

Dances and songs are a strong medium of communication. For the last few years, such festivals have incorporated the needs and achievements of our organization through songs. Some photo charts covering organic farming, women empowerment, traditional medicine, water conservation and management, and health awareness were exhibited.

So what did we achieve? We increased aware-



*Traditional dance festival at Sarvodarya.*

ness of health, hygiene and education; caused the formation of Self-Help Groups in all the villages; provided for value addition in their livelihoods, and increased the rate of girls going to school from 5% to 50%.

We also still face many challenges. The revenge system has remained a major challenge. Though violence is checked, the traditional age-old revenge system still exists. Working with the tribal community for many years has taught us to work positively and tirelessly in changing the attitudes of the younger generation with regard to the revenge system. Multi-

level efforts in education and livelihood areas will change the mindsets of younger people. We need to continue our efforts with as much patience as possible. 🌐



*Sign for the Gujarat Cultural Initiative, in which Lisle, Inc. is identified!*

### *Become a Lisle Mentor Now!*

Lisle is offering small grants to fund projects which aim to fulfill the mission and purpose of Lisle. Key to this process is to have a person who has participated in a Lisle experience be a “Lisle Mentor” throughout the process. Below is the Board’s vision of the role the Mentor will play.

The Mentor will pursue active involvement in the initial proposal process. The Mentor could be the person who submits the proposal directly or who acts as an active intermediary with another person or organization who will conduct the activities.

The Lisle Mentor should be willing to be in communication with the project throughout its duration and fulfill a liaison role through helping the Lisle Board and the project staff understand how the ongoing project relates to the goals of Lisle.

Providing Lisle extensive contact information so that the Lisle Board has a direct means of communication through the Mentor. This should include address, telephone, e-mail, and fax.

Interacting with the persons who are developing the project proposal, as well as designated Board members over time; to incorporate into the final project proposal a rich environment for achieving Lisle outcomes.

Assisting in the fulfillment of follow-up activities, including, but not limited to, a written description of the project proposal suitable for publication in the *Lisle Interaction*, and later, a written evaluation of the project and article summarizing the outcomes of the project (with photos), suitable for publication in *Interaction*.

Identifying ways to strengthen the outcomes of future projects which others may purpose to Lisle for funding with the appropriate Lisle committee members. 🌐



## *Lisle's Lasting Impact on The Mountain Children's Forum*

*By Smita Patel*

**T**he Mountain Children's Forum (MCF) has always suffered from the "ugly duckling" complex. As a young social development organization, we just didn't look like any of the other animals around the pond: We didn't build things, like hospitals and clinics and schools. We didn't deliver services that could be easily counted, such as books donated or meals served or children educated. We didn't even confine ourselves to a defensible geographic region!

Instead we dreamed up a dream of a broad-based movement of young people in mountain communities working together with voluntary organizations and local government in spontaneous and organic ways that would make life better not just for themselves, but for everyone in their communities.

So perhaps it is not surprising that the others scoffed at us when we first appeared:

*"There's no way children can change anything!"*

*"You're crazy to think organizations will partner with you if you aren't paying them!"*

*"Something so decentralized will never work! People don't act unless you tell them what to do."*

Like the ugly duckling, we tried to turn a deaf ear to the scorn and predictions of failure and soldiered on. Then came Lisle. And miraculously, Lisle "got" the MCF!

At the urging of Lisle Sharada Nayak, we applied for a Lisle mini grant to fund a workshop for teenagers from rural mountain villages to build their leadership and communication skills and to teach them about disaster mitigation and prevention so they could share that knowledge with their communities. Though the grants committee returned questions about how we would evaluate the effectiveness of the workshop and how we might ensure a gender balance among the participants, nobody ever asked us "why children?" or "what makes you think kids can do anything in a disaster?"

It may seem obvious now, but in 2005 when Lisle awarded the MCF that grant, it was a defining moment for us. For the first time an organization—and a funding agency from the US at that—thought the MCF was doing something worthwhile. This affirmation came at a time when we were beginning to question our own vision and the success of the Lisle workshop, the energy and buzz it generated, catapulted the MCF to a whole new level of credibility.

Now the MCF network includes some 7,500 young people across the state of Uttarakhand who read our monthly magazine and participate in activities through their children's groups. These activities are most often initiated by the young people themselves and have ranged from getting villagers to build a contour dam to recharge their water source to helping children who've dropped out get back into school to leading their community to ensure all children are vaccinated and all births are registered. They've cared for the elderly and the sick. They've stood up to alcoholism and domestic violence. They've planted trees, cleaned up their village, and even helped fight forest fires.

Recently, these young people have nudged the Uttarakhand government towards creating a child policy for the state. Each state in India is required to have an official, written Child Policy, but Uttarakhand, as a relatively new state, had not yet written theirs. During the MCF's May 2006 workshop, the children discussed the issues they felt should be covered by the policy and compiled them into a list of recommendations which they handed to senior government officials, including the Governor and the Secretary of the Department of Women Empowerment and Child Development. These officials were so impressed with the thought the children put into these recommendations, they asked the MCF to help them organize a follow-up workshop in which the young people could share their concerns directly with officials from the major gov-





*Culture expressed in dance at an evening gathering.*

ernment departments. It was an unprecedented collaboration between the government, local organizations, and the children.

More than 20 partner organizations have embraced the MCF's vision of child-driven development and realized that young people can be a dynamic and dramatic force for change. Although we still don't have money to pay our partners, they have discovered that being part of a network gives their efforts more impact and leverage than they have alone, and working with the young people has increased their credibility in the villages as parents see their teenagers turn from aimless adolescents into committed citizens. But most of all they have seen for themselves how eager and effective the children are when it comes to making a change in their communities.

Lisle's 2007 grant to the MCF has come at another watershed moment. To sustain itself and pay the bills, the MCF has taken on a coordinating role in some projects even though those projects did not align closely with our original vision. This year, as an organization, we decided to drop some of those roles so we could focus on our real purpose: engaging and empowering the young people to change their *own* lives. Lisle's grant for \$3,000 and the option to request additional funds has provided us with a new opportunity to plan out a program that helps us work towards that.

Perhaps it was because the MCF's vision in many ways mirrors Lisle's own history of young people working together to break down barriers and improve the world, or perhaps Lisle was just more willing to take a chance on an innovative project. But at a time when few were willing to give the MCF a chance, Lisle helped us find our wings. 🌐

## *"Seed Grant" Promotes Growth!*

*By James M. Burke*

Anyone developing a service learning project knows the difficulty of securing a vital aspect: funding; and the Jamaican Computer Project was no exception! Over a decade in the idea stage, the project made a huge leap forward when my friendship with Lisle Board Member Bill Kinney resulted in an application for a Lisle mini-grant to help support the training of Jamaican teachers in the use of information technology. Bill, whom I met during our Peace Corps service in Mali, West Africa, felt that getting American middle school students involved in global travel, cultural exchange and third-world development was very much a goal of Lisle and its commitment to cultural understanding. To that end, Bill offered to mentor my project and offer group interaction skills that are a cornerstone of Lisle projects.

Within a week after I received notification that Lisle approved my grant application, I mentioned my project—and Lisle's support—to a local Rotarian in the Seattle suburb of Bellevue where I teach. He asked for more information about Lisle and I gave him the Lisle website address. He called me back and offered substantial local support, due in large part to the fact that Lisle's support must mean I was on the right track, that such a well-established organization saw something worth assisting and they were on board 100 percent. After that, I applied for two more local grants and was approved for both of them. Success for those grants was also attributed to support from Lisle and the information gleaned from the Lisle website. In addition to organizational support, Lisle's endorsement was well-received by my students' parents: Lisle support helped their fears over whether or not the project was appropriate for middle school students.

Lisle's monetary support (modest compared to the actual total cost) proved critical in providing credence to this up-and-coming project that previously had little outside organizational support. Lisle's long-established history of International Development was key to my project's success, and I thank everyone for their support and belief in this wonderful ongoing project. 🌐



Thanks to **Lane Winnet** for her compiling of the bits and pieces of news that the Lisle Office receives between issues of *Interaction*.

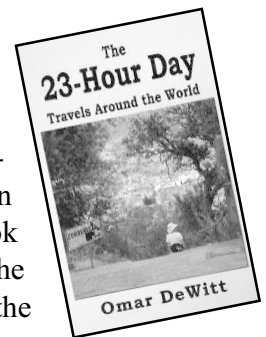
**Grey Austin (CO '48, '49, '51, '54, '58, and MI '50)** has written and published *Wholly Spirit: Searching for a Plausible God*. When he found that he could no longer believe in a personalized, interventionist God, he searched the sciences, Jungian psychology, and Eastern and Western mysticism for a more acceptable concept of that which is "supremely significant and ultimately real." Grey did a presentation of his book and book signings in Pentwater this summer to a group of persons from the Methodist Church in Pentwater and the Peoples' (UU) Church in Ludington. It was well received. More about his spiritual autobiography, along with access to its distributor so you can buy it, can be found at [www.greyaustin.com](http://www.greyaustin.com).

**Jean Powell Brookhart (CO '45)** of Huntington Beach, CA: "I enjoyed the pages devoted to Edith Ballard in the recent issue of *Interaction* (Summer, 2007). I first knew her when she was Edith Jennings and she and I met at Wesley Foundation in Madison, Wisconsin. I was just getting over a broken heart—the man I loved did not come back from the war—and Edith told me I needed Lisle, and she was right. Edith had attended the Colorado unit in 1944 and I attended in 1945. It was one of the best experiences of my life, and it was there I grew to love and admire Uncle Si and Aunt Edna. Edith and I kept in touch over the years and I always looked forward to her newsy postcards. As a number of others have said, it seems impossible that Edith is no more.

**Mirabell (Hansen) Deming (NY '44, '46-'49, CO '45 & '51, Family Camp '56 & Elderhostel '91)** of Janesville, WI writes. "My 5 children and 12 grandchildren occupy much time and attention. I had a bout with pneumonia in April, but am recovered. My energies also go into working with our local UNA-VSA Chapter, church activities, and LWV and peace groups. Lisle gave me understand-

ing and tools to be an internationalist, which has affected all of our children. Roy wore a pin in his last year that said, 'I have family in Iraq.'

**Omar DeWitt (CO '58)** "I have written about our travels. The title is *The 23-Hour Day, Travels Around the World*. It is in paper for \$14.95 and an E-book for \$7.95. It covers many of the trips Sue and I have taken over the years. The countries and places are described with a wry eye and a bit of humor. More information is available at the web site: [www.23hourday.com](http://www.23hourday.com). At the Booklocker website, you can read the chapter on Nepal [www.booklocker.com](http://www.booklocker.com).



**Andrew Draxler (USSR '66)** of Locust NJ writes, "The twins are almost 4 (going on 12) and are, of course, the center of our activity. Among other things they have become good little cooks, sailors and travelers. In fact, we will take the train (for the experience) to Chicago for the Am. Chem. Society Council meeting. In April, will again represent the US at a Marine Environment meeting in Copenhagen."

**Genevieve Myrtle (Sowards) Gillen (CO '50)** of Union, WV has retired after 50 years teaching (FL, OH, and WV). Received three Fulbrights: England 1983-84, India 1985 and Pakistan 1988. "I knew Sharada in India in 1985 and saw her again in 1987 and 1988. Unfortunately, I am not physically able to go to India. Would love to!"

**Walt and Betty Ligon (Walt-NY '48, MI '50, CO '51 & '57, DC '54, CA '58 – Betty & Walt – SD '86, Bali '88, Hawaii '95, Holland '03, Lisle Board and Board Emeritus 2001)** of Pentwater, MI: The Lignons are still active with Mason County Democratic Party, local peace groups and local Methodist Church. Toured China in Summer 2007.

**Barbara (Farrington) Thomas (Japan '55)** of Fresno, CA writes "I am currently a board member of the Fresno County Board of Education. I have a



multicultural family—5 children, Filipino, Korean, Black in-laws and 8 grandchildren. I travel abroad from time to time.”

**Mary Anne (Graham) Tiley (NY ‘47)** of Algonac, MI writes, “As time goes on and one gets older, it’s great to look back and remember all the great things one did—and Lisle is one of those. I am sorry I haven’t been able to assist more actively. Thanks for all your good work in keeping Lisle active.”

**Barbara Walker (CO ‘50, ‘56, ‘58)** is keeping quite busy these days, which is why she didn’t submit an article for this issue about her work. She wrote, “I had hoped to be able to be in Auburndale for at least one day. But I cannot manage it. Multi-tasking is just not my strength. It has been “Grandmothers Against the War/Granny Peace Brigade” and the “Peace Action Staten Island,” and now the attempt to get this apartment in order for a succession of visitors (some call it my “B & B”); then off to Morocco to visit family (David, Kristyna, and six-month-old Lily Grace, plus two cats)—David is with the embassy in Rabat. She also participated in a “Teach-in” at St. Mark’s Church in the Bowery: “Close Guantanamo and All U.S. Military Bases on Foreign Soil” on Sunday, November 11 (Armistice Day).

*Editor’s Note: Barbara, no worries! We are very interested in your peace work and hope to let other Lislers know via an article in the next Interaction!*

**Cherry Wunderlch (CA ‘64)** volunteered in October at an international conference sponsored by the Thyroid Cancer Survivor Association. The conference offered more than 100 sessions presented by thyroid cancer experts running the gamut of latest research, advances in treatment, insurance and employment issues, coping with the disease, and discussions with others living with thyroid cancer. Support group discussions gave opportunities for survivors and caregivers to share their experiences and hear from others coping with thyroid cancer. Cherry encourages concerned friends and family to check out this national nonprofit organization at [www.thyca.org](http://www.thyca.org). 🌐

## *Abroad, but Not Out of Touch!*

*By Marty Tillman*

**M**y daughter, Zoe, spent last fall semester studying in Athens, Greece. As happens with any form of experiential learning, it was the unanticipated and unplanned-for events that led to new awareness, new areas of intellectual and emotional growth. Even for Dad. I did not see it coming, but, I slowly realized that Zoe was not really away from home in the same way I was when I studied and worked overseas decades ago; certainly, not as isolated and out of touch as I was when I first landed in India with the School for International training as an intern in 1975! Any Lisler who has served in Peace Corps knows what I’m talking about.

The ease of using our cell phones and especially, the immediate sharing of content and photos via her “blog” always made us feel we were sharing her experience in real time. Nothing like waiting 3 weeks for that small aerogramme letter to arrive in the post box! Wanting her to fully own her time abroad, my wife and I have had to work hard to NOT be in touch with Zoe (but, it is great to hear her voice and share her excitement in the moment). Like Tom Friedman’s metaphor of the “flat” world, technology has closed the gap of time and space for anyone studying or traveling abroad. 🌐



*Zoe is 20 years old and a Junior at the Univ. of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. She is majoring in Urban Studies and Classics.*



## 60th Anniversary Reflections

By Hans & Ellie Spiegel

At the urging by Marty Tillman, we have reflected on some of our current activities—especially those that have a Lisle-ish edge to them. We will celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008, and a few random thoughts may not be entirely inappropriate.

In May we attended a meeting of the Association for World Education in a Danish folk school. AWE was founded by Lisler Aage R. Nielson. AWE brings together a worldwide network of folk schools first established in Denmark over 150 years ago. Both Lisle and folk schools stress life-long learning and building capacities for meaningful person-to-person relations that cross cultural boundaries.

One of the current projects in Denmark is to bring together “10 young people from Arab countries, 10 young Danes with Arab roots and 10 other young Danes to convene in an open dialogue and learning process giving innovative responses to local, national, regional and global challenges.” If this sounds like Lisle, you’re correct! The current AWE president, Jakob Erle, is leading this effort through a related organization, the International Academy for Education and Democracy <[www.iaed.info](http://www.iaed.info)>. For more information about AWE and its Journal of World Education check out the website: <[www.aweinternational.org](http://www.aweinternational.org)>.

An excellent biographical sketch describing the late Aage Nielson was written by Lisler Jack Glasse in the Spring ‘04 issue of the Journal of World Education.

*Ellis and Hans at the 2004 Annual Meeting*



We both represent NGOs at the United Nations. Hans is Main Rep for the above AWE and Ellie is Main Rep for NAFSA: Association of International Educators.

Ellie is Secretary of the Trustees of the World Student Christian Federation, a group close to the Baldwins, founded by John Mott.

We’re both involved with the International Honors Program, a forty-five year old organization that is part of the School for International Training. They sponsor topical groups of mostly American undergraduate students to travel and engage in comparative studies, live in local homes, and participate in challenging case discussions <[www.ihp.edu](http://www.ihp.edu)>.

Ellie is working with local Day Laborers from Central America. Hans has given up directorships in a couple of affordable housing groups, but continues with the Urban Homesteading Assistance Board.

Every Sunday at 4:30 we’re part of the Leonia Vigil for Peace, now demonstrating for more than 320 consecutive Sundays.

One of our most joyous activities is interacting with former Lislors like the Firestones, Tilmans, Ligons, Kinneys, and Penny Haughwout, Dotty Guyot,

D i a n n e  
B r a u s e ,  
M i r i o m  
Z u s m a n ’ s  
friends, and  
re-appearing  
buddies like  
Finn Hornum.  
Greetings to  
them and all  
the other  
Lisle, Inc-  
spots! 🌐



## Lislers Visit India in 2008

By Mark Kinney

Several Lislers are participating in a Lisle visit to India during January, 2008. Barbara Bratton, Suzanne Vogel, Lois and Richard Huddleston, and Mark and Nancy Kinney are all busily getting visas, shots and other essentials for their trip to visit several NGO's which have been awarded grants by Lisle.

Plans are to visit the two agencies that have worked on grants in the past: the Mountain Children's Forum (MCF), and the M.G. Patel Sarvodaya Kendra in Gujarat led by Hasmukh Patel. The visit to the MCF is special because not only will we visit and learn about the completion of the originally funded project, but we will also participate in one of the workshops which are being offered as a result of a new grant awarded in October.

Sharada Nayak is planning the two-week itinerary which will include travel to two very different geographic locations in India, affording an opportunity to see and understand rural problems and people's efforts to bring development to these areas, but also to see first-hand the new project in Delhi which was given a grant at the October Annual Meeting. Don't

feel too sorry for those on the trip! It will not be all site visits and work. The India tour will also allow for sightseeing in Delhi, Jaipur and Agra—and the world-famous Taj Mahal.

Look for photos and a report on this trip to appear in the spring *Interaction*. 🌐



*Sharada will be a gracious and joyful hostess/guide!*

## HOLDERS Holding Steady!

News from Barbara Holder

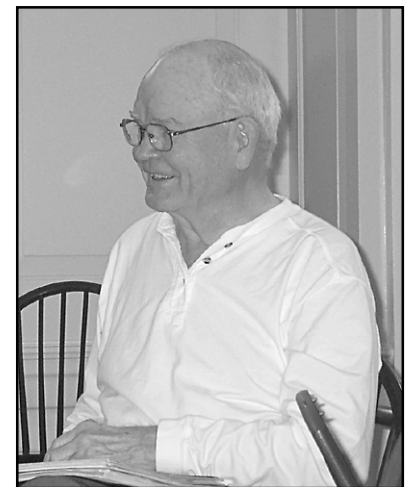
Darwin is doing GREAT! He finished his radiation on October 9th. He thought he was to have his visit with the medical oncologist then have his final chemotherapy on 15 October. However, when he saw the oncologist, the doctor told him that he did not have to have that chemo treatment.

His blood had just that day reached the low level where he had to be really careful of being around people. The oncologist scheduled for him to have his port out on 19 October and his blood had started back up toward normal already (a week and a half after the last chemo treatment!)

We got the report from blood work done on 15 November, and he was approaching normal on almost everything. He was at least almost to the levels of his first couple of weeks of treatment.

Since everything was looking so good, we took off for a few days by ourselves just roaming around the country between here and San Antonio, where we then visited with my brother and his family, then up to Kerrville to visit with my 94-year-old aunt. We got back home this evening. It was a wonderful trip and just what we needed.

We are ready to start getting ready for Christmas—decorating, etc. The next doctors' appointments are in January, when they will run all of the tests, including CT Scans. Darwin is back to going to the gym and walking from three to five miles on the treadmill five days a week (as he says "except when we are traveling!") 🌐



## Russia Then, and Now

By Mr. Loren Neil Behrmann (USSR '68)

This is just a quick note, which has become a longer letter, to let you know that the answer to your question, “Do you like the new name?” in this summer’s Lisle *Interaction* (on the name change of the “Mini-Grant” program to the Global Seed Fund) is, for me personally, an unqualified YES! Go for it...

Incidentally, this is the *first* time in almost forty years that I have communicated with Lisle (other than updating my address) since 1968 when I participated in the Lisle program to the Soviet Union! Unfortunately, that amazingly educational experience was suddenly cut short towards the end when the U.S.S.R. invaded what was then Czechoslovakia (where we had been at the start of the journey).

I was 25 years old at that time, and ever since then that enlightening trip certainly has influenced my interest and belief in world travel, international exchange, and a global community where all peoples learn to appreciate each others’ cultures. Curiously, though, in all these intervening years I have *never* seen any comments on or submissions by or about *any* of those 1968 U.S.S.R. participants! I often wonder, where are they now.



Russian girls at their traditional wooden house, in a rural area along the Sheksna River, near the town of Kirillov.

That trip too gave me a heartfelt appreciation for the lives of our late Uncle Si and Aunt Edna Baldwin, and their inspiring work, goals, and beliefs. Indeed, our U.S.S.R. group had the privilege of meeting with them personally prior to our departure, and therefore witnessing both their

insight and sincerity in fostering cross cultural education, understanding, economic development, and world peace for all the planet’s peoples.

In the years that followed I was involved in international exchange programs at both the University of Wisconsin in Madison, and at Wayne State University in Michigan, before moving to California in 1980. I have also lived in both Windsor, Canada and in Germany (Blaihach, Boblingen, Buchloe, Munich, Rosenheim, and Stuttgart) where I taught English as a Second Language. I also learned Deutsch myself (over the 4 years I was there), and—to this day—still have many close Bavarian friends all across Germany whom I continue to visit and/or who visit me here in the Bay Area of San Francisco.

Prior to moving to California, I continued to see and talk to both Aunt Edna and Uncle Si at the annual meetings of the National Association for Foreign Student Affairs (NAFSA). However, here in California (which is truly a melting pot of the world’s peoples), I used my graduate school counseling background to become more involved in working for domestic government social work programs, volunteering in programs assisting AIDS patients, and fostering human rights causes to increase the American public’s understanding of gay and lesbian issues and the legal rights that they are often denied.

Currently I am still working, but plan to retire sometime in 2008 following my 65th birthday this September. Work, however, has not prevented me from traveling the world over for the past 44 years (ever since my first cross cultural experience—prior to Lisle—with other young college students touring Europe in 1963). And, each such experience has only always served to educate me further and to encourage me to work hard to save for the next such trip! Perhaps that is why I never really took the time to thank Lisle (outside of my chance conversations with the Baldwins at NAFSA meetings) for helping to prop up my deep interest in the world’s peoples, enabling that interest to grow, and to read how the organization promotes its mission “by bringing together persons of diverse



religious, cultural, sexual, political, and racial backgrounds to interact with each other, and to reflect upon their experiences.”

Indeed, I have just returned from a trip to *today's* democratic Russia, my first trip there since Lisle's 1968 trip to *yesterday's* communist Russia. What an extraordinarily experience that has been in changing my earlier Lisle observations and lingering mindset! Proof, I guess, that cross-cultural exchanges must be renewed throughout one's life. This is also true regarding the experiences I had in 2002 in China, which paralleled the 2007 Grand Circle Travel (GC) trip Walt and Betty Ligon wrote about in this summer's 2007 issue of *Lisle Interaction*.

By the way, since the Board's Annual Meeting will be held this October in Boston, and because that city is also the hub for GC's international travel operations, I wonder if there is some way in which you could bring the Lisle meeting there, and it's mission, to GC's attention? I say this because the company is quite active in the promotion of bringing their tour participants together with the people of the countries they are traveling through via home hosted visits.

Personally, I have witnessed this first hand in China, Croatia, France, Greece, Russia, and Turkey. They are the only major tour company I know of who does this (as well as donating money through the GC Foundation to worthy projects within the nations they visit), and I hope that they just *might* be interested in lending support to Lisle's own international endeavors with regard to the future generation.

And speaking of support, there might also be an opportunity for Lisle to earn support from the gay and lesbian community should Lisle see its way clear to facilitate understanding and interaction among young gay/lesbian and straight people around the world. (If the late and former nudist Edith Ballard was so loved and accepted by Lisle, why not gays and lesbians too?)

I know that I have met numerous such individuals who served globally in the Peace Corps, and heaven only knows how much money the gay and lesbian community spends on international travel. But, perhaps not as well known, is that this community certainly has its share of philanthropists

(witness, for example, here in San Francisco, James C. Hormel who is heir to the fortune of George C. Hormel, founder of Hormel Foods, and the first openly gay man to represent the United States as an ambassador; plus, he's a good philanthropist.)

Also, I wish to say that I read with considerable interest Mark Kinney's article about the "Current Grantee Projects" in Guatemala, Jamaica, and India. Guatemala is a country I have not as yet visited, but a Sacramento friend of mine has led Sierra Club trips there (as well as to Costa Rica) and frequently visits Seattle. I shall definitely tell him about the Seattle based project. Another country I've not been to is Jamaica, but the Computer Lab Project sounds *extremely* worthwhile. I wonder if news of this project has been conveyed to executives here in the Bay Area's Silicon Valley? If I knew more about computers I would certainly get on this project's band wagon as soon as I retire!

I would also do the same regarding the Gujarat, India project. My brother-in-law is from there and visits India frequently. I myself have visited India several times, and would love to participate on the trip in January 2008. Unfortunately, I will be preparing for retirement then, and thus still working. However, I think you are correct in planning this for January rather than in September. It is truly a *wonderful* country for Lislors to experience, is undiscovered by most American tourists, and—were I to go—I certainly would extend my stay there for as long as possible!

Finally, I know that there are many Lislors living here in California, and that there have been meetings in San Francisco in the past. I personally live only a few minutes away from the San Francisco airport, and look forward to hosting individual Lislors in transit here at my home after I retire. There must be many Lisle alumni in the Bay Area, as well as in near by Sacramento, but I am not in contact with any such groups or individuals. Perhaps, after I retire in 2008, I will at last have the opportunity to become active in Lisle, and therefore have the privilege to become better acquainted with such good, like-minded persons.

Peace, Love, and Happiness! 🌐

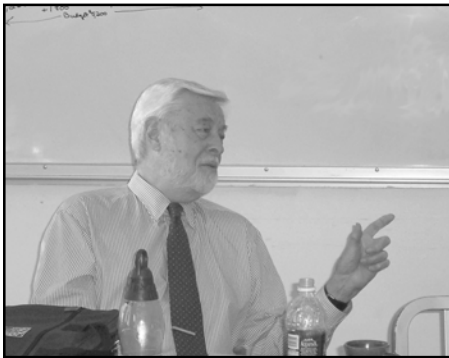


## Dr. Dewitt (Bud) Baldwin Jr.

By Mark Kinney

**B**ud, as many of us know is the son of Lisle Founders Dewitt and Edna Baldwin. He is also my Uncle. Bud says that his family is well. That daughter Mereille is a Montessori teacher in the Chicago area. Daughter Lisa is living in Jakarta Indonesia working on HIV/AIDS for USAID. Michelle, Bud's wife continues to be active with her counseling work including the Virginia Satir network.

The last week when I talked with Bud he related that he is still very active, having given presentations in several conferences in the last several weeks. He



Bud makes a good point! —2003

also shared his pleasure at having had four awards given to him this year for the work he has done through the years in medical education focusing on communication and interprofessionalism. He sent me a copy of last month's

supplemental issue of the *Journal of Interprofessional Care: Promoting Collaboration in Education, Practice and Research Worldwide* (21: 1 October 2007).

This whole issue consists of an interview with Bud and the republishing of eight of his important articles. My reaction to these articles is "How currently relevant these are!" Anyone interested can go to the journal website, sign up for a 30 day free trial, and view these articles.

Let me share some of what is written within this volume. In the introduction, the editor Madeline Schmitt wrote:

"DeWitt C. Baldwin Jr. is one of the pioneers of and, most certainly, the most long-time advocate for interprofessionalism in health care in the USA. His

efforts in the field span his entire professional and post-retirement career, as well as the contemporary history of interprofessional education and practice (IPEP) in the USA. Currently a Scholar-in-Residence at the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education in Chicago, Illinois, he continues to be very busy with research, writing, and presentations in medical and interprofessional education, as well as collaborative and relationship centered health care. "Bud", as he is affectionately known among his colleagues and friends, celebrated his 85th birthday this past summer.

Dr. Baldwin's lived experience provides a unique vantage point for the first paper in this supplement on the history of IPEP in the USA, republished here by the *Journal of Interprofessional Care* to inform the broad readership the Journal now enjoys and to put Dr. Baldwin's own work into historical context."

In an interview with Bud in the same journal issue, when asked what caused him to become involved with the interprofessional field, he said:

"I think it's always been there for me. I grew up seeing my parents as a professional team. They had worked together in graduate school and continued to do so when they went out as missionary/educators to Burma, where I was raised. Throughout their lives I saw them working as a team, stimulating each other's thinking. So I grew up with their egalitarian, teamwork values and view of life. I've often thought that my whole career has simply been an extension of their ideas and values. *Service-learning: An early model of interprofessional education (IPE)*"

When asked, "In what ways did they express these in their work?" he replied:

"When they came back to the US in 1933, they found that Americans were very provincial (I'm afraid they still are!) They felt their new mission in life was to help young people to develop what they called 'world-mindedness'. They were educators and knew that you couldn't just talk about it. It had to be



*experiential. So one of the things they did was to develop an intensive international, interracial, interfaith, inter-cultural, and interdisciplinary group-living and work experience in the summers, where college students could come together to learn from each other and from participation in community service work projects. (See why I've been attracted to the term 'inter'? Even the newsletter they published for years*



*"Now you know, it was about THIS big... I could see it right near the boat almost to my net when it spit the dang hook out!" —2003*

*was called 'Interaction'). Their idea was to create a 'mini-world experience', where the students would be exposed to the diversity of values and worldviews personalized in the backgrounds of the group members, while learning and working together on community projects."*

When asked, "They seem to have been ahead of their time?" Bud replied:

*"They were—in many other ways as well. First, they believed in experiential learning—grounding learning in real-life tasks or situations—where the students could test their beliefs and values, and experience the inevitable differences with those of others, provoking issues of leadership, decision-making, and conflict-resolution. They actually called their experiment 'a laboratory in human relations'—this, in the 1930s! Second, they believed in the educational principle of 'alternation' in learning—alternating living/*

*learning experiences with times for reflection (Dewey, 1951[1938]). Third, they believed in learning through service, and are listed among the very early pioneers in developing the concept of 'service-learning' (Stanton et al., 1999, p. 192). Fourth, they believed in the value and power of learning in small groups. They were also recognized as pioneers in the field of group dynamics and trained a number of the early leaders in that field. Fifth, they believed in the importance of diversity in groups – of using differences in viewpoint and belief to challenge and hopefully transform fixed assumptions. Sixth, having been exposed to a working model of 'teams' with multiple roles and skills in the mission field, where 'medical teams', including physicians, nurses, and local, indigenous health workers went out to distant villages, they were comfortable with cultural differences and facilitating the personal and interpersonal processes of self-discovery and culture change involved. And finally, they believed in the principles of stewardship, and of servant leadership, both recently revived concepts."*

Bud continues to keep informed about the progress of Lisle, and avidly reads the *Lisle Interaction*. 🌐

**Editor's Note:** One of the extraordinary things about Lisle is to see the web of good deeds and important work that has come from the vision of Uncle Si and Aunt Edna. This article speaks of how their son, Bud, was positively influenced in his life work by them.

But in this same issue of *Interaction*, we also see the gifts that their nephew, Mark Kinney (along with wife, Nancy) is contributing to Lisle; and in turn their son, Bill Kinney, who is also on the Lisle Board, and has just mentored one of the successful grantees! And that is just within the family line! Multiply that by the thousands of us Lislors and our sons and daughters, nephews and nieces....

Each *Interaction*, I marvel at the wonderful gifts we give to the world! In this Holiday Season, let us not forget to celebrate all of the goodness that is welling up in the world!



# Pilgrimage in the Desert

By Dianne "Selma" Brause



*Intrepid traveler Dianne, renamed "Selma" by the Bedouins, on the camel she rode in the Tunisian desert.*

While Lislers were meeting in Boston, I was happily shuffling through the fine sand of the Sahara in Tunisia, following our beloved Bedouin hosts and their personality-plus camels. The pilgrimage was entitled "The Gift of the Desert" and what a gift it was! I could not have imagined the amazing magic of the constantly shifting sand particles creating ever-changing patterns, as distinct as fingerprints on the endless dunes. At night, lying

in my chosen spot at the dip between two small dunes, I could see millions of twinkling stars that seemed to come down to meet me—and the "wolves" howled in the distance to announce the rising moon with its dazzlingly brilliant light.



*Mohammad has lived the majority of his life in the desert, and still has a twinkle in his eye.*

Our two leaders were Sufis, as were most of the 24 European and American participants. Each day we awoke before sunrise to the beautiful strains of a ney (bamboo flute) and each emerged from our sleeping bag to shuffle to the top of the highest dune and begin morning practices. Our bodies and the sun awoke together as we sang, prayed and moved in unison in various body prayers (called "zikr"). We looked like so many mystical desert monks in our long hooded robes and colored headscarves, which Bedouin have worn for centuries as the garments of choice for protection against sun, wind, rain, and as the blanket and bedroll.



*Bedouin man kneading the morning bread on top of a multipurpose blanket. After the bread is baked in the coals, it is whacked with a cloth to rid it of sand and ash.*

After celebrating the beauty of the dawning day and the coming of the light (nur), we awaited a breakfast of the round flat loaves of bread just pulled out of the coals of the fires that Muhammad or Ali had baked for us along with a little jam, a wedge of cheese and the every-present tea (cay) or coffee or "l'eau





*The oasis where the gathering and cooking tent was set up. The water well was a 20-minute walk over the dunes.*

chaude” (hot water). When we heard the call: “La Table”, we hurried to partake with appreciation this delicious and simple fare. Lunch was fresh-baked bread, a bowl of soup (encrusted with sand around the edges) and pomegranate seeds as dessert. For dinner we had couscous and cooked vegetables with perhaps some dates or olives followed by tea, coffee and the songs and dances of our hosts around the fires. We clapped in time with the rhythms of ancient songs of love, desire and loss and would sometimes offer our versions of Sufi songs as well.



*Bedouin guide trying to pack up the camp gear: tents, poles, food, our stuff...we came out of the desert with less than we took in!*

This trip had a no-frills, but totally authentic flavor, which took me deeper into the true understanding of “sustainability” than any experience I have ever had—despite past Lisle units and vision quests. Our main guide, Khalifa, who is now 40, was born in this desert and was 26 before he saw his first bicycle or automobile! He has never been to school, but is a brilliant man, who has taught himself to speak fluent French and is able to converse reasonably well in English, Dutch, and German as well.

We visited Khalifa’s adobe birth home and village in the desert, which had to be abandoned 15 years ago, when the six wells that sustained it dried up as a result of the tourist resorts on the Mediterranean coast (along with global warming). He was choked up as he described the nomadic life that his people

had sustained for thousands of years, and now have had to abandon and move into villages at the edge of the desert and begin to learn the ways of “civilization”. We later visited the family compound of nine family units that he was personally responsible for in Douz, and met his mother and extended family (including seven beautiful and vivacious teenage girls).

Truly, living with these people was a highlight of my year—although attending Rumi’s 800th Birthday Celebration, meeting the Turkish grandmother of Leyla Welkin and Judy Brown’s friend, Feliz, over Eid (the end of Ramadan), and the inauguration of “The Abraham Path” in the south of Turkey were special adventures as well! 🌍



*My solo camp. Full moon. Where does the sand end and the sky begin?*



## *In Memoriam: Nat Firestone*

*By Hans & Ellie Spiegel*

Sadly we write to tell you that Nat Firestone, Marina's husband, died Friday, November 19, 2007. Nat was challenged by cancer since early in the year but it finally took over his body.

You may know that Nat was originally from Romania. His family were all killed during the war but he escaped to Turino, Italy where he studied architecture. His extended family brought him to the US where he studied at Yale and met Marina. I believe they were married for over 50 years.

Marina's son and daughter live in New York with their families and are very present for Marina. She is such a strong, dear person. I am sure she would appreciate hearing from Lislers. Write her at: 187 Leonia Ave, Leonia, NJ 07675. 🌐

## *In Memoriams*

**Reverend Richard Chartier (Lisle Board)** of Poughkeepsie, New York passed away September 25, 2007.

**Avalon S. Krukin (NY '45)** of New York, New York passed away this past summer.

**Jane (Luther) Spear (CO '46 & NY '47)** of Baraboo, Wisconsin passed away this past summer.

*Our condolences to their families.*



*Dianne "Selma" with Feliz Yuksel's Grandmother in Turkey. Feliz has co-led Lisle programs ('97, '98, 2000) with Leyla Welkin and Judy Brown in Turkey.*

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### **Submissions Solicited!**

We'd love to include your Lisle memories, travel stories, journal entries, poetry, artwork and photographs of unit participants and travel locations.

You can download the submission guidelines from the website.

Please send your submissions to:  
Dianne Brause: [diannebr@lostvalley.org](mailto:diannebr@lostvalley.org)

**AND**

Elise Kimmons: [eldkim@comcast.net](mailto:eldkim@comcast.net)



Clip, fold and mail



# Lisle, Inc. Membership Form

Mail to: 900 County Road 269 • Leander, TX 78641

(800) 477-1538 • Email: <lisle2@io.com>

I want to become/stay a member of the Lisleactive membership roster, and make an annual commitment with a tax-deductible contribution as checked below.

## Lisle 2007 Active Membership Fees

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- Contributing Member ..... \$75-\$149
- Supporting Member ..... \$150-\$499
- Sustaining Member ..... \$500-\$999
- Benefactor ..... \$1000 and above
- Organizational Member ..... \$200

### Information you'd like to receive from Lisle:

- Please send me information about being a **Lisle Mentor**  
(Sponsor an organization to apply for a Mini-Grant)
- Please send me a brochure about **"Providing a Lasting Memorial"**  
(This brochure deals with Wills and Bequests)

### Lisle Items for Sale

- 70th Anniversary T-shirt (Circle the size: M L XL XXL) ..... \$6 / \$8 for XXL
- 70th Anniversary BookBag ..... \$5
- The History of Lisle, Int'l, DVD ..... \$15-20
- 2006 Lisle Directory ..... \$20
- "Tiger by the Tail" by Uncle Si ..... \$25
- "Aunt Edna—50 Years of Memories" by Aunt Edna ..... \$8
- Lisle's 70th Celebration Memories, DVD ..... \$15-20

Because of high processing costs, we no longer are able to accept credit cards.

Please enclose your check payable to "Lisle, Inc."

**Total enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Units attended \_\_\_\_\_

### Notes about your activities for the *Interaction* newsletter

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## MEETINGS

Spring Board Meeting	May 2-4, 2008	Chicago, IL
Annual Meeting	October 17-19, 2008	Austin, TX
Spring Board Meeting	TBA	Chicago, IL

