



IFYE NEWS

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



September 2011

Progress Involves Change

Alan Lambert, IFYE Association President



Progress involves change. I have often wondered if McDonald's would still be in business if they were only selling the All-American hamburger as they did in the 1950's. Do you know that McDonald's sells more chicken today than they do hamburgers? Now, that is change.

Leaders in any organization must be wise to manage change. People inherently resist change because it is uncomfortable. But change is necessary, change can bring growth, change can bring opportunity, and

change can bring stability. If the IFYE Association is not changing and moving forward, we are moving backward.

One obstacle that creates resistance is that three letter word "why". People need to know why they need to change. People must not perceive that the changes are not worth the effort.

As I write this message, the annual conference in New England still fresh in my mind, there are some potential changes coming in the IFYE organization's future. For those of you that attended, you were part of a presentation on how the IFYE Association got to where it is today, and discussion on how we can move forward. Much of the presented information was published in the last newsletter.

Currently, international exchanges for those beyond 4-H age are being conducted on an individual state to country basis. The Association Board and the Reposition Committee have been exploring options to bring about a national presence once again. There are many uncertainties, but with support and input from the membership, the IFYE program can evolve into an entity which can continue well into the future.

Financial support will also be a critical component of our ability to present a worthy program to various entities. The association has embarked on both email and print campaigns to the IFYE alumni for membership dues and donations for operational support. These contributions are not to be confused with donations to the IFYE Foundation. The IFYE Foundation donations are used for exchange programs for all ages.

Many of you returned from the New England Conference with a renewed energy and commitment to IFYE. Please use your enthusiasm to reinvigorate your state association ... or perhaps begin a state association. There is nothing more powerful than "grassroots" support from each individual and state association.

McDonald's started with hamburgers. IFYE started with young adults, age 19-29. McDonald's subsequently expanded their menu, and 4-H International Programs also expanded to include such programs as the IFYE Ambassador, Youth Development Project (YDP), Youth Agricultural Specialists Exchange Program (YASEP), Professional Rural Youth Leadership Exchange (PRYLE), and 4-H travel seminars.

Due to 'menu' (programmatic) changes at USDA, National 4-H Headquarters and National 4-H Council, the hamburger (IFYE) has been deleted from the menu. We might now ask the question, made popular by another burger chain, "Where's the Beef?"

The IFYE Association Board is attempting to place 'the beef' back into a cultural exchange for individuals over 19 with a national entity.

Please help us by doing the following:

1. Pay your membership dues.
2. Check email for IFYE communication.
3. Opt-in to MailChimp (*see article on page 12*).
4. Read MailChimp and your IFYE News.

The Association Board is meeting monthly by conference call. Communication to membership via email/MailChimp will be emphasized because it is timely. The IFYE News will summarize activity and keep you informed if you do not have email.

Matters of national importance will be discussed at the Southern IFYE Region (All Region B States) in Little Rock, Arkansas on Friday to Monday, October 7-12. Alumni in states in Region B (AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, and VA) are planning to attend. All alumni are invited. This is your opportunity to participate in person without the expense of an IFYE conference.

The business meeting will be on Sunday. A tour of the Clinton Presidential Library is planned for Saturday. Nightly stays are \$85.50 plus tax, including breakfast.

SEE YOU IN LITTLE ROCK!

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What makes IFYE Uniquely Different?

Ruth Ready, 1986 Nebraska IFYE to United Kingdom, provided this summation of her thoughts along with thoughts from others at the 2011 IFYE conference. These items were presented during the annual meeting at the conference. If you have additional thoughts, please submit them to any board member.

- #1. The family stay experience.** While other programs have family stays, the IFYE host family experience stands out because of the degree of integration experienced by the exchangee. You are a part of the family every moment of every day for all types of experiences. Through IFYE you become part of the family.
- #2. Types of families that host.** Due to the organizations connected with the host families, the host families are more open and prepared to host. They accept the IFYE as a family member and not a tourist that needs entertained.
- #3. Multiple number of host families in multiple locations.** This gives delegates more than just a one-dimensional view of the host country. Different regions have varying customs and dialects, leading to wider understanding of the culture as a whole.
- #4. The age of participants.** As young adults, those in the IFYE program have gained some independence whether through college or working experiences. They are less inclined to be "the center of the Universe" and more inclined to see themselves as a piece of an ever expanding Universe.
- #5. Length of stay.** With a three to six month stay, the IFYE participant has time to get over any "cultural shock" and so they can totally learn and understand the culture in which they are living.
- #6. Total cultural immersion.** The exchangee is not distracted by schooling or insulated from the family by other obligations during their stay.
- #7. (Can you add others?)**

Comment from Art Deisher, Chairman of the Reposition Committee: The above is a true description of IFYE as the alumni have known it. Unfortunately, the "organization connection" reference in #2 does not exist in the United States in 2011. This is what our committee is attempting to rectify in the near future.



**2011 Association Board Members at New England Conference
Waterbury, CT - June 2011**
 (Back): Cathy Kunkel-Mains, Marian Huey, John Wells, Alan Lambert,
 Ginny Warner, Norma Wu (2012)
 (Front): Dick Wagner (2012), Robert Doster, Art Deisher, Connie Fukudome

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Jennifer Schmidt Named 2011 Northeast Region “Farm Mom of the Year”

Jennifer “Jennie” Yucavitch Schmidt (MA-Botswana-1986 IFYE Ambassador / 1988-89 4-H International Youth Development Project (YDP)) was named the “2011 Farm Mom of the Year” for the Northeast Region (Maryland to Michigan to Maine). The “Farm Mom of the Year” competition is sponsored by Monsanto through their America’s Farmers Grow Communities program.

Jennie is married to Hans Schmidt, (MD-Taiwan-1989), son of Walter (MD-Austria-1956), and Nancy Schmidt, all of Sudlersville, Maryland ... and all with life time involvement with 4-H.

Jennie and her family operate Schmidt Farms Inc., a 2000-acre, 3rd generation family farm on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The farm is highly diversified, growing corn, feed- and food-grade soybeans, wheat, barley, hay, tomatoes, green beans and wine grapes. In addition, Jennie and her family began a custom vineyard management business in 2009, providing a wide range of services to grape producers and wineries in the region.

Jennie was nominated by her children. “Our mom should be the America’s Farmers 2011 Mom of the Year. We have a 2000-acre, 3rd-generation family farm growing corn, soybeans, wheat, barley, hay, tomatoes, green beans and wine grapes. As our mom, she supports our involvement with 4-H, making sure we make meetings, train our livestock, registers us for shows, and hauls our animals. She gives us jobs on the farm so that we know how important farm life is and how farming supports many people.

She cooks us meals from what we’ve raised on the farm and makes sure we live healthy lives. On the farm, her main job is the vineyard manager of 20 acres of wine grapes, but she drives every piece of equipment including the combine, tractors, balers, and sprayers. There is no job she can’t do on the farm. She started a custom vineyard company to help others start vineyards and is a commercial pesticide applicator and nutrient management consultant.

In the community, she is a Sunday school teacher and church youth group leader. She is also president of the Maryland Grape Growers Association, a member of our county Right-to-Farm committee, and serves on the Maryland Farm Bureau specialty crops committee. Our mom speaks often to groups about agriculture and farming systems. She has travelled around the country giving presentations about farming and is on the speakers’ bureau for the International Food Information Council. She just finished the LEAD Maryland agricultural leadership program and got to travel to Vietnam to study farming and agricultural exports. She takes every chance she can to tell others about the importance of agriculture in everyone’s lives.”

Says Jennie, “There are many farm women doing exactly what I do. It is an honor to represent them.”

(Left): Presentation of check for award of 2011 Northeast Region Mom of the Year: (L to R) John Hickey - Monsanto; Hans Schmidt, 1989 Maryland IFYE to Taiwan, Jennifer - 1986 Massachusetts IFYE Ambassador, 1989-91 IFYE/YDP to Botswana; son Zachary, daughter Katrina, and Steve Freeman, local Asgrow/ Monsanto Seed Dealer



IFYE SHOPPE
 (www.ifyeusa.org/shoppe/)

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Association Membership, Contributions & Address Updates

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City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone: _____

Program: _____ State Represented: _____ Host Country: _____ Year: _____

Extension Staff: _____ Host Family: _____ Friend of IFYE: _____ Other: _____

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Prefer mailings via: E-mail _____ Postal _____ Both _____ Remove from mailing list? _____

Annual Membership Dues @ \$25 single/\$40 married couple (calendar year)\$ _____

Life Membership @ \$300 single/\$400 married couple \$ _____

Contributions to IFYE Association General Operational Support *
 (Contributions are Tax Deductible to the Extent Provided by Law*) \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed Thank You! \$ _____

*The IFYE Association is an IRS approved 501(3)(c) non-profit charitable organization.

Please make checks payable to:
IFYE Association of the USA
 3912 County Road 130
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Reconnect Committee Renamed

Art Deisher

For the past almost two years, you have been reading about the activities of the Reconnection Committee. Due to several factors that occurred at the recent National IFYE Conference in Connecticut, the committee has decided to rename itself the "Reposition Committee". It is felt that this more accurately reflects our mission as we move forward.

All attendees at the conference were provided a packet of information backgrounding the activities of the committee since our last conference. Committee chairman, Art Deisher, presented a report that outlined the principal players identified over the last year and their positions in our efforts to reconnect with a national entity. His presentation explained the reality that 4-H and the USDA are not currently interested in any affiliation with IFYE. USDA has gone so far as to request that 4-H be removed from the IFYE name.

Alan Lambert, Association President, presented the committee's interactions with three entities with which we might reposition IFYE to give us national identity recognition. Alan will continue to work with all three of these contacts on a bi-weekly basis until all opportunities are exhausted. There are also private entities that may also be approached.

The attendees then participated in a question and answer session on the matters presented. The general consensus was that we need to work to sustain our future. Discussion included the need to continue promotion at National 4-H Club Congress and begin a connection with the Intercollegiate 4-H Conference.

Also discussed was the removal of 4-H from the IFYE name. (Further discussion occurred in each regional meeting and at the National IFYE Meeting later in the week, in a very close vote, those in attendance decided to take no action on removal of 4-H from the IFYE name.)

Art concluded that IFYE is definitely at a crossroads. He used the following projected information to stimulate thought. It is printed here for everyone's benefit.

We are at a major crossroad in the life of IFYE.

Whether we like the intersection or not, this is where we are. Others certainly have more history and institutional knowledge about IFYE than I, but if IFYE is to continue (and I hope it does) ... I trust those privileged to be a part of the decision have the courage to be active, not passive.

Those who want us to falter relish in the possibility of our possible weak leadership.

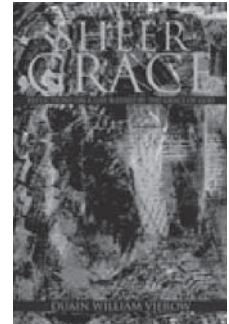
If we decide to continue, we need strength in numbers and solidarity. Without the solidarity, we will not be seriously considered by others as an entity that is important and relevant to the cause of world peace and understanding.

*Thank You,
Art Deisher,
IFYE Association Board Reconnect Committee Chair
June 27, 2011*

We have a program administered through approximately 10 states with no national identity or recognition. Yet the IFYE name and logo has international recognition and identity.

If you have any comments, concerns, feelings and ideas on the above information, please contact any member of the Reposition Committee.

Sheer Grace by Duain Vierow



Duain Vierow (MN-NL-1957), an author and artist living in Florida, has a new book published just this past spring. SHEER GRACE: Reflections on a Life Blessed by the Grace of God is an autobiography and relates his many experiences as a minister and world-travelled missionary.

Sheer Grace tells the amazing story of one person's spiritual journey: "an imperfect, dirty lump of clay on the Potter's table, striving to find a full, meaningful life, touched by the grace of God."

Duain is a global citizen who has traveled widely, visiting a variety of people and cultures. The fourth chapter of Sheer Grace is entitled "The Shaping of an International Citizen: IFYE". In this section, he mainly describes the IFYE experience, what he gained from participating in the program and of the profound influence that IFYE has had in his life.

He recently donated 19 paintings and 4 ceramic pieces to Shands Hospital Movement Disorder Floor for use in their rotating display of works which opened on April 18, 2011. Duain indicates that, "For a time I was an artist who delved into clay. I found the texture and elasticity of the clay exhilarating. Parkinson's would not allow me to continue, reminding me of the limitations we face in creating anything of beauty. But God does not have such limitations, except those we impose, in creating a work of lasting beauty. Even more, God the potter, keeps working, molding us as life progresses."

He continues, "The trick is being the kind of clay that has enough give to be molded according to the wishes of the potter."

2012 National IFYE Conference



July 24 - 28, 2012
Omaha, Nebraska
Embassy Suites - Old Market

IFYE FOUNDATION of the USA

FOUNDATION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I write this letter, the "Dog Days of August" haven't arrived. We are still in an active weather pattern and can only hope fall is coming soon.

This may seem a strange way to start my letter, but so goes the business at hand. As a member of both the "Respositioning" and Coin project committees, we are in an active pattern and hope that things will fall into place soon.

The Foundation again supported the States 4-H program of exchanges. In addition, we supported the orientation of the over 19 year olds conducted by Kansas. There were five outbounds and sixteen inbounds attending. The states that were sending outbounds were: CO, MT and KS. Those hosting inbounds were: KS, MT, CO, MI and SD.

The final report of the orientation was that the interaction of outbounds with inbounds is very beneficial. Now we have to find a way to expand the program.

The one major problem that exists with exchanges is finding host families. Although Illinois had fewer inbounds this year due to the decision to cut all international programs, finding host families was difficult. We as an organization of IFYE's should be able to assist in this endeavor. I have pleaded before and ask again for your help.

The fall campaign letter will again be sent in November. At the present time, the Foundation is dependent on your contributions to support its efforts of supporting international exchange individuals and the orientation. We are thankful for your continued support.

The world is not what it was in 1948. Hatred and violence seem to consume the news on a daily basis. Our own country is seeing more violence and domestic disturbances. The riots in England recently are a warning to us that it can happen anywhere.

If there was ever a time to have exchanges in such a world, it's now. Safety is a concern, but there are safe places to go if we want to pursue them. Let's hope we can reposition the IFYE program and expand the program. Time will tell.

Enjoy the fall weather that will surely come soon.

Norman Bauer, President

CONTRIBUTIONS: 4.1.2011 - 8.16.2011

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Completing the Circle - Peace Through Understanding

Nancy Maxwell-Rich IFYE from Illinois to India 1967

When I was 7 years old, Prakash Gupta was the first IFYE to Edwards County, Illinois. Mr. Gupta spoke at our church and I was smitten! I told him that I was going to come to his country someday as an IFYE. Well... I did that just 15 years later. I was able to visit Prakash Gupta and his family at the end of my host family stays in India. What a privilege to have been able complete that circle.

The inspiration for our fall 2010 trip to India was the opportunity for me to return to the host country of my 6-month IFYE (International Farm Youth Exchange) experience in 1967-68. I loved it and had always wanted to return and also to share that experience with my husband, Joe, who had heard the IFYE stories for over 25 years.

The invitation from the India hosts and fellow IFYE brothers who were sponsoring the Asia Pacific Regional IFYE conference to join them was just the right nudge to "Do It Now." When Bengaluru/Bangalore, Karnataka (formerly Mysore State) was selected as the conference site; that sealed it. Some of my host families lived in the Mysore city area. I had lost contact with them in the last 10 years but was determined to contact and visit them and other parts of India.

We took advantage of the travel agency partner for the ASPAC IFYE conference for 2 weeks of pre-conference tours in northern India with the Golden Triangle tour of Delhi, Agra, Jaipur and Amritsar. We had a great driver/guide for 10 days as we visited the temples and monuments. The Taj Mahal and Red Fort in Agra are even more awesome than the photos and my memory. The highlight of the trip to Jaipur was the Amber Palace where elephants still transport people along the walls to the upper open courtyard.

We traveled by express train from Delhi to Amritsar which is the home of the Golden Temple... the holiest site and spiritual center of the Sikh faith. This trip provided a typical 'IFYE' experience for us... there was an accident on the train track about midpoint so we had to take a bus on to Amritsar arriving late for meeting our guide, and trying to connect with him via mobile/cell phone with a combination of English, Hindi and Urdu and the help of kind and curious local folks.

The time in northern India provided the anchoring in history and culture of ancient and modern India, mogul invasions, British rule, independence in 1947 and the many transitions of the world's largest democracy, the complexity and congestion of a nation with one-fifth of the world's population in a country that is one-third the size of the US. The addition of thousands of cars on roads and streets already filled with motor bikes, bullock carts, cows, people, camel carts, auto-rickshaws(tuk-tuk), buses and trucks makes riding/driving a challenge. Our driver told us that there are three requirements for a driver... good horn, good brakes and good luck. We never saw an accident but every trip was an adventure.

Host Families Revisited

While our tourist time was enjoyable and educational, our primary goals were to participate in the IFYE conference and connect with my 1967 host families from the Bengaluru-Mysore area. Using the latest information in 10-year-old letters from Kalpana Gowda (host sister); KT Chandu (host father); Google; internet searches; email; some interested and gracious government staff; and mobile phones in India, I located three host families.

My host sister (Kalpana), her husband (Ramalinge Gowda) and family had retired and lived in Mysore along with their son and his wife (both dentists) and Rama's father and mother. I located Rama

through the Karnataka Forest Department's staff directory on web site! Rama had served as Inspector General of Forestry based in Karnataka and was a graduate of the University of Agricultural Sciences in Bangalore. We spent a few days with them and also visited with Kalpana's brother, Ramu and mother/(my host mother), Damayanti Gowda, from Srirangapatnam. Damayanti had served in the Karnataka legislature for 10 years.



Nancy and Joe with host mother Damayanthi Bore Gowda from Srirangapatna, near Mysore. Daughter/host sister Kalpana and husband Rama (below) hosted Nancy & Joe and arranged visits with host family members.

Kalpana and Ramu also helped us make connection with another host family (K.T. and Shantha Chandu) in Maddur. We shared a day with their family as well as visited a primary and secondary

school. K.T. Chandu and his mentor/adopted family, H. K. Veeranna Gowda, established two schools in Maddur for young children and secondary/college students from poverty-level families. The schools are accredited by the state. We were welcomed to the Veeranna Gowda College for an assembly of students and faculty. Mr. Chandu is the Executive Secretary/President of the college. He welcomed us and introduced us to the students, administrators and faculty. Chandu described why we were there visiting.... had been an IFYE delegate and family member in their home in 1967. He still had the small photo album that I had left with them. After the welcome and introductions, they turned to me and said 'You speak.' True IFYE experience...rise to the occasion even when you don't have any preparation. Of course they had a translator since I couldn't speak ...or understand much Kannada...the official language of Karnataka state.



(Lto R) Rama Gowda, Nancy, Joe & Kalpana Gowda (Nancy's host sister in 1967) visiting Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary near Srirangapatnam, Karnataka.



K.T. Chandu (speaking) was my host father in 1967) is shown here introducing Joe and me to students and faculty at college established by Chandu and his mentor, H.K. Veeranna Gowda. Chandu's son, Apoorva, sitting to left of speaker (white shirt) was a toddler when I was with their family. Chandu is now Executive Secretary of this college and another primary school.

Another 1967 host family from Mysore area was S.M. Krishna and his wife Prema with their 6 month old little girl, Vicki. Krishna was campaigning for Mysore state ... now Karnataka Assembly/Lok Sabha was on the Socialist party ticket while I was there. He was also professor of international law at the University in Bangalore. He had been a 'fellow intern' in President Kennedy's office while studying at George Washington University. They were a wonderful family and I knew that he was 'destined' for exemplary public service ... but I had lost contact with the Krishna family.

So, I 'googled' S.M. Krishna to see if I could locate him. Would you believe that I found out that he was the current MEA Minister of External Affairs) for India! So, how do I make contact with him given the gate keepers for such a public official? Long story short, I connected with one of his directors who forwarded my email and letter. I received a wonderful and generous invitation to visit while we were in Delhi.

After several emails, sharing of schedules, mobile phone calls, we were able to arrange 30 minutes with him on a Saturday morning just before he flew out with the Prime Minister to China, Japan and Viet Nam and return just in time to welcome President Obama. He sent his official government dignitary car and driver to our guest house to take us to the Minister's residence! That caused all eyes to turn!! We had a wonderful visit, shared stories, photos from the 1967 family visit and an Oregon calendar. Minister Krishna was so optimistic about the future US-India relations ... just as he was in 1967.



(L to R) S.M. Krishna, Nancy and Joe. S.M. Krishna and wife Prema were one of my host families in 1967. Krishna was campaigning for member of Parliament in Karnataka (Mysore state) when I was with them. Krishna is now Minister of External Affairs for India.

2011 Asia Pacific IFYE Conference

After visiting with host families in Karnataka, we returned to Bangalore to participate in the 2010 Asia Pacific IFYE Conference with IFYE alumni who cherish their international experience of **Peace Through Understanding**. Over 100 delegates/IFYE alumni attended the ASPAC conference from India and about 8 Asia Pacific countries. There were 3 United States IFYE alumni in attendance.

(L to R) Karanbir Singh Sandhu, IFYE to USA, Nancy Maxwell-Rich, IFYE Illinois to India 1967, Jitender K. Malvia, IFYE to USA, Lew Bordeaux, IFYE Michigan to Japan 1966, Mr. R.P.S. Gill, IFYE to USA, Jess Stairs, IFYE PA to India 1964.



The program for the 7th ASPAC IFYE conference included presentations on rural migration and its implications for youth development, role of financial institutions in agriculture development, agri-business and opportunities for value added strategies for farming communities, and self-help groups and farm women's roles. The Indian hosts shared their cultural heritage through dance and music. We were offered tours to an Indo-American hybrid seed company, Grover Vineyards and the Krishimela (farm fair) at the University of Agricultural Sciences in Bangalore. We were amazed at the Krishimela hosting about 10,000 farmers a day with 500 vendors. We also toured the university research plots with intense focus on sustainable agriculture. The United States should be very proud of exporting its land grant college system.

The Thailand delegation offered a warm and enthusiastic welcome to us for the World IFYE Conference in Bangkok in 2013. We all agreed that the vision of IFYE at its inception ...Peace through Understanding...was as important today as it was in 1948!

We were ...

We were tourists and family guests in India. We were conference delegates. We were welcomed into a country and culture quite different from the United States. We were 'adopted' as family by Indian people who cared about us like their family of birth.... they were angels on our shoulder. Hospitality is the Indian nature. Their history and culture run deep in the soul and spirit...the DNA of Indian people. The IFYE Conference hosts certainly exhibited that hospitality and cultural history.

What has changed? What has not?

Many have asked us ... What has changed since 1967? The biggest changes to me were the faster pace of life, increase in cars and traffic congestion, mobile phones, technology, fast food 'restaurants' from the US, and the big growth of a middle class and consumerism. I was so pleased to see the results of education for all and especially for women and girls. Women were clearly present in the new middle class and business and education. While we saw some quite modern and expensive shopping malls, the majority of the businesses are still the small shops, stalls and carts! It seems that all of the cities are 'under construction/ destruction' with high rise buildings, streets and commercial buildings. Sidewalks are interesting obstacle courses at best.

The aspects of India that have not changed are the warm hospitable people; the reminders of the ancient culture and history with the temples and monuments; the contrasts of wealth and prosperity along with the poverty; the gracious and glorious Indian women in their colorful saris; the peaceful co-existence of the modern technology of transportation along with the water buffalo, bullock carts, cows and village people on the same street...maybe even traveling in the same direction; the intense and persistent entrepreneurial spirit of the wallahs/vendors/shop keepers; aromas of Indian food on the streets, restaurants and in the homes; and the joy, shyness, curiosity, wisdom and beauty in the faces of the children and young adults as we walked among them on the streets, in museums, in train stations and shopping areas. One is ever aware of the population density especially in the cities in this country of 1.3 billion people. What a joy to return and share experiences with families 43 years later and to share the ASPAC IFYE Conference with our fellow alumni.



Students at the H.K. Veeranna Gowda College assembly listening intently while we answered questions about the education system in the US and what we thought about President Obama's visit to India.

Completing the circle once again ...

This 2010 visit to India was a second experience of 'completing the circle.' Now...43 years later, I was able to return to India and complete another circle of friendship and understanding with host families from my IFYE experience in 1967.

Since I went to India as an IFYE, I have carried the words to our IFYE "Song of Peace" and a photo of Indian family members trying to teach me to carry a big bag of rice straw on my head in my wallet as constant reminders of my world citizenship and our goal of peace through understanding.



IFYE Association Dues and Donations

Art Deisher, IFYE Association Treasurer

Thank you for your dues and donations. The Association depends on your financial support.

In 2010, I pointed out to the Association Board that the interest generated from the IFYE Association Life Members' one-time dues payment was not equal to the \$25 that annual dues members were paying. In order to correct that difference, the Board authorized me to send a donation letter to all the life members. It was very successful. Approximately 25% of the difference was collected in donations.

However, the action created some problems. I want to clarify them here.

Because I stated an amount of the difference on an annual basis, several misunderstood this to be an attempt to collect annual dues from life-time members. That was not the intent; I just wanted to clarify the situation.

Others started the idea of a "sustaining membership" when they gave additional contributions. While that is a noble idea, it causes a bookkeeping nightmare for the treasurer. I sent an example to the Finance Committee to prove it, but it is cumbersome. It also raises the question of when do we send another donation request letter to the contributor. For example, some donations have been as high as \$1,000 and others have been the difference I stated in the outlining of the problem.

To resolve the above concerns, the Association Finance Committee recommended, and the Board approved, the following policy.

Despite the heroic efforts of our financial advisor, the interest generated from the principal of Life Member dues is not keeping pace with budgetary needs based on current economic conditions.

The IFYE Association of the USA, Inc. Board of Directors has deemed it necessary to seek donations through a general request to Life Members to voluntarily contribute to the IFYE Association of the USA, Inc. to support the operating budget. There is no intent by this request to require Life Members to contribute funds, to create a new category of membership, or to require the IFYE Association of the USA, Inc. Treasurer to keep an amortized accounting of contributions.

All proceeds received will be immediately available for operational use. The request shall be an ongoing campaign to all Life Members, irrespective of whether they have made such contributions in the past, until such further action is taken by the current or future boards of directors to cease such donation requests.

This request shall in no way be related to, or impacted by, the IFYE Foundation's efforts for its programmatic initiatives.

Regarding the donations to the Association and Foundation; it merits repeating. Any donation to the Association will be used for Association operational purposes. Any donation to the IFYE Foundation will be used to support international exchange programs.

2011 New England Conference - Locally Grown - Globally Sown

Ellen Paine, Conference Co-Chair

Program delegates, host families, IFYE friends, and future IFYE's from 37 states with participation dates spanning from 1949 to 2011 comprised the group gathered for the 2011 IFYE Conference in Waterbury, CT. This totaled 140 full-timers and 31 part-timers. The New England IFYE Association, the conference host, welcomed attendees with a promise of warm, sunny weather and many opportunities to explore Connecticut's **Locally Grown, Globally Sown** historical, agricultural, and literary traditions.

A very visible international component was provided by in-bounds Kullike Altenberg, Secretary General for the Estonian National 4-H program, and Kadri Toomingas, National Board member for Estonian 4-H. Special notice was taken of the 50 year celebrants: Betty Bruce-CT-Denmark, Jane Moody-MA-Luxembourg, William Svendsgaard-MN-Switzerland, and Evangelena Barber-NC-Scotland and the 25 year celebrants: Janell George-KS-Portugal, and Ken Jones-GA-Italy.

Connecticut's own Samuel Clemens, better known to all as Mark Twain, opened the conference with a Mix and Mingle get together followed by a truly gourmet dinner. Technology married with tradition made the Opening Ceremonies unique as **Locally Grown** Andrew King (2nd generation IFYE-son of Bill King-MA-UK-1973), addressed the group via Skype from his **Globally Sown** host country of Finland. IFYE DJ Jim George (NH-Portugal-1985) manned the "After Hours" gathering spot, providing music for dancing and as a background for continued catch-up conversations after the end of each evening's activities.

There were no Monday Morning Blues once Gina Barreca engaged everyone to consider life from both sides of the "Hers/His" mirror. Energy gained during this presentation carried through into a lively discussion on "Which Way IFYE- Thoughts for the Future". Something for everyone was the premise for Monday afternoon

workshops. Given the well traveled audience, all took it in stride when one of the workshops was a last minute cancellation because the presenter was stuck in Singapore.

ECOLINK was the designated recipient of the proceeds from this year's Service Project. Once again, it was all about **Locally Grown** connections providing the means to **Globally Sow** the seeds for a better future. CT IFYE Amy Sullivan (CT-Finland), currently living and working in South Africa, provided the direct link with this program.

Fund raising was truly international incorporating a Swedish style Tombola raffle, the very effective sales techniques of our Estonian sales staff, and a variety of local and international offerings for New England style auctions-a traditional one called by Don Clark (CT-New Zealand) and Heads/Tails, a more "active" version called by Jim Morgan (IA-Switzerland). Receipts totaling \$2700.00 from all versions have been forwarded to ECOLINK. Please see their website to see how your efforts are being **Globally Sown**. (<http://www.ecolink.co.za>)

IFYE's National Board shared the fruits of its week long labors during the Wednesday morning Board Meeting. The lively discussion initiated during Monday's meeting was continued. A full report will be in the official minutes of the meeting.

All good things must come to an end and so the conference officially ended with the Candlelight Closing Ceremony. Special recognition was given to the attendees celebrating 50 and 25 year anniversaries. Hugs and "Have a safe journey" were the order of Thursday morning. As one conference ends, another is in the planning stages. The delegation from Nebraska assured all that the IFYE Spirit would be alive and well in Omaha, Nebraska in 2012. **SEE YOU ALL THERE!!!!**



Locally Grown
Globally Sown

June 26-29, 2011
Waterbury, CT

Conference Service Project - \$2700 raised for Water Quality in South Africa - at the silent auction, "Heads and Tails", and Tombola event on Monday evening. Visit <http://www.ecolink.co.za> for more information on work on Ecolink's water quality project.



(L to R) Ellen Paine & Jim Morgan - Conference co-chairs. Shirley Garrity and Keith Ferris "volunteering" to be greenhorns for a ship's story. at Mystic Seaport.



(L to R) Camaraderie on the Lady Kate Cruise on the Connecticut River - Leanne Redinius, Liz Carlson, Ron Petrak, Shirley Garrity, Mary Ottmar, and Paul Langseth.

Shane Sheridan (CO) flanked by Kadri Toomingas - Estonia 4-H Programs and Kullike Altenberg - Secretary General for Estonia 4-H Programs



(L to R) Betty Bruce (CT to Denmark), Evangelina Barber (NC to Scotland), Jane Moody (MA to Luxembourg), Bill Svendsgaard (MN to Switzerland) (1961 alumni). Conference attendees in Jones Berry Farm vineyard during the last evening's program.



(L to R) Harlen Persinger having a chat with "Mark Twain" at the opening reception on Sunday. Ruth Dawson & Margaret Dixon enjoying the last evening at Jones Berry Farm. Caron Beard trying his hand at harpooning during a trip to Mystic Seaport.

Human Rights, Documents, and Countries in Transition

Trudy Huskamp Peterson

As IFYE alums age, we look back at our host countries and see remarkable changes. All countries develop, and the impact of global communications allows us to notice how different the country is from the country as we experienced it. In some countries the changes are bigger than most because the entire system of government has changed. A delegate to communist Poland in 1966, an IFYE to Argentina during the “dirty war” years between 1976 to 1983, an IFYE who was in Tunisia: all these will see a country that has gone through enormous, painful changes.

When regimes change, particularly when a more repressive regime is replaced by one that is significantly less repressive and more democratic, the citizens demand that the new regime account for the deeds of the old. Over the last two decades, development and civil rights specialists looked hard at the demands made in these transitional situations and concluded that they fall into four general areas:

- ensuring justice by holding perpetrators to account,
- making sure that the new government does not fall into the old ways (*that is, the persons responsible for the past abuses are not hired by the new regime and the government structures are reformed*),
- learning the truth about what happened during the dark past, and
- obtaining reparations and restoration of rights.

(For a graphic representation of this, see a diagram created by the organization Swisspeace reprinted on page 15 of http://www.eda.admin.ch/etc/medialib/downloads/edazen/doc/publi/publi2.Par.0099.File.tmp/Politorbis%2050%20-%20Dealing%20with%20the%20Past_3%20.pdf)

In each of these four areas, access to documents is critically important. As an archivist who selects, protects and makes available documents, I have been interested and involved in all of these areas.

The right to justice includes prosecuting malefactors in domestic courts, in international tribunals or in what are called “hybrid” courts that use both domestic and foreign personnel and rules. All kinds of documents can be evidence: email, databases, photographs, sound recordings, videos, maps, drawings, and the traditional paper records of offices, both governmental and non-governmental. For example, during the trial of Slobodan Milosevic before the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, a video made by a member of a military unit showing the killing of six men at Srebrenica was introduced to dramatic effect; in the domestic trial of two policemen convicted of abducting and killing a labor leader in Guatemala about 750 documents were entered into evidence, of which more than 660 were from the Guatemalan police archives.

Ensuring that the abuses of the previous regimes do not occur again has many parts, including disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants, reforms of government institutions, gaining control of the security sector, both military and police; and vetting the people seeking jobs in the new government. Vetting programs such as the lustration process that took place in the Czech Republic use records such as the personnel files of the past regime, the records of the political party that was in power (often the state and the party cannot really be separated), and files that show what private police were authorized by the state.

Finding the truth of what happened in the past uses every imaginable type of document. As I write, the Libyan rebels are in Tripoli, and already an article has appeared in the magazine *Commentary* urging the rebels to “preserve and publicize” the Libyan archives and the family of Imam Musa al-Sadr has called for his release from a prison in Libya where they believe he has been held since he disappeared in 1978 (he is the cousin of Muqtada al-Sadr, the Iraqi Islamic political leader). Learning the truth is both a demand to know “all these things happened among us,” as the Mayan poem used as the epigraph by the El Salvador truth commission said, and the demand to know what happened to persons we know and care about, as the al-Sadr request shows.

The right to reparation also uses documents: who owned the store or the piece of land? Who is the true heir? How did the person lose the right to vote? Land registries and census data, registers of births, deaths and marriages, maps and letters are all useful to demonstrate who had what. When the U.S. paid reparations to the Japanese that were interned during World War II, the U.S. National Archives had the government rolls of who was in the camps and Japanese-American groups had made lists about the camp populations, and the government used both sources to come up with a final list of people to be compensated.

These examples are only a few of the many instances when documents play a crucial role in transitional justice. During political and social turmoil documentation is in danger of being destroyed in order to limit the choices and the knowledge of the past available to the post war society. The need to preserve the records includes both the records of the past regime and of the transitional institutions such as truth commissions, compensation commissions, demobilization programs, and temporary courts. In Sierra Leone, for example, when I worked there in 2010 the national archives had crates and boxes of documentation of the demobilization of the private armies that fought the vicious civil war there between 1991 and 2002, all in bad condition, as well as the records of the truth commission whose photographic and electronic documents were deteriorating in the hot, unairconditioned storage space. The records of the International Tribunal on Rwanda will need a home when the Tribunal closes a few years from now. Truth commission records often are scattered or inaccessible a few years after the commission closes. Yet all these are important documentation of the changes in the government and society and need to be preserved. Societies must make sure that such destruction does not happen, and friends of the country — like former IFYEs -- need to support projects that include the protection of the essential records.

Trudy Huskamp Peterson (IA-Finland-1966) is a former acting archivist of the United States, founding executive director of the Open Society Archives, and director of archives and records management for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. She has worked with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, the truth commissions in South Africa and Honduras, the police archives in Guatemala, and has published books on preserving the records of truth commissions and international criminal courts. She produces a monthly newsletter on archives and human rights that is distributed worldwide. (For more information, see <http://www.trudypeterson.com/links.html>)

IFYE and 4-H Lose Opportunity for Coin Surcharges

The effort to secure commemorative coins in 2015 to mark the centennial of 4-H becoming a national program continues, but instead of 4-H potentially receiving surcharges of up to \$6 million and the International Four-H Youth Exchange Foundation receiving surcharges of up to \$1.2 million, all surcharge funds will be paid to the U.S. Treasury to pay down the national debt.

Mike Ellis, the Georgia Master 4-H alumni and commemorative coin promoter, reports that he is continuing the drive to obtain legislation seeing a commemorative coin program to honor 4-H in its centennial year and expects to be working with chief sponsors when Congress returns from its August recess. However, the draft bill currently being put forward differs dramatically from the one envisioned a year ago.

“Time is ticking away. The window for gaining passage of a 2015 program will rapidly close if we do not move forward. Regrettably we have lost valuable time in the past 12 months,” Ellis pointed out. He said the decision to move forward with a new approach to the surcharge recipient was brought about by National 4-H Council CEO Don Floyd’s insistence that Council receive all of the surcharges without any accountability.

“Congress does not authorize a blank check to commemorative coin surcharge recipient organizations,” Ellis said. “The authorizing law must state what the funds are to be used for and the US Treasury audits to make sure the funds were used for the purposes stated.”

The original draft bill, first circulated in September of 2010, called for National 4-H Council to receive 85 percent of the funds to support domestic 4-H programs and the IFYE Foundation to receive 15 percent to support international exchange programs administered by land grant universities for participants 19 years or older. However, Floyd balked when asked to provide a statement in September 2010 confirming National Council’s desire to be a surcharge recipient to legislative sponsors. He said that Council needed more time to conduct “due diligence” and in March of 2011 responded in writing that National Council had decided it did not want to receive the surcharges. However, Floyd and National 4-H Council indicated a renewed interest later in the spring when the IFYE Foundation decided to bow out as a result of USDA objecting to IFYE being a recipient organization and USDA’s

refusal to grant 4-H name and emblem authorization to the IFYE Foundation.

The legislative proposal was redrafted with the National 4-H Council as sole surcharge recipient organization, retaining the language that 85 percent of the funds had to be used for domestic 4-H programs and 15 percent be directed to land grant institutions for use in conducting international exchange programs for participants 19 years of age or older.

Ellis reports that Floyd rejected that approach and insisted that National 4-H Council receive all of the proceeds from the surcharges without any language in the bill specifying how the funds would have to be used.

“Floyd’s approach would go against 30 years of commemorative coin program experience. Congress insists upon accountability. And the coin collecting community, which historically has purchased 90 percent of all U.S. commemorative coins, demands accountability, too,” Ellis explained.

With Floyd’s refusal to budge and lack of follow-up communications, Ellis said he decided to move on and to embrace the idea of designating the funds be returned to the Treasury. “Members of Congress, in the current political atmosphere, like the idea of paying down the national debt.”

Ellis observed: “Current 4-H’ers, 4-H alumni, 4-H volunteer leaders, and staff of the Extension Service and the land grant universities deserve to be recognized. We need to tell the world how 4-H has changed the lives of millions of people and improved our communities and nation and our world. U.S. commemorative coins are the perfect vehicle to both honor 4-H and carry that message.”

Ellis added that he is personally very disappointed by USDA’s attitude and its hard-line stance against IFYE.

“I really appreciate the enthusiastic support and efforts of IFYE leaders who, from the start, grasped the significance of the commemorative coin program. Sadly, National 4-H Council and USDA don’t,” Ellis said.



IN MEMORIAM

Darrel Gale (Dec 31, 2010) (KS-Nicaragua-1956) - no additional information available at this time.

Mary Wengryn (Aug 08, 2011) (NJ-Finland-1954) - a friend and helper to many of us over the years at National 4-H Center International Division - aiding us in our travel arrangements and travels to/from our host countries -- as well as helping inbound participants with their travel. Mary was also the first IFYE exchangee from NJ to go to Finland. In addition, she was a Rutgers University Certified Master Gardener with over 3,000 hours of volunteer service.

Georgia Wertzberger, (May 07, 2011) - long-time secretary in the Kansas 4-H office, chaperone to Japan in 1987, keeper of Kansas IFYE records. Kansas IFYEs were her special charges and we all loved her.



Kinser Elected First Woman Chief Justice of Supreme Court in VA

Cynthia Fannon Kinser (VA-India-1973) was sworn in as Virginia's Chief Justice on 16 February 2011. Serving on the Supreme Court since elected in 1998, Cynthia is the first woman to be selected to this position.

A Virginia 4-H All Star and a founding member of the Virginia 4-H Foundation, Cynthia is currently serving her second 12-year term in the Supreme Court.

Congratulations, Cynthia, on reaching this position!

International Four-H Youth Exchange
Association of the USA
PO Box 2332
Carson City, NV 89702-2332

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Visit: www.ifyeusa.org

“Opt-in” to MailChimp

Alan Lambert

Over the past two years, over 1,800 of our members have helped the Association minimize publication-related expenses by their willingness to receive IFYE information via email.

In the past, we have encountered some technical difficulties with emailing to a large number of recipients at once. In order to avoid this problem, and to make disseminating information to the membership efficient, the Association Board approved using a service (MailChimp) that emails notification of IFYE newsletters and other information to you via the Internet.

If you have not done so, and wish to receive information electronically via the MailChimp option, please go to <http://www.eepurl.com/ciaVr> and complete the brief instructions.

The site will ask you for your email address, first name, and last name. After you have completed the requested action, click on the ‘subscribe’ button. You will receive a confirmation email in our inbox from IFYE LIST. Open that email, and complete the brief instruction. That is all there is to it!

If at any time you wish to cancel, you can opt-out. In any case, the printed and mailed communication is always available, if desired.

Southern Region IFYE Meeting October 7-10, 2011

LaQuinta Inn and Suites
617 S. Broadway
Little Rock, AR 72201
501-374-9000

Here's our itinerary:

Friday evening: Meet and Greet at downtown location

(Judy Stewart will finalize details after attendance numbers are known.)

Saturday evening: Group dinner

Sunday: Southern Region Meeting

Possible topics include:

Status of the IFYE Association and the IFYE program
Consideration of removal of 4-H from the IFYE name

The continuation of the IFYE Program

Hotel/lodging

The hotel offers airport shuttle and a shuttle service to surrounding areas. The hotel is located about 5-6 blocks from the River Market area with shops and food. All of the meals will be on your own and pay as you go.

To receive the special rate of \$85.50 plus tax you must call the hotel direct. Tell them you are with the IFYE Group. Rooms will accommodate up to 4 persons. Breakfast is included at hotel. **All reservations need to be booked by 9/23/2011 to get the IFYE rate.**

Tour

Special tour arrangements are being made to visit the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m. We can get a reduced rate of \$5.00 if we have a group of at least 20.

Please email Judy Stewart:

jstewartmedia@yahoo.com with the number attending, what days they will be attending, and if you want to go on the library tour.

Please visit the Little Rock Convention and Visitors Bureau website:

<http://www.littlerock.com> – it's loaded with lots of good information on things to see and do.

See you in Little Rock!!!

Please pass this information on to other IFYE's!!

