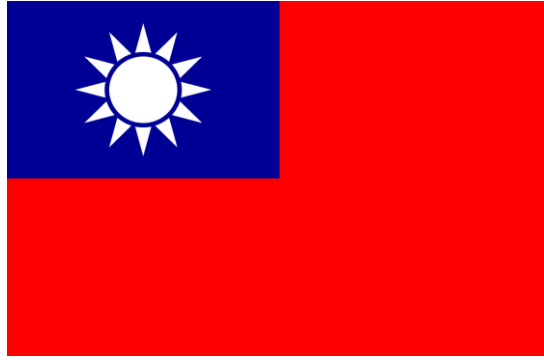
So if you haven't noticed yet, it is someone new writing this section of this newsletter. Sue Herren has stepped down as the IL IFYE President and State Coordinator. I want to personally and publicly say THANK YOU to her for her dedicated and diligent service to our organization. We have made some great strides in the last few years, but we are not there yet, so I am hoping we can all work together to finish up some of the outstanding items.

A great place to start is at our Fall Meeting. I hope you can join us in Effingham, the first weekend of October. Thank you, Larry, for again hosting – you will find the details at the beginning of the newsletter. We have many things to address at the meeting, **besides having fun!**

This includes, but is not limited to, finding a new President-Elect, confirming a State Coordinator, discussing and deciding about our Memorandum of Agreement with the National IFYE organization, and buttoning up the by-laws - so we can vote on them at the Spring meeting. If you are interested in throwing your hat in the ring for addressing any of these items – and haven't done so already, please reach out to me at [jonnaburck@yahoo.com](mailto:jonnaburck@yahoo.com).

Larry has some fun things planned in and around Effingham, so I hope to see you all next month. I also want to say thank you for those who made the trip to central Illinois for the Spring meeting – it was a great weekend and also for the thoughts and prayers this past month during my husband's health issues.

Your IFYE Sister,  
Jonna Burck, IFYE Rep 1986



## News from Nick

Nick Birsa, from McLean Country, is Illinois's IFYE Delegate to Taiwan and Thailand. Here is a short experience from Nick in Taiwan.

*Nick is experiencing firsthand the subtleties of Taiwanese cuisine. Nick is a future filmmaker and this following story could have a prominent place in his future presentations. "Taiwan's sights and sounds are second only to its people. Self-described as enthusiastic, eager family members have rushed me around to show off their favorites. One local favorite food of many is something called Chou Doufu or 'stinky tofu'. Stinky is not just a name given out will-nilly, it is well earned. Everyone says to get used to it, so at least I tried it, and thanks to the enthusiasm of the Taiwanese people, many others times after this as well. I think it's safe to say this food must be an acquired taste, but as I type this message, I hear that my host family wants to go out to eat none other than the Chou Doufu. Well, perhaps this time it will start to grow on me."*

## Two IFYE's In Illinois

Two IFYE Exchangees were in Illinois this Summer. Helena Oing, from Germany and Sayamon Netsuwan from Thailand were in Illinois from June 17<sup>th</sup> through September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ray and Carol Ropp hosted a welcome Wiener Roast on their farm in Normal IL.

Helena's Host Families were:

June 18 to July 13 - Brittany, Darren and Barrett McMillan from Channahon IL

July 13 to August 6 - Jamie, Tom, Aubrey and Mackenzie Boas from Champaign IL

August 6 to September 3<sup>rd</sup> - Ken, Becky, and Leah Ropp, from Normal IL

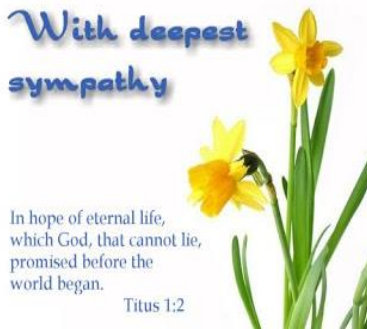
Sayamon's Host Families were:

June 18 to July 13 – Jay and Vivian Mather from Manteno IL

July 13 to August 6 – Jean, Ted, and Adam Jones from Bettendorf IA

August 6 to September 3<sup>rd</sup> – Amanda Braun Family from Pecatonica IL (2018 IFYE from IL to Thailand and South Korea)

What a small world we live in. Helena's father was an IFYE from Germany to IL and he stayed on Paul Rice's parents' farm while in IL. Paul was an IL IFYE to Switzerland in 1981. A few years later before Paul settled down and got married, he traveled to Germany and visited their farm. This was before Helena's Father got married and still living on his family farm. Isn't the IFYE experience ongoing?



## Sympathy to Anita Embree

Harvey Syltie, IFYE from MN to Korea, and brother of Anita Syltie Embree, 1968 IFYE to Thailand, was killed in a freak mower accident on his farm July 23, 2019. He was 68 years old. The Funeral was July 29, 2019 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Porter MN. Our Sincere Sympathy to Anita and the entire Syltie Family from the IL IFYE Association.



## National IFYE Conference

**News Flash!** It was just announced that Missouri will host the 2020 National IFYE Conference. No other details as to time and place have been announced.

The 2019 National IFYE Conference was held August 6-11 in Lexington KY. A preconference luncheon was held on August 6<sup>th</sup> for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 1969 IFYE's. Those attending from Illinois were Cheryl Burns who went to India. John Bonner, who went to Germany, and Larry Wachtel who went to Sri Lanka.

IL IFYE Association members attending were Ron & Marty Tarter, Dale & Crystal Yonker, Jim & Bev Hornickel, Mike & Lois Coates, Nancy & Joe Rich, Hope & John Heslop, Mary K. Munson, John Bronner, Cheryl Burns, and Larry Wachtel.

## Wonderful Winter Weekend

For many years several IFYE's from the USA have gotten together over the New Year's Eve weekend for Good Fellowship and Fun. At the event last year in Topeka KS the group said it was time to come to Illinois for 2019. So, the 2019 Wonderful Winter Weekend will be December 29 to January 1<sup>st</sup> in Effingham IL. The Home of Larry Wachtel will serve as Headquarters and the host motel will be The Lexington Suites Motel. The New Year's Eve Party will be held in Larry's basement. Other tentative

events include tour of Wright House in Altamont, visit a Race Horse Farm in Altamont with a Hall of Fame Harness Race Announcer, The Cross, and John Boos Block Headquarters. Of course, the traditional moving will be observed on the afternoon of New Year's Eve. If you did not receive an advance email notice earlier from Larry and want additional information please email him at: [wachtell1945@gmail.com](mailto:wachtell1945@gmail.com)



## Email Address Please

Please send me your email address to add to the IL IFYE mailing Newsletter list. If you did not receive an email notice that this Newsletter was available to view on the IFYE Web Site, then I don't have your email address and I would like for you to send me your email address at: [wachtell1945@gmail.com](mailto:wachtell1945@gmail.com) IL IFYE doesn't share this information with anyone. This allows for instant communication to you when necessary. The Newsletter is sent twice a year. Some request only the electronic Newsletter, but I have found many change email addresses and unlike the Postal Service does not forward emails.



## Blast from The Past

The following article written by Clarence Ropp (father of IL IFYE Ray Ropp) appeared in the McLean County Farm Bureau News March 1973.

It was twenty or more years ago, a student from India spent the weekend at our home. He was a brilliant student and good thinker. While eating breakfast Sunday morning my brother stopped in to say hello. Knowing our guest's ability to converse in 4 or more languages, we asked him to say something in his native language. He asked, "What shall I talk about?" Knowing of his love for the great Indian leader, Gandhi, I said "Say something about Gandhi." His statement was brief but to us it was so much chatter and we laughed at his closing statement. Upon hearing our laughter, Sham in all seriousness said, "That which we do not understand we think it to be silly," What a true statement this was and a key to universal understanding.

Years later our son Ray was an IFYE to India, living in nine different homes in three different provinces. They shared their food, their homes, their family life, their customs and their understanding with this lad from another land.

Upon leaving the home of one who could not understand or talk our language nor could Ray understand his, tears fell from the eyes of both for though the 10 days of visitations, admiration had been formed through signs and smiles.

We are grateful to the IFYE Exchange Program for making such a trip possible for Ray and the many youth around the world.

We think of our Indian student's statement, "That which we do not understand, we think silly," Understanding is the key that opens the door to world brotherhood. IFYE's are using that key.

## Memorandum of Understanding

The IFYE Association of the USA, Inc. is pleased to announce that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). and IFYE USA was signed in Washington, D.C. on Friday, Sept. 6, at 11 a.m. IFYE USA President and Missouri IFYE (1978 to Germany) Victoria (Vicky) Fehrmann Warren signed the MOU for IFYE USD. USDA Deputy Secretary Steve Censky, also an IFYE! (Minnesota to China 1985) signed the MOU for USDA. Secretary Censky now lives in Chesterfield, Missouri. (When at home from working in Washington, D.C.) We thank Ken Gordon, IFYE USA Executive Director and Secretary Censky for their diligent work to bring this to fruition.

**What does this mean?** This means that Extension can help recruit IFYE's over 19 years of age. This has not been possible since 1992 when Extension separated from IFYE and did not allow IFYE to even use the 4-H Emblem. This does not mean Financial Support, but it does mean that USDA once again recognizes IFYE as a Program and IFYE USA as an organization with which it can cooperate to enhance cultural understand and prepare today's and tomorrow's young adults to work globally in Agriculture. It DOES NOT allow use of the 4-H Emblem. It means that IFYE can cooperate with Adult Extension Programs.



## Registration for Fall Meeting

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number Attending Annual Meeting and Luncheon

\_\_\_\_\_ Number Attending Mini Tours

\_\_\_\_\_ Number for Evening Meal at Area Restaurant

Return to Larry Wachtel; 15048 North Haarmann Avenue; Effingham IL 62401 by September 30<sup>th</sup> or email the same information to Larry at: [wachtell1945@gmail.com](mailto:wachtell1945@gmail.com) by September 30<sup>th</sup>