International Farm Youth Exchange

Cooperative Extension South Dakota State University

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Marjorie Hill, Lincoln County, 1962 IFYE to Germany, poses before a map representing South Dakota’s participation in the IFYE program since 1949.

Cooperative Extension Service
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE COLLEGE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Ray Larsen finds the camel a slow, rough riding means of transportation. The small Turkish farmers still use the camel to carry their sacks of cotton to market, while the large farmers use trucks.

**How IFYE Began**

"What can we do to make certain it doesn't happen again?" was a topic of conversation for rural young people whenever they gathered together at the close of World War II. Greatly concerned about the terrible suffering brought on by the war, they sent food and clothing abroad, adopted refugees.

But these young people decided something more was needed—a better understanding between rural people around the world. Since the family is the basis of all society, they decided they could best make a contribution to world peace by helping to further an understanding between rural people at the family level.

This wasn't left in the talk stage—these young people went into action. They decided if young men and women from farms in the United States could live and work on farms in other countries, and if their counterparts abroad could learn the way of life here, on American farms, better understanding would result.

**An Ideal**

The International Farm Youth Exchange grew from the desire of young people after World War II to make sure such destruction could never happen again. IFYE began on the premise that to have peace there must first be understanding between people of the world.

It was decided there was no better way to do this than through the daily sharing by rural people of another way of life. By living in another land, the IFYE participant learns not only to understand that way of life but also increases in understanding of himself and his own country.

When they return home, the IFYE's transmit these understandings to others through talks, the mass media, and through instigating study and discussion of their own and other lands.

These young people, striving for world peace, took this inspiration to the Cooperative Extension Service. There, they were encouraged and received the support necessary to transform their idea into the International Farm Youth Exchange Program.

The exchange became a reality late in 1947 when six young British farmers spent about 3 months in the United States, living on farms of 4-H Club and Future Farmers of America members and participating in the national conventions of these groups.

In 1948, 17 United States delegates visited 7 European countries and 6 exchangees came to America. From that modest beginning the exchange has grown until, with the completion of the 1961 exchange, 1,293 United States delegates have participated and 1,477 exchangees have come to the United States. Sixty-four countries, 48 states, and Puerto Rico have cooperated,
They Come and Go to Live and Work with Farm Families.

What is IFYE?

The International Farm Youth Exchange is a 4-H Club people-to-people program. Young people from the United States are selected to live and work with rural people in other countries; and young people from cooperating countries come to the United States for a similar experience. Most of the exchanges are for 6 months.

The program is conducted by the National 4-H Club Foundation in behalf of the cooperative Extension Service of the state Land-Grant colleges and universities, and the United States Department of Agriculture. Other Government agencies, rural organizations, foundations and educational institutions also cooperate in the program which is supported financially by voluntary contributions. In other countries the exchange is conducted by cooperating rural youth organizations, farm groups and ministries of agriculture.

You Can Participate By

*Becoming A Candidate—

Any rural person can apply for the opportunity to become an IFYE or a “Grassroots Ambassador” to another country if they—

—are between 20 and 30 years of age.
—have a high school graduate.
—are not married.
—have a mature personality.
—were reared on a farm and know farm life and work.
—have experience with rural organizations.
—are eager to understand other people.
—are able to speak the language of a non-English speaking country, or are willing to learn the language of the host country.

Applications are secured from and submitted through the County Extension Agent. A state IFYE committee selects the state candidates and submits their applications to the National 4-H Club Foundation where final selection and placement is made, keeping in mind the interests and background of individuals and countries concerned.

*Contributing To The IFYE Fund—

Who pays the bills?

The IFYE program is sponsored by the South Dakota State College Agricultural Extension Service, working through the State 4-H Club Office, the County extension offices and the National 4-H Club Foundation.

The cost of the program is met by voluntary contributions from individuals and organizations.

Contributors to IFYE Include—

Local, County and State 4-H Club Organizations.
Local, County and State Home Extension Organizations.
Young Men and Women’s Groups
Farm Organizations
Business Concerns
Service Clubs
Co-operations
Interested private individuals
An average of $1,400 is required to finance each two-way exchange. $1,000 of the amount is raised within the participating county and state. Contributions should be directed to the State 4-H Club Office.

*Becoming A Host Family—

A family who would like to have an IFYE live and work with them may apply through the county extension office.

Families who have proved most successful with past IFYE’s have—

—accepted the exchange as a family member.
—children in the home.
—been active in community activities and organizations including extension or 4-H.
—realized the IFYE is not only anxious to learn but has much to give.
—given the IFYE an opportunity to attend group meetings and help him to understand the groups.
—helped IFYE attend the church of his choice.
—provided some privacy for sleeping, writing reports and letters.
—respected any religious customs, ideas, and food habits.

A 4-Seasons Program

There are 4 seasonal phases to the IFYE program, depending on the part of the world to which the delegate is assigned: spring phase, April to October/November; summer phase, June to November/January; fall phase, August/September to January/March; and winter phase, October to March/April.

The program for outbound delegates involves—

—preparation and training at home through use of language and reference material.
—intensive orientation before departure (usually in Washington, D.C.)
—transocean passage by ship or plane, usually with a group; some orientation enroute.
—reception and program in foreign country planned and supervised by the United States agricultural attache in cooperation with host country.
—living and working with 2 to 10 farm families in one country 4 to 6 months.
—attending church, youth meetings, exhibitions and rural affairs with host family.
—returning by ship or plane, usually with a group.
—evaluation of experiences.
—reporting to the public—an intensive period of reporting to the people at home on his or her observances of the problems and way of life of the people in the country visited. This involves talks, radio broadcasts, and news articles.

A true and lasting partnership between the United States and other nations of the free world requires that we better understand each other’s problems, needs and hopes. Economic, political, and even military cooperation depends on more than a superficial understanding of each other’s countries and ways of life. The significance of the IFYE program to our foreign relations is that it opens the way for the young people of the United States and other countries to know each other better. Real understanding develops through person-to-person contacts and through experiencing another way of life by living it.
Ray Larsen learns more about one of his Turkish families by helping his host father and brother hoe corn. The corn, planted after a wheat crop was harvested, will be used for fodder. Irrigation is used to produce a good stand.

**THESE SOUTH DAKOTA FOLKS HAVE VISITED OTHER COUNTRIES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Country Visited</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Llano Thelin, Minnehaha</td>
<td></td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>Dean Sanderson, Brookings</td>
<td></td>
<td>Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>Adele Clark Sudlow, Clay</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>Dwane Hammer, Minnehaha</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>Marvel LaBrie Troske, Spink</td>
<td></td>
<td>Belgium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>and Luxembourg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>Geneva Sanford Foster, Minnehaha</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952</td>
<td>Ruth Ann Oster Cone, Davison</td>
<td></td>
<td>Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>Don Burkman, Minnehaha</td>
<td></td>
<td>Finland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>Vern Larson, Kingsbury</td>
<td></td>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>Edward Kammerer, Meade</td>
<td></td>
<td>Portugal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Harlan Holsing, Edmunds</td>
<td></td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Mary Jane Stangl, Walworth</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sweden</td>
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<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Aletha Symens Prouty, Marshall</td>
<td></td>
<td>Scotland</td>
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<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Betty Shevling Shay, Butte</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Don Breidenbach, Butte</td>
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<td>Belgium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Mark Keefler, Meade</td>
<td></td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Janet Atkinson, Pennington</td>
<td></td>
<td>Finland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Herman Felstehausen, Clark</td>
<td></td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Lillis Larson, Brookings &amp; Charles Mix</td>
<td></td>
<td>England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>John Madden, Campbell</td>
<td></td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>LeRoy Bergan, Day</td>
<td></td>
<td>Uruguay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>Donna Marie Campbell, Hand</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>Beverly Holsing, Edmunds</td>
<td></td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
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<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>Walter Johnson, Union</td>
<td></td>
<td>Norway</td>
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<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>David Merry, Minnehaha</td>
<td></td>
<td>Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Lois Anderson, Lake</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sweden</td>
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<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Harlan Grosz, Hutchinson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Ramon Larsen, Brown</td>
<td></td>
<td>Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>Marjorie Hill, Lincoln</td>
<td></td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**THESE FOLKS HAVE BEEN HERE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Names and Nationalities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1949 | John Warwick, North Ireland  
|      | Peter Gerber, Switzerland |
| 1950 | Diny Kroes, The Netherlands  
|      | Jan Holmberg, Finland |
| 1951 | Ludwig Wohlfahrt, Germany  
|      | Nils Dahlgren, Sweden |
| 1952 | Bernard Bollette, Belgium  
|      | Vera “Dodo” Griffiths, Wales  
|      | Inger Hansen, Denmark |
|      | Mustafa Kemal Aytemur, Turkey  
|      | Mario Pablo Capitaine, Mexico |
| 1953 | Marie Jo Kinnen, Luxembourg  
|      | Vinay Kumar Singh, India  
|      | Fred Hauser Rebmann, Switzerland |
|      | Antonio Amici, Argentina |
| 1954 | Nuri Taysi, Turkey  
|      | Celal Mehmet Karakurum, Turkey  
|      | Manssur Safavi, Iran  
|      | Anna Liza Ostlund, Sweden  
|      | Gholamorzada Aduli, Iran  
|      | Jean Jacques Rulmont, France |
| 1955 | Isam Yaktin, Lebanon  
|      | Basheer Khawaga, Jordan  
|      | Iraj Behnam, Iran  
|      | Abbas Ali Selisepor, Iran  
|      | Kamal Atya, Egypt  
|      | Talib Khalel, Iraq  
|      | Eileen Jackson, England |
| 1956 | Gopi Khanna, India  
|      | Ravi Wandrekar, India  
|      | Ved Prakash, India  
|      | Nawab Sarkar, East Pakistan  
|      | Mazhar Ali, West Pakistan  
|      | Alexander Stirrat, Scotland  
|      | Helena Rantala, Finland |
| 1957 | Nausher Wan Kahn, West Pakistan  
|      | Md. Abdus Sobhan Sarkar, East Pakistan  
|      | Mira Sondhi, India  
|      | Rajya Chowdhary Sukh, India  
|      | Surendra Mohan, India  
|      | S. G. Nageshkar, India |
| 1958 | Jonnalagadda Rama Rao, India  
|      | Daleep Singh (Rathore), India  
|      | Mohamad Kheir Abbar, Syria  
|      | Doreen Alice Rose, Australia  
|      | Jill Claire Bentham, England  
|      | Catalina Nybia Jurajuria, Uruguay  
|      | Carlos Arturo Camacho C., Colombia |
| 1959 | Ritva Hylli, Finland  
|      | Shimshon Ben-Asher, Israel  
|      | Robert Lombaert, Belgium |
|      | Maria De Los Angeles Arias B., Costa Rico  
|      | Hansheiri Peter, Switzerland  
|      | Cesar A. Correa F., Panama  
|      | Devendra Kumar Pradhan, Nepal  
|      | Rohit Kumar Thapa, Nepal |
| 1960 | Carlos Joas Schlieper, Brazil  
|      | Elizabeth Hacker, Germany  
|      | Leif Karlsson, Sweden  
|      | Hubrecht C. van der Maas, Netherlands  
|      | Victor Hugo Meza, Ecuador |
| 1961 | Annie Mayes, Northern Ireland  
|      | Donald MacGregor, Scotland  
|      | Edelmira Barron V., Peru  
|      | Edgar Ugalde A., Costa Rico  
|      | Calixto Chacon M., Honduras |
| 1962 | David Turpie, New Zealand  
|      | Miss Gulseren Orsel, Turkey  
|      | Richard Bailey L., Venezuela  
|      | Mutthia Jeganathan, Ceylon |


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