

Lisle *Interaction*

SPRING ISSUE • 2006

Come Celebrate Twice! *Lisle, Inc. Turns 70 and Walt Ligon Turns 80*

By Walt Ligon

October 5th, if I get there in 2006, will mark my 80th birthday. By coincidence, it is the start of the weekend of the Lisle annual meeting, October 5-8, in Toledo during which we will be celebrating Lisle's 70th anniversary of the first Lisle unit in Lisle, NY in 1936. At the spring Board Meeting in Chicago I agreed that we could call it a joint celebration. I've been to a lot of birthday parties and never thought I would go to one for my own 80th birthday, but combining it with Lisle's 70th is too good an opportunity to miss. With a speaker's theme like "The Campaign for a U. S. Department of Peace and Nonviolence," and a keynote speaker determined to bring that about, younger Lislers may some day have a chance to see Uncle Si's political dream come true.



*Walter Jay Ligon ("Sunny")
circa 1942, during his
Llano High School years.*

For those persons who came into Lisle since Uncle Si was off the scene, DeWitt Baldwin and his wife Edna were founders and for many years co-leaders of Lisle programs in the United States and abroad. During his declining years DeWitt, known affectionately as Uncle Si, took leadership in an effort by Rep. Seymour Halpern of New York and Sen. Vance Hartke of Indiana to establish a U. S. Department of Peace. This started in 1969 and DeWitt Baldwin was chosen chairperson of the Council for a U. S. Department of Peace which had many meetings around the country to build support for the legislation. Although not successful in its initial goal, the Council's effort eventuated in the U. S. Institute of Peace which is active today. More recently, Rep. Dennis Kucinich of

(Cont'd next page)

IN THIS ISSUE

Come Celebrate Twice!	1	Lisle Archives	16
Lisle—The Next Generation	2	Calling for Nominations!	16
Attention All Artists!	2	Treasurer's Report	16
Great Time to Celebrate—Lisle!!	3	Kudos from Fellow Lislers	16
Education for Effective Participation	4	Lisle Changed My Life!	17
President's Message	6	'Round the World	20
Executive Director's Report	7	Kachuba's New Ghost Book #2	22
2005 Mini-Grant Projects	8	Lisle Experience Remembered	22
Spring 2006 Board Meeting Notes	11	Where Did You Spend Spring Break?	23
Lisle in an Electronic Age	12	Travels in Peru	24
Become a Board Member!	13	A Return to India	25
Bill Kinney Agrees to Join Board	13	Lisler Arrested in Attempt to Enlist	26
Amy Yosmali & Website Development	14	Ghasson Tueni Joins Parliament at 80	28
Seeking New Grant Applications	14	In Memoriams	29
Mini-Grant Cycle—Summer/Fall '06	15	Lisle, Inc. Annual Meeting Proxy Form ...	30

Ohio has introduced a bill in the House of Representatives to establish a U. S. Department of Peace and has run for President with that on his agenda. Rep. Kucinich has been invited to be our principal speaker at the Lisle Annual Banquet in Toledo this year. (Editor's Note: Kucinich had to decline since Congress goes into session that week.)

Many people, including myself, have had doubts that Lisle would make it to 70. Lisle looked to be going under when it was 24 years old in 1960 with no summer programs and not much of a board to hold it together. But Uncle Si found some good people to build up the board and soon another crop of summer programs came along. When Lisle turned 24, I turned 34 (I did the math) and did so having just gotten married to Mary Elizabeth "Betty" Gilbert. She became a superb life partner and in a few short years was on the Lisle Board to become a bulwark of strength for Lisle from that position.

The thing I have discovered about Lisle from my first unit in Watkins Glen, NY 1948 to the Lisle Board meeting in Chicago 2006 is that it attracts *fantastic people*, most of whom I would never have had a chance to meet in a Lisle-less life. When a lot of these people get together, as we expect to happen at Toledo the first weekend in October, it becomes a *significant event*. When they come together to celebrate, it becomes an *event to remember*. Lislors have a variety of skills but they all know how to celebrate. So come to Toledo this fall and help Lisle and me celebrate our birthdays! 🌐



Walt and his playmate Maurice
in Llano, Texas, circa 1927.

Lisle— The Next Generation

By John Kachuba

Mary and I have been thinking about the Toledo meeting (October 5-7) and have come up with something of a sub-theme: "Lisle, the Next Generation." This thought was spurred by seeing Bill Kinney and Lori Bratton again at the Chicago meeting and then thinking about how many relatives of Lislors have become involved in the organization.

It's a long list: Bud Baldwin, Darwin Holder Jr., Lori Bratton, Bill Kinney, Leyla Welkin, Craig and Zann Jacobson, Mary's daughter Amy (who will help with the website) and others. I'm sure I'm missing some. Some of these people will actively lead Lisle in the future. There may be other relatives of Lislors out there who have not yet thought about becoming active in Lisle, but who may do so in the future with a little encouragement.

The Toledo meeting might be a great opportunity to invite family members of Lislors to join us and find out what Lisle is all about. It may also be a way of bringing together some of the older Lislors who do not travel as often as they once did, since now they would have their children, or grandchildren traveling with them. 🌐

Attention All Artists! Design Contest

By Barbara Bratton

We need a unique design or logo for this momentous 70th Anniversary meeting. We will use this for T-shirts, notebooks, posters and decorations. We encourage all of you to submit a design incorporating the theme of "Celebrating Lisle at 70: Building on the Past, Into the Future." A rough sketch will be considered and we'll find a contributing artist to refine your ideas. The winner will receive a free meal at the Saturday night banquet or an equivalent gift card if you are unable to attend.

Sketches should be emailed to the office at lisle2@io.com or mailed to the office at 900 County Road 269, Leander, TX 78641 by August 1st.



Now is a Great Time to Celebrate—Lisle!!

By Mark Kinney

Join us in Toledo Ohio for the 70th anniversary Annual Meeting of Lisle, “Celebrating Lisle at 70: Building on the Past into the Future.” Who would have thought that a missionary couple in the 1930’s would create a group of people who in 2006, October 5–8, actually, will meet to share their heritage. The Lisle Fellowship first held a “unit” in Lisle, New York in 1936. From there, as they say, it is just history!

This year we will arrive on Thursday evening October 5, and have meetings on Friday October 6 through Sunday noon October 8. We have lots of wonderful activities planned for your time in Toledo, and that does not mention at all the wonderful sights that can be enjoyed there. Let me mention only two. The world famous Toledo Museum of Art is a museum with the second or third largest endowment fund in the country; it houses its own Egyptian mummies and a Rembrandt. You may also want to visit the wonderfully designed Toledo Zoological Park. Toledo also has many gustatory venues for Lebanese and Middle-Eastern food.



The Canady Center, where the Lisle Archives are housed. Attendees will have the chance to tour this lovely building on the campus of UT.

We will visit the Lisle Archives at the Canady Center of the University of Toledo Library, giving us all a chance to view some of the materials stored there. The exact plans for the event will be available by the end of the summer. At this time, we can say for sure that on Friday we will visit the archives, have an opportunity to add video oral histories, view the Lisle films, audios, and videos, and other similar activities. We are also planning times for Lislers from specific units and programs to visit with one another. So bring other Lislers your friends, spouses, children & grandchildren. Invite Lisle Mini-Grant Mentors and grantees, and especially people wanting to apply for a Lisle Mini-Grant. Finally, if you want to arrange a Lisle program/Unit mini-reunion please let the

office know. Wrapping up Friday will be an exciting Lisle Party celebrating 70 years of Lisle and Walt Ligon’s 80th birthday. Bring your memories and plan on hearing lots of stories of Lisle Past, Lisle Present, and Lisle Future, and anecdotes about Walt! Should be great fun.

On Saturday from 9–12 we will hold the Annual Business Meeting. Part of this meeting will be hearing about the great successes of our mini-grantee programs. Mini-Grant awards for 2006–7 will be made. In the afternoon we will participate in a deputation to a local program of interest. Plans are in the works to visit a residential school for convicted youth, which is run by the Toledo Public Schools. Our annual banquet, which begins at 7pm, will include a guest speaker, identity yet to be revealed. We are awaiting confirmation on a speaker from the Department of Peace Campaign..

Sunday morning will be the first Board Meeting for the newly elected and continuing board members. All Lislers are welcome to attend. Should you wish to assist with the meeting or make a contribution to the Annual Meeting fund, please contact the Lisle office. Your contribution can help us in transforming a number of audio, film and video memorabilia into digital format for better access in the future.

Making Arrangements

Rooms have been blocked out at the Comfort Inn at Westgate, about two miles from the campus of the University of Toledo. Individuals need to call and reserve a room for themselves.

Rooms are \$59 per night, plus tax. The address is 3650 Secor Road, Toledo, OH 43606 (419) 531-2666. Their e-mail address is: <www.comfortinn.com>. Other nearby motels are the Clarion Hotel Westgate, and the Red Roof Inn.

Toledo is easy to get to. By car, it is at the cross roads of I-80/90 going east/west and I-75 going north/south. You can “Google” the Internet for a map of Toledo. By plane Toledo is easily accessible either by flying into Detroit Metro airport (about 45 minutes away) or the Toledo airport (about 25 minutes away). Shuttle from Detroit Metro Airport costs \$100 including tip. Shuttle from Toledo Airport is available.

For further details and a registration form, please call the Leander, TX office toll free at (800) 477-1538 <lisle2@io.com>, or Mark Kinney, committee chair person, at <mark.kinney@utoledo.edu> or 989-595-3667. Final materials will be available by September 1. 🌐



Education for Effective Participation and Leadership in Human Relations

Case Study: The Lisle Fellowship. An Interracial, Interfaith and International Laboratory Experience in Human Relations

By Dewitt C. Baldwin, Jr.

Professor of Human Behavior and Development, University of Connecticut Health Center.

Wednesday December 10, 1969.

Editor's Note: Thanks to Marty Tillman for sending us an essay written by Bud Baldwin written in 1969 while teaching at the University of Connecticut. It is especially fitting that we publish it in this issue to help bring perspective to our 70th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting this October in Toledo. Thanks, Bud, for providing us a historical, purpose-driven scholarly piece that helps remind us all of the "First Principles" of the Baldwin's vision, Lisle's origins and early years.

For over a third of a century the Lisle Fellowship has pioneered in a unique educational approach to personal and leadership development and intercultural living. This approach is based on the premise that attitudinal and behavioral changes take place when (1) an approach to personality is built into the atmosphere and activities of a cross-cultural group, and when (2) the guidance provided for understanding social processes is based on a philosophy of "community." The solid consistency and continuance of its educational programs through periods of stress, war, confusion, and change have given support to Lisle's focus and to the need for an integrated educational process to prepare new kinds of perspectives for world citizenship.

I. History

The educational concepts of the Lisle Fellowship were developed out of the discoveries and experiences of DeWitt and Edna Baldwin during the ten years from 1923 to 1933 when they lived and worked with peoples in the Asian cultures of Rangoon, Burma. Lisle's pattern of education was developed as a result of a three-year survey of student attitudes conducted by the Baldwins from 1933 to 1936 on approximately thirty campuses throughout the United States.

This survey revealed the student's need for a new approach for understanding the history, geography, and

social and cultural customs of the peoples around the world, one which could help to broaden the perspectives of young people training to work in international and intercultural relations.

In 1936, a group of twenty-seven young adults from different national, racial, religious and socio-economic backgrounds met in the village of Lisle, New York to initiate Lisle's first summer program in cross cultural encounter. They took the name "Lisle" from the village where they met and the word "Fellowship" for the quality of interpersonal and intercultural relationship developed. For its first ten years the Lisle Fellowship functioned with the Baldwins as the Executive Directors operating under an Advisory Committee made up of a group of interested individuals at Cornell University and expanding to include other members from among the Lisle Fellowship alumni, friends and interested businessmen. The program continued to develop and expand and in 1946 the Lisle Fellowship was "incorporated as an independent non-profit membership organization for intercultural educational purposes". Since 1936, over 4,000 persons have participated in Lisle programs in North America, South America, the Caribbean, Europe, and Asia.



Bud Baldwin at the spring Board Meeting, 2005, in Chicatgo.



Lisle's first educational program outside of the United States took place in 1952 when former participants from Denmark asked for this type of educational approach to be developed in their country. In 1954, Lisle was invited to Germany and later to Jamaica and Japan. Lisle was one of the first organizations participating in the USA-USSR Exchange Programs developed in 1958. In the 1960's Lisle has responded to the quest for understanding the cultures of Latin America by starting projects focusing on community development in Columbia and Bolivia. In 1967, Lisle responded to the need expressed by young professionals for an educational program in intercultural relations and with the cooperation of the Office of International Training in the US Department of Health, Education and Welfare, opened a program in Puerto Rico especially designed for vocational development. Lisle contracted with the US Agency for International Development in 1967 to provide a Leadership Seminar in American Communities and Voluntary Service Agencies for un-sponsored foreign students.

II. Educational Pattern

Lisle's intercultural educational process is drawn from a structural pattern, which operates through theory combined with field experiences (practice). The pattern is developed through the following five phases:

1. Intercultural Group Representation: Each group is carefully selected so it has representation of persons from diverse national racial, religious and socio-economic backgrounds. These rich human resources of the leadership and group members are as essential as the formal backgrounds they bring in providing an environment where members can learn from each other's differences as well as similarities.

2. Orientation: The orientation takes place at the Lisle Center where the foundation for a process of inter-group living, thinking and working, are established. Participants become acquainted with the human resources of others in the group. They work out the arrangements for the cooperative living pattern carried through by teams formed from the larger group.

3. Community Placements: Working in small teams representing the various cultural backgrounds of the larger group, members go out to work in surrounding communities and their institutions including social service agencies, government organizations, educational institutions, as well as industry and business. Members live with families or in other facilities provided by the sponsoring agency in an effort to become totally involved in the life of the community.

Teams participate for a three to five day assignment in some three to five different community placements. The team composition changes with each placement to allow individuals to experience varying interpretations of teamwork. Contacts with the realities of life processes and human nature take many forms in the field placements in the different communities and agencies.

4. Team Evaluations of Field Placements: After each field placement period, the teams return to the Lisle Center for four to six days of evaluation in which the participants react, study and analyze issues encountered in the practical field experiences.

Educational and community consultants come to the Lisle Center during the evaluation periods to provide new points of information, to teach additional leadership skills and to assist in evaluating the implications of the different types of situations encountered in the community. Lisle also recognizes the need for the members to participate in periods of relaxation and makes provisions for group fieldtrips, recreational and social activities as planned by the members at the Lisle Center.

5. Final Evaluations: In the final evaluations by individual participants, the many levels of the individual, community and group experiences are drawn together. An effort is made to provide interpretations and understandings of the different aspects of the training and the implications involved in the processes for intercultural living and work. Each participant has been involved in (1) experiences which develop intercultural attitudes and leadership and practical skills (2) a recognition of the need for flexibility in working in different levels of needs and with changing times and conditions, and has developed (1) a greater ability to adjust himself successfully in unknown situations and (2) to meet human concerns.

III. Educational Principles

Lisle's educational significance lies in its unique appreciation of the combination of basic developmental educational principles, the use of group work methods and the experiences and learnings, which are opened through intercultural representation in a group living situation. Lisle also incorporates a concept of the total development of personality and the importance of working through emotion as well as reason; practical experience as well as ideas and theory; acceptance of individuals as maturing adults as well as allowing for self discovery of new attitudes, skills and decision making processes.

(See "Baldwin" on page 27)

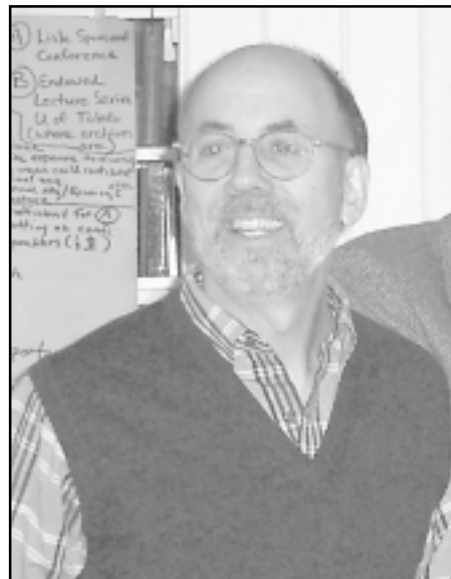


President's Message

Lisle reaches 70! Wow! What can you say when any organization, in any professional field, has somehow managed to sustain itself for such a long time? One thing you can say for sure about us is that we had the good fortune to have DeWitt and Edna Baldwin as Lisle's founding family, and that they were able to be actively engaged with leadership for a good part of SIX decades! As I hope readers know by now, we are in Lisle's 70th year—and as you will read elsewhere in this issue, we hope you and your family will be able to join us in Toledo, Ohio, near the campus of the University of Toledo next October 5–7, for a special Annual Membership Meeting. A meeting which will look forward to the future while building on Lisle's past history of innovation and experimentation in international and intercultural experiential learning. Please save the dates!

At many different turning points in our history, but especially, I think, beginning in the late 1960's, some Lislers questioned the viability of the Lisle intercultural education model and its meaning for college age students. During an era when many social and cultural institutions were confronting religious, educational and political leaders, Lisle witnessed a decline in participation in its programs. When I met the Baldwins in 1975, I was fresh out of World Learning's School for International Training with a second MA degree and just back from an internship with the Gandhi Peace Foundation in New Delhi. We clicked. I thought Lisle's history was fascinating, was captivated by the energy of DeWitt (then 78 years old!), and looking for work, too!! So in the summer of 1976, I led Lisle's "Bicentennial" program in Washington. And thus began my odyssey of seven years of work with Lisle.

Everyone I have ever met who was in a "unit" or a program, here or abroad, or who was a personal or professional friend of the Baldwins, or who may have worked for Si at the University of Michigan, in New York, or DC, has their own special story to tell about Lisle and its impact upon their life and perhaps that of their family. These stories reflect the socio-cultural and political issues spanning seven decades in the 20th and 21st centuries. You might refer to the 30's and 40's as Lisle's founding era; the 40's and 50's as the post-war era; the 60's and 70's as the era of change and turmoil and the 90's and early years of this new century as the era of transition.



Marty Tillman, Our Board President

In our 70th year, Lisle finds itself in a new place. We are in the midst of the third cycle of our latest innovative approach to building a more peaceful and better world. It is a radical departure from our past because we are not conducting summer programs. However, Lisle is still striving to realize change in individuals and in communities. It's just that we are doing this in a different way. You can read the brief interim reports from those organizations to which we made mini-grant awards last fall. You can go online to learn more about their work. You can decide if the new Lisle is true to the vision of our mission statement. I believe we are acting in good faith with our past and developing new opportunities to build bridges across cultures. I believe Lisle is now more actively supporting social change and community development than ever before. And I hope you feel the same way!

Please plan to attend the fall Annual Meeting to learn more about our current work and to experience the fellowship and sistership which always occurs when we come together. If you cannot join us, but would like to share a story about how Lisle has influenced your life or that of others you know, email us at <lisle2@io.com> or write the Texas office at 900 County Road 269, Leander, TX 78641. 🌐

Marty Tillman



Executive Director's Report

I write from Hungary for the last time this year. Nancy and I have had a very interesting and rewarding year in Eger, teaching and learning. On May 30th we will fly back to the US to pick up our relationships with friends and relatives, in person. There have been so many people who have helped to make this year work well, and we thank them all for their help.

Lisle has continued to move forward. Much good work has been done to prepare the Lisle Mini-Grant program for its third year. The process will be announced in this Interaction with the applications due at the end of the summer and the grants recipients will be announced during the Lisle 70th Anniversary, 2006 Annual Meeting in Toledo Ohio.

The Annual Meeting is being held in Toledo so that Lislers can view and interact with the historical materials which are stored at the University of Toledo. For an idea of what is located within the 72.75 linear feet of materials (can you believe that?), check out our Website at: www.lisleinternational.org/archives/archives.html We are betting that we all can expand the holdings to at least 85 feet with the materials that we all have in our attics. If you want to know what kinds of things we are looking for, please look at the suggestions at: www.lisleinternational.org/archives/archivessubmit.html. (Also, see page 16.)

The Lisle Board concentrated good effort during its spring meeting in April to plan a very exciting and rich program for the 70th anniversary celebration. Do come, bring your memorabilia, your stories, and most important of all your enthusiasm for Lisle.

The second year Mini-Grant recipients are hard at work with their projects. You can read all about them at:



Mark Kinney, Our Executive Director

www.lisleinternational.org, and to the right, read about the completion of the first year programs at: www.lisleinternational.org/publications/pdf/winter06.pdf.

Lisle is still, in the 21st century, creating a history to be proud of. We welcome your participation. You all know we ask for your financial support. You can also support Lisle by becoming a Lisle Mentor to an applicant for this year's Mini-Grant program. Another approach is to come and join us in Toledo in the fall. Whatever way you choose, we would love to hear from you about how Lisle has caused your life to unfold as it has. 🌐

Mark Kinney



Betty Ligon and Ann Groves, good chums, at the 2006 Spring Board Meeting in Chicago. Ann participated in the Denmark 1955 Unit.



While Mark was hard at work in Hungary, Board Members at the Board meeting in Chicago this spring were frolicking in the sun and testing their visual capabilities at the Millenium Park near Lake Michigan.



Exciting News from the 2005 Mini-Grant Projects

By Mark Kinney

Since having been awarded their grants in November, the 2005–6 recipients of Mini-Grant awards have been busy. Already many exciting results are reported. I am personally very excited to read about the results, which are shared by Shunku Lacta, which point to the building on top of the work, which we supported from last year. It sounds to me like the ball is rolling and picking up steam. I believe this kind of leverage is very important.

The Myanmar Project: SE Asians in USA

The Myanmar project to provide conference experience for several Myanmar students to meet and talk with other students from South East Asia has completed their work. As you will recall, the project gave seven students from Myanmar (better known as Burma) who are freshmen and sophomores at liberal arts colleges, a chance to join the first professional conference of their lives on November 10-12, the Southeast Asia Conference at Yale. Particularly valuable at the conference, as at Lisle deputations, were the informal exchanges that took place among students.

A small team of Yale undergraduates and graduate students organized the conference so as to maximize the interchange between the Burmese students and other conference participants. They also invited students from Wesleyan, which has an impressive number of Southeast Asians students thanks to the Freeman Foundation. The Burmese students shared rooms in the residence halls with Yale students attending the conference. For Burmese students to meet fellow Southeast Asians their own age is a special privilege since Burma has experienced forty-four years of isolation. The cultural evening on Friday was a high point as our students were on-stage clapping rhythmically as a mixed Burmese and American group from Yale performed a Burmese folk dance celebrating rice planting. At both of the dinners for the invited speakers, our students were invited to participate and thus able to talk informally with researchers and activists who have a passion for Southeast Asia.

The Crane Culture Theater Project: California

Crane Culture Theater project, as you will recall, serves to cultivate the values of living in harmony with the earth

through cultural contexts. Stories of cultures from around the world are brought to stage to help attendees gain greater respect for all life, appreciation of diverse cultures and inspiration to both visit and protect natural environments in their greater community.

Lisle funding was used, in part, for the production and presentations of a 30-minute reader's theater, live music and dance performance of "Arap Sang and the Cranes," an East African folktale. The story is about an old man's search for assistance and respect, the kindness he finds in cranes, and his realization of the need to protect the cranes.

The project reports that the field trips have been a challenge since funds for buses are almost non-existent, most schools do their field trips earlier than the grant funding was provided, and, inner city schools with high cultural diversity tend to have poor PTAs and parent(s) with very limited income. The good news is that Bruce Forman conducted a successful trip (kids wrote individualized letters afterwards) in February and another trip was rescheduled for April 27. The mask-making workshop with artist Armando Cyd was completed by the first week of June. Students were to make two sets of masks, one of a farmer from one of many cultures, possibly with decals or their own art of a crop or two that they farm. They may use crops as facial parts like a bean for lips of a smile.

The Arap Sang Theater program reports that everything is getting ready. Masks have been fabricated and painted; costumes' fabrics have been purchased, designed created; and are in process of fabrication. The numerous music segments have been identified, and will be mixed by a sound engineer, Evan Darth, after two rehearsals are done to get the exact timing and segment length determined. The choreography has been developed by the dancer/actor, and the set is ready.

Even after losing a cast member to a job that wouldn't allow the time for rehearsals, rehearsals were gotten back on track and first school program at the Alice Birney Sacramento Public School, a school with a highly culturally and ethnically diverse student body, is scheduled for first week of June. Five people in the cast include Angela James, a well-known local African American storyteller. Scheduling with a second school, a culturally diverse school in Citrus Heights,



is pending, and the third program is being negotiated with a local art gallery/center in the Oak Park section of Sacramento, an area with a large African American population.

Shunku Llacta Project: Ecuador

Shunku Llacta has been working to plan our upcoming 2006 Team trip in December, and to carry out the efforts initiated during our 2005 program (you may remember that this is the second project by Shunku Llacta, which Lisle has funded). Shunku Llacta's in-country staff meets bi-weekly with community leaders from the Artisans' Groups of Guayabillas and Santa Rosa, the two communities involved in the project. Shunku Llacta staff and community leaders are developing work projects for this year's volunteer trip and are prioritizing the subject areas for capacity building that community members have requested.



Shunku Llacta staff, volunteers and community members traveling between communities in the forest near Santa Rosa.



A Shunku Llacta volunteer teaches knitting skills to the Artisan's Group in Santa Rosa.

Shunku Llacta staff will seek volunteers with expertise in the areas requested by the Artisans' Groups, in order to provide more targeted support and training workshops for the communities during the 2006 program. Suggested subject areas include accounting, small business management, and marketing crafts and food products under organic and fair trade labels.

Second, support from 2005 volunteers has continued to expand the impact of the work started during the volunteers' stay in the communities. Volunteers gathered donations at home which allowed the communities to buy materials and add expansions to the work projects started during the trip. Santa Rosa has completed public sanitary facilities for their

community, and Guayabillas has completed a water system, finally providing a much-needed water source for all families, as well as public sanitary facilities at the community center. Volunteers have brought home their experiences, and shared with their home communities the transformation and cross-cultural experiences they enjoyed with Shunku Llacta. One volunteer from Denmark sent us these reflections:

"I planned a presentation to the Scouts, ages 10-15 years old, and my biggest problem was too short time and too much I wanted to show. I showed them pictures and they had Melcocha, Panella and peanuts to taste. We listened to Cumbia, smelled leaves from Jim and Mimi's garden and we played with the small marbles. We sang "Los Pollitos" in Spanish, looked at beautiful handicrafts from the women's groups and to end we had dinner: quinoa soup, bananas, patacones (mashed plantain), coca tea and sugar water."

"To do all of that we had only two hours, which was all too short. But I think they had a good time and learned more of Ecuador, communities and life there. And I had a great time doing that and telling and remembering it all again :) Sometimes I read my postcard to remember what I promised myself, and now I did some of it. I will still try to sell the handicrafts."

Shunku Llacta staff are currently recruiting for our next trip. Recruiting efforts are supported by returned volunteers working in their home communities. Our informational listing can be found on our website at: <www.shunkullacta.org>. Lislers are welcome to apply!

(Cont'd next page)



Medica Mondiale: Uganda

Medica Mondiale E.V., a German-based NGO, supports traumatised women and girls in war and crisis regions with a particular focus on survivors of sexualised violence. Medica Mondiale is in the process of developing a training programme for Ugandan health workers and other professionals working with traumatised women and girls.

With the support of Lisle mini-grant and mentored by Anne-Rose Heck, Medica Mondiale is working to conduct a workshop and additional meetings in Lira, Northern Uganda with 40 women living and working in Northern Uganda. Participants will have diverse backgrounds concerning age, social status, profession, religion, ethnicity, sex/gender, population group and district. Plans have been delayed because of an increase in the fighting in the region. We hope to have more information in the near future.

Human Rights Across Borders: USA/Venezuela

The Poor People's Economic Human Right's Campaign (PPEHRC) is committed to uniting the poor across national boundaries as the leadership base for a broad movement to abolish poverty. They work to accomplish this through advancing economic human rights named in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights—such as the rights to food, housing, health, education, communication and a living wage job.

Thanks in part to a generous grant from Lisle, the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign was able to carry out its "Human Rights Across Borders" delegation of poor and homeless leaders from across the US to Venezuela in January 2006. "In addition to the four people sponsored by Lisle, we were able to raise the resources to bring several other people, enabling us to have a strong exchange between the poor of the US and the poor of Venezuela and other parts of the world, both during and after the World Social Forum in Caracas in January 2006. Delegates continue to share the lessons and experiences of the trip to Venezuela with people in their communities and in their organizing for human rights across the United States."

Cheri Honkala, the leader of the delegation, is the National Coordinator of the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign (PPEHRC) and is a formerly homeless mother of two. For the past two decades, Cheri has worked to bring visibility to poor and homeless families and everyone suffering from economic human rights violations in the richest country in the world. 🌐

Judy Brown, in the last issue of Interaction, reported about the "Gathering of Lislers", that happened in August 2005. 12 Lislers who had participated in a variety of Units met for three days on the shores of Puget Sound. Below are two pictures that show what the beach bumming life with friends is all about: camp fires and cook-outs!



It just doesn't get any better than this!



Can you name the Notables?



Lisle's own, Judy Brown



Lisle Spring 2006 Board Meeting Notes

By Betsy Bridwell

The Lisle Board had its annual spring meeting in Chicago at the Institute of Cultural Affairs' International Conference Center. In attendance were Marty Tillman, Barb Bratton, Jon Findley, Beth Bader, Dianne Brause, John Kachuba, Mary Newman, Betsy Bridwell, Bill Kinney, Walt & Betty Ligon, and local visitor Ann Groves.

We started the meeting on Saturday morning with a review of the Board of Directors membership list and confirmation of years of service. Leyla Welkin has left the Board and this will be Betsy Bridwell's last year. We discussed the recruitment of new members, particularly those with grant experience, and utilizing the fall meeting in Toledo to re-engage people with Lisle.

Barb distributed the treasurer's report for review. She emphasized that income from membership has remained solid and stable, but income from investments is down significantly. The finance committee recommends redistributing our assets to generate a higher return. This would involve having less in CDs and more in blue chip stocks and conservative growth and income that would generate dividends. The board approved the new allocation plan with the stipulation that socially responsible funds should be used unless it would mean significantly lower return. The finance committee will research fund options and the executive committee will make the final decision on allocations. (*See page 16 for more info.*)

The donor of the Bagoes Oka Fund agreed that the restriction of its use exclusively for Bali programs could be removed, so the Board approved merging the monies into the Baldwin Fund for more general use.

Mini-Grant Process

The board reviewed the mini-grant materials for 2006 and made some minor revisions. An Award Acceptance Agreement was added, which recipients will sign. This will outline their responsibilities and add an element of formality.

There was discussion of evaluating the grant process and the success rate of grantees, of developing some criteria for success. There was also discussion of inviting grantee organizations to become "affiliate members" of Lisle, with the potential of expanding our membership base. It was agreed that we should try to bring representatives of some of the organizations (or the Lisle Mentor) to the Toledo meeting for presentations.

Membership of the grant review committee was discussed. It was generally agreed that all board members should rotate onto the committee for two cycles, so each person would understand and be involved in the process. We continue to consider participation by non-board members as well.

We have still to determine the amount of money available for awards for this year. Barb will e-mail the board in late summer, when we are close to the end of the fiscal year, with an updated financial picture and estimate of future income, and a recommendation for the grant money amount for 2006–2007.

Future meetings

The Annual Meeting/Fall Board Meeting will be held in Toledo, Ohio October 6–8, 2006. The next spring Board Meeting will be April 28–29, 2007 in our regular Chicago venue. We agreed that we would plan the fall 2007 meeting for Boston, with tentative plans for Austin in 2008, Seattle in 2009, and New Orleans in 2010.

Annual Meeting in Toledo, Ohio

The board brainstormed themes for the fall meeting and agreed upon "Celebrating Lisle at 70: Building on the Past into the Future." (Although "It's Walt's 80th Birthday – What More Could You Want?" was a close second!) We developed a tentative agenda and activities, which will be fleshed out by the planning committee working with Mark Kinney. (*See article on page 3 about the Toledo meeting*)

Barb compiled a budget for the meeting, which includes cost of meeting rooms, videotaping of personal Lisle memories, honorarium for keynote speaker, and refreshments. We agreed to allocate some funds to support five grant recipients or mentors to attend the meeting and give reports on their projects. We also agreed that personal letters from leaders of Lisle programs to encourage participants' attendance at the Toledo meeting would be wonderful. Several offered to do this.

In addition to our business meeting, a few of us had a chance to enjoy a little bit of Chicago at the Navy Pier and the new Millennium Park. We had another lovely Saturday night dinner at Reza's Mediterranean restaurant, which has become a bit of a tradition for our spring meetings. Perhaps we will try a new place next year! 🌐



Lisle in an Electronic Age

By Jon Findley

Lisle first went electronic in the 90's with a small Web page on a borrowed server that listed the units we were sponsoring and the use of e-mail for communication. If you have visited our Web page recently, you know that we have progressed quite a bit since then.

Today, we have our own domain name. It's <<http://www.LisleInternational.org>>. Our Website contains drop-down menus that help people find the information they want, colorful graphics and photos, many pages of historical information, and forms that can be down-loaded onto a computer to print, fill out and mail in.

As the Internet changes and as Lisle's short-term objectives change, we are continuing to study what we do and how we do it to make it easier to do business with limited resources. We continue to see three main purposes for our use of the Internet and electronic communications:

1) Making information available to the public and making communication with them easier. Today, this is mainly related to the grant-making process.

2) Providing information to and communicating with Lisle alumni. This involves keeping alumni information up to date so that they can communicate with each other and, of course, fund raising.

3) Using a variety of tools to make the day-to-day operation of the organization work better. We can communicate more easily between the staff, board of directors, committees, and grant-related organizations.

What we are doing seems to work well but we continue to try to find ways to do things better. One suggestion relates to our use of the Web-site version of *Interaction*. If you lose your paper copy or want someone to see something that was in *Interaction*, the current, as well as many past issues, are available on the Web. It sits there, 24 hours a day, just waiting to be read. Some organizations have been able to reduce postage costs because members want to eliminate the paper version of their newsletter altogether and get only an electronic version.

Another possibility is to have an electronic newsletter in addition to *Interaction*. This might go out once a month or whenever it was necessary to update members and friends. This might be tied to a "ListServ" on a computer that would send messages to an e-mail list maintained by Lisle that

would allow members to send back messages to be seen by everyone on the list. If you are interested in being a part of this kind of experience, please make sure that the Lisle office has your current e-mail address.

We are also hoping to make use of some electronic gadgetry as part of the Annual Meeting in Toledo in October. Some of us have been eager to visit Toledo because the Lisle archives are housed at the University. You can already see a list of the "folders" of materials they already have by looking at our Web site. We hope that alumni will look at that list. If you think you have materials that are not already in the archives, consider bringing them with you to the Annual Meeting or sending them ahead of time so we can evaluate them and add them as needed. The electronic part comes in because we can copy or scan materials that are brought or sent and they will become part of the archives and the originals can be returned to the owner. As we collect this kind of information, we can make some of it available on our Web site as well.

As part of this project, we are already making plans to copy one or more of the old films that were made of the Baldwins or at Lisle units and have them available at the meeting in a form that alumni can take home, probably on a DVD disk.

Another project that we are working on is to have equipment available in Toledo so that alumni can make a video recording of their memories of Lisle. These would also be added to the archives.

Now, you say that you would like to do one or more of these things but can't come to Toledo in October? Well, you may be able to join us electronically! We are hoping to set up one or more of our Annual meeting sessions for teleconferencing so that alumni can dial into the meeting and listen in, as well as talk to the group. If we could get the participation of the University of Toledo and other such institutions or organizations, we might even be able to set up a videoconference.

Let us know if any of these projects interest you. I will be happy to answer any question you might have. You can call, write, or e-mail me: 1030 E. Baseline Rd, # 105-987, Tempe, AZ 85283; Telephone: 480-756-2916; E-mail: <jdf@learnweb.com>. 🌐



Want to Join the Fun?

Become a Board Member!

By Barb Bratton

I've been a member of the Lisle Board since 1996. It is true that I donate my time and money to Lisle because I am so closely aligned with its goals and because it is a small enough organization that my contribution can have significance. I must also admit, however, that I attend Board meetings because they are Fun!!

When I first joined Lisle, the Board met three times a year in a variety of places in order to connect with Lisler's all over the world. Now we meet only twice and each spring is in Chicago because of its central location. As I am in my 50's and have managed some time and financial independence, I am fulfilling my lifetime goal of seeing new places and meeting new people. Through attending Lisle Board meetings, I have spent time in New York, Washington DC, Seattle, Maine, New Orleans, Houston, Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Phoenix, Germany and others. I've met new friends in all of these places and have been able to explore new venues with great company.

Chicago, April 2006 is a good example. My daughter, Lori (Costa Rica 1999, India 2000) is attending the University of Northern Illinois so I flew in on Wednesday to spend a day and a half with her in Sycamore. Friday, Lori and I picked up Dianne Brause at the airport and had time to visit one of the world's best museums – The Field Museum in Chicago. At 4:00 we picked up Betsy Bridwell from her flight and the four of us gawked at the Magnificent Mile along Michigan Ave. then went on to the Navy Pier for dinner, sight-seeing and fellowship.

We arrived at the International House in Northeast Chicago, near the lakefront, where we arrange typical low cost, shared room facilities and meals. It is always good to catch up with other Board members lives, or other frequent visitors and, sometimes, the best times, new Lislers who have found us again and come acquaint us with their lives and ideas and experiences with Lisle.

Board meetings end by noon on Sunday and Lori, Betsy, Dianne, Jon Findley and I were able to stop at the new Millennium Park on a beautiful spring day. Splitting up there to make various travel deadlines, we were able to go to our respective homes having advanced the Lisle agenda while getting an introduction to the exciting city of Chicago and sharing good times with friends. What more could you ask for??? Like to join the Board? Give us a hint and Marty will be in touch. 🌐

Bill Kinney Agrees to Join Board

A third generation Lisler and grand nephew of Uncle Si and Aunt Edna, Bill Kinney, agreed to move from an Associate Board member to full Board member (after all the fun we had in Chicago!)

He says, "I am inclined to accept the Board Membership you offered. I hope we will all work well in a world that needs an organization like Lisle. I also wanted to let you know I was recently appointed the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Liaison to the Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (Institute based in Prague and D.C.) sponsored by USAID. We'll see what that means as time goes by. In any case I would be interested in coordinating a writing effort on behalf of Lislers from my generation."

We're sure Bill will be an asset in our future decision-making tasks, and will further Lisle's Statement of Purpose.

Are there any other "younger" Lislers out there who would like to join Bill in this effort?

Editor's Note: Bill's nomination will be officially voted on at the Annual Meeting this fall in Toledo. 🌐



Bill Kinney, Board nominee, and Jon Findley, longtime Lisler and Board Member, dining during the Chicago Board Meeting.



Betty and Walt Ligon, John Kachuba and Mary Newman at dinner in Chicago.



Amy Yosmali & Website Development

By John Kachuba

Amy Yosmali, an artist and Web designer, has agreed to work with Mark Kinney in further developing the Lisle website. Amy, who is the daughter of Lisle Board member Mary Newman, lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, and has designed websites for several individuals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations. Her services to Lisle are being donated and will initially include a usability assessment to determine how user-friendly is the current Lisle site.

Amy has taken a variety of computer courses at Northern Kentucky University and Cincinnati State Technical College and is currently teaching computer courses through Pro Train. In addition to her computer expertise, Amy is also a painter, working in acrylics, and is President of the Essex Studio Artists Guild in Cincinnati.

Although Amy has not been on any Lisle programs, she is interested in other cultures and has traveled to China with her mother and to Thailand with her husband, Tim. While in Thailand she and Tim visited Friends of the Asian Elephant rescue center and saw elephants that were trained to paint pictures. She has several of these pictures available for sale at \$600 each. Amy will donate 25% of the purchase price to the center in the buyer's name and will also match that donation.



Amy Yosmali with one of the young "artists."

For more information about Amy and her work, or to obtain information about purchasing elephant art, visit her website at: <www.aydzn.com>. To learn more about Friends of the Asian Elephant, visit: <www.elephant.or.th/>. 🌐

Seeking New Grant Applications

By Barbara Bratton

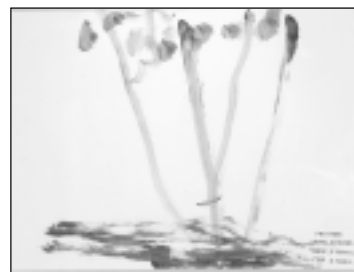
We are moving into our third year of the "New Lisle" wherein we have been able to continue the spirit of the Lisle programs without the high cost of funds and personnel in planning and executing our own trips.

In the last two years, Lisle has participated, through financial support, in eight exciting programs which have fulfilled our requirement of "broadening the ideal of a global community and increasing the appreciation of all cultures...bringing together persons of diversity...to interact with each other and reflect upon their experiences." The process continues to get refined and new forms are currently available on the web site at <www.lisleinternational.org>.

There are four primary goals of this program and all are entirely dependent on the response from you, the Lisle membership:

1. Continue our outreach to small organizations that will be enabled to pursue their goals with a \$500 to \$3,000 grant.
2. Continue to enlist a wide range of Lisle members as Mentors for future projects.
3. Find ways in which the Lisle membership can participate in these programs (beyond giving funds), thereby continuing to grow the Lisle membership base.
4. Involve another generation of Lislers: their children, their friends, and their communities in order to share the Lisle experience in a new way.

To these ends, we encourage you to become a Mentor, request a Program Proposal package from the office and work with your project director to fulfill the application requirements in a timely manner. If you have ideas on #3, how we can incorporate these grant recipients in Lisle membership or vice versa, please join an email discussion with Barb Bratton at <dragnfly@io.com>. This idea will be further explored during discussions at the annual meeting in Toledo. 🌐



A group effort at painting, by three elephants, ages 10, 8, and 4.



Mini-Grant Cycle—Summer/Fall '06

By Barbara Bratton

Lisle has launched the third round of the mini-grant program. The success of the previous grantees has been documented for you in this *Interaction*. In order to proceed with the next round of grant making, we are asking Lisle friends and family to act as a Mentor for your favorite non-profit.

Call the office with your information and we will send a package to you, as the Lisle Mentor, and to the requesting agency as Potential Grantee. (*Note: The Lisle Mentor and the Potential Grantee may, in some cases, be the same person.*) Lisle grants are between \$500 and \$3,000 to assist individuals and organizations to conduct projects that further the goals of Lisle.

Request a proposal package from the Lisle Office (800) 477-1538 or <lisle2@io.com>.

Completed applications must be returned to the Lisle Office by September 1, 2006.

Mark Kinney, Executive Director, will review the initial applications and initiate discussions with the applicant and the mentor to enrich and refine the applications. When applications are complete, the Board Committee will receive a packet of all project proposals for review, evaluation and recommendation.

The Annual Meeting will be October 5–8, 2006 with Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, October 7 in Toledo. Grants will be awarded at this meeting. Grantees and mentors will be advised soon after this meeting of our decision to fund or not fund each proposed project.

The project should occur between November 2006 and October 2007.

Lisle Office: 900 County Road 269, Leander, TX 78641. Toll-free phone: (800) 477-1538. E-mail: <lisle2@io.com>. ☉

Moved?

If you've moved since receiving your newsletter, please be sure to send in a change of address notifications to Lane at the Lisle office: <lisle2@io.com>. If the forwarding time has expired, Lisle spends 70 cents plus 63 cents for each piece of returned mail. Let's do all we can to shave off operating costs! ☉

Lisle Meetings in 2007

Here's the skinny on the upcoming meetings! Please try to attend. Not only do attendees have fun gathering together, but they participate in a vibrant and productive process as the future of Lisle is dreamed and planned. We're a bunch of "good folks."

Spring Board Meeting: April 27-29, 2007

Location: International Conference Center, 4750 Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL.

The Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA), an organization whose mission is very much in harmony with Lisle's philosophy runs the conference center. Lisle's Board has been meeting at this venue for the last several Spring Meetings. It's located near Lake Michigan in a very diverse neighborhood.

Annual Meeting: October 5-7, 2007

Location: The Walker Center, 171 Grove Street, Auburndale, MA.

The Center is located close to major highways and public transportation, with easy access to downtown Boston and the greater Boston area. For almost 140 years, the Walker Center has opened its doors on its hillside in Newton, MA, for multiple ministries of Christian hospitality. The Walker Center's mission has broadly encompassed individuals and groups who are active in the fields of religion and political action for social justice

The Winter 2007 *Interaction* will provide detailed information. ☉



At the Board Meeting in Chicago this spring, Barbara & Lori Bratton, Jon Findley and Lane Winnet took time to explore Millenium Park. Chicago is beautiful in thespring!



Add Quality to the Lisle Archives

By Mark Kinney

In this year of the 70th anniversary of Lisle, perhaps this is the time to think about donating items to the Lisle archives. Many of us have lots in our collections from our memorable Lisle experiences. You can help in two ways: you can clean out part of your house and contribute to the researchable historical collection of Lisle materials.

So what should you think of donating to Lisle? The focus should be on donating what will be useful for researching the organization. Therefore, materials such as *identified* photographs, scrapbooks, diaries and letters of those who were in Lisle programs, videos of interviews with participants, etc. Materials such as agendas and invitations are often helpful. One page recollections of your experiences are welcome, and enrich the holdings. Common memorabilia like notes on napkins and nametags, are not useful for research, and probably have more relevance to you than to the collection. Should you want to see if an artifact which you have is still needed within the archive collection, please go to the Lisle website, <www.lisleinternational.org/archives/archives.html> and look at the UT Archive listing.

When you have decided on materials for submission, please contact Mark Kinney and explain what you are suggesting for submission. He will work with you in regards to the logistics of doing so. He can be reached at <mark.kinney@utoledo.edu>, 989-595-3667; and 5571 Timberway Drive, PO Box 87, Presque Isle MI 49777. 🌐

Calling for Nominations!

The Ligon Service Award is given each year to “a Lisle who has demonstrated through their work, the high ideals of Lisle and has provided Lisle with long-term efforts to assist Lisle in fulfilling on the promise of the Baldwins’ vision.” The previous recipients of the award, Walt & Betty Ligon, Mark Kinney, Dianne Brause, Sharada Nayak and Edith Ballard serve as the selection committee.

All members and friends of Lisle are invited to send in a nomination of whom you think most deserves this award, along with some thoughts as to what you think this person has uniquely contributed to Lisle. The person(s) will be honored this fall at the Annual Meeting and 70th Anniversary Celebration. Please send nominations to Mark Kinney, Executive Director: <MKinney@UTNet.UToledo.Edu> before August 1st, 2006. 🌐

Treasurer's Report

Lisle's current assets are valued at \$220,308. Our annual budget projects dues and investment earnings of \$22,350 with \$12,671 of this budget being spent on grants. The budget is posted on the website. We are very pleased with the ongoing support from Lisle members via dues but the finance committee is concerned about our drop in earnings from our \$201,000 endowed funds. They are looking into diversifying investments again after a period of withdrawal from the stock market into certificate of deposits.

We would love opinions from our members on the priority you would wish us to use in investing Lisle funds. In order to know what's most important to our members, please rank these five issues (five being highest priority) as how to you would like Lisle funds to be invested. 1) Cash Return Annually; 2) Growth in Value; 3) Social Responsibility; 4) Degree of Risk; 5) Diversification

Send a short email to <lisle2@io.com> or note with your comments to 900 County Road 269, Leander, TX 78641. Thanks for your feedback!!—Barbara Bratton 🌐

Kudos from Fellow Lislors

The Lisle Board and *Interaction* editor/designer enjoy hearing feedback about our newsletter, as well as the general direction Lisle is now taking. *Thanks!*

Ransford S. Cooper (CA '52 & '54) “I was doubtful when the Board decided to cease the traditional units and support other projects instead. But after attending a Board meeting in Chicago in 2005, I have changed my mind and I am again giving my support to the “New Lisle.”

Mogens & Jean Jensen (CO '46, Denmark '54, CA '57, Germany '62) “Our latest *Interaction* just arrived and thank you for the nice write up for the 70th Anniversary! You gave us lots of good reading throughout and we hope our health is good enough to permit a visit to Toledo in October.”

Johnnie Miller (CO '46, CN '48 & '49, Lisle Board) “Thanks for including me in the last *Interaction*. Hope to attend 70th Reunion in Toledo with husband. ...Will be so great see everyone. All are doing such a great job keeping Lisle going. Will check on items for archives that I have.”

Charlotte Forbes Wunderich (CA '64) “Warm wishes and thanks to everyone in Lisle and congratulations on the new grant program.” 🌐



Lisle Changed My Life!

By Lori Bratton

When I was a little girl I wanted to be Indiana Jones. As the years passed and ‘teen angst’ set in, that dream faded, along with a good portion of my self-confidence. It wasn’t that I had changed my mind, I had lost faith in myself and believed that I *couldn’t* do it. You’re probably wondering what this has to do with Lisle. At 18, I had my first experience with Lisle, joining my mother in Costa Rica (‘97). I was half-way through my freshman year in college, battling depression and chronic illness, and feeling very sorry for myself.

Looking back, I see now that this trip was the beginning of my finding myself. I also started to understand that I am no more special, and no more important than everyone else in the world, which is to say that we are *all* special, and we are *all* important. In 2001 I went on the Lisle trip to India, and discovered my inner strength. This trip was far from the typical Lisle experience. On my second day in the country I dropped a massive rock on my foot while helping to construct a barrier in front of a museum that was flooding due to a monsoon, crushing three of the toes on my left foot. As painful and inconvenient as this was, I am thankful that it happened because I found out that I can survive, that I have an internal strength I didn’t know existed.

I want to share with you something that happened to me at the hospital. That night I shared a room with two other people, one of which was a young girl with a broken leg. Her brother and father took turns sitting with her. At one point, I think it was three or four in the morning, her father came to my bed side, and in broken English asked me what happened. I told him, and we chatted. He obviously knew I was a foreigner (my blonde hair and blue eyes being a dead give away), and he could tell I was scared. “Don’t worry,” he finally told me, “I will watch over you like I watch over my daughter. You are safe.”

The next morning a group of the most beautiful women I have ever seen came into the room, glowing in their vibrant saris. To my surprise, they came directly to *my* bed. The leader of the group introduced herself as my roommate’s mother. She explained that her husband had told her about me, and she wanted to check on me and make sure I was okay.

She came to me, a stranger in her country, before her own daughter. To me, this is the quintessential Lisle experience—a true moment of connection between two different worlds.

I am now approaching my 27th birthday, and I just completed my first semester as graduate student in anthropology. On May 19th I will get my chance to be Indiana Jones (though I do hope with a little less excitement) as I head to Sicily to work on my first dig (visit <http://dig.anthro.niu.edu> and click on the Sicily Field School 2006 link for more information). I truly believe that my involvement with Lisle is the reason I am here.

Through Lisle I have met the most extraordinary role models a young woman could ask for (Dianne Brause, Sharada Nayak, and of course, my biggest supporter, my best friend, and the most amazing woman I know, my mother Barbara Bratton). They, along with Lislers everywhere, and have shown me the importance of being a strong woman, and that it is *okay* to be a strong woman, as well as the importance of being connected with the world outside of my local community. I am healthy, I am strong, I believe in my place in the world, and most importantly, I understand that growth and change come through understanding and tolerance.

Happy Birthday Lisle—I look forward to celebrating with you for many years to come. 🌐



Lori Bratton with Mom Barbara at the Chicago Board Meeting, April 2006.



Many thanks to Lane Winnet, Lisle Secretary, for compiling all the communications Lisle receives via cards, letters and E-mails. She is a key player in keeping our Network alive!

Sonja Brodt (India '90) "I was awarded a Fulbright Indo-American Environmental Leadership Program Fellowship to work for 3 months a non-governmental organization in India that is working with farmers in West Bengal, India to promote more sustainable, less chemical, intensive farming practices." *Congratulations Sonja!*

Chris and Dean Coons (CO '48, Family Camp '61, Bali '91, Costa Rica '96, Leader Tr. '98) "Months ago Dean signed us on for a cruise to SE Asia, and on to Africa...on the Pacific Princess that takes us to Bangkok, Sri Lanka, India, Kenya, Seychelles, and ends in Cape Town, SA. We had a great family gathering in March 26th with 9 of the 10 grandchildren. Dean is attempting garden projects, almost too wet to mow the lawns... I've been concentrating on working at our Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center...pray the boys (three grandsons) never wear a military uniform...I'm now on the Board, and we're now under the umbrella of Fellowship of Reconciliation. Right now I'm on the committee to educate and inform about the economics of peace and develop a U.S. Department of Peace & Non-Violence...which is under the Peace Alliance. Takes me back to some of Uncle Si's visions...right? Worked on our big march & rally on March 18th...had 1000 at that event in Walnut Creek. Dean continues to be busy in the Interfaith and homeless connections. Occasionally on Fridays I join the Grandparents for Peace vigil near the Rossmoor entrance...just have to keep our hopes alive by being with like-minded people!"

Susan Egnew (Denmark '67) "I was visiting my brother in Iowa when Katrina stormed through the area and the levees failed. When I returned home in Metairie (I had sold my New Orleans house last March), my apartment and car were fine. However, my life was shattered. My friends, part-time job at the convention center, and way of life were in pained turmoil. The tentacles of devastation were and are far reaching on many levels. Driving around I still find it difficult to believe the devastation I see. Mile after mile of homes are now skeletons, because the moldy, murky furniture and walls and corroded appliances have been thrown away...unless the houses are waiting to be demolished. In the N.O. area, there is rebuilding, recovery and excitement as well as stagnation, dismay and frustration. I have volunteered to help a church group gut some of the saturated, soggy houses that sat in that toxic water for weeks, and I have also helped occasionally feed Katrina animals still needing food and water (look up ARNO). I am quite moved

to be working with adults who come from all over the country to aid the recovery. The French Quarter, Uptown, many neighborhoods and our joie-de-vivre culture seem to be recovering well. Come on down to play or work or both!"

Sophia (Holly) Ellis (Germany '55 & '56, Russia '56) "Martin Luther King High School Principal cancelled the German Language Program—so now I'm teaching Biology and will retire (Finally!) from Detroit Public Schools in June 2006." *Congratulations, Sophia on your award from the Detroit school system.*

Betty (Midley) Field (NY '47, CO '48) "Though this year has been a year of sadness, illness, and confusion in my life, and turmoil in our work, I feel there is much to be thankful for." Betty lost her husband Jim suddenly to an aneurysm in March 2005. In April and August, 2005, Betty had two surgeries but has healed from both. "Lisle and its concepts have always remained important in my heart and in my life."

Marian (Zaccaro) Firestone (CO '48, Family Camp '63) wrote that she enjoyed Marty Tillman's message in 2005 Summer *Interaction*. "In spite of some health problems we keep on going with the help of exercise and a wonderful group of folk dancers not far from Fort Lee (NJ)." **Nat Firestone** (CO '48, Family Camp '63) has been undergoing chemotherapy every three weeks and he and Marina's movements depend pretty much on his schedule and how he is doing. Meanwhile Marina is planning a trip to Italy mid-May, and then on to Tunisia with their Houston traveling friends. They are hoping Nat can go as well but they don't know yet. "Greetings to my Lisle friends and let's keep in touch! Marina"

Ruth Ingeborg Fuss (CA '54, Germany '55 & '66) "Almost every month I bridge-build with at least four or five of our residents at Village on the Isle (Venice, FL) by attending the Jewish Community Center Services. I slowly interact with the scarce black people in Venice. The newly restored Union Missionary Baptist Church hosted "Exploring Africa" on Jan. 20. I still am coordinating our mid-week worship services."

Carol M. Hansen (India '98) "I so much enjoyed the March 2005 Lisle Board meeting in Chicago. It was good to see Sharada and all others."

Maude (Martin) Johns (CO '45, Elderhostel '89) "Busy with trips to grandson's graduation in IL, to daughter in Alaska and to reunion of retired India missionaries. Keep busy in church activities and teaching English to Spanish speaking housekeepers."



Olive (McWilliams) Leonard (NY '43) "Our son lived one year in New Zealand as a high school AFS Exchange Student. We have hosted students from Sweden, Costa Rica, Switzerland and Iran. Have always been involved in intercultural exchange and understanding."

Walt and Betty Ligon (Walt: NY '48, MI '50, CO '51, '57, DC '54, CA '58; Betty & Walt: SD '86, Bali '88, Holland '03, Leander Training and Board Emeritus '98) "We are both active in our local Methodist Church (Missions and Outreach), a local peace group and the Mason County Democratic Party. We are delegates to the MI State Democratic Convention and for more than a year have edited a monthly (now bimonthly) newsletter "The Mason County Democrat." We plan to make as many Lisle meetings as we can."

Muriel (Hibbard) McClure (CO '48) Muriel is a member of Kachina Retired Teachers Assoc. and works as RN-Therapist, a Church of the Red Rocks pastor's group. She sends "Special love to Marty T."

Martha (Allen) Murdock (CN '51) "Although 91, I still work part time as librarian and art director at our local public library. My husband, Chad and I are active in the Religious Society of Friends and in pacifist, conservationist and population concerns."

Robert J. Payne (CO '46) Reports he is "keeping medical/dental appointments."

Selma (Freedman) Porter (CO '49) "Retired from a full-time career in mental health, I now enjoy my part-time practice of psychotherapy."

Libby Shanefield (CO '58) "Nice to meet everyone at the Lisle Annual Meeting! We will move to Honolulu, Hawaii in the summer."

Irving L. Smith (CO '42) "I was 88 on Feb 18. I still portray Bible Characters."

Ingrid (Johansson) Slawson (CA '50) "I was in CA '50 and it was a very important camp for me, for my whole life. I am retired from the State of Ohio Unemployment Office. Have been married to Raleigh Slawson for 54 years. Had a stroke two years ago and two operations in the last year and a half but feel better. Wishing you a good 2006."

Helen (Baker) St. John (Uganda '94, Hawaii '95) "No new ventures—mainly gardening; a little medical student teaching and enjoying two new grandbabies. Susan (Hawaii '95) had a little daughter in 2004 and Jeralyn (Hawaii '95) had a little daughter in 2005. Everybody is doing fine."

Bob Starr (CO '49) "80 years old in Feb 2006, playing tennis, gardening, traveling, taking naps and lots of pills."

Carol Jean Stifler (CO '42) "In May 2006, I'll be 89, I still

think Lisle was the best thing that ever happened to me! I'm quite busy here at this Senior Facility for 40 of us. We had our own Winter Olympics in Feb."

Dean Stout (CO '47, South Dakota '89) "Since retirement in 1992, I have helped build 12 Habitat for Humanity houses. In March I attended an Elderhostel in Mobile, AL, working on Habitat houses. I also volunteer in local elementary schools, currently in Second Grade Reading. I am also a Hospice Volunteer with the local hospital."

Gordon Streib (NY '42) "I am going on 85. Keep up the good work!"

Dr. Joan (Cole) Straumanis (CO '55) "After retiring from the presidency of Antioch College in Ohio in 2004, I've been living in Boston and doing consulting in higher education. Last year I was the consultant to a group designing an American-style university in Nanjing, China. Currently my primary client is the National Science Foundation."

Mary Anne (Graham) Tiley (NY '47) Mary Anne reports she is "...living on St. Clair River watching freighters go by." She is still working part-time. Her interests are reading, cooking, Habitat for Humanity, Amnesty International and her 3 children, 5 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild and the Methodist Church activities. "...*would enjoy hearing from others who attended my unit* (NY '47)."

Dale Wolfgram (CA '64) "I retired in 2000 after 36+ years of teaching science in public high schools. The last 33 were in one school. Since then I've made a full trip (students and teachers never get to do this) from Churchill, Manitoba to Key West. In the fall of 2002, I travel to the High Artic, 75°N. In the fall of 2005, I spent two months in Labrador, Newfoundland and Cape Breton. When not on the road I teach part time at the community college. I still love teaching, but not full time. This is my 43rd year teaching."

Charlotte (Forbes) Wunderlich (CA '64) "Cherry" keeps active with family visits, writing/editing projects and her involvement as a volunteer in the Calif. Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association."

Denoya (Petty) Wyatt (CO '46) Walking, reading and participating in lots of activities at Trinda House, a small Quaker community keeps "Dennie" busy. "Photos are all but faces <that> remain in my mind's eye!"

Margaret (Hess) Wyatt (NY '40 & '41) "I am living in a Life Care Facility in Portola Valley, CA near Stanford University. It is a beautiful location in the county nestled in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Am active in our Disaster Committee and our Aerobic Aquatics Class. I often speak of the work of Lisle and my time there and work I did in a poor multiethnic neighborhood with several other Lislers." 🌍



'Round the World

By Anne-Rose Heck

“Only as high as I reach can I grow
Only as far as I seek can I go
Only as deep as I look can I see
Only as much as I dream can I be”

I have been dreaming about going around the world for quiet some time, but this year I made it happen. I could get off work for a little more than seven weeks and bought an airline ticket with the following routing: Frankfurt—Singapore—Sydney—Auckland—Papeete—Los Angeles—Vancouver—Frankfurt. My main goal was to see my friend Joelle in French Polynesia, where I would spend three weeks altogether, but with the Round the World Ticket I was able to visit interesting places going there as well.



The quintessential leaning palms over the azure waters of an island.

My first stop was Singapore. I changed the ugly weather of Germany against the humidity of Asia. I would have enjoyed it even more, if my next door neighbor would not have listened to Eminem until 5 a.m. The city itself is very modern, clean and with a mix of mainly

Indian, Malayan and European people. I stayed for two days, enjoyed a foot massage as much as the delicious food and headed for Sydney.

The plane arrived in Sydney (I think you all know the word “kitsch”, right?) at the same time the sun was rising. I could see the harbour bridge and the opera right through my window seat. But I did not merely come for the city; I stopped Down Under to see my friend Judy, whom I had met 1990 at Taizé in France. Obviously she was much more into religious issues than I: she became a nun. We had lost touch for some time, but with the Internet I quickly found her and we arranged to meet.

Actually, she took me to Morpath (close to Newcastle, North of Sydney), where she was from so I could meet her family. We “borrowed” little Lucy to go to an animal park

because everyone agreed that I had to see a kangaroo. And I did! A lovely mommy with her little one was quickly drawn to us by the food we carried—and a fairly rude male kangaroo as well. He thought it was self service! Well, in the end I think they all had a good share...

From Newcastle I took the train into the majestic Blue Mountains. Katoomba, the town I was staying at, was very artsy and the youth hostel well maintained. I had a great walk through the forest and happened to hear a superb concert by jazz singer Lucinda Peters. If you ever have chance to hear her sing—on CD or in a real concert—go for it! Her voice is crystal clear. For a huge demonstration against the Iraq invasion she had composed and performed the song “Peace”—it seems that she is certainly a Lisler in spirit...

I left Australia for New Zealand. With only ten days available I opted for the “Kiwi experience” (visit their travel website at: www.kiwiexperience.com) A bus would take me all around the Northern Island—with possible activities on the way. When I got on it I noticed that I was by far the oldest person—now being 36 years young. Fortunately, none of the “kids” seemed to notice—or care... We traveled through the lush greens of the Coromandel Island, followed on the trails of the gold miners, tried the art of bone carving and learned about the Maori culture in



This is a box for the daily baquette, not the daily paper!



Where do you want to go? Begin your journey in exotic French Polynesia!





Children playing near coconut husks

Rotorua. Wasn't it funny that they originated—according to their legends—from Raiatea—the island I was to visit next? In contrast to earlier times though I would not have to rely on stars and my skills to row a boat—I could simply hop on a plane.

Raiatea in French Polynesia is the place where I

would meet Joelle. We had met in 1996 in the Krueger Park in South Africa. She and her friend had coffee in the morning—and they shared it with me. Ever since Joelle and I stayed in touch. She works as a nurse in the local hospital and lives with her cat right at the water. Unlike at other islands there are no sandy beaches—but the underwaterworld is just spectacular. I know, because Joelle suggested that I should try to dive. And I did! It was soooo beautiful. Little, colorful fishes swam right in front of my mask, I saw a murane and a clownfish hiding in the anemones.

I left Raiatea for the neighboring island of Bora Bora. Indeed, the lagoon is even more spectacular as shown on the postcards. I was happy to stay in a little place called “Chez Rosine”. Rosine was an artist and our pension was a former gallery, where the paintings of her first husband were displayed. Right across the street I rented a bike and cycled around the island—36 kilometers. I passed the Club Med and looked over at the Meridian-bungalows, where one night costs more than \$500. The Hotel Bora Bora is another fancy address, where Mr. Brosnan and other celebrities like to hang out. It is also the address where I saw a spectacular dance performance. I just walked to the beach and enjoyed!

The dances and the holy sites—called marae—told me about the history and culture of the Tahitian people. I have not met many, but several stopped



Fresh and dried vanilla beans

their car and gave me a ride. I will always remember the couple who took me to the airport of Papeete. The man looked like Nelson Mandela and the woman told me that they had raised ten children together—five of their own and five adopted. The smile coming from her inside told me that they were truly happy with their life.

I then flew from Papeete to L.A. The following day I met my friend Sandra (from Berlin) in San Francisco. With our rental car we headed north. Our first stop was in Sonoma, where we stayed with my friend Allyson and her family. And where we celebrated the *Cinco de Mayo*. Since Allyson works for a radio station now, she was one of the organizers of a great party—what a nice coincidence!

Driving north we were blessed with beautiful weather. Since



Eucalyptus trees in Australia reach for the sky.

our time was limited we did not make it to Eugene, but took the coastal road instead. We saw elk, the sandy Dunes of Oregon and smelled the Sea Lions before we could spot them.

Speaking about stinky stuff: I was so graceful to finally wash my clothes at my cousin's place in Portland. Hand washing is okay for a while, but having a machine is a real treat! With clean clothes and new impressions of my cousins daughter Anna (4) we headed to Seattle.

A friend of mine, Sybille, works for this small computer company in Redmond. The good thing: she lives right at a beautiful lake and gave us a kayak lesson before we did anything else. Her neighbors are impressive too: bald eagles and cormorants. We returned our car in Seattle, had a fantastic view from the Space Needle and took a bus to Vancouver the following day. In the hostel we met two guys from Hungary, who were dreaming about opening a pancake house in Canada.

From what I have learned about my dream which became reality, I am convinced that they will be serving pancakes soon. 🌍



Kachuba Authors Ghost Book #2

By John Kachuba

Do you believe in ghosts? Perhaps John Kachuba's new book, *Ghosthunting Illinois*, will convince you that they exist. This is the second book in his Haunted Heartland Series (*Ghosthunting Ohio* was published in 2004). In writing his new book, John personally visited over three-dozen sites throughout Illinois that are purported to be haunted. He interviewed people who had ghostly encounters at these locations and also wrote about his own experiences. Since each of the places that he has written about are open to the public, would-be ghosthunters can visit them and conduct their own investigations.

John said that his initial skepticism about ghosts has been wavering over the last three years that he has been writing his books. "Too many people are absolutely convinced that they have met up with ghosts," he said. "Some of these people have been judges, nuns, professors, airline pilots, people whose opinions you would normally trust. Who am I to tell them they're wrong?"

John's latest project is a book about ghosts and ghosthunters that is national in scope, rather than regional; *Ghosthunters* is slated for Fall 2006 publication.

John's books can be found in bookstores in Ohio and Illinois and are also available on amazon.com or through his own Website at <www.JohnKachuba.com>. For every book purchased by a Lisler through his Website, John will donate \$5 to Lisle. 🌐



John Kachuba and Mary Newman are rather nonchalantly parked in front of The Ridges, the former Athens Mental Asylum. It is now owned by Ohio University and, yes, it's haunted! The Ridges is on the cover of his first ghost-hunting book, "Ghosthunting Ohio." Their car is aptly named the "Ghost Hunter!"

Lisle Experience Remembered

By Elinor Potee Nichols (CO '47)

In the summer of 1947 my husband (Roger L. Nichols) and I met in Golden, Colorado at the Lisle Fellowship. Going through some family slides recently I found the picture of the Baldwins and had it printed for you. I thought you might enjoy having it. It was a wonderful summer. The Baldwins sent us on two trips together...two years later we were married.



Uncle Si and Aunt Edna Baldwin at the Golden, Colorado, 1947 Unit mentioned above. Thanks Elinor sending this great photo of the Baldwins to the Lisle office!

Roger became a doctor and was on the faculty of Harvard School of Public Health for 35 years, 14 years of which doing medical research in Saudi Arabia. From 1982-1987 he was Director of Boston's Museum of Science. He died suddenly at age 61, in December of 1987. We have three grown children who were working in Turkey, Bahrain and Swaziland when he died. I have stayed on at our 5+ acre tidal island 28 miles south of Boston. I am now 79.

Lisle was one of the best experiences of my life. I grew up in Central India as the third child of Protestant missionaries so I had a wonderful childhood. Roger grew up on a farm in Iowa. His brother, Frank, attended Lisle in New York (1947). I believe my brother Gale Potee (CO '45) also attended Lisle. 🌐



Where Did You Spend Spring Break?

By Nancy Kinney (Mexico '91)

It was February and we were thinking about what to do for the April pre-Easter week that is Spring Break at Eszterhazy Karoly College in Eger, Hungary where we are spending our Fulbright year. One set of plans had already fallen through—our friends couldn't go sailing with us. We had just learned about "Wizzair," one of the upstart within-Europe airlines that was offering enticing \$5.99 flights to less-utilized European city airports. Their website indicated that they had flights to Malmo, Denmark; Krakow, Poland and Luton Airport outside London, among others.

And then I noticed Amsterdam! The outgoing flight from Budapest was \$5.99, but the return flight was considerably more, perhaps \$25.99. The catch though, was that airport taxes were not included; that brought the price up to \$237 for both of us, round trip, still manageable. We quickly made the reservations and then started thinking about why we wanted to go there and what we wanted to do. Tulips came to mind.

A look at the Lisle database told us that there were some familiar names of people we hadn't seen since the 2002 meeting in Frankfort and some more whom we thought we knew from other connections. An email to Judy Brown (CA '54) also suggested some names of interest. We put together a group email which yielded positive answers from Anke Schey (CA '54) and Coenraad and Tineke Van Der Wal (Turkey '97) and regrets from Yolanda Houbens (DC '66) and Joop Syatauw (CA '54). The really spectacularly positive answer was from

Anke. She said that while they would be in France during our dates, we could use their house in Den Haag (The Hague)! WOW! We checked our European map and mentioned the possibility to our Dutch exchange students, and they also said, "Wow, That's beautiful. It's near the sea."

Making a long story short, that's how we ended up in Den Haag last week. What a wonderful time we had! Anke had arranged with her neighbors Dirk Jan and Marijke Bakker to greet and orient us to the city and the house. It was a nice welcome after our first train mistake that took us temporarily to Rotterdam.

The first day we spent in Den Haag. We lucked into a labor union demonstration near the Department of Justice concentrating on equal pay for Central European immigrants, a cause we could endorse. A walk through the Binnenhof, the seat of government in the Netherlands led us to the Mauritshuis, a smallish, but comprehensive art museum featuring some real treasures of the masters, such as Rembrandt, Hals, and Vermeer.

Early on the second day we left by train for Assen in the north to visit Coen and Tineke Van Der Wal, whom we discovered were great friends of Judy Brown from the old neighborhood in Seattle and planners of the Lisle Netherlands program of 2003. They fed us delicious meals and took us to a windmill. What else would you visit in the Netherlands? This one in Rodervolde has dual purposes: it grinds grain for flour and oil seeds for linseed oil. A dedicated volunteer in real wooden shoes showed us all the inner workings top to bottom. What a nice day to spend with new friends!

On Good Friday we made a traveling error. We chose to go to Amsterdam on one of the busiest days of the year. The lines to visit the big art museums were blocks long and even the visitors bureau was jammed with tourists. A look and a walk around the beautiful city and its flower market, and oh, yes, a visit to a diamond processing company, was all we needed to know that we would have more fun riding Anke and Peter's bikes on the dunes near their house, which was true.

The following day Dirk Jan, the good neighbor, offered to take us to see some of the big water projects that protect the Netherlands from the storms of the North Sea and the outflow from three major European rivers. It was a natural since he had worked with the Dutch "corps of engineers" mapping the

(See "Kinneys" on pg. 30)



Mark and Nancy during their Netherlands trip, with new friends Coen and Tineke Van Der Wal.



Travels in Peru

By Betty & Walt Ligon

Walt and I were invited to write a piece about our recent trip to Peru and Ecuador. We have hesitated to do so, as it was not exactly a trip exemplifying Lisle values. We traveled on an Overseas Adventure Travel tour, in which the group is limited to 16. Six of our group dropped out at the last minute so we were just ten, three of whom were Lislers: Ione Murchison (NY '48), Walt and I. The other seven were from the same town in Washington State. Before too long we were becoming a group looking out for each other.



Betty is being treated by Peruvian healer—a curandero, near Cuzco, Peru.

We flew from Miami to Lima, Peru, called “the ugliest city in the world” by Herman Melville. Met by an OAT agent, we were taken to a top-flight hotel. Our bags were delivered to our rooms. After a delicious buffet breakfast we met Hector, our Peru tour guide.

Hector, a personable young man of 29, was set to introduce us, not only to historical sites

of Lima, but also the Peruvian food and culture. He did very well, ordering our meals for us so we sampled a lovely variety. Did you know that there are over 100 kinds of potatoes in Peru? No, we did not have all of them!

From Lima we flew to Cuzco, up in the Andes at 10,900 feet. We were advised to take it easy for awhile and, if we wanted, to drink coca tea which we did. There was no particular effect that we could notice, but we felt deliciously wicked. We thought of bringing some tea bags home.

Cuzco is a delightful colonial and former Inca capital. Buildings made by Incas survived earthquakes while colonial ones collapsed. Inca walls and buildings have no mortar in their masonry. The city is nestled in the Andes, those mighty, very steep mountains. From our room we watched the sun set over them. While in Cuzco, Hector took us by foot and bus to a colonial cathedral, native market, lush valleys, a country tavern where we sampled corn beer—not bad. It

was a special event to be blessed by a *curandero* native healer. We added this experience to one at a Lisle unit in the Rosebud Sioux reservation 20 years ago and one in Bali at a Lisle unit.

From Cuzco we went by bus, train, and bus to see the much anticipated, Machu Picchu, the famous Inca city discovered in 1911. No use trying to describe it other than to say it is glorious and spectacular. Inca history is also spectacular, especially the government way of organizing communities in such a way that all were cared for when in need, a good example for us now.

Back in Cuzco, we were hosted by a lovely local family with whom we managed to communicate despite, language difficulties. We also experienced the local delicacy of guinea pig.

On to Quito in Ecuador where we were able to literally straddle the equator. We flew to the Galapagos Islands, now an Ecuadorian National Park. Our new tour guide, Gustavo, well educated, well informed, and thoughtful, was a man of 31 who had been brought up in these islands. By bus, we were carried to a dock where inflated dinghies waited to transport us to a small ship in which we were to live for four nights. Sailing from island to island we took dinghies to see everything from blue footed boobies to huge tortoises. Sea lions played with the snorkelers. Again there is too much to tell unless we take up most of *Interaction*. And again we had lunch with a local family, and enjoyed delicious meals wherever we were.

We parted reluctantly. As Ione wrote on a recent email “Our horizons have been broadened.” 🌐

The “Lost” city of Macchu Picchu, Peru. Ione Murchison and Walt (NY '48) are in the foreground.



A Return to India

By Marty Tillman

For two weeks last March, I had the chance to visit both Mumbai (formerly Bombay) and New Delhi. It had been 15 years since my last visit to India and it was a great opportunity—at the expense of my employer (the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in Washington)—to renew my acquaintance with the country that was home to many of Lisle’s successful India units in the 70s and 80s.

I had never made a formal business trip to India and this was just that: I was visiting employer prospects for my students interested in international consulting, work with UN agencies such as UNDP, World Food Program and UNICEF, research organizations and some NGOs.

And how things have changed—India is now one of the two major Asian countries (China being the other) which are predicted to directly compete with the US and the EU for global economic gains in the next decade. Students, merchants and businessmen/women throughout the nation speak English. They have a very terrific rail system and a slew of new small jet companies now competing with the venerable Air India Company. And the cell phones!!! They were everywhere: taxis cab drivers had them; shopkeepers had them; they were as prevalent on the streets as they are here. I loved India as a graduate student in my first trip in 1975, and I remain in love with its diversity, its vibrancy, its humanity, its food and its smells.



Synagogue in Mumbai



Man drying chilis on a boat deck

I paid a very nostalgic trip to the place where I lived in 1975 and which was to subsequently host many Lislers—the Gandhi Peace Foundation. A sad shadow of its former institutional self, it nevertheless has staff whom I have known for over 30 years and who are still fighting



Marty with Rita Roy and her family

the good fight on several important national and global issues. And international students and groups are still actively welcomed and assisted with their agendas to become engaged with rural development practitioners in the country. I lunched with my colleague and Lisle friend Rita Roy and also reunited with SN Subba Rao, who was responsible for rehabilitating some of India’s most violent dacoits (bandits) in the 70’s.

And of course, I visited former Board Member, Ligon Service award winner, and Lisler Sharada Nayak, who lives across the street from my hotel! Sharada sends her best to her Lisle friends throughout the country. She is well. We dined at the India International Centre where she is a member.



Sharada enjoying herself at the Annual Meeting, spring 2005.

Ah, India. Even as it is rapidly moving into the 21st century, it must still face the poverty of its masses of people, illiteracy in rural areas, the fight to educate girls equally with boys and a huge HIV/AIDS problem. But, the good news is that because India’s economy is so strong now, government policies—and funds—can be directed at its largest social and economic problems. And India has the leaders in education, public health, business, and finance sectors who are engaged in transforming the country in coming years. I met some of these individuals. India is poised to take off in new directions and I’m very happy to see the Bush administration recognizing the strategic partnership of the United States with the world’s largest democracy. 🌐



Grandmother Arrested in Attempt to Enlist!

By Barbara Walker

Whenever I think about Lisle, automatically I think about two late friends—Elaine Schmidt who, while we were in college, more than fifty years ago, told me about her Lisle experience, and the “unsinkable” Miriom Zussman whose never ceasing practical application of her values throughout her not easy life was amazing—physically not robust but so strong in purpose, rich in imagination and unbending in will. One of the heartiest laughs—the kind so good for us—I can recall was at Miriom’s major surgery hospital bedside years ago. A joke had brought forth a group howl.



The Lisle experience has influenced my worldview (I know that sounds grand but how else to word it?) and influenced my career choice. In these past few years, of concern has been the United States’ role in Iraq and the enormity of the toll taken by the invasion and occupation. Last October, eighteen of us “Grandmothers Against the War/Granny Peace Brigade” were arrested, jailed for a few hours, and in April tried and acquitted of the charge of blocking the entrance to the military recruitment center in Times Square when we tried to enlist.

I was one of thirty-six participants in Lisle California 1954. We lived in Doak Mansion, Oakville, The Napa Valley—before it became The Napa Valley of today—what a setting! (I re-visited the mansion, now a monastery, in 2004. The brothers were kind and permitted us to walk around the grounds.) Since Aunt Edna expressed such enthusiasm about my stated plan “to apply for a position with the Institute of International Education” (IIE), apply I did and during the first years worked in the Library under the most exacting and kind supervisor one could be so fortunate to have in a first job. I like to think that to the extent possible I internalized the approach she conveyed by her example—in work be thorough and careful, be interested in what is happening, whenever possible help others to gain employment, encourage upward movement; reference and date everything. Sometimes one does not express admiration in a timely way but in this case I did. We kept in touch over the years.

After organizing programs of visits for specialists (most from Asian and African countries) at IIE for twelve wonderful years, in 1969 I began work with the United Nations—first in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where I administered an Economic Commission for Africa scholarship program for African students for fourteen years and then in peace-keeping personnel administration at New York Headquarters and in Namibia, Jerusalem, and Angola. My son David grew up in Ethiopia.

As it happened, during the lead-up to, during, and after the 1991 Gulf War, I was on mission in Jerusalem and listening to information about negotiations, I hoped diplomatic conduits would be used effectively to avert war.

The effects of the stringent post-Gulf War sanctions program on Iraqi civilians and especially on children are known. By 2003 Iraq had been brought to its knees. Weapons inspectors were doing their work effectively under Hans Blix but were directed to stop inspections. The United States invaded. Yes, many of us had marched in protest. What could we do now?

Then one day in summer 2004 on a Manhattan bus I met a woman, Joan Wile, who was wearing a pin “Where’s the outrage?” She is the organizer of “Grandmothers Against the War”, which holds a vigil each Wednesday afternoon from 4:30 to 5:30 at Rockefeller Plaza. I attend. To people who stop we say, for example, “Iraq had nothing to do with September 11, 2001; civilians are being killed; insurgents are resisting United States’ occupation as we would if we were occupied; as long as United States military personnel are in Iraq they will be targets; there are alternatives.” Some agree; some disagree.

Believing strongly that our young men and women should be discouraged from enlisting in the military for operations such as this, eighteen of us on October 17, 2005, for reasons we stated for those who came to observe, attempted to enlist at the military recruitment center in Times Square and, as mentioned earlier, were arrested, jailed briefly,

(Cont’d next page)



tried and acquitted of the charge of blocking the recruitment center entrance. Yes, it is hoped the rather wide publicity will encourage more thought about the rationale for our invasion and occupation of Iraq, the human cost of what we are doing in Iraq, and the necessity for the United States to withdraw. Through the media some of us have had the opportunity to express our opposition to this war of choice and to reiterate how sizable and wide was world opposition to the war.



These were and are some of my thoughts

Our military, including such young people, are dying in an unprovoked war. They are volunteers—to defend our country not to kill and maim and be killed and maimed attacking a country which had neither attacked us nor threatened to attack us. We stated we were going to bring to justice Osama bin Laden and Al Qaeda but we attacked Iraq. Insurgency? Could we have forgotten Vietnam and Mr. McNamara's reflections? In this invasion and occupation, our military are required to kill thousands of Iraqis. We force our citizens to do this for financial/political gain? Why? It is so saddening to hear from an Iraq war veteran about young soldiers yearning for their wives, mothers, scared, afraid to die in an unfamiliar land (and for what?). Their distress is, of course, compounded by communication difficulties—most cannot read signs in Arabic, cannot communicate verbally with residents. The ages of the dead U.S. military one day: 24, 22, 22, 22, 20, 19. Then when U.S. military have been targeted and killed, their remains are flown to Dover almost clandestinely—photographs of coffins not allowed to be shown to the public.

So many in the United States and around the world pleaded with our Administration not to invade Iraq, to let the weapons inspectors complete their work in the search for weapons of mass destruction. It was to no avail and the decision to wage war was undertaken, as Lt. Gen. Greg Newbold wrote, by "...those who have never had to execute these missions—or bury the results."

What can we do to stop this carnage and to effect healing there and here? 🌐

(*"Baldwin"* from page 5, continued)

1. Through a "Person-centered" rather than a content-centered program, the basic theme in Lisle is the relationship of persons. Out of its varied resources and in its own way, each group makes its own approach to this theme in an effort to understand the interdependence necessary for developing world perspectives for the individual and society.

2. The "Quest for qualitative relationships" is a central focus. Lisle recognizes it is the significance of the meeting of peoples from other cultures or different backgrounds, which allows individuals to discover themselves and others. The "Fellowship Method" incorporating the phrase "I will not let you go until I understand why you think and behave as you do" is an approach developed during the program, one which participants attempt to carry with them as they return to their own communities and lives.

3. "Democratic decision-making" by all group members is incorporated through an atmosphere of freedom, which brings out the responsibilities of each individual and the development of a self-directing group. From the beginning of the program the group members plan daily activities at the Lisle Center including the cooperative living arrangements as well as the discussions, lectures, and special activities. It is through the democratic experience that each one sees intimately into the strengths and weaknesses of others as well as coming to reflect on his own abilities, skills and ideas.

4. The approach of "Basic growth education" recognizes the potential in each individual participant as his perspectives develop toward a worldview. Through a maturing process one recognizes that the essence of life is in being and the real person does not depend on reputation or artificial roles, but rather on what one is, thinks and does. Lisle recognizes what one is today may not at all be what he can be tomorrow.

5. The "Total living process" incorporated in the Lisle educational approach involves an intensive twenty-four hour a day program. Since Lisle purposely includes not only the intellectual and rational side of man, but also his feelings, emotions and instincts, there is always the endeavor to bring all of life forces together in the experiences, evaluations and thoughts which leads into the deeper arena of the relevant relationships in attitudes, ideas, and issues facing our world. The concepts of Lisle is that the individual is a total person and each community must be seen in terms of its total relationships when one is considering the characteristics, needs and dynamics of a local community or of the world community. 🌐



Lisler Ghasson Tueni Joins Lebanese Parliament at 80!

By Marty Tillman

Perhaps like other Lislers who had heard about his remarkable career in the Middle East, I was stunned to read an article in the March 4 issue of the Washington Post detailing the life and continued political engagement of Lisler Ghasson Tueni (NY '46). He is listed as having an unknown mail address in the Lisle Directory—however, it is clear that he has an address in the lives of the people of Lebanon.

I am going to cite a few highlights from this news article by Anthony Shadid. It seems that the search for peace in the Middle East is stuck somewhere in the middle of a giant geographic maze in which the political actors are each lost...and searching to find the exit. And here is an 80-year old journalist—the “foremost” journalist in the country—who remains revered for his courage and his faith in the future.

Shadid writes

“I think I can create a current, yes,” Tueni said, as his driver navigated through a gritty neighborhood, clad in the posters, banners and iconography of religious Shiite Muslims. “It makes me feel very worried. I might bump my head into a wall.” He paused, looking out the windshield. “But it might create a breakthrough. I don’t know. I have to try. I have to try very hard.”

“In Lebanon today, he sees a collection of tribes, defined by collective memories. What he wants is a secular notion of citizenship, a state that becomes a nation gathering its strength through its diversity.”

“Tueni’s return to political life is more than the story of one man’s career. To some, he has emerged as a symbol, a man whose history transcends the sectarian squabbles that, at

times, have paralyzed Lebanon, splintered as it is among 18 religious and ethnic communities, shadowed by an unresolved 15-year civil war and vulnerable to the machinations of neighboring Syria.”

“To others, he represents a figure from the past that no longer resonates in a system where authority is most often derived not by ideas, programs or even ideology, but by the color of a religious banner. In that, he has become obsolete, as Lebanon and much of the Arab world is coalescing around more primordial affiliations—Christian and Muslim, Sunni and Shiite, Kurd and Arab, and so on.”

Tueni’s Career

Tueni inherited the newspaper and many of those ideas from his father, who died in 1947. He took to politics young, entering parliament in 1951, where he helped lead a campaign to oust Lebanon’s president. He was appointed ambassador to the United Nations during some of the worst years of the 1975-90 civil war. And he served as a counselor to Lebanon’s president when the country signed an ill-fated treaty in 1983 with Israel, which had invaded a year earlier. But he has probably left his most lasting mark on journalism, helping establish *an-Nahar* as one of the Arab world’s most independent newspapers.”

Tueni and his family suffered enormous personal losses. His wife and daughter died after illnesses, a son died in a car accident, and another son was killed by an assassin’s car bomb in December. Despite these tragedies, he appears to continue to seek a middle way. And he continues to speak about the future with a positive vision. Lislers around the world should be proud of this man’s life and commitment to a better life for his people and for this troubled region. 🌐

*Leef in vrede!
Vivons dans la paix!
Lassen Sie uns im Frieden leben!
Viviamo nella pac!
Deixe-nos viver na paz!
¡Vivamos en paz!
Låt oss bo i fred!
Let’s live in peace!*



In Memoriam—

Harold Leslie Cramer

Harold Leslie (“Les”) Cramer, 78, a retired educational researcher, died on August 13, 2005, at his home in Fairfax after a long bout with cancer.

He was born in Boston, MA, on October 10, 1926, received a BS in Education from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1952, a Master’s Degree in Education from Harvard Graduate School of Education in 1961, and a Doctorate in Education from Harvard in 1968. He participated in the Lisle Colorado Unit in 1948.

After service in the Navy at the end of WW II, Dr. Cramer taught elementary school briefly in Needham, MA, and then in 1953 founded Cramer Oil Inc. in Needham. This developed into a successful heating efficiency business. He sold the business and began studies at Harvard. During his studies he served as a research assistant on various projects at Harvard and as audio-visual instructor. He was also an IBM Fellow at the Harvard Computing Center. His dissertation was entitled “The Intelligibility of Time-Compressed Speech.” In 1967 Dr. Cramer was appointed Assistant Professor of Educational Psychology at the Graduate School of Education at Northeastern University in Boston.

Dr. Cramer came to Washington in 1969 as Research Director for the Peace Corps. From 1972 to 1982 he served as project director, consultant and evaluator on a number of government and private research projects. He started Cramer Associates, consultants on speech enhancement of audio tapes. His clients included the House Judiciary Committee, Cable News Network, Montgomery County MD., and others.

Roxanne Herrick Cramer (Ed.M., 1967) his wife of 37 years, survives him. He also leaves four daughters, Cynthia and Martha Cramer and Joan Pahud of Quincy, MA, and Kathryn Canney of Jamaica Plain, MA; three stepsons, William Hofford of Portland, OR, Dana Hofford of Delsbo, Sweden, and Paul Hofford of Sandy Spring, MD; five grandchildren and three step-grandchildren. His marriage to Marion S. Cramer ended in divorce. 🌐

Deceased Lislors

Our heartfelt condolences go out to the families of the Lislors listed below.

Howard Berry, Lisle Friend, who worked with the Partnership for Service Learning died in 2002. This was reported by Nevah Brown, President for the Partnership for Service Learning.

Rachel Craig, Lisle Friend, passed away in 2003, reported Rachel’s husband David.

Dr. Donald Lehman (CO ’41) passed away in 2005.

Carolyn Godfrey-Weber McClure (NY ’41) passed away.

Margaret Posson (NY ’36) passed away in 2005.

Aly Abdel Aziz Sabry (CO ’48) had been listed in our database as “address unknown” since 1991. Word came to the Lisle office that he died on August 4, 1991. He was a former Vice President and Minister in Egypt. Officials at the Specialist Hospital in Cairo said he died of internal bleeding. He had been hospitalized after suffering a blood clot in his left lung. **Roxanne Cramer**, widow of **Jim Cramer** (CO ’48) shared, “As I understand it, Sabry had been under house arrest for many years for his part in an attempted coup against Nasser.”

Patricia Warbritton (Elderhostel 1991) passed away in November 2005, per her daughter Wendy De Wolfe. 🌐

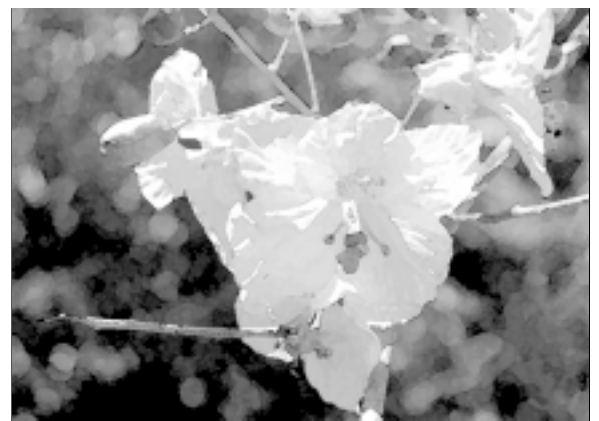


Photo taken by Mark Kinney while at the Spring 2004 Board Meeting in Tempe, Arizona.

It was reworked in Photoshop using a built-in filter to resemble a watercolor.



(Kinneys from page 23, continued)

harbors during his career. We went to Maeslant Kering, the huge closeable gates, and to Haringvliet, the dam with raiseable segments. It was quite a treat to actually walk into the Haringvliet Idam and hear and see how it actually works. Both places had recently hosted American politicians, contemplating a fix for New Orleans. Now we understand what may be some solutions to prevent more Katrinas—if we have the will and the many, many dollars that will be required.

Because we had only four days to spend in such a wonderful country full of resourceful, friendly people, the Lisle connections gave us an entrée that would have been impossible otherwise. We appreciate the generosity of the Lislors and friends of Lisle that made our Spring Break a real break in the routine and a joy to experience. What we missed was Anke! And Yolanda. And Joop. Oh well, next time... The tulips? No, but lots of daffodils!! (It's been too cold so far.)

Where did *you* spend Spring Break? 🌐



Nancy and Mark in front of the grand Centraal Station in Amsterdam.

Lisle Wants to Stay in Touch

One quick and easy way to stay in contact with Lislors is through E-mail. Let us know YOUR email address by simply sending a message to: <lisle2@io.com>. We will include the email address in the Lisle Directory unless you indicate that you prefer not to have it listed. So if you want it kept private for Lisle use only, please tell us! 🌐

Publisher

Lisle, Incorporated
Leander, Texas
<www.lisleinternational.org>

Editor

Dianne G. Brause
Dexter, Oregon

Graphic Design & Layout

Elise Kimmons
Eugene, Oregon

Printed by

Western Oregon Web Press
Albany, OR

Contributing Authors

Bud Baldwin
Barbara Bratton
Lori Bratton
Dianne Brause
Betsy Bridwell
Jon Findley
Anne-Rose Heck
John Kachuba
Bill Kinney
Mark Kinney
Nancy Kinney
Walt & Betty Ligon
Elinor Potee Nichols
Marty Tillman
Lane Winnet
Barbara Walker

Submissions Solicited!

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

If you are feeling tickled by the inspiration to submit articles, you can download the submission guidelines from the website.

We hope to learn more about you and your world, and look forward to your contributions!





Lisle, Inc. Membership and Pledge Form

900 County Road 269 • Leander, TX 78641

I want to remain a member of Lisle, Inc., and make a contribution as checked below.

- Basic Member..... \$35-\$74
- Benefactor..... \$1000 and above
- Contributing Member.... \$75-\$149
- Student.....\$15
- Supporting Member..... \$150-\$499
- Organizational Member \$200
- Sustaining Member..... \$500-\$999
- Reduced Income (as you can) \$_____

Would you like information about:

- Including Lisle in your estate
- Making a memorial donation
- Nominating a Lisle Saint
- Ligon Service Award nomination
- The Mini-grants
- Becoming a Lisle mentor

Does your employer match your contributions to a non-profit? Yes No

Name _____ Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____ Phone _____
 E-mail _____ Website: _____

Notes about your activities:

I wish to pay by: Check VISA Mastercard

Credit Card # / exp. date _____ / _____

Signature _____



Lisle, Inc. Annual Meeting Proxy Form

900 County Road 269
Leander, TX 78641

Fill out and mail by September 30, 2006

I hereby authorize President Marty Tillman, or the person listed in the following space:

to cast my vote at the Lisle Annual Meeting, October 6-8, 2006.

Signature: _____ Lisle Units: _____

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____





LISLE, INCORPORATED

900 County Road 269, Leander, TX 78641

Phone: (800) 477-1538, or (512) 259-7621

Website: www.lisleinternational.org

E-mail: lisle2@io.com

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #9
Dexter, OR

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

MEETINGS

70th Anniversary Meeting.	October 6-8, 2006	Toledo, OH
Spring Board Meeting	April 28-29, 2007	Chicago, IL
Annual Meeting	October 5-7, 2007	Auburndale, MA
Spring Board Meeting	Spring, 2008	TBA
Annual Meeting	Fall, 2008	TBA

