

14/05/2017

European IFYE Alumni

International Farm/4H Youth Exchange

60 years of IFYE Conferences

Background from the Minutes at the Annual General Meeting July 26 2012 in Kungälv, Sweden.

§12. 60th Anniversary of IFYE Conferences in 2018 The Association will celebrate its 60th Anniversary of Conferences in 2018. To mark the event it was proposed to prepare a commemorative report to record the events, occasions and memories of conferences since the inception of the Association in 1948. See Appendix 1. The Executive Committee recommended the General Assembly agree to: (i) the formation of a subcommittee to gather information and prepare the commemorative report; (ii) seek IFYE's who would like to be involved in the preparation of the commemorative report and; Minutes AGM 2012 Page 4 of 7 (ii) request the subcommittee to report to the General Assembly in 2013 on their progress and the financial implications of producing the commemorative report and on an annual basis thereafter. Recommendations (i) and (ii) to be actioned by December 2012. Recommendations agreed unanimously. Nominations for the subcommittee were received from: (i) Helle Bollerup (DK), nominated by Avril Herdman (GB-NIR) (ii) Dorothy Wilson (GB-ENG), nominated by Mary Roberts (GB-WLS) (iii) Inga-Lil Eriksson (SE), nominated by Maria Mårdh (SE) (iv) Katarina Steinrucker (DE), nominated by Eva Singer (DE) (v) Sirkku Laurila (FI), nominated by Maritta Pynonen (FI) All agreed to accept their nomination and progress the project.

APPENDIX 1 European International Farm Youth Exchange Alumni ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 26 July 2012 REPORT: 60th ANNIVERSARY OF EIFYEA ABSTRACT: The European International Farm Youth Exchange Alumni will celebrate its 60th Anniversary of Conferences in 2018. To mark the event it is proposed to prepare a commemorative report to record the events, occasions and memories of conferences since the inception of the Association in 1948.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS It is recommended that the General Assembly endorse the recommendation of the Executive Committee and agree to: (i) the formation of a subcommittee to gather information and prepare the commemorative report; (ii) seek IFYE's who would like to be involved in the preparation of the commemorative report and; (iii) request the subcommittee to report to the General Assembly in 2013 on their progress and the financial implications of producing the commemorative report and on an annual basis thereafter. Recommendations (i) and (ii) to be actioned by December 2012.

2. BACKGROUND At the Executive Committee meeting held in Vienna, Austria on 06 – 08 January 2012, the 60th (Diamond) anniversary of the Association in 2018 was discussed. At the Switzerland 2008 conference the 50th anniversary was marked by a commemorative dinner and fireworks display. Therefore, it is considered appropriate that the 60th anniversary be marked in some way. All IFYE's have stories, tales and memories of their previous conferences that would make enjoyable and interesting reading for their fellow members. It would be worthwhile if these memories, particularly of the early conferences are recorded. Previous conference brochures provide a record of the EIFYEA conferences but these are held in the Association's archive and are currently not available to the members.

3. **CURRENT POSITION** The Association's archives are held in Wichtrach Switzerland. These records are available for research purposes and cannot be removed from their location. Minutes AGM 2012 Page 7 of 7 Pieter Dijkhuis (NL) has given the Association his personal records of IFYE conferences, they are currently held in The Netherlands and it is intended that they be deposited in the archives in due course. Dorothy Wilson (E) has, on her own initiative, commenced research on the history of the Association and it is hoped that this will form the basis of the proposed commemorative report, as well as to update the 'History of EIFYEA' on the www.ifye.org website.

4. **PROPOSALS** It is proposed that a subcommittee, consisting of 3 members, be formed to gather information from fellow members and prepare the commemorative report. The subcommittee would be able to co-opt additional members to the committee should it require to do so. The subcommittee will be requested to report progress of the Commemorative Report annually: to the Executive Committee prior to the Mid Term Meeting and to the General Assembly at the conference.

5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** The subcommittee would be required to consider the format options and the costs of producing the commemorative report and report to the Executive Committee and General Assembly on these options, in 2013.

From AGM 2013 in Wales.

13. **IFYE 60th Anniversary 2018: Subcommittee Update** The Association will celebrate its 60th Anniversary of Conferences in 2018. To mark the event it is proposed to prepare a commemoration report to record the events. Helle Bonderup (DK) gave an update on the discussions of the subcommittee and informed members that they will soon be seeking contributions and interviewing members on their experiences. Martyn thanked the group for their work so far.

From AGM 2014 Germany

13. **IFYE 60th Anniversary 2018: Subcommittee Update** The Association will celebrate its 60th Anniversary of Conferences in 2018. To mark the event it is proposed to prepare a commemoration report to record the events. Dorothy Wilson (GB-ENG) gave an update on the discussions of the subcommittee and informed members that they have begun collecting contributions and interviewing members on their experiences. Doris Maurer(CH) has also offered to look through the archives to identify important or interesting information. They plan to make some information available on-line but are looking at the possibility of a commemorative booklet to be available at the anniversary conference. Gerhard thanked the group for their work so far.

From AGM 2015 Scotland

13. **IFYE 60th Anniversary 2018: Subcommittee Update** Gerhard Steinberger (AT) and Dorothy Wilson (GB-ENG) gave an update on the discussions of the sub-committee and informed members that they have begun collecting contributions and interviewing members on their experiences. They have also made arrangements to look through the archives to identify important or interesting information. The possibility of making information available on-line is being investigated and the Anniversary hosts will work with the committee to produce a commemorative souvenir. Gerhard thanked the group for their work so far.

From AGM 2016 Estonia

15 IFYE 60th Anniversary 2018: Subcommittee Update Dorothy Wilson (GB-ENG) gave an update on the discussions of the sub-committee and informed members that they have scanned many items from the archive and have begun putting together a brochure for the 2018 anniversary. Tomas Gunnarsson (NO) is also working on an on-line archive. Anna Persson thanked the committee for their work over the last year.

More short reports from the Sub-Committee are found in the Newsletters on www.ifye.eu.

*** Answer from Spouses.

Answers from Lars Sigfridsson, Sweden married to Birgitta Sigfridsson, 1967 IFYE to the Netherlands

1. Tell why you as a spouse attend the European IFYE conferences?

The conferences have always been very interesting, been fine experiences together with nice people from different parts of the world. I have got the possibility to know more about other countries, their nature and industry. It has also given me good knowledge about the agriculture in the country, the political situation and the people. All this to a comparable low cost and lots of nice experiences in a short time.

2. How many times have you attended the IFYE conferences?

Many, many, probably more than 15

3. What makes you come back?

All the nice people, the interesting experiences and the friendship.

4. Is there any events / activities you remember especially?

The different farm visits and the industrial visits. The work together with IFYEs and IFYE spouses to prepare and carry out the world conference in Sigtuna 2003.

5. Do you have any stories or considerations from the conferences you want to share with us?

All hosting country groups have planned the conferences with “the very best “ they have had to offer. I just want to mention some of “the highlights”.

- *Italy, 1974, we were invited for a reception with food and drinks in Milan, there were just four chairs and we were more than a hundred, finally we were all sitting on the floor while we were offered more and more drinks and food!*
- *Scotland, Aberdeen, chasing the Haggie and then a fantastic haggie’s party!*
- *Northern Ireland, Fantastic step dancers and harp musicians, young step dancers tried to teach us their fantastic dance – a hard challenge for them!*

- *Isle of Man, the national day with the traditional opening of the Parliament at Tynwald*

All conferences have had outstanding experiences. Traditions and experiences that we get a special possibility to take part in just thanks to our IFYE friends in the

*****Family relations.**

From Anne Marie Halvorsen, IFYE Norway 1964 to USA and Siv Halvorsen, IFYE Norway to USA 1989

1. Tell us a little about your family relations, and why you both ended up as IFYEs

Friends and acquaintances had been IFYE's, so mom thought it would be a fun program to join. As for me, I met a lot of mom's hostfamilies when I was a kid, heard loads about moms stay and wanted to experience it myself.

2. How many times have you attended the IFYE conferences?
Somewhere between 14 – 17 European conferences. Anne Marie has attended 2 world conferences as well.

3. What makes you come back?

Meeting good friends, and making new ones. A great way to get more "into" a country with interesting field-trips and experiences we wouldn't get if we just travelled by ourselves.

4. Is there any events / activities / stories you remember especially?
Anne Marie will never forget the ride with the air-balloon in Luxembourg.

5. Is it special to be two generations at the conference?

Conferences bring us together with memories to share – that's what we treasure the most. Sharing rooms at conferences causes some giggles too – as when mom had to use a chair to access her bed whilst daughter high-jumped into hers.

6. Do you have any stories or considerations from the conferences you want to share with us? All the different venues have been great, from climbing all the stairs in Isle of Man venue, to experience the pink coast of

Brittany, all the flowers and fields and good stories, food, and buildings each country offers

***** Overseas visitors.**

Answer from Crystal and Dale Yonker ifye 1963 USA to Turkey

How many times have you attended the European IFYE conferences?
Seven (7) times: Northern Ireland, Norway, Switzerland, Isle of Man, Austria, Finland, and Wales. Plus, we attended the World Conference in Sweden.

1. What makes you come back?

There are always welcoming people hosting the conference. The attendees are friendly, interesting, and fun loving. The programs are interesting and educational. The tours give us a chance to learn about the local area customs, culture, cuisine, history, and unique features of the local area around the site.

2. Are there any events / activities you remember especially?

Norwegian Olympics and skits during the Norway conference.

Scavenger hunt in Zürich, Switzerland.

An “Austrian Schutzer” awakened the whole village, not just the 150 participants at the IFYE conference in Austria.

Identifying IFYE conference teams with names of Provinces in Finland.

IFYE participants “going to school” during the Finland conference.

IFYELand theme for Finland conference.

Eisteddfod activities during Wales conference taught us some Welch words.

Isle of Man – Lord Governor’s garden party and opening of Parliament.

Northern Ireland – resort setting, home visits, and Emigrant Wake theme.

Finland – Winter Olympic training facility and IFYE competition events.

3. Do you have any stories or considerations from the conferences you want to share with us?

Swedish Doctor was a comfort, whenever he was in attendance.

Going to Einsiedeln Monastery during Switzerland conference, where Dale’s great-grandparents were married in the late 19th century.

We try to spend extra time traveling and exploring in the conference host country; i.e., Norway in a Nutshell and traveling to Rovaniemi, Finland (near the Arctic Circle).

Wales – Royal Welch Show and our chance to see HRH Prince Charles.

Visit our families in Denmark and Germany before or after each conference.

We like the facilities for the conferences; i.e., school dormitories and resort facilities

We feel like we have dear IFYE friends in Europe.

Deb Clark 1982 IFYE from Australia to Great Britain

1. How many times have you attended the European IFYE conferences?
11 I think!

2. What makes you come back?

The fun and friendship, visiting new places and learning about the local culture, and the fun and friendship!! (yes, I meant to say fun and friendship twice)

3. Is there any events / activities you remember especially?

Singalongs in rooms after evening events, how everyone gets into the spirit of special things like fancy dress, finding out how much in common we all have even though we are from very different countries and the special local events – like a July Oktoberfest, a medieval tournament, formal dinners, staying up all night on the last night of a conference because I don't want it to end.

4. Do you have any stories or considerations from the conferences you want to share with us?

I've enjoyed every single one of them. My first in Lincolnshire on 1999 I think, just for the experience of being involved and getting to know everyone.

My second in Luxembourg where we had fantastic food and wine, and I 'won' a ride in a hot air balloon!

Right through to the most recent in Scotland, sharing it with so many European friends and introducing my Australian friends to the joys of a European reunion.

And the fun and positives of being part of it all gave me the courage and desire to host the 8th World Conference in Adelaide, Australia and give my IFYE friends from around the world just a little bit of the joy and happiness they had given me over the years.

And maybe the biggest – Geir accepting my payment at the Northern Ireland reunion for me to be an Australian life member of IFYE Europe!!

***** IFYEs 1948-2007**

Answer from Johannes Sollid Norway IFYE to USA 1954

1. How many times have you attended the European IFYE conferences?

8

2. What makes you come back?

It is nice and fun to meet IFYE-friends.

3. What is special about the conferences compared to any other travel form?

You get to see and learn much about the country.

4. How did you get to know that the conferences exist?

I was one of the founders in 1958.

5. Is there any events / activities you remember especially?

They are all very interesting in their way.

6. Do you have any stories or considerations from the conferences you want to share with us?

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Answers from Kathleen and Sandy Stewart, Gunhill, Inverurie AB 51 5DS, Scotland. IFYEs to USA 1951.

1.

How many times have you attended the European IFYE conferences? 18

2.

What makes you come back?

We thought we were too old to attend for first time when we hosted Conference in Scotland 1982. We were 52 and 58 years old! When conferences were started we had a very young family and busy on farm so could not attend. Janette Smith said we had to come!

3.

What is special about the conferences compared to any other travel form?

Age does not matter. It is a wonderful way of seeing another country, culture and life – feeling and smelling it!

4.

How did you get to know that the conferences exist?

We knew from start of them, from our fellow 1951 IFYE:s Ruedi and Vreny Mumenthaler

5.

Is there any events / activities you remember especially?

The Silver Pin first presentation in the Netherlands.

6.

Do you have any stories or considerations from the conferences you want to share with us?

We are very sorry we cannot attend any more. We are thankful for good health but we lack energy. We do miss all our good IFYE friends so much.

Answers from Raija Ellä, Finland to USA 1966.

In the following, short answers to some of the questions:

1. 34 times, +4 times World Conferences

2. Good friends, to enjoy together the conferences. The Program of Conference always has been very actual, always something new

3. IFYEs made the conferences especially to IFYEs.

Always I have been traveling with other IFYEs from my country; we planned the traveling together earlier.

The closer we come to the Conference, the more IFYEs also from other countries we got the pleasure to meet again.

4. I would remember, that already during the orientation before IFYE trip, the conferences were informed by the organizer of local IFYE program. Later meetings by any IFYEs at the conferences, at home when keeping in touch with other IFYEs in my country

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Answer from Janette Smith, Scotland IFYE to Italy 1971

1. How many times have you attended the European IFYE conferences?

Since 1974 I have attended about 41 conferences – I didn't go to two in France as the time was not suitable as I was teaching. I didn't go to two in Switzerland (one was the World Conference in Australia year) and I didn't go to two in Finland (1978 or 1979 and 2011)

2. What makes you come back? I enjoy seeing different places and meeting up with the many people that I know.

3. What is special about the conferences compared to any other travel form? You get to see things that the ordinary tourist doesn't get to see and you have the chance to visit other IFYE's in their own homes

4. How did you get to know that the conferences exist? After I returned in 1973 from my IFYE exchange trip to Italy I met Dorothy Wilson and Jane Downing at our British weekend meeting held in October 1973. They were already planning to host the IFYE Conference in Berkshire, England in the summer of 1975 and they told me that the 1974 IFYE Conference would be held in Minoprio,

near Como, in Northern Italy, so I booked to go to my first European Conference.

5. Is there any events / activities you remember especially? In Italy in 1974 we had a very grand buffet meal that last about all afternoon. We also had a very long bus journey to the Arena at Verona to see a musical production but I was so tired that I think I slept through it. At that conference I think they made a big loss and Italy never hosted or attended a conference again. At the Swedish Conference at Varberg the most memorable thing was the 'fishing trip' where almost everyone was sick. I think I wanted to die I was so ill.
6. Do you have any stories or considerations from the conferences you want to share with us? I loved when each country had to do an entertainment. I think it might have been in Luxembourg in the 70's when the British did the 'Music Man' song and we added a different instrument each verse and repeated the previous instruments going back to the first one which was "I can play the Piano". Derk Noordhuis of the Netherlands used to pretend to play on a table like he was playing a grand piano. This became his party piece every time the Music Man song was sung.

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Answer (11.03.14) from Joan Green, England, IFYE to Israel 1970

I am not sure how many conferences I have attended, but there have been many since my first in 1977, in Switzerland. If I had a list of them all I could say which ones I attended.

2. For that first conference, although I knew a number of people from the UK I travelled on my own and was pleased with the wonderful, friendly welcome I received. This is one of the reasons I return, you are always with friends, old and new. I also enjoy visiting different interesting places, seeing aspects of life in the area that you wouldn't see on a normal touristy holiday.

3. As above, with time to talk to friends in informal situations. Although there is a timetable you don't feel pushed all the time, and are able to join in as much or as little as you want. There are choices too of the visits you can go on.

4. I found out about the Conferences from our British Young Farmer's Ambassadors and from friends who had attended other conferences.

5. I particularly remember the World Conference at Warwick in 1987 that we in the UK organised on behalf of European IFYE.

The Isle of Man was also most enjoyable, but so were all the others. I can't say there have been any that I didn't enjoy, all are very different.

6. The Conference in Avignon, France 1980 was at a Youth Hostel type of accommodation, with neighbours that were very nearby. They weren't very keen on any noise so sing-songs and dancing were cut to a minimum. I hope these answer some of the questions.

Best wishes,

Joan

(9.04.14) Hello, from the list I think I have been to at least 21 European meetings and 6 World Conferences, and look forward to attending many more. Haven't counted Germany this year, I am booked in.

Joan

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Answer from Ann-Marie Tegeborn, Sweden to USA 1965

1. How many times have you attended the European IFYE conferences? 36
2. What makes you come back? Meet old and new friends and see new parts of the country.
3. What is special about the conferences compared to any other travel form? You will meet the real life.
4. How did you get to know that the conferences exist? I got information when I was introduced to the national IFYE- club
5. Do you have any stories or considerations from the conferences you want to share with us?

The year was 1969, conference was held in N.Ireland. I was not married but my fiancé was coming along. Our Swedish president felt responsibility for this and they stopped at the blacksmith in Gretna Green and got a marriage certificate. When we arrived at the conference we were kidnapped and a wedding was arranged among the Swedes. I became Mrs Tegeborn.

Stigh did not become afraid of “those IFYE’s”, he has attended at least 25 more conferences.

From Rachel Harvey England 1984 to Turkey

- 1 About 20
- 2 Friendship
- 3 The activities
- 4 YFA
- 5 NO
- 6 NO

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Trevor Woods N.Ireland to Norway 1981

To Helle

My responses to your questions is outlined below. I hope the comments make some sense and they make you laugh.

1. I think I have been to 14 European conferences and 1 world conference. Three times in Norway , Sweden, Austria, France, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Scotland twice, Wales and the Isle of Man and the world conference in England and of course twice in Northern Ireland.
2. The community spirit shared with all the participants is just the best thing ever. I only wish I could share that with others who do not know this organization.
3. Once again it is the personal contact with like-minded people as well as the personal insight into the country or part of the country we visit. I love to learn about others cultures and their identity.
4. While I was on exchange I met with IFYEs who had just returned from the European conference and they inspired me to go. I think the best way to sell a conference is through personal contact as soon as the exchangee returns form their programme. It is also good to encourage their friend to come as well so meeting oldies like me is not such a daunting prospect!!!! Financial support to attend today I feel is important. In NI the IFYE programme was never really mentioned and as you know we have YFA in the UK which allows people to meet in one of the 4 home countries each year. I do feel it is difficult to afford both. When I was chairman in NI I encouraged all the returning exchangees to come to meetings and have activities that would meet their interests. Originally it was only Malcolm and Trevor (Neill) that went and then Barrie and I with a few others decided to go and from then you know what has happened. The NI boys and girls always leave their mark on a conference!!!! (I hope that sounds good)
5. My special moments!!! I have hundreds but these are the special ones. My week as chairman in Greenmount College in 1993. Often those memories come flooding back (perhaps a little more hazy as the years roll by) I am sure people remember the green costumes and the 135 participants wearing them while dancing around the floor with the little Irish dancers. The treasure hunt were there could have been fatalities as the fake still blew up. That's Barrie Barr for you!!!! My insight into running a conference for all those people and working closely with good friends all who made the conference work. Even though the committee tried to poison Wilma with Norwegian snaps Were the caterers run out of food on the opening day in Parliament buildings and were I forgot that my voice travels around pillars. I was not a happy man!!!!!! I still can remember that tingling feeling in my tummy at he start of the conference and know how all chairpersons feel that have held that role. Watching all the participants leave after having a wonderful week. Looking through the pictures in the book when it falls out of the shelf some day. Would I do it again? Yes I would and maybe I can get the IFYEs in NI to consider a world conference in the west of Ireland were the next stop is America

Trevor Woods

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Anne Brødsgaard, Denmark IFYE to USA 1984

1. How many times have you attended the European IFYE conferences? I do not count but a number.
2. What makes you come back?

The very special IFYE feeling and attachment with people from other countries, regardless of age politics and religion ect. Anne Brødsgaard

3. What is special about the conferences compared to any other travel form?

A full week arranged with the very best of the country and culture and wonderful hospitality by IFYE

4. How did you get to know that the conferences exist?

In a newsletter the year I returned from my IFYE stay (1984). I really wanted to go to Scotland in 1985 but I didn't work out for med due to studies. But then the World conference in England was announced and took place in 1987 and I went.

5. Is there any events / activities / stories you remember especially?

My first European conference in Luxembourg, we were four Danes participating and I have been to the pre-conference in the Netherlands and met interesting IFYEs there and then all the other European IFYEs sitting in the room excited about meeting each other and excited about the week to come. The energy in the room where the opening ceremony was about to take place was great. Then when the opera singer sang 'Song of peace', it gave me goosebumps and tears in my eyes. It was the moment where I not just have been an IFYE-exchange but where the IFYE spirit consumed me and I became a lifetime IFYE.

Joelle Seyler, Luxembourg IFYE to Sweden 1997

1. How many times have you attended the European IFYE conferences? 15
2. What makes you come back? Meeting friends, getting to know a country, celebrating in the bar
3. What is special about the conferences compared to any other travel form?
See things that you don't get to see as a tourist, meet people at their home, taste different kinds of food like local specialities
4. How did you get to know that the conferences exist?
Other IFYEs that have been on exchange and attended conferences before

5. Is there any events / activities / stories you remember especially?

There were so many during all those conferences, every country is special in its own way, I thought it was very special to visit a few whiskey distilleries in Scotland and to try Haggis.

I think the best time of every conference is in the evening in the bar

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Anita Eckerstorfer, Austria IFYE to Scotland 2007

1.How many times have you attended the European IFYE conferences?

3 times

2.What makes you come back?

The unique experience of different cultures and seeing the “home” of others from a non-touristy perspective with the mix of happiness!

Everybody is open-minded. It does not matter which profession you have, who you are and how you are. You can be whoever you are and want to be.

But the most important is that you can forget all your worries. The whole week is about being happy and enjoying the time being!

3.What is special about the conferences compared to any other travel form?

You see things you would never see as a standard tourist

4.How did you get to know that the conferences exist?

From other IFYE’s who have been to the conference before

5.Is there any events / activities / stories you remember especially?

It was my very first IFYE conference in Austria. I helped to organize it and some IFYE’s already arrived a night beforehand. Amongst others, a 75-year old German lady. As I didn’t knew what to expect, I asked her, why she is looking forward to that week and her answer was “That week I can finally be really stupid again”.

6. Do you have any stories or considerations from the conferences you want to share with us?

There are too many nice ones 😊

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Lucas Helfenstein, Switzerland IFYE to Northern Ireland 2007

1. How many times have you attended the European IFYE conferences?
5 times: Switzerland 2008; Isle of Man 2009; Finland 2011; Sweden 2012; Wales 2013
2. What makes you come back?
Always an awesome week with great peoples, good to see them all again.
3. What is special about the conferences compared to any other travel form?
All your IFYE friends that you meet ones a year you don't have as a normal tourist. The program is always exciting and on the visits you get to see a lot of interesting things that you can't see as a regular traveler. (farm visits, cultural things & traditions, industry and factory visits etc).
4. How did you get to know that the conferences exist?
The year after my exchange in 2007, Switzerland was hosting the conference, so I just got involved. However, I already heard before a lot about the conference from my mom who attended many conferences before and also at the IFYE-Swiss outgoing weekend and other IFYE-Swiss events. Most probably I would also have attended the conference in 2008 when it wouldn't have been in Switzerland.
5. Is there any events / activities / stories you remember especially?
Conference in Finland, Midsummer festival, it was just amazing, perfect weather, very well organized, good food, great people, hot Sauna, a unique and fabulous evening.

6. Do you have any stories or considerations from the conferences you want to share with us?

Conference 2009, Isle of Man

One visit went to the “House of Keys” (parliament of Isle of Man”) when Martin Quaile was still a member of it. In the room where the parliament held its sessions, there was in each desk a small storage place, which was accessible when lifting the tabletop. In one of this desk we found a bottle of Whisky, (the tour guide told as, this is the seat of the troublemaker in the parliament) in other we found scratch paper with drawings from a boring session and other interesting thing. Only one desk, the one of Martyn Quayle was looked, and we are still wondering, what he had to hide from us.

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Questionnaire – IFYE's

You can write your answer after each question. Please return the questionnaire to me on inga-lill.eriksson.sfr@folkbildning.net

Thank you!

*Eva Oitilla, Finland IFYE USA 1960
(21.03.14)*

1. How many times have you attended the European IFYE conferences?
I have attended the European IFYE Conferences 43 times (1962-2011).
2. What makes you come back? The IFYE spirit.
3. What is special about the conferences compared to any other travel form?
In IFYE Conferences the atmosphere is positive and relaxing. The programmes are interesting and well planned and carried out with enthusiasm. They introduce the history, culture, economy and “the way of living” of the particular country. It gives life-long friends, widens our picture of the world and gives good changes to practice our English.
4. How did you get to know that the conferences exist?
The Finnish 4-H Organization, which arranged our IFYE Exchange programme, informed us from the reunion meetings in Europe.
5. Is there any events / activities you remember especially?
I especially remember the trip to the 3rd world IFYE conference in Christchurch New Zealand and the journey around the world in connection to it (Dec.28.1976 –Jan.28.1977). Sigvard Johansson worked hard to arrange the trip. He also took good care of us (the group c. 30 European IFYEs). I often enjoy thinking that trip and its exiting events.
6. Do you have any stories or considerations from the conferences you want to share with us? At the 44th European IFYE Conference in Pommefrit Jaudy (Brittany France in 2002). Our host ~~Luis~~ Saillour arranged us, the group of “oldtimers” (Pieter D, Lew B, Raija E, Ulla-Mari K, and Eva O) the possibility to visit the grave of our French IFYE sister Marie Pierre Combot (who was killed in a car accident.) It was sunny, hot day in the middle of August. We laid our flowers on the grave, stood there quietly missing her. At the same time we felt great gratitude having had her so many years among us.

Questionnaire for anniversary booklet – IFYE's

Annemarie von Reden-Lütchen, Germany to USA 1965

1. How many times have you attended the European IFYE conferences? About 12 times to the European IFYE conferences and 2 times to the World IFYE Conferences.
2. What makes you come back? The good community, friendship feeling, plus excellent people to people understanding and the opportunity to get to know other countries.

3. What is special about the conferences compared to any other travel form?

The chance to have contact with people from other countries who are of many different ages.

4. How did you get to know that the conferences exist? Through the German IFYE Association.

5. Is there any events / activities you remember especially? I especially remember the kind, hearty invitations to stay overnight in IFYE homes in many different countries on our trip home from the world conference in Sigtuna 2003

6. Do you have any stories or considerations from the conferences you want to share with us? No