



Lisle *Interaction*

An Annual Publication of Lisle International

ANNUAL ISSUE □ 2015



2015 Global Seed Grants

Hands of Peace Mural Chicago, USA

Palestinian, Israeli and US teens create a peace mural

Sponsor: Hands of Peace

Hands of Peace is an interfaith organization that works to develop peace building and leadership skills among Israeli, Palestinian, and American teenagers through the power of dialogue and personal relationships. Forty-two Israeli, Palestinian, and American teenagers (ages 15-18) from Hands of Peace will join forces with 25 inner-city teenagers from the Chicago Freedom School to plan and create a “peace mural” in a low-income

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Encountering our Neighbors Beni, D.R. Congo

Peacebuilding workshop for students of African Christian Universities in 3 countries

Sponsor: Women’s Voices, Université Chrétienne Bilingue du Congo (UCBC)

The project takes place in the Central Africa’s Great Lakes region, where decades of conflict have created animosity between neighboring countries and distrust runs high between citizens of Congo, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi. Here, a university student organization seeks to transform the conflict and distrust by bringing together peace-minded university students from across the region to learn and envision together.

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Six projects selected for Lisle Seed Grant funding in 2015

By Smita Patel

During the November 2014 board meeting, the Lisle board reviewed 14 applications for a Global Seed Fund grant out of the more than 30 inquiries. The proposals, which came from all over the world, were compelling and diverse in their approach and focus. The Board had a tough time deciding which of the many innovative projects to fund. We reviewed the proposals for their alignment with the Lisle mission, clarity, and how the results would be evaluated. Ultimately the Board selected six projects—more than we've ever funded in a single year. These projects best reflected Lisle's mission of promoting intercultural communication and understanding. We think you will be as excited about these projects as we are.

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Submissions Solicited!

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

*Please email your submissions to
the Lisle office : <office@lisleinternational.org>*



Mark and Nancy Kinney visiting with Anke Schey in the Hague.

2015 Global Seed Grants



Inspiring Development South Sulawesi, Indonesia

Workshop to train student leaders in violence prevention in Makassar
Sponsor: Inspiring Development (InDev)

In Indonesia, the three biggest universities have repeatedly seen violent conflict. Even a small incident between two students can trigger a massive violent incident involving two large groups where solidarity is based on ethnicity, affiliation or friendship. This project aims to reduce such conflict, create a network of student leaders, and develop a model for a student-led peace-building project that can be replicated as a regularly offered program.

The six-day workshop will train thirty student leaders of the State University of Makassar with skills, knowledge, and values that can actively defuse violent conflict in their university. The focus of the workshops will be in-depth conflict

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Growing Seeds of Transformation Shan State, Myanmar

Peacebuilding training for Shan and Burman youth from Mong Pan
Sponsor: Weaving Bonds Across Borders

In Burma's conflict zones, communities have been deeply affected by years of military dictatorship and armed conflict. Due to years of conflict, in Mong Pan (Shan State, Myanmar), there is a lack of trust among youth and a division in the community. To address these problems, this project will provide a 10-day intensive training to 15 diverse political youth leaders from different groups in Mong Pan.

The focus of the workshop is to help the youth build trust in themselves as leaders, learn skills to heal the trauma they have experienced from the military conflict, and rebuild their trust in each other and their community. The project aims to enhance the leadership skills of the

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2015 Global Seed Grants



Sharing Challenges, Building Community Sierra Leone/USA

*Pen-pal exchange via letters and Skype between primary/secondary students
Sponsor: Pikin Padi Network*

This project creates a pen-pal exchange via letters and Skype between elementary and secondary students in Sierra Leone and in the US to empower the children by building empathy and international connections.

The primary school activities will take place between a primary school in the Western rural area of Sierra Leone and the McCleery Elementary School in Aurora, IL. Each group of students faces their own unique challenges: The students in Sierra Leone face poverty and lack access to basic educational materials while many of the students at McCleery come from immigrant families confronting social and economic challenges of their own.

The secondary school activities will take place between teenagers of the Pikin Padi

Youth Empowerment Program (Sierra Leone) and students at Highsight, a Chicago-based program for disadvantaged inner city youth. Here too, each group faces its own challenges. In Sierra Leone, adolescents must deal with poverty, child labor, and early marriage. In inner city Chicago, teens deal with community violence, poverty, and immigration issues.

The students will be paired with a pen pal from the other country. They will write letters and share pictures, learn how to write about their lives, and will discuss differences in cultural practices. When possible, Skype will be used so that students will be able to directly communicate and talk with their pen pals. The project will directly impact the 50 primary-school students and 36 teenagers in the two countries.

In addition, four high school students in Sierra Leone and four college students in both countries will mentor the pen pals. The project will also impact those persons who view these exchanges on line and increase their intercultural understanding. The Ebola crisis creates a particular challenge to carrying out this project. The Lisle board is hopeful that the schools will open so that the project can proceed. The Ebola crisis itself demonstrates the need for more cross-cultural communication between West Africa and the US. §

The day the power of love overrules the love of power, the world will know peace.
-Mahatma Gandhi-

2015 Global Seed Grants



Intercultural Learning for Agricultural Progress Lira District, Uganda

*Farmers from four ethnic groups work together to overcome financial obstacles
Sponsor: Agricultural and Enterprise Development Initiative (AGREDI)*

While agriculture has not been an area of Lisle's funding previously, the Board was persuaded that this creative project that would bring together poor farmers of four ethnic groups for the purpose of increasing agricultural productivity could extend cross-cultural exchange and learning into a new field.

The focus of this project is to bring together farmers from different tribes to exchange agricultural practices that will improve agricultural output. The project will train 200 farmers from the Lango, Acholi, Iteso and Kumam tribes of Lira district in Uganda, on good agricultural practices as poor farming practices and the loss of traditional crops has harmed health and economic success of the communities. To do this, organizers intend to enlist the aid of village elders and

doctors and nutritionists (who can speak to the nutrition and health benefits of various crops) as well as agricultural experts. Participants will also tour different tribal farms. In this way, members of each tribe will be able to benefit from the knowledge and traditions of the other tribes.

While 200 farmers will participate in and directly benefit from this project, organizers expect another 200 to benefit indirectly through the experience of the farmers who participate. The village elders, doctors, and nutritionists are also expected to benefit as they gain a greater understanding of the cultures, their farming traditions, and agricultural practices in general. §

***Mentor a Seed Grant!
Contact Lisle for more info.***



Dianne Brause mentored this project in Palestine!

**DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS
KEEP LISLE'S SEED GRANT FUND
ACTIVE AND PRODUCTIVE IN COMMUNITIES
ALL OVER THE WORLD. IF YOU
WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS
PLEASE
CONTACT THE LISLE OFFICE AT:
OFFICE@LISLEINTERNATIONAL.ORG**

Reports from 2014 Global Seed Grants



**LearnServe “Venture Team Summit”
Washington, D.C.**

What was funded:

The LearnServe Fellows Program is an after-school youth development program that cultivates leadership and entrepreneurship skills among high school students in the DC region. Students strengthen these professional skills as they launch community-based social change. Lisle’s grant provided support for LearnServe to hold a “Venture Team Summit” during which the program fellows could build relationships, exchange ideas, and strengthen leadership skills across schools. Approximately 250 Learn-Serve Fellows, alumni, and their team members gathered to build tighter bonds between students from different DC-area schools and to offer peer-to-peer exchange of skills and ideas. The inaugural Social Action Summit set out to create a forum for participants to learn leadership skills and thematic content that they could apply to their ventures to develop a deeper understanding of the distinct cultures and perspectives in the DC area, and to leave with a stronger belief in the power of youth as leaders of social change. The daylong program, modeling LearnServe’s

(continues on page 22)

Global Educator Training by Global Visionaries - Seattle, USA

What was funded:

Global Visionaries is a youth-led organization that challenges and transforms young people into socially and environmentally conscious global leaders. Lisle’s seed grant provided funding for Global Visionaries (GV) to offer a five-day intensive Global Leadership Summer Intensive (GLSI) Training Program for Pacific Northwest educators. Global Leadership is a methodology and course designed to empower and engage middle and high school students’ global leadership skill building and service learning within and beyond the classroom. Teachers of Global Leadership are trained in democratic pedagogy so that they can turn the classroom into a laboratory for creating relationships based on mutual respect and equality. Along with linking democratic pedagogy and complex social justice issues is a commitment to training equal numbers of educators serving low- and higher-income communities.

(continues on page 22)



Reports from 2014 Global Seed Grants



Sustained Dialogue: Building Intercultural Competency Across Colleges and Universities United States

What was funded:

The Sustained Dialogue proposal identified a need for improving understanding between international and US students at US colleges. Sustained Dialogue has requested an extension of its grant until June 2015. The organization's project summary included the document "10 Activities and Multimedia Resources for Building Intercultural Competency." The document outlines leader-led activities to sensitize people to intercultural differences. We will continue to follow this project in the future with keen interest to learn more about the outcomes they have generated. This resource and more complete reports can be found at the Lisle website, <http://grants.lisleinternational.org/20132014-grant-final-reports>.

Your heart is full of fertile seeds, waiting to sprout.
-Morihei Ueshiba-

YouthLEAD: Promoting Peace building and Cross-cultural Communication Greensboro, North Carolina

What was funded:

YouthLEAD's goal is to promote peace building and cross-cultural communication among immigrant and refugee youth in Greensboro by enhancing their leadership and communication skills. Professor Laura Taylor and a team of dedicated undergraduate students at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) lead the project. The original project began with research. Adult immigrants and refugees, primarily from Africa and Southeast Asia, were interviewed about what it means to be a good leader and what factors helped these individuals successfully adapt to life in the United States. Using the interview results, YouthLEAD team partnered with community organizations to provide immigrant and refugee youth with tools to become successful advocates for themselves and their communities. Through this process, YouthLEAD was able to identify specific problems the immigrant and refugee youth face in their local communities. The participants also identified what they and their peers

(continues on page 23)



Reports from 2014 Global Seed Grants



Music for Peace: Engaging Conflict-Affected Communities in Northern Uganda in Music Advocacy for Justice and Reconciliation Gulu, Uganda

What was funded:

Music for Peace (MfP) is a joint project between Ugandan artists who promote music in peace-building and the Justice and Reconciliation Project, a Ugandan organization that empowers conflict-affected communities to participate in processes of justice, healing and reconciliation. The Lisle-funded project aimed to develop three songs that can be used by local communities and civil society as educational and advocacy tools for justice and reconciliation. The three songs, on topics of gender justice, victims' conflict and post-conflict experiences, and the basic components of transitional justice would be composed through interactive workshops. Participants would include ex-combatants and victims from four ethnic groups as well as professional artists. Participants would record their songs in a professional studio.

Progress to date-

The two organizations, Music for Peace (MfP)

and the Justice and Reconciliation Project (JRP) were successfully brought together in the initial planning stage, finalized plans for setting up a music studio and completed the studio. Music for Peace organizers requested an extension (to January 2015) as it had not been possible at the time of the report to officially partner with JRP due to funding challenges within JRP. MfP continued on and officially opened the Music for Peace recording studio in Gulu. Four songs have been recorded with Lisle funding.

Women who were formerly abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels did a song on gender justice. A musician who was crippled as a result of a beating he received by soldiers during the war completed a second song that provides encouragement to the community in the post-conflict phase. Two additional songs, completed by professional artists, explore land conflicts and identity as a result of losing parents due to disease and war, and corruption and lack of accountability of political leaders. The songs are currently being mastered by the producer and, when finalized, will be shared and uploaded to the MfP website. MfP plans to produce music videos for one or two of the aforementioned songs using the remaining funds. §

My attitude to peace is rather based on the Burmese definition of peace - it really means removing all the negative factors that destroy peace in this world. So peace does not mean just putting an end to violence or to war, but to all other factors that threaten peace, such as discrimination, such as inequality, poverty.

-Aung San Suu Kyi-

Leadership Report



Bill Kinney, Lisle's President



Mark Kinney, Lisle's Executive Director

Lisle Leadership Report

By Mark Kinney and Bill Kinney

Lisle continues with great Board participation and energy. Our organization is secure and Lisle's vision of intercultural understanding is resonating with other organizations, leading to a significant increase in the number of Global Seed Fund applications as well as in the diversity and quality of the projects proposed.

We have made a great move forward in the way we are handling the project proposals and administering the grants. Each year we face new challenges and questions about how to best select which projects to fund and technology is helping us to respond effectively. Recent experience suggests that we must do more to gather information about the applicant organizations. In the past we have often asked Lislors to research potential grantee organizations. This year most of our applicants are from countries where we currently do not have many Lislors. So, we are working on finding other methods for communicating with and vetting organizations before they are funded. We are also working on a method to better track our grantee organizations and their successes. We hope this information will help Lisle maintain a link with the organization even after the project is completed, while also enabling us to connect organizations with common goals to one another.

Several board members have refined the grant application screening process. Board members, as mentors, also helped applicants better formulate applications so that they would be more aligned with Lisle objectives. The larger number of applications required more mentors and, once again, board members stepped forward to that challenge, many taking on more than one project (*continued*)

Leadership Report

(continued from page 9)

to mentor. This year our screening committee considered more applications than ever before and the Board chose to fund six projects—more than ever before.

Our recent transition to a new treasurer has been great. Hats off to our finance committee and to Mary Newman for accepting the challenge of becoming our new treasurer. We are fortunate to be able to continue counting on Barbara Bratton's significant accounting experience for our transactions.

The financial report from the 2014 annual meeting reveals how reliant we are on our donors for financial support. The report indicates that, although our membership has declined by 50% in the past 10 years, we continue to operate with the support of a loyal base of Lislers. We have been seeking new Lisle members for the past 10 years and we continue to need to build on our existing membership. So, given all these things going on, what have we learned?

We have learned that we can make use of new technology to streamline our operations. Our Board and our partner organizations are geographically diverse, something that makes face-to-face communication difficult and costly. The Lisle Board has now held a number of "virtual" board meetings where we can talk via a conference call. Recently we have combined those calls with "screensharing" technology that allows us to view the same document on our individual computers. To help multiple people work off the same document, we are moving to cloud-based platforms such as Google Docs and Box.

Our board members are ready to move Lisle

to the next stage through multiple collaborations. Interaction has become a collaborative effort with board member James Burke leading the project. Barb Bratton and Mary Newman will be collaborating on multiple financial reports. And the Global Seed Fund Grant process is and will be collaboratively managed by Anne Hayner, Smita Patel, Marty Tillman, Mark Kinney and others.

As Lisle moves through 2015, we will be looking for new grant applications and partner organizations. We both look forward to working with you, the Board and our partner organizations for another successful year. §



Sharing action plans for future activities in Mong Pan, Burma.



Nancy catching up with Sharada Nayak in Delhi.

Dr. Andre (Andy) Nahmias honored with 2014 Walt and Betty Ligon Service Award

by Bill Kinney

Dr. Andre (Andy) Nahmias was awarded the 2014 Walt and Betty Ligon Service Award. The recipient of this annual award is chosen for distinguished service to the mission and intercultural education philosophy of Lisle.

Many Lislers have known Andy Nahmias for many years. Andy was involved with Lisle Units in California (1950-51) and served as a Lisle Board member. Anyone who has met Andy knows that he has a great many stories to share about his life and about Lisle. On a few occasions I have heard tell how Uncle Si and Aunt Edna supported him as a young international student who had dreams of becoming a doctor. Eventually, he was able to realize his dreams of helping through service to other people and children.

During the 1980's and 90's, as a doctor and professor at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, Andy was a pioneer in developing treatments for HIV/AIDS patients. In 1983, he helped establish the first pediatric AIDS clinic at Grady Hospital and was instrumental in establishing an AIDS task force for the state of Georgia. A year later in Geneva, he founded the International Interdisciplinary AIDS Foundation and helped organize the first conference on the effects of HIV on heterosexual women, children and adolescents. During Andy's work at Emory Uni-

versity, he obtained a multi-institutional drug discovery grant from the National Institutes of Health that led to the university becoming a leader in the development of drugs effective in HIV treatment. Andy retired from active medical practice in 2003 and continued to attend classes and educate himself.

In 2006, Andy worked with Tamara Makdad Albrecht of the Emory music department to write a four-act play/cantata. It focused on Adoree, a twelve year-old girl who is diagnosed HIV-positive and how she successfully manages her life and becomes a pediatrician dedicated to helping children of the world to overcome and prevent HIV/AIDS. Andy was instrumental in supporting Lisle's major international conference, "A Wider World View," held at Cornell University in 1983. Over 300 people were in attendance and a trip into the Village of Lisle, NY was a highlight.

Andy often speaks about how Lisle set him on a course to be in service to others and he stands as an example of a Lisler who has helped to transform the world. We congratulate Andy on yet another achievement, the 2014 Ligon Service award. We wish the best for Andy and his wife Susa as they continue their journey into 2015. §



Andy receiving the Ligon Award via Skype!

Making Connections

Lisle's Electronic Communication

Lisle has added to the ways it communicates with the world. Up until last year, we have mailed out letters three times a year, updating Lislers about what we are doing and requesting they help us do that. We also have published Interaction. In the past couple of years we have limited the number of issues of Interaction from twice a year to once a year because of the increasing cost of printing and disseminating it. As a result we have been looking at a way to begin sending other communications electronically.

We now have that process and have begun sending out occasional e-newsletters. These will allow us to send out more information to you and to fill in the time gaps between our other communications. We hope these communications provide something in addition to what we can provide in print. If you have suggestions of how we might maximize the effectiveness of the e-newsletter, please contact us at office@lisleinternational.org.

If you have not received the e-news, and wish to do so, you can add your email to our list at the Lisle website.

If we have your email address, you should have received a couple of these so far. If you have not, then it probably means we do not have your email address or the email is arriving in your junk email box. If you have not received the e-news, and wish to do so, please send us your email address.

Want to Meet Interesting People?

Join the Lisle Board

Please consider becoming a member of the Lisle Board of Directors. Some organizations' board meetings are boring, and work. Lisle Board meetings are a joy (and work). Our current members include people from all over the United States and include the retired, persons between jobs, a school teacher, an accountant, a university administrator, a global peacemaker, a non profit administrator, among others.

We are united by our commitment to making a better world through intercultural learning, and sharing in the work of budgets, grant selection and planning. Call any of the current Lisle board members if you want to know more about time commitment and personal rewards. The rewards are huge, the time investment shared.

If you have a son or daughter, or niece or nephew, who is involved in cross cultural and/or peace building activities, please encourage them to attend a board meeting to see how consensus decision-making works and to then consider joining the Board. Lisle has some travel funds available to assist potential board members to attend the upcoming spring 2015 meeting in Chicago May 2 and 3, 2015. We'd love to hear from you. Please contact us at: office@lisleinternational.org or 512-259-4404.

When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful.
-Malala Yousafzai-

Making Connections

Gifts and Bequests to Lisle

Do you have fond memories of your Lisle times and experiences? Keep those memories alive in your hearts and help others to spread the Lisle mission in our world. In the recent past our Seed Grant program has greatly expanded.

One source of resources that has allowed Lisle to award additional grants has been through generous bequests and donations. Lisle operates due to the generous donations that you and others make to the organization. Many Lislers have made plans to help support Lisle into the future by naming Lisle in their will or by planning to donate to Lisle as a part of legacy estate planning.

Think about the Lisle relationships that you have enjoyed and the joy that you felt working with groups from around the world. Allow others to take part in similar experiences by continuing to support Lisle. Please consider a bequest to Lisle so that we can continue to promote and develop relationships with youth from around the world. Please contact us: office@lisleinternational.org or call 512-259-4404 for details on how you can make a bequest or donation.§

Help us find Lisle Grants to fund!

Know of an organization whose work furthers the mission and goals of Lisle — improving intercultural understanding by bringing people of diverse backgrounds together to share, work together, and learn from one another? Encourage them to apply for a Lisle seed grant! Lisle awards “seed grants” of up to \$3,000 to innovative projects which match our goals.

Help us find organizations that are doing “Lisle-type” work, and to encourage them to apply. Send suggestions, ideas and questions to office@lisleinternational.org. Can you help “mentor” a grant? We need Lisle “mentors” to work with grant applicants to ensure that the project they propose is aligned with Lisle’s values. The mentor is a Lisle member who is interested in the grant process and willing to help an applicant edit and focus their proposed project so that it is a good fit for Lisle.

If you already know of an organization you feel would be a good fit for a Seed Grant, you can be the mentor for that applicant. If you don’t know an organization personally, but are still interested in being part of the process, please let us know. Each year we receive many inquiries from organizations that do not have a Lisle mentor. If we feel the project is worth considering, we try to find them a mentor. If you could review an application and help the applicant to fit their project to Lisle’s goals, you would be a great asset. Contact us at office@lisleinternational.org and we will be happy to answer questions and get you started.§



Lisle Shirts!

This shirt is designed by board member Lori Bratton. It is comprised of all the Lisle Units and Seed Grant recipients. Get yours today. See page 31 to order.

Get the latest information at LISLEINTERNATIONAL.ORG

International Educators Travel to Cuba

By Martin Tillman

In March 2014, my wife Gail and I were part of a group of 17 retired or soon-to-be retired educators from around the country who visited Cuba for a week. At that time, one week was the maximum length of such structured programs to Cuba allowed by our government. I was eager to see how the country had changed as I had organized two weeklong visits for Lisle back in 1977 and 1978 when President Carter, for the first time, allowed U.S. group programs to visit the island.

We were all experienced international travelers and yet, there were many aspects of the journey which surprised us, some which we admired and some of which disappointed us. We visited a Havana polyclinic, a rural planned community (reminding me of Gandhian ashrams I have seen in India), an ecological habitat, art galleries, several entrepreneurial ventures, a cooking school, ballet company, synagogue, small classical music ensemble,



and various government-supported museums (which are always de rigeur as part of Cuba itineraries), including the Museum of the Revolution at the Bay of Pigs and the literacy museum in Havana (impressive as a showcase for the “forced” campaign to teach all citizens to read and write).

It felt surreal, leaving Miami for the 40 minutes flight to Jose Marti Airport in Havana. I hardly had time to get my drink before we landed and I felt strange about the huge political distance between our nations fifty years after the revolution. We all felt that the shortness of the flight was a symbol of the misguided politics that had kept our peoples separated.

As we walked or rode through Havana on our tour bus, we saw largely crumbling residential housing, some public squares with beautifully restored old buildings (often restored with funds from international organizations), and many small shops catering to tourists for art work,



displaying wonderfully colorful and creative designs. People were eager to talk to us either in Spanish or, sometimes, English (often younger Cubans). The streets were clean, the traffic (yes, those 1950s Chevys are everywhere) light and the scene was orderly, with little obvious police presence visible.

When we were on the bus, our bilingual Cuban tour guide was extremely candid in answering all the questions we posed about family life, politics, poverty, healthcare, education, and travel restrictions. He told us that he was unable to visit the United States with his wife, who was able to leave to see her father who lived in the U.S. Similarly, we were able to engage all the other people we met, although we did not go out of our way to discuss politics, other than a talk with a Cuban student from the University of Havana and an economist who frequently was a guest lecturer in the U.S.

By coincidence, in the same year we visited Cuba, the President announced a “reset” of our policies with the Cuban government. All of us in the group share the hope that in coming years, removal of the embargo and “normalization” of our



foreign policy will alleviate the extreme food shortages for the Cuban people (their monthly food coupons only support a family for about 20 days each month) and create more open travel between our nations, eventually leading to the economic revitalization of the island. And, perhaps, allow greater freedom of expression for the small but very active dissident community. §



Annual Meeting - Cincinnati, OH

Fall 2014 Board and Annual Meeting (Cincinnati, Ohio)

By Barbara Bratton

The Lisle Annual meeting coincides with the fall Board of Directors meeting. In 2014, the meeting took place at the Grailville Guest Center in Loveland, Ohio, outside of Cincinnati. Grailville is a fascinating place. The Grail is an international movement of women committed to spiritual search, social action, ecological sustainability and the release of women's creative energy throughout the world. In 1944, the organization purchased 180 acres in Loveland to establish a United States permanent center. Over the years, they have added land and buildings to make their current Center 315 acres of woodlands, pastures and organic gardens. Lisle was housed in an old farmhouse that slept 16 and had facilities for making our own breakfast and for relaxing and visiting at night. Our organic meals were served deliciously in the Grailville dining hall. Our meetings were held in an old pig barn—cunningly renovated into a charming meeting room.

The fall meeting elects new board members (as part of the annual meeting), then board officers are elected (as part of the fall board meeting agenda), and then board members review recommendations for and award Lisle Global Seed Fund grants for the upcoming year. Giving out money is a wonderful way to spend the weekend. There are so many terrific programs going on in this world and it warms the heart to know that Lisle is able to help them get off the

ground. At the fall 2014 meeting, we awarded \$18,000 to six organizations for 2015. I recommend you read the articles on the new grants and feel GOOD about this world.

**Hands of Peace (USA)
\$3,000**

**Encountering our Neighbors
(D.R.Congo) \$3,000**

**Inspiring Development
(Indonesia) \$3,000**

**Growing Seeds of
Transformation (Myanmar)
\$3,000**

**Sharing Challenges Building
Community (Sierra Leone)
\$3,000**

**Intercultural Learning for
Agriculture (Uganda) \$3,000**

The annual meeting is open to Lisle members and guests, and we welcome visitors to the board meetings. Please come. This past fall, we were most delighted to have as visitors, Nancy Kinney, Muhyiddin Sultan and Christian (Cito) Cirhigiri. Nancy has attended nearly all our board meetings and has diligently protected her status as "visitor" not "Board Member." During the fall meeting weekend, she was our breakfast chef. We are thank-

Annual Meeting

ful to Nancy for always being of great help. Muhyiddin Sultan, a marvelous young Palestinian, came to the meeting with the encouragement of board member Diane Brause, and gave us a soul-searching talk about the current Palestinian/Israeli issue from the point of view of a Palestinian. We were most appreciative of Sultan bringing his life and view to share with us. In his words, “victimization is the root of the problem. But I refuse to be a victim.” These insights add to the so many shades of grey regarding the Palestinian/Israeli conflict that seems to be an indecipherable Gordian knot. The presentation was an antidote to the news media attempts to make world issues black or white. (Also see Dianne’s article about her time in Palestine and travels with Sultan in the US).

Christian Cirhigiri (Cito), a student at Notre Dame from the Republic of Congo, was invited to attend the board meeting by Anne Hayner. Cito attended the meeting to better understand how nonprofits function in the US and to acquire ideas to apply to his own nonprofit organization in Congo. We enjoyed his fresh views on the issues we struggle with at each meeting. Since Cito was named an associate member of the Board, we look forward to his participation in future meetings. (Also see Cito’s article about his experience at our most recent Board meeting.)

Andy and Susa Nahmias joined the board meeting via Skype (through a prearranged meeting time) from their home in Atlanta, Georgia. Over Skype, the board awarded the Walt and Betty Ligon Service Award to Andy. (Also see Bill’s piece about Andy and the Ligon Award.)

I recommend that you consider joining the Lisle Board and attending these

semi-annual meetings. One of the benefits of Lisle board membership is the wonderful fellowship we share at our meetings. The spring meeting is always in Chicago at the youth hostel. The fall board meeting/Annual meeting takes place in different locations. The fall 2015 board meeting will take place in early November and will be in Washington, DC. We always hope to see Lisle friends who live in the areas we visit, meet new friends, learn new ideas and experience new places. A Lisle meeting is all of these. §



Board Meeting in OH using a lot of technology.



Late Fall sunset in Ohio.

Lisle Guest Reflects on Annual Meeting



International Student impressions of Fall 2014 Lisle Board Meeting

By Christian Cirhigiri, Democratic Republic of Congo

Hello, I'm a Master's student in International Peace Studies at the KROC Institute of the University of Notre Dame. My wife and I are co-founders of Bukavu Youth Action Center (BYAC), a nonprofit based in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Anne Hayner encouraged me to take part in Lisle's Board meeting after I expressed a desire to contribute meaningfully my time and experience to the Lisle's great work. I was taken by what Lisle International is doing with its partners to make our world a better place for all.

It was amidst a snowstorm that Anne and I started on the road from the Notre Dame Campus to Cincinnati, heading for the Lisle

Board meeting. Coming from the Democratic Republic of Congo, where winter is a word that is found only in books, the road trip to Cincinnati left me with a personal experience of its beauty. It felt like the sky had fallen on the ground and left me to wonder how much was left of it in the air. On our way, we picked up Bill Kinney at the airport. Before I knew it, this gentleman's friendliness and engaging conversation filled my heart with positive impressions for the upcoming weekend that I was going to spend with other Lisle Board members. From time to time the car would slide unexpectedly, a good time for Anne, Bill and me to pause our conversation and sigh with relief; we hit nobody!

Upon our arrival, we were welcomed by other Lislors who had arrived before us. This was my first time taking part in a board meeting and I was very excited to see how it all worked. I was also excited to build new professional relationships and learn from the rich and diverse work experiences of the Lisle board members. The Lisle meeting was



Housing at the Cincinnati, OH meeting was quiet and peaceful.

Lisle Guest Reflects on Annual Meeting

a great opportunity for me to appreciate the art of consensus building that governed decisions on grant allocations. As an observer, it was interesting to see that the efficient meeting facilitation allowed smooth reach of consensus, despite the different points of view on each application by members of the board. I was particularly interested to see how Lisle's mentorship model helps Board members develop deeper working relationships with the organizations on the ground. Although this model is brilliant, it has faced challenges with the diminishing number of Lislers willing and able to take on the task of mentoring these projects.

The struggle during the meeting was how to overcome this challenge. I proposed that the Board consider partner-to-partner mentorship which is not only more sustainable in the long run, but also ensures that projects presented to Lisle are not redundant. With regard to the challenge of fundraising, I liked Anne's initiative to create a database of former funded Lisle projects. The database would help the Board keep in touch with its partners over the years and include them into Lisle as it moves forward.

I was also honored to give a short presentation of the work of the Bukavu Youth Action Center with the youth in the Congo. The organization empowers youth for responsible leadership through the performing and visual arts and communication (www.bukavuyouth.org). Over two decades, the eastern DRC has been affected by political unrest that has cost the lives of about 6 million innocent civilians. The war has also left many



Christian taking part in the group discussion.

youth hopeless for their future, a future that they themselves can reclaim. Over the past 3 years, BYAC's programs have focused on restoring hope to these youth for a better future by challenging them to use their talents to start rebuilding the nation. BYAC also uses its youth magazine to connect young people with one another and to inspire them to take initiative in their communities.

I was grateful to receive constructive feedback from the Board members who also encouraged me to send a grant application to Lisle next year. After the meeting, I was happy to work together and even more, to make new friends. As we look forward, I am excited to be part of Lisle's growth and to contribute in whichever way I can. We are in the same boat of bringing hope to those in our world that need it the most. Happy New 2015!§

Christian can be reached via his email: cirhigiri.1@nd.edu

Lisle Friends News

Very Alive Day of the Dead

By John Kachuba

Day of the Dead (Dia de los Muertos) might sound like a sad and depressing event but as Lislers John Kachuba and Mary Newman know, the fall festival is, in fact, a colorful and fun celebration of our link to our ancestors. That's why from October 29 – November 3, 2014, they led a group of ten people, including Lisler Betsy Bridwell, to Oaxaca, Mexico to celebrate the holiday.

During the Day of the Dead festival, celebrants believe that the spirits of their departed loved ones return to their families and friends one more time. Graves in the cemeteries are cleaned and decorated with bright marigolds and candles. Elaborate altars contain flowers, candles, favorite foods of the deceased—including traditional holiday foods such as pan de muertos (bread of the dead), calaveras (sugar skulls) and drinks such as beer, mescal, and Mexican hot chocolate. In addition, there are photos of the deceased and personal mementos of them are constructed in homes. Large altars are also erected in public places such as hotels, restaurants, and stores.

The holiday is a combination of Spanish Catholic and indigenous beliefs. The best Day of the Dead celebrations are in the Mexican State of Oaxaca, where indigenous people make up nearly two thirds of the population.

In addition to the altars, people create ornate, three-dimensional sand paintings called tapetes in public squares, cemeteries and other locations. Every five minutes, it seemed, the group would see a comparza (street parade), complete with a band and scores of people

in costumes and face paint coming down a street. Of course, the tour group had to join in after getting their own faces painted.

In order to understand the holiday and its significance, the group visited villages in the Oaxaca Valley. They helped—as best they could—to decorate and clean graves and prepare some of the holiday foods. The group also visited the magnificent indigenous ruins of Monte Alban and Mitla to learn about the ancient indigenous beliefs about death and the spirit world and how they related to the modern Day of the Dead celebration.

Similarly, Spanish Catholic beliefs of the 16th and 17th centuries figure largely in the Day of the Dead. The Catholic influence could be seen in many places in Oaxaca, especially in the beautiful Dominican churches that dated back to the Conquista. All the Spanish and indigenous locations are listed as UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Oaxaca was beautiful, the people were beautiful and our group had a great time. John and Mary are offering the Oaxaca tour again next October and are already taking reservations. See www.johnkachuba.com for more information.



John and Mary enjoying Dia de los Muertos.

Lisle Friends News

Cross-Cultural Experiences in Palestine and the USA

By *Dianne G. Brause*

This summer, I returned to Bethlehem for a 3rd year in support of the “Empowering Teenage Palestinian Girls” project, which Lisle funded in 2012-13. Although some of the 27 young women that had met weekly over 10 months were away on summer vacation, the remainder met for a session of evaluation and a celebration of “Graduation.” Some of the girls were volunteering at the “Bethlehem Live Festival” which the Holy Land Trust had organized, to bring awareness and vitality to the historic Star Street. Others were learning “Taiko Drumming and Dancing,” and it was wonderful to see these young ladies as they performed on the Main Stage.

The girls had very much wanted to go camping as part of their program—something that most of them had never done before—but as the Gaza war began in July, it became obvious that it was not safe for them to go out overnight in the area around Bethlehem, as tensions were running high. Hopefully at some point in the future—if it becomes safer, and the program continues to have funding—their dream will become a reality!

One of my reasons for going to the Middle East at this time, was to bring my young Palestinian friend, Muhyiddin Sultan, back with me to the USA, in order for him to meet Americans, see the country, and perhaps discover his next steps in his dream to help his people and country find a way to create a just and sustainable peace in the Holy Land. I also wanted Americans to meet a loving, gentle, Palestinian man who remains optimistic and non-violent, despite many years of oppression for himself and his

family since the beginning of the occupation.

During the war, Sultan was not allowed to leave Palestine for 3 weeks, so I got to spend time in his hometown of Hebron with his parents and many of his 21 nephews and nieces. The intense coverage of the war on local TV was profoundly disturbing and raised complex questions about how to resolve this long-standing conflict.

We finally arrived in the US in time to enjoy Fall Foliage in New England and were happy to be able to join the Lisle Annual meeting in Loveland, Ohio in November. As we travel, we have tried to learn how people here had interpreted the war and to share Sultan’s experiences. Maybe this could be considered a continuation of the Lisle mission of cross-cultural understanding in a different form!



Reports from 2014 Global Seed Grants

(Learn Serve from page 6)

youth-centered approach to social change, had three parts: cross-cultural dialogue, student-led skills exchange, and team collaboration.

Outcomes-

Only a small number of participants provided evaluations. Overall, they were generally positive and highlighted the value of the breakout sessions. Areas of learning included team management, leadership styles, customer discovery, and Lean Startup. Respondents were very enthusiastic about the icebreakers and less enthusiastic about the Peace Corps Panel. Participants appreciated the chance to reflect on their leadership and management skills, develop niche professional skills, be surrounded by such a dynamic group of like-minded peers, and learn from peers.

High impact elements-

- Students on the planning committee impacted the selection of breakout topics and did an effective job of preparing workshop leaders.
- Students taught students about successful venture projects and modeled what success can look like.
- Cross-cultural conversations served the dual role of breaking the ice and encouraging participants to reflect on the diversity of personal identities and background experiences.
- The partnership with American University and specific departmental support gave additional weight to the importance of the skills participants learned.

Areas for improvement

- Increase participation in the Summit. Learn-Serve would like to double participation from 125 to 250.
- More evenly balance break out session enrollment.

- Reformat Peace Corps panel so that the content better resonates with students.
- Improve and increase evaluation of summit and breakout sessions.

(Global Visionaries from page 6)

Outcomes-

- Ten of the 22 participants from public and private schools in five states, indicated they would implement efforts in their classrooms.
- Nineteen of the 22 participants completed a program evaluation survey with the following results: 79% felt that content was fully relevant to their work, 95% felt ready to implement core Global Leadership (GL) methodologies, and 95% said that the workshops increased their interest in the GL course. One hundred percent of the participants indicated they would implement at least two GL strategies in their classroom during the upcoming academic year. Overall, 95% of the survey participants gave the GLSI a rating of 4.5 out of 5.
- Survey feedback showed an overall positive and enriching training experience for those who participated in the Institute.
- After the training, ten teachers reported that employment of the strategies in the classroom are making a marked difference in their teaching overall; Their students are significantly more engaged in the civic duties that are now a part of the classroom.

Areas for improvement-

- There is a need to increase the ability of Global Visionaries to support teachers who wish to take their learning forward. Additional GV resources are being allocated and planned to provide support to this group.
- Strategies need to be developed to bridge the

2014 Global Seed Grant Reports

gap between public and private school teachers who teach in different environments.

How funds were used-

The funds from Lisle International provided wages for a new position: Resource Teacher at Chief Sealth International High School. The funds also enabled GV to rent a space for the GLSI and provide Global Leadership training to 22 individuals.

(Youth Lead from page 7)

could do to improve their communities, and what type of support they would need from adults or community members to obtain their goals. YouthLEAD hosted a Leadership Training that included a series of capacity-building activities. The first training focused on conflict transformation and cross-cultural communication skills. The second training focused on leadership and working across groups. After learning and practicing these essential skills, the youth participants were encouraged to share what they had learned through their local community centers. These leadership activities aimed to provide young immigrants and refugees with skills needed to be successful in their education and careers.

Outcomes-

There were two main sets of successes produced by this project. First, the research phase identified what the interviewees identified as “success” and what it means to be a good leader, what barriers and obstacles exist to reaching future goals, how social networks serve to provide key support, and resources to help adjustment to life in the US. Second, youth participants in the leadership trainings were energized and galvanized around the themes of conflict resolution and leadership development. There are plans to continue these workshops through the academic year 2014-15. §

New Lisle T-shirts Celebrate Past and Future!

Lisle has a beautiful new t-shirt design to celebrate the connection between the past and the future of Lisle. The striking image on a black background was designed by board member Lori Bratton. The hands (in tan and brown) are made up of the names of Lisle units which spanned the globe from the 1930’s to the 1990’s. The hands support a globe (in green and blue) covered with names of intercultural projects supported by Lisle Seed Grants over the past ten years. This illustrates how Uncle Si and Aunt Edna’s concept of “worldmindedness” is still living and expanding after 75 years of rich history.

Order your own t-shirt – and more to share with others!

\$20 including shipping – with great quantity discounts if you help spread the word about Lisle by ordering shirts for gifts:

- \$20 for 1 shirt
- \$15 each for 2-4 shirts
- \$12 each plus shipping for 5 or more

Ordering options:

- By mail: use the order form on the back page
- On the Lisle website (www.lisleinternational.org) using Paypal for payment
- By email to office@lisleinternational.org to arrange mailing and payment.



Lisle Friends News

Compiled by Betsy Bridwell

Chris & Dean Coons (CO '48, OH '61, Bali '91, Costa Rica '96) share that Dean had a stroke in July; he is recuperating with speech therapy. Chris still deals with her vision disability. They receive support from their children.

Carolyn Dougall (DC '62, DC '64) wrote: Don and I continue to travel -- this year to Bhutan, Nepal and Tibet. I've always wanted to visit Tibet but it was not as I expected. Chinese military is present, tags on walls in a major museum are written in Chinese, and few monasteries have survived and they are watched closely. I was sad.

Marna Feldt (CO '56, Jamaica '57, India '90) retired in 1996 after years of international work – summer volunteer projects in the 50s (Austria, Germany, Sweden), Asst. Dir. of the American Swedish Historical Museum, and 30 years as Cultural and Academic Affairs liaison between U.S. and Sweden, based in NYC. She earned a graduate degree at UC-Berkeley and is still politically active, doing volunteer work and engaged in Swedish liaison activities.

Genevieve Myrtle Sowards Gillen (CO '50) retired after 50 years of teaching in OH, FL and WV. She received three Fulbright awards (England, India and Pakistan) and four NEH grants. She returned a number of times to the country of her birth, Burma/Myanmar. In retirement she has pursued watercolor/pastel/oil painting, papermaking and ceramics, and has been involved in community programs in southern WV.

Ardis Hanish (Germany '55, CA '56) is happy to be alive and healthy!

Sue Hart (Germany '63) shared some of her wonderful memories of her unit in Kaufbeuren, especially of her roommate, Millie Rhorer Judd (who has passed away), and times with Aunt Edna. She wonders about others who were in that unit and would love to know about them now.

Sharon Kristjanson has downsized from her house in Winnetka to a condo in Evanston, IL, which she says has been a very long and challenging adventure!

Margit Rubendunst (Denmark '54) says her memories often return to her experiences in Denmark and wonders about fellow participants. Now 80, she tries to continue her tennis and is still a novice at golf.

Hans and Ellie Spiegel (CO'46 and '47, NY '47, Germany '58, Bali '88) have been married for 66 years! They ask "what are plans for Lisle's 100th? Plan ahead!"

Barbara Farrington Thomas (Japan '53) is a retired school psychologist and special education director. A current member of the Fresno County board of education, she has five children and ten grandchildren.

Alice Rife Wiedrich (CO '46) reports that her family is international this year -- granddaughter Samantha is a Rotary Exchange student in Germany for the school year.

Dale Wolfgram (CA '64) has decided to retire after 50 years of teaching at both the high school and college level. He took his dream trip of a lifetime in 2002 to the high Arctic, and also enjoys his time in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia (Nine trips).

Lisle Friends News

We want to hear from you and so do your friends! Please send your information to Lisle International office@lisleinternational.org or by mail to the Lisle office address indicated in this newsletter.



Dianne Brause visiting Lislors Chris and Dean Coons in San Francisco.

God Winks - A Lisle Reflection

by Barbara Braxton Wilks (CA '50, CT '51)

At 83 years old, most of my friends have already gone on. A few days ago, my husband, of 60 years, left me for "The Afterlife."

Over the years, we friendly debated the Lisle experience vs the Moral Rearmament (MRA) experience as life-changing experiences in our late teen years.

We continued our support of "Up With People" and Lisle. Over our 60 years, we hosted traveling visitors in our home—I am remembering times with Uncle Si and Aunt Edna. One Lisle visitor almost burned our house down in Athens, GA after turning on the stove to heat morning tea and going into another room to meditate. I have attended

Board meetings over the years and renewed friendships with others from my Units, especially in Denver and Atlanta.

I am now in the "Pit Stage" of life, the countdown. Wint knew he was progressing through Alzheimer's disease for 5 years. I, his 24/7 devoted caregiver, would have "bet the farm" that stress would take me out before him. But it didn't.

I have had many "God Winks" moments in my life I want to tell about. One, I think of the remote possibility that I, from a small rural North Carolina town went to Lisle in California (met Uncle Si in Michigan and rode out in their car camping along roadside en route). At Lisle, I met John Brown from Michigan and Williams College. We fell in love. I found some few years later a girlfriend from my small rural hometown had gone to a Lisle Unit and met a summer love, Randy, who had been a college roommate of John Brown. Another time in my history, years later married and living in Newton, Iowa, I ran into Joe Ault who had been in my Calif '50 unit living couple blocks from us. One more "God Wink" in my life was to renew friendship with Andy Nahmias from Calif. '50 Unit, a doctor at Emory University while getting my MPH there.

Your December 2014 Bulletin Update came in mail and I just opened it. In my state of reflection of my life, it is therapeutic to write this note and enclose a check and say: Lisle, "keep on keeping on." You made a huge difference in my life. I cannot imagine what kind of life I would have had without the Lisle experience. §

In Memoriam

Lislors Deceased in 2014

By Nancy Pearson Kinney, Mexico 91

In 2014 Lisle has lost some members whom we will miss very much. The ones of which we are aware are:

Sister Martha Leyden, OP, formerly Sister Paula, age 81, died Jan. 1, 2014. She went to India with Lisle in 1985. Sr. Martha entered religious life from St. Sebastian Parish, Akron, in 1950. She taught in Cleveland and Akron, Ohio. After earning her Ph.D. from Columbia University, New York, in 1971, she became Associate Professor in Early Child Education at the University of Akron, a position she held for nineteen years while she also was active in social action groups in the area. She is fondly remembered by former students and community members.

Alma Ambrosio Chand, Ann Arbor Michigan, age 79, was a member of the Japan 1955 unit and of Colorado '57. Alma passed away on April 18, 2014 of heart disease while visiting friends and family in the Philippines. Alma received her Bachelor's degree from the University of the Philippines and a Master's degree from George Williams University. She taught Community Medicine at the Wayne State University School of Medicine, and worked at the Southwest Community Mental Health Services as a Development Officer, raising funds from federal, state, and local governments.

Raymond F. Steiner, age almost 95, died March 3, 2014 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Ray was an active participant in the New York 1940 unit at Lisle NY and told stories about hitch-

hiking from Michigan in order to be there. His experiences with the international members of the unit stayed with him forever after. He was a neighbor of Mark and Nancy Kinney and enjoyed life to the utmost as an engineering technician, musician, active Kiwanian, a glassblower and inventor, among other activities. We and his wife, Phyllis and five children and the community that loved him will miss Ray every day.

Jean Louise Brookhart, age 94, died on 15 October 2014 in Huntington Beach California. Jean was a loyal supporter of Lisle for many years beginning with her participation in the Colorado unit in 1945. She was retired teacher and a member of the Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church in Costa Mesa; she will be missed by her friends in the Women's Circle.

Elizabeth Graves Broughall (CO '50; Denmark '52) passed away January 28, 2015. She was in her 90th year and may not have been as spry as she once was, but her spunk meter remained on full right to the finish! Even after receiving the verdict that her cancer was terminal, Elizabeth took on the adventure of living a useful end to a faithful life.

She was raised on a homestead in Kansas and graduated from the U of Kansas in Occupational Therapy. She and her husband lived around the U.S. but settled in Colorado. She is survived by her five children, grandchildren, and great-grandchild.

Her daughters report that "she had been a member of Lisle fellowship since 1950. She regaled us with many memories over the years of her involvement and was very proud of the

In Memoriam

organization. Whenever Mom talked about Lisle she had a smile on her face. She would mention Uncle Si and Aunt Edna often and very warmly.”

Two other deaths from former years were communicated to us by relatives during 2014.

Peter D. Ehrenhaft, age 78, of Washington D.C. died July 25, 2012. Peter was a lawyer specializing in international trade who had a long career in Washington with several law firms and was a deputy assistant secretary of the Treasury in the 1970s. Peter’s volunteer interests were public-interest law and Compassion & Choices, a group concerned with end-of-life decisions. He went to Germany in 1956 along with long time Lisle leader, Franz Biglmaier. Also in that unit were the Schmals, Sigrid Kern and Pasha and Donna Hussain.

Wallace B. Hussong, age 94, of Merchantville, NJ passed away Feb 19, 2013. He was another member of the New York 1940 Unit along with Ray Steiner. After earning a B.S. degree at Wesleyan University in 1941, Wallace graduated from Thomas Jefferson University’s medical college in 1944. His specialty was psychiatry, which he practiced until 1995. Father of three, former school board member, swim club founder and naturalist, he led a full community-focused life.

If you know of anyone else who has passed away this year, please inform the Lisle office. We want to honor their memories and share their lives with the Lisle community. Our database of active Lislors has been decreasing rapidly in recent years, and we are really beginning to notice the empty spaces at meetings.

Jannelle Warren-Findley (Denmark ’75) passed away on February 4, 2015 in Phoenix, AZ. Jann was introduced to Lisle by her ex-husband, Jon Findley (DC ’64, etc., Lisle Board). Following the completion of her PhD in 1973, she and Jon moved to Sweden where she was a Fulbright Scholar for three years. In the summer of 1975, they led the Sweden/Norway portion of the Danish Unit hosted by Aage Nielsen. She was an Associate Professor of History at Arizona State University for 20 years. She remained active in international activities, living and teaching about American history and culture in England, New Zealand, and China. She also worked as a consultant in historical and cultural preservation traveling to Alaska, Korea, England, New Zealand, China and Australia. She is survived by Jon and their son, Ben Findley (Pacific NW 2001).

*A thing of beauty is a joy for ever:
Its loveliness increases; it will never
Pass into nothingness; but still will keep
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breath-
ing.*
- John Keats-

Please let us know of your address changes and email address changes so we can continue to send you Lisle news about your friends and about the projects Lisle is supporting. We invite you to check out the Lisle webpage at lisleinternational.org. If you are a Facebook user, please visit us at:
facebook.com/groups/6619056893/

2015 Global Seed Grants

(Neighbors from page 1)

*If you want to make peace with your enemy,
you have to work with your enemy. Then he
becomes your partner.*

-Nelson Mandela-

(Hands from page 1)

Chicago neighborhood. This activity will be accompanied by facilitated dialogues in which the Chicago Freedom School participants will learn more about the situation in Israel/Palestine and Hands of Peace participants will learn more about inequalities and injustices within Chicago.

Goals include challenging stereotypes, inspiring interfaith cooperation and understanding, and building empathy for the injustices and violence suffered by civilians in the US and the Middle East. In the process of planning the mural, students will learn from each other's stories and feel connected on a deep personal level to one another's suffering.

Their mural will also inspire Chicago locals for many years to come and serve as a lasting testament to the power of intercultural cooperation. Direct beneficiaries of this project will be 42 Israeli, Palestinian, and American teenagers from Hands of Peace, 25 inner-city teenagers from the Chicago Freedom School (a cost-free program serving at-risk Chicago youth), and the residents of a to-be-determined Chicago neighborhood where the mural will be painted.

Indirect beneficiaries include everyone who is inspired by watching the video about the project (which will be shared widely on YouTube and Facebook) and everyone who will visit the mural and learn more about the story behind it.

Women's Voices, a student group at Université Chrétienne Bilingue du Congo (UCBC), will hold a four day workshop that will bring 6 students from Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda to DR Congo where they, together with UCBC student leaders, will participate in experiential learning and facilitated dialogue.

During the workshop, the participants will work together to find common ground and to begin transforming toxic perceptions of their neighbors into collaborative partnerships. The workshops will teach conflict analysis and transformation and how to make strategic plans for communicating their new learning to the campus communities they represent. On the third day of the program, UCBC will host a university-wide conference for students and community leaders in which the workshop participants will present their learning and discuss collaborative responses to regional conflict.

The project will directly impact the six international participants, some 50 members of Women's Voices, and an expected 500 students who will participate in the university wide conference on the third day of the workshop. As the participants take what they have learned back to their own communities, organizers hope that the number of people ultimately touched by the project will exceed 1,000.

*How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a
single moment before starting to improve the world.*

-Anne Frank-

2015 Global Seed Grants

(Inspiring from page 3)

analysis, comparative case studies, role-play dialogue, group-project planning, visits to historical places, teambuilding and community building activities, and the use of metaphor, rituals and storytelling. The program will directly benefit thirty student participants from the State University of Makassar. Indirect beneficiaries will include the larger student body of the State University Makassar as well as the communities around the university.

Fall Annual Meeting in Washington, DC- Save the Date!

by Marty Tillman

The 2015 Annual Meeting will take place in Washington, DC from November 13-15. We will meet at the William Penn Quaker House, on Capitol Hill not far from the U.S. Capitol. (<http://williampennhouse.org/>)

We have used the Penn House to host past Annual Meetings. It's a fine place in a quiet residential area of the Capitol Hill neighborhood. It's easily accessible to air or train travel and easy to get to from National Airport or Union Station (for bus or Amtrak riders). Visit their website for detailed directions.

Fall is fantastic in DC (where I've lived now for decades and where I first began working for Uncle Si & Aunt Edna at their condo in Rockville, MD in 1976). We always have a lot of fun here and there is a lot to do and see culturally. The relatively new National Museum of the American Indian opens a

(continues on page 30)

(Growing Seeds from page 3)

participants by training them as trainers so that they in turn can teach others what they have learned. To further extend and consolidate the impact of the 10-day workshop, the organization plans to create a long-term leadership school, which will hold weekly meetings with the youth throughout the year.

Direct beneficiaries of the program will be the fifteen young participants. Organizers are hoping that once the youth leaders start working together to improve and advocate for the community, the project will also benefit the broader Mong Pan community. The organization plans to use this pilot program as a model to share with other conflict-affected communities in Burma as well as in other countries. The model will address the issues of recovery, healing and empowerment for communities impacted by violence. It is one more little circle in Lisle's long and storied history: since Uncle Si and Aunt Edna started their journey working with youth in Burma, this project, in a way, seems to bring us full circle again.



Day of the Dead Participants in Mexico

Treasurer's Report

By Mary Newman

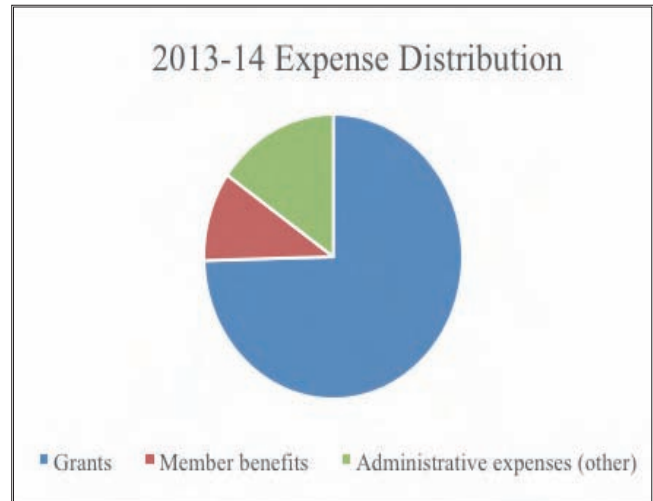
This year, I step into the role of Treasurer of Lisle, following Barbara Bratton's many years of valuable service. (Thank you, Barbara!)

One way to assess how well a nonprofit organization handles its finances is to divide the money spent on program services by the organization's total expenses. The Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance says the resulting figure should be 65% or greater. Charity Navigator says it should be 66.7% or greater. For 2013, Lisle's percentage was 75%, a notable achievement showing good stewardship of our financial resources. As the new Treasurer, with long-time membership on the Lisle board and several years on the Finance Committee, I will continue the work to increase Lisle's financial accountability, transparency, and efficiency.

What are the sources of Lisle's revenue? Two thirds (66%) of Lisle's revenue comes from member contributions. Many thanks to everyone who has donated to Lisle! Investment income accounts for the remaining 34% of our income. Lisle's finance committee has taken steps to protect our assets through diversification (ex. percent allocated to stocks, bonds and cash) and investment in index funds with low management fees. Cash, including short term fixed, CDs, and Treasury bills has been managed to maximize interest, yet conservative enough to meet obligations.

How is Lisle's revenue spent? As indicated in the pie chart, during the 2013-14 fiscal year, 75% of Lisle's revenue went to Seed Grants, 10% to member services (mostly the printing and distribution of "Interaction"), and

15% to administrative expenses (fund raising, board expenses, and property taxes). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at marynewman@fuse.net. §



(Fall Meeting from page 29)

window on the culture and history of our first peoples. The last major museum to be built on the Mall, the National Museum of African-American History is still under construction but might be open by next fall. Too late to catch a baseball game, but the fantastic Nationals Park is worth a look. Also, we are within walking distance of the new Visitor Entrance to the Capitol, which I've not yet visited, but which has gotten rave reviews.

Lastly, I'd add that, as of this year, we are the only major American city which has three women leading our government: the Mayor, the Chief of Police and School Chancellor!

We hope to see you there! If you're interested in attending, please let us know so that we can keep you informed as things develop.

Support Lisle — Change the World!

www.lisleinternational.org
(512) 259-4404
e-mail: <office@lisleinternational.org>

You can now donate or purchase items from our website using Paypal!

I want to become/stay a member of Lisle, 2015

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Street: _____ City/State/Zip _____
Email: _____ Country _____

I attended the following Lisle programs/events:

I would like to make a donation:

- Basic Donor\$35
- Contributing Donor\$75
- Supporting Donor\$200
- Sustaining Donor\$500
- Benefactor\$1,000
- Other.....\$ _____

- I would like to receive ***Providing a Lasting Memorial***, a brochure about Wills & Bequests.
- I would like to receive **Global Seed Fund Mentor** information.

Notes about your life & community involvement for the newsletter, Interaction

Items for Sale (price includes domestic S & H)

- Lisle Seed Grant T-shirt:** S-M-L-XL-XXL Qty____ Size____ (\$20 ea.) _____
(2-4 shirts \$15/each - 5 or more shirts \$12/each)
- Oral Histories from 70th Anniversary DVD Qty____ (\$10 ea.) _____
- Lisle History DVD Qty____ (\$15 ea.) _____
- 70th Anniversary T-shirt Qty____ (\$ 5 ea.) _____
- Current Lisle Directory Qty____ (\$20 ea.) _____
- Tiger by the Tail*, the history of Lisle Qty____ (\$25 ea.) _____
- Aunt Edna: 50 Years of Memories* Qty____ (\$ 8 ea.) _____
(a memoir of Edna Baldwin)

Total enclosed _____

If you prefer to use this form, mail your check, made out to Lisle, to:

PO Box 1932
Leander, TX 78646

For office use only:	DB	ACK	NAME	DATE
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LISLE, INCORPORATED

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(512) 259-4404

Website: <www.lisleinternational.org>

Email: <office@lisleinternational.org>

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Upcoming Meetings

Spring Board Meeting

May 2-3, 2015

Chicago

Fall Annual Meeting

November 13-15, 2015

Washington D.C.

Fall Annual Meeting in Washington, DC- Save the Date!

The 2015 Annual Meeting will take place in Washington, DC from November 13-15.

We will meet at the William Penn Quaker House on Capitol Hill not far from the U.S.

Capitol. <http://williampennhouse.org/>

See page 29 for complete details. We hope you will be able to join us!