

“**HEARTLAND HEARTBEAT ... REACHING OUT**” is the theme of the 54<sup>th</sup> National IFYE Conference hosted by Nebraska. The conference will be held at the conveniently located Downtown/Old Market Embassy Suites in Omaha.

- **Epply Airfield** is about five minutes from the Embassy Suites with free shuttle service available. If traveling by car or camper, there is easy access from I-29 and I-80.
- Omaha, “Gateway to the West”, is the largest city in Nebraska and is a major center of tourist activity. Check out the many cultural and historical things to do in and around the city as well as major shopping businesses and centers.



## LODGING

- **HOTEL RESERVATIONS:** To make your reservations, contact the Old Market Embassy Suites at 402-346-9000. For the \$119 per night rate. Our Group Name is International 4-H and Group Code is **M14** (M as in Mary, I as in Igloo and the number 4.)
- **CAMPING** - Those traveling via camper need to check out **Mahoney State Park** near Ashland, Nebraska. Only a 1/2 hour drive from Omaha, the Park offers a number of hard paved spots for campers to pitch a tent or park their RV beneath the trees, with electrical hookups, restrooms, showers, a laundry facility, and even wireless Internet. For those who want to experience the outdoors, but have the conveniences of home, there are 51 cabins available for rent.

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION** - Send Conference registration form, available on line at [www.ifyeusa.org](http://www.ifyeusa.org) under IFYE Conferences or in Nov/Dec 2011 issue of IFYE NEWS (Pg 11), to:

National IFYE Conference  
Attn: Boni Edwards,  
PO Box 507,  
North Platte, NE 69101.

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER** for the Conference will be **Dean Jacobs**, a native of Nebraska, who left a secure job with corporate America to pursue a dream: a dream to travel around the world and to understand the world we share. Four years of exploring in over 50 countries have exposed Dean to the goodness of humanity and the magnificence of the natural beauty of places in the world as he seeks to understand the cultures, history and natural wonders of the world. Currently he is traveling the Amazon River regions. You can follow his journey at <http://deanjacobs.org>.

**WORKSHOP**The Conference will feature workshops that will have something for everyone. They will include:

- You don't have to be Sherlock Holmes to unlock the mysteries of your family's past! Learn in the **FAMILY HISTORY DETECTIVES** workshop what it takes to successfully seek out ancestors in your family tree. You might learn that you have a famous or infamous ancestor hiding among the branches! We'll look at how to get started on your detective search into your family's genealogy using some basic tools. We'll also talk about how to use the internet to seek out "long lost cousins" and other interesting family finds. Come learn how to put your detective skills to work.
- **21 IRREFUTABLE LAWS OF LEADERSHIP** workshop will help you find out if you are born a leader or if leadership qualities are learned? The objective of the workshop is to enhance the leadership characteristics you were born with and to develop the leadership skills you may be lacking.
- The workshop, **HOW TO THINK LIKE THE GREAT LEONARDO DA VINCI**, is the discussion of the Seven DaVinci Principles. These principles are drawn from an extensive study of the man and his methods. The good news is that Leonardo's principles will probably be intuitively obvious to you. Group participation will be part of this workshop.
- The Mongolian 4-H Youth Organization was started in 2009. It was organized through the libraries with an emphasis on reading. Last summer almost 500 4-H members participated in a summer reading program which culminated in a public exhibition of puppetry, plays, music, art and craft exhibits, history outlines, journals – all depicting a favorite story read by the 4-H member. In this workshop, **MONGOLIAN PROJECT**, you will learn more about the Mongolian 4-H program as well as to complete a service project by making a bookmark, book bag, etc. which will be donated to Mongolian 4-H members.

- Wanting to travel? **TRAVEL VARIETIES**, a roundtable, will help you gain new insights through group participation exploring a variety of travels.
- **WHAT'S COOKIN' in NEBRASKA?** Showcasing Nebraska foods, this workshop will give you the opportunity to sample several products, and talk to the producers about their unique product. Cooking demonstrations as time and space allow.
- Lastly, there will be a workshop, entitled "**RAINWATER GARDEN**".

Remember to bring your props for the "**IFYE'S GOT TALENT**" program on opening night. We will have fun and laughter as the participants share their talents for "judges" and are awarded "Nebraska Treasures."

#### **SERVICE PROJECTS**

- The service project at the **Open Door Mission** will have conference participants sorting and packaging clothing. Clean, used clothing and blankets may be brought for donation to the Mission.
- **Mongolia Project** – also featured in a workshop – see above under workshops

**TOURS** - The tours will provide something for everyone.

- **Monkey Around With Us.** Visit the Henry Doorly Zoo. A day at the zoo is yours! Included in the admission is a ride on the train, tram, carousel, skyari, IMAX and lunch. A free shuttle is available to return to the Embassy when you want.
- **Heartland Agriculture.** This tour includes visiting the Mead feed lots, Omaha Mounted Patrol Unit, a hay processing plant for small animals, a combine plant, and lunch at Ashland Parkers BBQ Restaurant buffet.
- **Trail to Rails.** Take a walk across the longest pedestrian bridge over the Missouri River and then visit the Union Pacific Museum. Lunch will be at Rick's Boneyard.
- **Strategic Brother Tour.** Visit the Strategic Air & Space Museum and tour Boys Town . Eat lunch at Boys Town.

#### **RESERVATIONS**

- **HOTEL:** We advise making hotel reservations soon, as there is a limited number of rooms available for \$119. per night. Additional rooms may be available at a significant rate increase. To make your reservations, contact the Embassy at 402-346-9000. Our Group Name is International 4-H and Group Code is M14 (M as in Mary, I as in Igloo and the number 4.)
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**For additional conference information or questions,** contact Barb Batie 308-325-2247 (cell) 308-324-2541 (home) email [bbatie@atcjet.net](mailto:bbatie@atcjet.net) or on facebook @Barb Batie.