



# Newsletter

European IFYE Alumni

September 2016



*Former and current presidents making music at the European Conference in Estonia*

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# Greetings from the Board

Dear IFYE-friends,

It's time to write a new greeting from the president and some times it's harder than other. This time is a really hard one. It is just a couple of days since I was informed that our former president Martyn Qualye had passed away. It put life in perspective. Many of us met Martyn just a couple of weeks ago in Estonia, joking about his late arrive, sang together in the song battle against Estonias and many stories was told. Martyn was always a big laugh, he had the possibility to amuse people. We will all remember Martyn and smile when we think about him. This time your not late, you have arrived to early to the over side. We think about his family and close friends. We are many in the IFYE-family who will miss him.



At the same time I will say to you all to take care of each other, we never know how short the time are. Don't let your dreams wait, do it today.

I will take the opportunity to say thank you to Estonia for let us have a fantastic conference in your beautiful country. You did a fab work and we will always remember your great hospitality.

I look forward to continue the work in the board, it's a dream team I have with me. We say thank you to Reelika Rütli for her work in the board and welcome to Sonja Siegart. Don't hesitate to send us questions or suggestions, especial about our new homepage. We make this organisation better together.

All the best

Your president,

Anna Persson

*IFYE from Sweden to Scotland 1991*

This year the elections took place at the European IFYE Conference in Estonia. The board did not change besides the second vice president which rotates every year as it is a representative for the next year's conference:

<b>President</b>	Anna Persson (Sweden)
<b>First Vice President</b>	Andreas Pölzl (Austria)
<b>Second Vice President</b>	Sonja Siegwart (Switzerland)
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ursula Spillmann (Switzerland)
<b>Secretary</b>	Linda Steele (Northern Ireland)
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Anita Eckerstorfer (Austria)



Andreas Pölzl, Anna Persson, Sonja Siegwart, Linda Steele, Ursula Spillmann

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### European IFYE Alumni Association

Web address: [www.ifye.org](http://www.ifye.org)

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Deadline next issue:

1<sup>st</sup> December 2016

# Important: New Homepage – Photo competition

As already mentioned, we are busy creating and designing the new homepage and would like YOU to support us in that process. On the homepage we would like to use your favourite pictures from the last years' conferences and other IFYE events.



We will do a kind of slide show at the top of the homepage with the most popular 5 to 10 pictures out of the competition (see below: like the group picture of the Scottish conference).

Please send in a max. of three pictures which are your favourite IFYE pictures and add the following information:

- Date/Year
- Location or Country
- Type of Event

**send to: ifye\_europe@hotmail.com**



This is a web site for all who has been on IFYE exchange and for everyone who are interested to learn about our history and activity.

NEWS

★ Country reports January 24, 2016

# European Conference in Estonia

written by Mari Kindsbekken (IFYE from Norway to Northern-Ireland 2001)

This was the first conference held in Estonia and they did a very good job! I think the only thing we can complain about is the mosquitoes.

As long as we were able to get to Tallinn or Pärnu, they had organised buses to take us to the conference in Jõulumäe, and back the next Saturday. Saturday was spent catching up with old friends and meeting some new friends.

Sunday was very traditional with the opening ceremony and group pictures before lunch. After lunch it was time for games. Some of the things we tried were building a tower of spaghetti, a bridge and an alarm clock, frying an egg on a sheet of paper, and other fun things. In the evening we had an international buffet where we could try food the other IFYEs had brought from home.



Monday we went on different trips, I was at Carl Robert Jacobsoni Talumuuseum. One of the things we did there was baking cookies. The evening was spent at the bar.

Tuesday we had host villages. My group went to a village where we used bikes to have a look around. Some of the places we visited were an old couple that had a small dairy farm, a family that had four snakes as pets (and a few other animals), we also picked blueberries and had a nice lunch. After lunch one of our guides held a small concert for us before we went back to the conference. This evening was spent at the bar as well, having an Estonian evening, with traditional dancing and singing.

Wednesday was a new day to have a look around different parts of Estonia. I was in the group that took the ferry to Kihnu. They showed us around the island, and after lunch there was some entertainment with traditional music. The evening was spent at the bar, and the Swiss had a presentation of the next conference.

Thursday was the day for the AGM and after lunch we tried out some different crafts. And the evening was spent at the bar.



Friday we went to Pärnu, first we had a guided tour, and we had a guide that spoke Swedish. Then we had some free time that we could spend in the town or go to the beach. In the evening it was time for the farewell dinner, hand the flag over to the Swiss and start to say, 'See you next year'.

# Newcomer report from the conference

*Written by Susanne Egloff & David Allemann (IFYEs from Switzerland to Ontario 2010 & USA 2014)*

As a newcomer you arrive at your first European conference without any expectations, neither do you have any idea what is going to happen in this week. But don't worry, there are a lot of people who welcome you so friendly and help you forget to care about that. Also the name tags helped us a lot to cheat when we forgot the names again.



The Estonian hospitality hit us as of the first minute. After the first impression, we could go and sign in. At this point everybody got an IFYE bag with very useful items (the most important one was definitely the bug spray ☺). The bag also contained the program for the week, as newcomer we had a very nosy look at it and we immediately got excited. Also one of the first impressions was the mystic location in the woods with its little houses which some of us stayed in (and where the best after parties were going on, but that, later on...). After a while IFYEs from all over the world had arrived. After a bit of chit chatting, we were allowed to go to the buffet, which we really appreciated so we could fill our plates as much as we wanted. Already the first evening program was very entertaining as were all the following ones.



On Sunday morning the opening ceremony took place in the arena. During the day groups had to fulfil some tricky and strategic games which we newcomers had to explain and judge the results. Some smart and intelligent people made the first place. We all deserved our dinner and afterwards we had such a delicious international buffet where we could try the most famous food from their country (unfortunately some of the Swiss IFYEs didn't get their suitcase from the airline, so we couldn't offer you Fondue, Swiss bread and more cookies). Then we danced a lot and maybe had one or two drinks.



On Monday, we chose from the different possibilities to go canoeing/kayaking. Ahto was our leader. The river/creek looked like a brown pond,

but it was clear water. Before we got our light lunch, Steedsy and his team tried to reach the land, but they failed badly and fell into the water. That was fun. In total, we paddled for something like three hours. The heat and horse flies were definitely our enemy in this situation. Totally sweating some of us jumped in the refreshing creek. The evening we passed with lots of joy.



On Tuesday, everybody could choose a village to visit. During this day, we learned a lot about Estonian culture. We were fascinated by how creative and innovative people in this country are. In the evening even more culture was planned. We got to know a traditional Estonian dance and could even learn to dance it. For the sporty ones there was a huge swing where you could swing around. Some made it, some tried very hard.

On Wednesday, some of us went to Tallinn, Paide or visited an Island. We all enjoyed this interesting excursion. For the evening, we had to introduce the next European IFYE conference, which will take place in Switzerland. After some time of preparation, we presented you our show. I think some girls liked it more than the men 😊.

The general assembly was on Thursday. Afterwards we newcomers could hand out the Tombola gifts. In the afternoon, we could show our handcraft talents. It was nice to spend a quiet day at the camp. So we had more energy for the night 😊.

The last full day we spent in Pärnu. It was interesting to get a tour around the town and hear the history about it. Afterwards we all walked excitedly to the beach. Back at the camp, we got prepared for the last dinner, the farewell dinner. The meal was very delicious (as always) and the tent was beautifully decorated. We had a great last evening.



At this point, we want to say thank you to the Estonian team for preparing and organising such an amazing conference. As we said at the beginning, we didn't have any expectations, but you definitely exceeded them if we would have had some 😊

Yes, it was our first conference, but for sure not the last one 😊

Susanne Egloff & David Allemann





# Silver Pins and Golden Certificates 2016



## Silver Pins/Certificates

<b>Country</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>IFYE to</b>
Richard Sipthorp	England	1976 New Zealand
Claire Woods	Northern Ireland	1990 Sweden
Sven-Olof Andersson	Sweden	1990 USA
David Stevenson	Scotland	1991 Canada
Maria Márdh	Sweden	1991 USA
Anna Persson	Sweden	1991 Scotland

## Golden Certificates

<b>Name</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>IFYE to</b>
Helga Späth	Germany	1965 USA
Gerda Weiss	Germany	1966 USA

## Visitor Anniversary

Jo Ann Trail (IFYE to Sweden 1956), Tom Trail (IFYE to Nepal 1956) and Shirley Garrity (IFYE to England and Wales 1956) from the USA celebrated their 60th IFYE anniversary at the European Conference.

# European IFYE Conference in Switzerland (15-22 July 2017)

## Welcome to the European IFYE Conference 2017 in Switzerland



IFYE-Swiss kindly invite you to enjoy the next year's IFYE-conference in Switzerland.

The conference will be held from the **15th to the 22nd of July 2017** in the French spoken part of Switzerland. The village is called **Vaumarcus** and is located between Yverdon-les-Bains and Neuchâtel.

European IFYE Conference 2017, Switzerland

At our location ([lecamp.ch](http://lecamp.ch)) we will have good music, interesting workshops and tours and a wonderful view over lake Neuchâtel.

We will have fun and action, do some sports, enjoy nature, learn about Swiss agriculture, taste Swiss food, visit some companies, ... As our slogan «**Rock around the clock**» says: we will have an excellent week!

Registration starts in autumn 2016. We will inform you, as soon as everything is online.

If you already have questions: contact Nadia, Sonja and Doris at **conference2017@ifye.ch**.

We are looking forward to meeting all of you next year in Vaumarcus.

IFYE-Swiss

## Invitation: Swiss IFYE Winterweekend



swiss ifye winterweekend

06.-08.01.2017

Klewenalp NW

More information: <http://www.ifye.ch/aktuell/agenda>  
or: [zuberei@bluewin.ch](mailto:zuberei@bluewin.ch)

## Congrats to...



### Ulrike von der Heide

*IFYE from Germany to USA 2009*

Ulrike and Nando to their 1<sup>st</sup> daughter Ida.

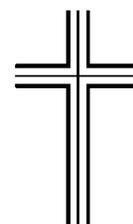
She was born on 3rd March 2016



## R.I.P dear IFYE friends

### Martyn Quayle

*IFYE from the Isle of Man to Austria 1985*



Martyn Quayle past European IFYE President from 2007 – 2012 and a true ambassador of IFYE, YFA, Young Farmers' and most importantly the Isle of Man, sadly passed away in Walton Hospital, Liverpool on 26th August 2016 at the age of 57. Martyn was an IFYE to Austria in 1985 representing the National Federation of Young Farmers' of England and Wales but most importantly the Isle of Man.

Martyn left Douglas High School at the age of 16 to enter the Civil Service, but after only a year he joined Isle of Man Farmers, starting what became a lifelong association with the farming industry. Martyn became the firm's managing director, stepping down after his election to the House of Keys, but retaining close links with young farmers groups and the Manxfarming community. Martyn was first elected to the House of Keys in 2001. During his political career, he was appointed Minister for Home Affairs, Tourism and Leisure and Social Care. He served two terms as MHK for Middle - elected in 2001, but his career in parliament ended after a decade in 2011.

His exchange to Austria had a great Impact on his life. Durning his travels he often used a smattering of German, had a likeness for beer, a love of music, but he was often known for his attempts to yodel. Over the years through YFC, YFA and IFYE he had a real impact on our organisation. As the sole representative from

the Isle of Man for many years he wasn't shy. At a UK reunion he returned to the island to break the news he had invited a YFA reunion to visit. Several years later and with fantastic help from Angela, Gill and a few others he hosted an IFYE conference.

Over the years we shared some fantastic memories of our travels, from having a bat share his room in Wales, going swimming in France, meeting him walking up the street in Austria, we will think of him with a smile. Although at times his inability to make a decision or his half hour discussion on the smallest matter on an agenda could really drive you to distraction, his wit, his charm, his singing, his almost perfect comedy timing, his ability to make friends from all corners of the world and from all walks of life, his over use of the words 'amazing' and 'marvellous' and when in top form he was bursting with life, he had such a great sense of humour.

He was the perfect gentleman, generous, fun loving, and a true friend, we will remember him always with very fond memories.

Avril Herdman

## Others

Klaus-Wilhelm Maart-Thomsen (IFYE from Germany to USA 1952)

Helga Schäberle (IFYE from Germany to USA 1956)

Erhard Hoefler (IFYE from Germany to USA 1959)