

Lisle *Interaction*

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SUMMER ISSUE • 2009

2009 Global Seed Grant Program— It's All About Leverage!

By Mark Kinney

How would you like to have a hand in helping a young teacher fulfill his dream of taking some of his middle school students to Jamaica to increase their awareness of a culture different than their own? The teacher dreams that his students will learn that what they know about computers can help another kid, and in the long run, help this teacher leverage the project and garner other funds to support the effort? Net results: a new computer lab, a bicycle cooperative, a nearly operational biodiesel project, a sports equipment company sponsorship of an athletic program and a lot of happy kids, teachers and parents, Mon!

What about supporting a fledgling organization to transport a group of tribal youth from their mountain villages to learn about ecology and how they can help their local villages prepare for the next hurricane or earthquake? As a result, the provincial government turns to this group for help in writing the “children’s” portion of the new State constitution and the organization produces a full color mailed newsletter that costs the kids only \$1.25 per year. Big results from a small amount of money—but those are only two of the changes which we have seen so far that originated from our Global Seed Grant projects.

So, in a time of shrinking budgets and fewer dollars for many things, once again Lisle is offering Global Seed Grants for funding between November 15, 2009—October 31, 2010. Lisle is excited to announce our grant cycle for grants of between \$500–\$3000 to

support projects which foster the goals of Lisle. We ask all Lislors to consider supporting an organization in submitting an application.

As you can see in other places in this *Interaction*, we have funded many exciting and important projects that have led to amazing results in our short time offering grants. As well, each project requires someone to become a Lisle Mentor or sponsor for the project which has served to renew many individual Lislors’ awareness of what Lisle is now doing, and their involvement in Lisle. The mentors have also been crucial in helping to build proposals that are truly worthy of the high standards and goals that the Lisle Board has set.

Project proposal applications are due to the Lisle office by September 1st, 2009. The Lisle committee will consider the selections until the Annual Meeting in Austin on November 6–8.

Key **required** elements contained in the application include: An identified “Lisle Mentor;” a description of the project; a clear budget; specific goals and objectives; a time-line for the project; and a specified evaluation process.

The awards will be made public during the Lisle Annual Meeting and Board meeting. The official announcements of these awards will be sent to applicants within a week following the meeting. The mini-grant cycle will be from **November 15, 2009–October 31, 2010.**

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What Does Mentoring Take, Really?

First, once you have a working relationship with the organization who is making the proposal, help them submit the proposal. The proposal needs to follow the format provided by Lisle (see website, or get materials from office), and will include contact information for the director and the Lisle mentor (if these are two different persons), a title for the project, a description of the project, some information about how the project will further the goals of global-mindedness, a description of the activities which will be fostered through the project, a process for evaluating the outcomes for the project, and a budget.

Second, help the organization learn more about Lisle, its approach to intercultural learning and its methods. Believe it or not, these ideas often come as a surprise to many persons interested in providing intercultural programs. They often will welcome your ideas and suggestions.

When you are interested in developing a proposal, please go to the Lisle website at: lisleinternational.org/grants.shtml#aboutseedgrants. This year, Lisle is making a concerted effort to provide materials on the website which allow individuals to submit their materials electronically, directly to Lisle. If you can, please make use of the electronic versions of the materials. If you wish the paper version of the materials, either download them from the website or contact the Lisle office and request a Global Seed Grant packet.

There have now been a number of Lislars who have either received a grant or have served as a Mentor for an accepted grant. These persons are very knowledgeable and willing to assist you in your efforts. If you would like to talk with one of them, and/or have questions about the Global Seed Grants, please contact me at (989) 595-3667, or mark.kinney@utoledo.edu, or any of the Lisle Board members, or contact the Lisle Office: 900 County Road 269, Leander TX 78641, (512) 259-7621, lisle2@io.com.

And remember, Lisle stands ready to assist you and the others formulating the project in developing powerful materials for submission. ☺

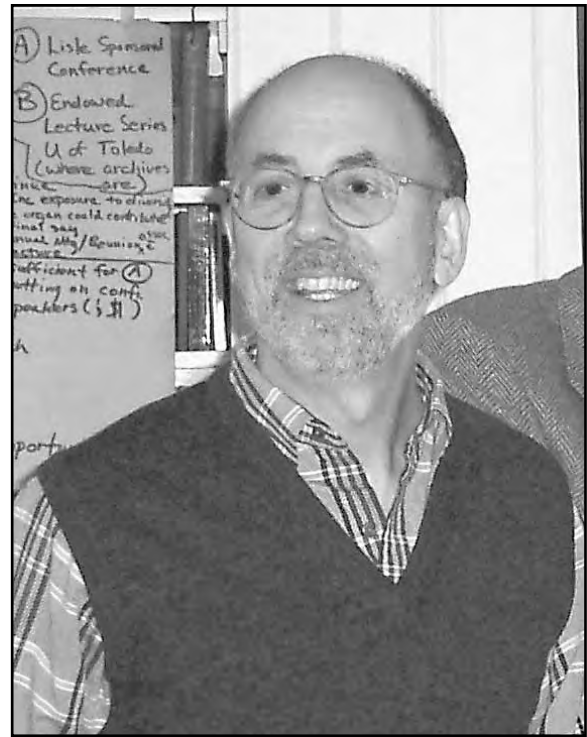
President's Message

The economic downturn has made this a very difficult year. I found it quite hard to write my annual request for donations, full well knowing that so many people have lost so much in recent months. Many commentators have referred to our economic crisis as transformative. I'd concur with that. Everyone has been forced to re-think many everyday decisions—and to re-assess longer term plans such as when to retire. In my work with students at the Johns Hopkins graduate school, we have been forced to contend with a critical re-assessment of career aspirations and narrower job options after graduation. I know that many, non-profits have laid off staff, closed programs, or postponed programs due to a collapse of expected financial support.

Since Lisle has no salaried staff and our budget is very much in line with our extremely modest overhead at our main office in Texas, we have had to consider relatively modest alterations in our budget projections. Yes, we likely will see a downturn in annual giving, however, our support for our successful Global Seed Grant Fund will continue. We believe we can continue to provide sufficient funds to several non-profits in our next grant cycle in the fall.

In communities across the country, the economic crisis appears to have fostered a new awareness of the fragility of critical social service organizations which are always the anchor for the poor, for the dispossessed, for the least among us. There are reports of donors who have decided to provide financial support to these service agencies even as they are forced to cut back on their overall level of charitable giving. This remains a good metaphor for Lisle as we continue to assess and measure the impact of our small grants to organizations working for social and community change in the U.S. and abroad.

As E.F. Schumacher once famously said, "less is more!" Yes, that might be a good motto for our seed grant program. We know from the reports we receive that our modest financial support does make a difference—as you will read in this issue. A common thread among the organizations that we support is that they work on a small-scale and yet make a huge difference in their community.



Marty Tillman, Lisle's Board President

There are so many ways you can help us make a difference: become a project mentor; recommend an organization to us for consideration in the grant program; and lastly, remain engaged with the Board by writing to us and telling us what you think of our work and our management of Lisle's resources. We always want you to feel connected to Lisle's purpose and mission!

Best wishes for a restful and renewing summer! ☺

Marty Tillman



The Chicago Skyline

Executive Director's Report

New York Land

Let me start with the New York land. I am in discussion with the representative from Finch paper which I hope will result in an agreement to sell. This development began with almost simultaneous connections by Barbara Bratton and myself, independently, to ask about the land, since I had read that the Nature Conservancy was involved in large land deals which affect the Adirondack park lands, the location of Lisle's land.

Leonard Cronin is the forester who works for Finch Paper Company which is managing the land which was recently acquired from the Nature Conservancy and which totally surrounds the Lisle property. Len has managed the land for some time for the previous owners and knows of the Lisle property and how they have always had to work around it. That gave Nancy an interesting conversation when Len returned my call. Currently I am awaiting a call from him which I hope will result in moving the prospects forward. It is too early to raise our hopes too high, but at least there is some movement.

Jamaica Trip

Nancy and I travelled to Jamaica in November to work with the on-going Lisle Seed Grant project which James Burke began in Negril with the Sheffield All Ages School in 2007. Several of us, including James, Bill Kinney, and Andrew Bollman spent time working with the kids and teachers as well as making connections with Dr Cecile Waldon and staff at the Sam Sharpe Teacher's College. It was eye-opening to see the great work that James is doing with the project as well as the trying circumstances that the teachers and students confront. This school, which is scheduled to be replaced with a new building next fall, has Sunday School classrooms which are mostly open on one outside wall and have multiple classrooms within each space which are separated by movable screens. Even some of the outside walls have openings through the concrete blocks for ventilation that result in rain blowing in when the weather is inclement.

The noise in the classroom spaces is amazing. Jamaican culture, I am thinking, naturally leads to boi-



Mark Kinney, Lisle's Executive Director

terousness in voice and action. When it occurs within classrooms which literally cram as many students as possible into the available spaces, the teacher's role in directing learning is very tiring.

James has worked hard, through the Lisle project and the larger effort involving Tyee Middle School in Bellevue, Washington (with major support from Rotary International) to bring electronic media (computers, projectors, etc.) to the school. Not only does this require the hardware and software which James has located and is continuing to find, but also a major effort to train teachers and students in using the capabilities in instructional ways. The November trip was very helpful to the whole project and set up the effort for the visit to Washington by two teachers from Sheffield which took place during March and by extension to the upcoming spring trip in June when James will take middle school students and parents to the school once again to create two-way cultural exchange.

On our trip, there was a second arm of effort involving two engineer volunteers from Boeing who traveled from WA with us to implement a biodiesel project for municipal emergency vehicles. And of course, documenting it all was Andrew with his fantastic photography skills which you can check out on the Lisle Facebook page or the Jamaica blog. (*See pg. 10*)

(Cont'd on next page)

On-going Projects

The projects which we have funded are moving forward well. One, the Volunthai project, has actually completed all of the planned actions. Two others, have worked hard on their plans but are just now ready to implement the major steps in their plans. Interim reports have been requested and received and are available on request. (*See pages 14–16 for the synopses*)

Seed Grant Committee Work

The Global Seed Grant Committee has been working along in preparation for this meeting. Two major foci for this time period have been, 1) revision of the forms, and 2) establishing a clearer understanding of committee members roles and the committee functioning. One new aspect of this work has been the use of a blog in order to capture ideas in one location as people dialogue about ideas. We shall see whether it is a better or just different way to do so.

I have been impressed with the way in which this committee has looked below the surface at the application and the evaluation structure for assessing the applicants. The result is a clearer form and a more explicit way for the committee members to assess the quality of the applications. One new idea we are working to implement is an on-line form which will allow applicants to fill out the paperwork electronically and submit it with a click.

We are now poised to post the new Global Seed Grant materials to the website and to include the information in Interaction. Do give some thought to projects which would benefit from a “kick start” with a small Seed Grant award. You can expand your Lisle learning through becoming a mentor to a future Lisler and his/her group.

Other Efforts

I have also done some work on revising the Board section of the website as well as the usual updates to the website in general. Plans are in the works to put the new Seed Grant forms and the latest issue of *Interaction* on the website when they become available. ☺

Mark Kinney

Please Come to Austin!

By Barb Bratton, Annual Meeting Host

Remember campfires and singing? Remember sharing with friends? Remember cooking and eating together? Remember people sleeping in every room on beds, mattresses and couches? Remember your Lisle experiences?

We SO want to share this again with as many people as can come to Austin! The meeting is held this year on November 6, 7, 8. Austin is a lovely place for a short holiday, and November weather is grand—warm days (in the 70’s) and cooler nights (in the 60’s). Saturday evening we’ll experience some “Austin City Limits” music, and have time for fossil hunting, deer watching, and sheep feeding on Sunday. If sleeping on the floor is no longer on your list of things “to do,” we have a Comfort Inn readily available.

The primary discussions and voting takes place on Saturday. We try to consolidate trips for pickup and delivery to the Austin Airport as it is an hour from the house but a shuttle is available for \$30. You can rent your own car in order to have independence in terms of “doing your own thing.”

On Friday, we are having an event at SW University over the lunch hour to introduce students and faculty to the Lisle Mini-Grant program. This one-hour program includes an introduction to Lisle, a presentation about the Seed Grant Fund, and why students should become Lisle members. Slides of the Mountain Children’s Forum project and the Jamaica Teachers Project will demonstrate Lisle-funded projects. It is our hope that we can generate interest in the “Next Generation of Lislers”—socially conscious persons who will see that a membership in Lisle can be integrated into their lives and impact by potentially funding the non-profit projects with which they become involved.

Renew your contact with Lisle, ask questions, and give your input. We hope to see you! ☺



Charlie says, “Y’all come now!”

Spring 2009 Board Meeting Chicago

By Bill Kinney

“**B**less up, Lislars.” We met in Chicago at the AYH Hostel on Congress Parkway, Chicago, IL on April 25–26, 2009. The Lisle Board met new Board member Anne Hayner, and became reacquainted with the long-term nature of her involvement with Lisle through her father, Norm Hayner (CO ’46, Denmark ’52). She mentioned that she recently recovered several storage boxes containing various records and documents connected to Dewitt “Uncle Si” Baldwin (which she will donate to the Lisle Archives).



New Board Member, Anne Hayner welcomed to the Board, sits with Beth Bader.

She is currently employed with the Notre Dame University Travel Study Abroad program office in South Bend, Indiana. She was welcomed with overwhelming support as a strong new member to the Board.

The Board discussed the need for donations and how to most effectively elicit donations. The idea of revamping the current donation form was presented.

Dianne Brause presented her new position as the resident Lisle Database Updater. She said there are currently about 3700 Lisle records from the whole history of Lisle. She is attempting personal contact with as many Lislars as possible. Barb Bratton is working on advancing a new member initiative.

New Lisle Board Member James Burke joined the meeting as a virtual participant via “Skype.” The idea of using “I-Chat” was also considered.

The Lisle Board reviewed the current and past status of Seed Grant awards and prospective applications.

The Board discussed the idea of how to increase funding for the Seed Grants.

The Board heard the following reports from Lisle Mentors:

Marty Tillman reported that the Volunthai program met the stated objectives and he provided an MS PowerPoint presentation used on the project.

A short video of the Crane Cultural Theatre was viewed. Lisle Board members commented that in the acknowledgement portion of the DVD there was no mention of Lisle. The date of the DVD confirmed it was created prior to Lisle involvement. The idea that Lisle Seed Grant awardees be encouraged to acknowledge Lisle as a source of support was roundly supported.

The group enjoyed Giordano’s pizza in the lunchroom at the Youth Hostel which is right next to the Loop El tracks near the south end of Grant Park, Chicago, IL. After eating, the group left a substantial amount of pizza in the lunchroom—which was gone in five minutes—feeding some of the hungry youth hostellers!

Leslie Natzke discussed the results of her 2008 Summer project. She presented a DVD and details of how she brought women from Niger to Chicago to live with members of her group and the experience they had. She thanked Lisle for providing funding for her 2009 program, which will be six weeks long and will begin June 29, 2009. She also thanked the Board for providing guidance on her application and mentioned that she was recently notified that her involvement with



Betty and Walt, still going strong!

the Lisle Seed Grant process provided insights in helping her win a large grant from a future donor.

Leslie Natzke presented the fact that only six percent of females in Niger, West Africa advance to secondary school. She said her program was a focused effort to raise this number. She said in June 2009 the group will commence with an intensive five-day retreat and focus on topics such as leadership, democracy, computers, biking, dance and language. Lisle Board members recommended that Leslie contact the Chicago Sister Cities program. They also suggested the incorporation of the Returned Peace Corps Volunteer network in the project.

Sharon Kristjanson introduced her daughter, Elizabeth and friend Osun, students at New Trier High



Farida Kristjanson, her daughter Elizabeth and friend Osun attend meeting.

School in Wilmette, IL. Sharon mentioned that Elizabeth and Osun had recently received an assignment to work with a non-profit from Africa. She mentioned that after contacting Bill Kinney, she was connected with Leslie Natzke and Elizabeth and Osun would be working with Leslie on developing the "Expanding Lives" program. She thought this would be a good way to create a link between New Trier High School and Niles West High School which are geographically neighbors.

Walt Ligon asked Elizabeth and Osun to speak a bit about the current state of life in high school. Elizabeth said that students at her school have an advisory system, which divides students on the basis of male and female into focus groups and provides a chance for a year-long interaction. Osun said that she thinks the system is a good support network for fellow students.

On Sunday, the Lisle Board met at the Youth Hostel and discussed an activity that Barb, Lori and Bill have planned for the 2009 Lisle Annual meeting which

takes place November 6–8, 2009 in Leander/Austin, Texas. The event will incorporate local student group professionals and focus on recruiting younger Lisle members to the organization.

The Board discussed recruiting for more Seed Grant applications. All agreed to do something whether writing, speaking or recruiting other like-minded individuals to Lisle.

Betty Ligon asked Dianne to discuss her involvement in a project that will reach out to all current Lisle members. Dianne said she has spent a considerable amount of focus, energy and time to a project to reconnect with current and former Lislers. She said it has been a great experience and she sees good things happening as a result. Dianne solicited volunteers to write articles for the *Lisle Interaction*, and set up the deadlines needed to meet our targeted mailing dates.

Anne Hayner began a discussion about helping the Lisle Board to develop a reimbursement policy requiring the Lisle to pay the costs of the meeting rooms out of the annual income. Several members supported the idea. Discussion on the matter revealed that some Board Members considered donating for the meeting expenses as a donation to Lisle. The Board agreed to consider the matter at a future meeting.



The dinner group!

As an additional highlight, "I had the pleasure of driving the van full of Walt and Betty Ligon, Dianne Brause and Mark and Nancy Kinney to the house of Jean and Don Ervin in the Woodlawn neighborhood of Chicago. While visiting with Don and Jean, the sun was shining brightly the entire time. We drank tea and coffee and enjoyed nice biscuits as time was spent reconnecting our memories, and in the end, one current Indiana Lislers' connection to Chicago, IL." ☺

Finance Report

By Barbara Bratton

Ah! It's good to see upward movement in the stock market! In January 2008, our investment portfolio was valued at \$215,213. To our dismay, we have watched it plummet to a low of \$150,890 as of February, 2009. The last three months, however, have shown a steady increases with the current value (5/31) at \$157,376. We have not permanently lost any funds as we did not sell any assets. We are of the "wait and watch" mode of investors.

We have budgeted grants of \$12,000 again in October but will need all members to respond to our fund-raising letter in order to raise these amounts. My



apologies for the office getting the fund-raising letter off so late this year. We try to do it before the end of the year but it wasn't mailed until late April due to lack of volunteer time. I do hope you all received it and have dedicated your usual generous contributions

to come to Lisle. At this point, we have only received 60% of the annual contribution budget.

In terms of earnings on our investments, we budgeted \$9,200 for the year—down from the \$11,800 we received last fiscal year. We are seven months into our fiscal year and have received \$6,000 of interest and dividends, which indicates we could receive over \$10,000 from investments and should, at least, meet our targeted budget.

I am, therefore, reporting a pale rose-colored financial report for this mid-year. If anyone has particular questions, please don't hesitate to call or write <lisle2@io.com>. ☺

How's the Website?

By Mark Kinney

Well let me give you a slightly biased report on that. Lately, I wanted to know what was said in the last *Interaction* about the Global Seed Grant cycle. I thought about digging through the dusty pile of magazines in my living room, and then realized that, "Oh, that is on the website, I could just open that up." Duh!!! So I did, and I created a number of other memories looking at the great articles which were published before.

Then a while later, I was interested in knowing When the next Annual Meeting is, so I looked that up too. It is in Austin, November 6–8, 2009.

Then I remembered that I wondered about giving some of my old pictures to the Lisle Archives. Where are they stored? Oh yes, the University of Toledo. Now isn't that a strange place for them? But anyway, I looked on the website and found a total listing of what is in the Archives, some directions for submitting materials, and much, much more.

So, my answer to the title question is, "It's doing just fine, thank you!" And it will be doing even better when more of us use it as the resource it is. In its own way it is an archive of the materials of Lisle which is kept current by new materials which are added and changed constantly.

Lately there has been a new blog added about the Jamaica Project and the latest *Interaction* has been added with color photos, even!!

Also, look for the new 2009 Global Seed Grant materials, and more, on our Website! ☺



Check it out at:
<www.lisleinternational.org>

Portrait of a Lisle Mentor

By Barbara Bratton

What is this “Lisle Mentor” business? Sounds like a lot of work to me!

Lisle has 3,000 names in our database—folks that have participated in a program, been members of the Board, been interested enough in the Lisle model to wish to receive *Interaction* or contribute to Lisle’s mission. 1,500 of these names are still receiving *Interaction*. 325 send in annual membership updates. 100% of those with interest COULD be a Lisle mentor.

The vision in establishing the Global Seed Fund was that we have access to people who, partly because of their initial involvement with Lisle, are active in a community, city, state, national or international group that provides a service to others. Through your connection with Lisle, you can apply funds to enable these organizations to continue or enhance their mission.

Your job would be to sponsor the group. Your name lends credibility to their existence, their commitment and their “meld” with the Lisle vision of world-mindedness, peace, education, intercultural exchange and diversity.

Here’s how it works

Bill Kinney has been a member of Lisle since he participated in the Bali 1996 program. Bill knows Leslie Natzke from his participation in events at Niles West High School in Skokie, IL and both are Returned Peace Corps Volunteers having served in West Africa. Leslie tells him that she is starting a program for the school where she teaches to bring young women from Niger to live and learn in Chicago for six weeks. She calls her program “Expanding Lives.” The girls have host families, take classes in English, computer, etc, and interact with students from local schools. The Nigerian women are moved to go back to their homes and work for the empowerment and education of women, the involvement of youth in their communities and their personal entry into secondary education.

All of the US students who have participated in this program, have learned of an African society, the status of women in Niger, the appreciation of their own

friends and receive lifetime contacts with another culture and the desire to travel beyond their own borders.

A pebble dropped in an international pool—which can expand its ripples to infinity.

Bill helps Leslie through the grant application process – reading the application, offering suggestions, putting his name on as Lisle mentor or sponsor. He is enabled in this process through contacts with the Seed Grant Committee of the Board of Directors. Once the application is in – he is a contact with the grantee and the Board and helps, if necessary, to see that the progress reports are made and the final report and evaluation are turned in. He is not committing to participate in Leslie’s six week program – although that is always a serendipitous outcome.

Through this process, “Expanding Lives” is able to receive funds to enable their second year program, to expand from three to four young women and to expand their experiences with the extra funding.

This doesn’t sound too hard does it? We need contacts! We need to expand! Bring in your friends and family—allow the Seed Grant Committee to expand your knowledge in being a mentor.

Drop a pebble in this pond and watch the ripples spread!

For more information, contact me, Mark or any of the Board Members. ☺



Spring jonquils in Eugene, Oregon

Thanksgiving 2009 Jamaica Trip

By Bill Kinney

During the 2007-2008 Lisle Seed Grant Cycle the Lisle Board funded a project in Negril, Jamaica to bring a computer lab to the Sheffield All-Ages School. The original project was submitted by James Burke, a teacher at Tyee Middle School in Bellevue, Washington and a recent addition to the Lisle Board of Directors.

At the Spring 2008 meeting the idea of recruiting Lisle Members and others to work with the Jamaica Service Project was proposed by Lisle Board Member Bill Kinney. A Lisle trip to Negril, Jamaica happened in November 2008. Education concepts and training at Sheffield All-Age Schools and a Bio-Diesel Fuel project in Lucea, Jamaica completed the November 2008 trip successfully.

At the current moment a trip is scheduled for the 2009 Thanksgiving Holiday. The tentative dates for the trip will be November 21 through November 29, 2009. The focus of the trip will be to bring the skills of Lislers and others to the site of a past Lisle Seed Grantee program and add value to the existing connections with the Sheffield All-Ages School and the community. The trip will provide current and future Lislers with a chance to experience some of the work that Lisle is helping to make happen in the world.

The itinerary will include a site visit at the New Sheffield All-Ages School, the site of the Jamaican Service Project computer lab and community center. The trip will provide cooperative teaching and computer-based education opportunities for the group and the school. It will also include a visit to the Engineers Without Borders Jamaican Fire Brigade Biodiesel Project in Lucea, Jamaica. The goals of this project include developing education links to the Jamaican Ministry of Education and creating renewable energy sources to power the work of the Jamaican Fire Brigade. Additionally, the trip will include a cultural exchange component and a visit to Mayfield Falls. The group will stay in the West End of Negril, Westmoreland, Jamaica. The lodging location will be Oceanside near a resort with a pool within a short shuttle ride to the beach.

We are actively searching for knowledgeable educators, renewable energy engineers and individuals willing to make a commitment to bring skills to Jamaica to help in the transformation of the New Sheffield All-Ages School and the Jamaican Fire Brigade. If you have an interest in spending your Thanksgiving vacation in Jamaica and bringing some skills to help please contact: Bill Kinney, <kinneywm@yahoo.com>, (312) 237-6601 in Chicago, or a Lisle Board Member near you. ☺



James Burke, Jean (from the Sheffield All-Ages School), and Bill Kinney with the appreciation plaques they received.

Database Update Project Report

By Dianne Brause

So far in my updating the Lisle Database project, I have had a wonderful time calling and connecting with Lislers from all over the USA, and from the early days up to the present. Of the 160 Lislers I attempted to reach, we have no numbers for 87 and 12 phone numbers were disconnected. I left seven messages, got “3rd party” information for about seven, had two “busy signals” and was hung up on once.

I managed to have lovely personal conversations with around 50 people who were unanimously appreciative of their experiences with Lisle—and many considered it positively life-changing—even after a few to 70 years have passed! Quite an astounding accomplishment for an organization of such humble means, I would say!

It is truly wonderful connecting with all you amazing people. I am continuing with these calls and would love it if any of you would send me updated contact information, including new phone numbers *and email addresses!* Please send any news about yourself, your family, accomplishments, pictures, travel stories, etc. that you would like shared in the “Lisle Friends News” section of *Interaction*.

A good example of this proactive outreach is from: **Martin Thames** (CO '48). He writes: “From *Lisle Interaction*, I see you are scheduled to call us, so I am writing to save you the cost of a telephone call. I attended Lisle in Colorado in 1948. I am retired and on a fixed income so my participation in Lisle has been limited. The article stated that you would ask about our memories. I remember the group discussions many of which lasted long into the night. The deputations were a great experience with our visit to one of the state penitentiaries in Colorado and a dinner with the governor of Wyoming.

“I also remember the vast differences of all the people picked to attend. This made for some very, very intense discussions. Lisle introduced me to the many differences among people and the ability to work and live with them. I was a teacher and have been retired for 23 years. I am married and have four children and

six grandchildren at this time. My contact information is: Martin Thames, 8341 Lyndale Ave. S. Unit #103, Bloomington, MN 55420-2279. (952) 934-3517, <mthames2@gmail.com>.”

I thought that Walt might have been with Martin in CO, so I forwarded Martin’s email to him, who forwarded it to **Grey & Barbara Austin** (CO '48, '49, '51, '54, & '58 as leaders & MI '50) and **Marina Firestone** (CO '48, Family Camp '63 & Lisle Board). The Austins’ emails are: <greyaustin@columbus.it.com> or <austin.4@osu.edu>.

Marina responded: “Thanks Walt, for forwarding to me Dianne’s and Martin’s messages. Yes, I was at the CO '48 Lisle and remember Martin. I was there as a foreign student from Italy, and for me Lisle was an eye opener too. I still keep in touch with two of my tent mates Chick (Ehel Grumman Ackley) and Chris Brogotti Coons. I last heard from Martin while I was organizing our Lisle reunion and Annual Meeting in Houston, TX. Since my husband Nat died in 2007, I had to have a hip replacement and I am enjoying again keeping active in the community and my church and trying to keep up with my two children and four grands. My preferred e-mail is <natmarina@verizon.net>. And Dianne, I enjoy reading all of it!”

I can assure you that your old Lisle buddies would love to hear about your life! You may reach me at: Dianne Brause, PO Box 38, Sulphur Springs, OH 44881. Home Phone #: 419-562-6148. Email: <diannebrause@gmail.com>.

So that’s how networking works in this new age of electronics! Please feel free to keep the conversation going and reach out to any Lislers you feel called to interact with. If their contact information isn’t listed, you may call me, or the Lisle office (1-800-477-1538) to see if we have a phone or email address. ☺

Editor’s Note: All the other tidbits of news I gleaned in my conversations with other upper Mid-western Lislers have been integrated into the “Friends News” section on page 20.

All Seed Grant Recipients & Projects

By Mark Kinney

2004–2005 Grantees

Mountain Children's Forum—educational workshop for children in the remote mountain villages of the Indian state of Uttaranachal.

Shunku Llacta—sponsoring trip in June 2005, when the Ecuadoran communities of Guayabillas and Santa Rosa will host 10 international participants for 14 days.

Service for Peace—The Teen as Coach program is a unique mix of leadership, mentoring, mediation and professional life coaching.

2005–2006 Grantees

Crane Culture Theatre—Multi-cultural first-third grade classes from two schools will participate in a local habitat improvement project which will stress team building and cooperation across cultures, and end with a tour of a Sandhill Cranes Reserve.

Medica Mondiale—Uganda Project—conduct a training programme for Ugandan health workers and other professionals working with traumatised women and girls.

Human Rights Across Borders—taking a delegation of leaders of various community organizations which belong to the PPEHRC to Caracas, Venezuela for the World Social Forum (WSF) in January 2006.

Connecting Myanmar Students—connecting Myanmar students to the rest of Southeast Asia.

Shunku Llacta—The volunteers and community members will build on the successes of last summer's project, to further develop the artisans groups' international network and business skills. (Ecuador).

2006–2007 Grantees

Regeneration of integrated transformation of tribal community through their cultural initiatives in four tribal villages of Banaskandtha District in Gujarat, India.

Global Visionaries Youth Leadership—The Leadership Program educates and trains students in

cross-cultural understanding, environmental awareness and social action, empowering students to take critical steps to eliminate racism and social inequalities and become environmental stewards both at home and abroad.

Jamaican Computer Lab Project—The purpose of this project is to increase access and skills in Information Technology (IT) for women, teachers, and children in developing countries by giving participants the knowledge to assemble a 10-computer mini-lab and deliver it to the Sheffield All Ages School in Negril, Jamaica during the summer of 2007.

2007–2008 Grantees

Chintan Wastepicker Project—This partnership will help Muslim wastepicker women in Delhi to organize themselves to assert their rights and to procure cleaner, safer livelihoods.

Mountain Children's Forum—community engagement workshops—a series of nine workshops will expose young people to the concepts of collective action and local engagement.

Girls Got Goals Soccer Project in Monze, Zambia—help support a full time salary for a Zambian woman to coordinate a girls soccer program as well as purchase much needed sports equipment. (*See sidebar on page 13 for an update.*)

2008–2009 Grantees

Creating a Sahridaya—workshops on communication skills using elements of traditional performing arts and Gandhian education ideals through spinning as a focus.

Bridging Cultures for a Healthy Community—The project is a series of interrelated cultural and environmental awareness building activities with the Boys and Girls Clubs and an after-school program (START) serving highly culturally diverse inner-city youth of Sacramento.

Expanding Lives—supports the education of West African young women who are the first in their families to continue past primary school. The project

identifies girls who are likely to be leaders in their community. For six weeks, these girls stay with host families in the US and attend educational courses aimed at improving their lives in Niger.

Strengthening Social Harmony through intercultural dialogue—the project is designed to build up confidence and bond of fraternity among various religious and cultural groups of civil society. Among other activities, leading stakeholders of society will join in an orientation camp, consisting of tribal leaders, Muslim and Hindu leaders from the Virampur tribal area will meet together with prominent journalists, writers, theatre groups, social activists from the civil society in order to reduce social tension.

Volunthai: Volunteers For Thailand—will hold a weekend conference in Chaiyaphum Province, to build a network of like-minded teachers who will work together to develop their own skills and their students' skills, assisted by foreign volunteers.

Full listing information is on our Website: <www.lisleinternational.org/grants.shtml> (See pages 14–16. for Project summaries.) ☺



Don and Jean Ervin, loyal Lislors, attended the Spring Board Meeting in Chicago. They broadened their world-mindedness with Lisle, beginning in 1948 with the New York unit. Then they participated in the Colorado unit in 1949, and two Family Camps in 1961 and 1962. They are one on of the reasons Lislors enjoy coming to Chicago!

The Girls Got Goals Soccer Project in Zambia was awarded a Seed Grant for 2007–2008. The Zambia project is part of the larger “Soccer Without Borders” organization, based in San Francisco, that works locally and internationally to help young people develop their bodies, voices and minds.

They currently have projects in Nicaragua, Guatemala, Uganda, as well in Oakland, CA and New York, NY. The letter below is one that was written by a US soccer team player from Tennessee, to be sent to a soccer team member, in another country.

A team member, Maddy, wrote a more detailed letter, excerpted here: “We are so glad to be able to write to all of you. Although we live very far apart and have very different lives, there are some things that we have in common. We like soccer, but we also like many other things. Some of us like to read, some like to play other sports, some like to sing or listen to music, we like to hang out with our friends, we like to go to movies, we like to talk about boys, and much more...probably a lot like you guys! We look forward to staying in touch with you.”

It’s inspiring to know that the art of being pen-pals is still active in these times. Talk about promoting a global community! ☺



Lisle Seed Grant Project Reports

By John Kachuba

Strengthening Social Harmony (Gujurat, India)

In 2002, religious violence between Muslims and Hindus in Gujurat, India resulted in much destruction and loss of life. Even then, the tribal area of Banas-kantha remained calm and it is in this area that the Strengthening Social Harmony project, funded in part by a Lisle Seed Grant, is working. The target population for the project is inclusive of all religions and tribal affiliations and consists of women, children, religious community leaders and teachers.



Hasmukh Patel cools off in the shade.

In January, a motivation camp was conducted at the Virampur Center at which 140 people participated, followed by an annual gathering of 12,000 people. The Muslim community, notably Muslim women, helped prepare the food and played an important role in the success of the gathering. Also in January,

350 children from tribal, Muslim, and other communities took part in a Republic Day celebration. The children were mostly from poor families and do not receive formal education because they are needed to work at home in order to help support the family.

Throughout the day, they were able to participate in sports, painting, singing and dancing while learning about social harmony in messages taken from the words of Mahatma Gandhi, Vivekananda, Jesus, Mohammad, and Kahlil Gibran. The children in the project also had the opportunity to participate in street theatre, first in Mehsana in 2008 and then later again in January. The talented and energetic children performed so well that they have been invited by various groups to perform in their regions.

For three months a group of 32 Muslim and 21 non-Muslim middle and upper caste women in Virampur came together for a sewing class. While the purpose of the class was to provide a means of earning a livelihood for the women, the net result was greater interac-

tion and understanding among the women. As a result of the success gained in the sewing class, the Muslim women were treated to a visit to the Gandhi Ashram in Ahmedabad and to the Dharti Self Reliance Centre. These visits were the first time the Muslim women had ever left their villages and, in the case of the Dharti center, the first visit by Muslims in over forty years.

Crane Cultural Theatre (Sacramento, CA)

This project presents interrelated cultural and environmental awareness-building activities for the culturally diverse urban youth of Sacramento. The project activities build upon each other, beginning with a half-hour theatre production titled "Lord of the Cranes," based upon an ancient Chinese folktale. Other children's activities include interactive cultural bingo, drawing, writing, and singing on the theme "What I like about my culture." The children are engaged in discussions about the similarities and differences in their respective cultures.



One such discussion compares the bio-diversity of the natural community with the cultural diversity of the children's community. A garden project at host schools, in which vegetables and flowers from around the world that reflect the cultures of the students are planted, helps to reinforce the connection between natural and cultural diversity.

The project lost a source of major funding with budget cuts to the Sacramento START Program, and so,



some planned activities had to be cancelled or modified. Still, the project was able to work with four schools in the Sacramento area that had moderately high and high cultural diversity. At this time, cultural activities have commenced at the Orangevale Open School, including a performance of "Lord of the Cranes." Also, activities that were already underway at the Boys and Girls Club in south Sacramento continue.

Project director Bruce Forman reports that the five scheduled performances and the associated cultural awareness activities have been completed. Teachers at the various schools will now continue further activities on their own. In addition, one school was able to take students on a naturalist-led field trip to the Cosumnes River Preserve. A second school is planning a similar field trip in June.

Creating a Sahridaya (Chennai, India)

The focus of this project is to conduct a series of workshops for teachers in rural schools in Chennai, India. The workshops emphasize using traditional performing arts for enhancing communication in the classroom and as teaching tools. They further strive to utilize Gandhi's ideals of using basic education as an aid to personal and communal empowerment. As the teachers learn about performing arts in the workshops they study four modes of reaching their audience: through



the body (angika), through voice and music (vachika), through props and décor (aaharya), and through an inner understanding of one's role (satwika).

Six teacher workshops have been held since November in the city of Chennai and in various villages in the area, despite heavy rains and some extreme weather. The project hopes to reach 600 teachers and has already worked with 235. Word of mouth interest in the workshops is high and other schools have expressed a willingness to host workshops for their teachers

Expanding Lives (Chicago/West Africa)

The Lisle Seed Grant for this project is used to help support the education of West African young women who are the first in their families to proceed beyond primary school. Expanding Lives and MICA, its partner in Niger, identify girls who are likely to be leaders in their communities and helps them develop the voice, self-confidence, and problem solving skills necessary for empowerment.

To help these young women achieve their goals, and to foster cultural and educational opportunities between Nigerian and American youth, four girls from the Expanding Lives program aged 16–21, will spend six weeks this summer in the United States. They will attend an Expanding Lives conference in June, the first four days of which they will spend at a donated vacation home in Door County, Wisconsin. Each girl will be paired up with an American counterpart to help them get acquainted with American culture and to improve their English language skills before moving in with American host families. A Host Family Committee has been set up to facilitate this process. In order for American host families and the community at large to better understand Niger and Nigerians, presentations about the country were made earlier this year at Northeastern Illinois University and at other school and social venues in Niles, Illinois. On their part, the Nigerian girls who will be coming to America are busy learning English through CDs, tapes, and language tests.

Volunthai: Volunteers for Thailand

Volunteers for Thailand, Volunthai, is a project that recruits, trains, and places English teachers from
(Cont'd on next page)



*Classroom of Thai students in uniforms.
They seem delighted to be together!*

North America and Europe in rural high schools in Thailand. Since 2001, the project has brought into the country more than 600 teachers. The outcome of this project is twofold: first, Thai students get the opportunity to study with a native speaker of English and improve their chances of passing the entrance exam for colleges and universities and second, the foreign volunteers become part of a traditional Thai community and experience the Thai way of life, including Thai food, Buddhism, and language. Volunteers live with the schools' local English teachers.

Because of the large cultural differences between the Thai people and the volunteers, Volunthai, using a Lisle Seed Fund grant, sponsored a conference this year that brought together host teachers from forty schools that are included in the project. At the conference the teachers, along with the Volunthai staff, all came together for the first time and shared their experiences. Their goal was to try to standardize the homestay experience for foreign volunteers and to answer the teachers' questions about foreign cultures.



At a Thai marketplace.

Girls Got Goals (Zambia)

The Girls Got Goals project, based in Maamba, Zambia, strives to teach girls cooperation, teamwork, and self esteem as they play together on soccer teams, but also tries to inculcate life skills training that may lift them beyond stereotypical cultural roles for women. Project coordinator Christine Siamukole values the life skills training because, "We live in an area where there are a lot of truck drivers who entice young girls with small gifts just to have sex with them." She reported that before the project began conducting life skills training, more than half a dozen young women athletes became pregnant. Since the training sessions have begun, more than 60 girls have had the course and there have been no other pregnancies. The project sponsored two highly successful soccer tournaments late last year. Many more girls have been participating in the Girls Got Goals project as a result of the tournaments. Also, Girls Got Goals has established relationships with Girls Got Goals teams in America. The Zambian girls have sent letters and photos to their athletic counterparts in these programs and are eagerly awaiting replies.

While the Girls Got Goals project has been successful to date, Christine writes that she is concerned for its future. Earlier this year heavy rains caused great destruction, washing away homes and roads and destroying most of the crops, threatening widespread hunger. ☺



Hans and Ellie Spiegel began their relationship with Lisle in 1946 at the Colorado Unit. They subsequently participated in the Colorado Unit in 1947, New York in 1947, Germany in 1958 and Bali in 1988, as leaders. Their dedication to promoting world-mindedness touched many lives!

Leyla Checks In From Turkey

By Leyla Welkin

Dear Friends in the United States: in November, 2008 I came to Ankara, Turkey and was invited to begin working with Turkish psychiatrists interested in gender issues, group psychotherapy and the cultural issues embedded in psychotherapeutic work. With my Turkish colleagues, I began planning and developing a program to culturally adapt a group psychotherapy model that I have used for many years in the United States for women who have experienced sexual abuse. My Turkish psychiatrist colleagues have many years of experience working with women, gender and sexuality issues and a strong interest both in therapy and in cross-cultural research. It is near miraculous that we found one another.

In March of 2009 we launched our first groups. Our sexual abuse survivors group for adult women began with nine participants. The group was structured as a research project and offered to the women free of charge under the leadership of our team of three: two Turkish psychiatrists and myself. We hope the group will be the first of five groups in our research project. Participants were referred by psychiatrists around Ankara and are all experiencing significant mental health symptoms as a result of trauma. The first group will conclude its twelve week time-limited format in June. We are making all kinds of interesting cultural observations about gender, sexuality, psychology and psychotherapy and psychiatric symptoms and treatment.

I have also been working with young Turkish women to develop "Positive Sexuality" workshops. These workshops offer women an opportunity to explore the possibilities for experiencing femininity and female bodies as a source of joy, creativity and pleasure rather than burdensome, risky and problematic. The project is still very new.

All of these programs have been developed collaboratively with Turkish women and mental health professionals. It feels as if this formal research project, and the proposed educational and training programs we plan, are a continuation of cross-cultural programs I began developing in Turkey many years ago. The cross-cultural education programs that I first began leading with the support of the Lisle Fellowship in 1998 have now matured into this cross-cultural gender education and woman's relational empowerment program.

The work has been an all-volunteer effort. My colleagues and I provide our time and the material supports for the work out of our own pockets. I have been living off of savings that I tucked away for some time. This feels like the manifestation of a long-held dream for me. It is also very clear that this work and these projects are highly valued by the people I encounter here.

Women struggling with abuse in Turkey have had few options for support and treatment. Gender based violence here is very high. Male domination and restrictions on women's opportunities and value are powerful. While the outward trappings of a male dominated culture in Turkey are much less dramatic than elsewhere in the Middle East, women struggle to find equity and full human rights and opportunities in Turkey.

Gradually our team is putting together the pieces for organizational and funding support. Without additional support, the projects must end on August 1st. We are seeking organizational and financial support so that the programs can continue to completion. Our goal is to initiate programs and train enough Turkish leaders so that all the programs can become independent of me, and continue without my leadership. If you have ideas about sources of support, please let me know! ☺



Leyla Welkin in Turkey.

What Are You Doing Now?

By Sharada Nayak

This is a question I am often asked by friends I meet after a considerable gap in time. They have heard about the Educational Resources Centre Trust, of my work with a Ford Foundation grant in Indian undergraduate colleges, and later my workshops with college and school students on self-development, learning skills, and citizenship.

My association with Lisle for almost fifty years now has developed in me a sensitivity to marginalized people, their culture and ways of life, and above all in the way people respond to their environment, express their hopes and aspirations in traditional ways..

Through this seeking and learning I have had the good fortune to meet some remarkable people working in places far from urban settlements committed to the betterment of fellow human beings with conviction and sincerity.

Some of them I have linked with Lisle by being their mentor for Lisle mini grants. Others I have linked to Lisle through visits of Lisle groups, exposing the visitors to ways in which these people tackle some issues of social concern. Lisle groups have visited the SBMA (Sri Bhuvanewari Mahila Ashram) in the Himalayan slopes of Tehri Garwahl, Hasmukh Patel's work with the tribal villages in Banaskantha, Gujarat, and Baba Amte's ashram in Anandwan in central India, where leprosy affected people have been settled in a thriving self-sustaining community.

The word "tribe" is sometimes seen as a pejorative by social scientists. They prefer to use the word "adivasi" which literally means the "original inhabitants" or "indigenous peoples." India has 645 registered tribes, that is those who have been identified and incorporated into a list that has special provisions in the Indian Constitution. With a constitutional recognition of their needs, they have been called "Scheduled" tribes and affirmative action ensures them special treatment, quotas in education and government jobs. But



this ideal expressed in our Constitution does not guarantee them freedom from discrimination or social inclusion in the development and economic growth of mainstream India. They were once forest peoples, but gradually as they came into contact with the thriving mainstream population, they lived in settlements, farmed small plots of land and sent their children to state run schools to give them education. The challenge for today's development scientists is to see how we can improve the lives of these indigenous peoples with basic health, education and economic gain, without taking away their native knowledge and wisdom, which respects and protects the environment.

One of Baba Amte's sons, Dr. Prakash Amte, works in the forests of central India. He and his wife, also a doctor, recently won the Magsaysay Award for their remarkable work with the tribe of Madia Gonds. A visit to their hospital and school, meeting Prakash, his wife and his sons, who studied in the village school and have also trained to become doctors to live and work in these forests, is inspiring.

Two or three years ago I met Dr. Sudarshan, a medical doctor who was inspired by the teaching of Swami Vivekananda, a modern sage and thinker who lived and died in the early part of the twentieth century. Dr. Sudarshan set up a small tent for dispensing medicines in the forests of Karnataka, called B.R.Hills. This has now grown into a thriving community of forest people, a tribe called the Soligas, who have been given education and medical care without disturbing their traditional community values and closeness to nature.

The first college graduate from the village is working with Dr. Sudarshan at the Vivekananda Centre for the Welfare of Hill People. Dr. Sudarshan's work has been recognized with the Magsaysay Award, and recently the former President of India cited him as an example for youth to emulate his vision and service to humanity. Visit the website: <www.indiafriendsassociation.com>.

Dr. Ganesh Devy was a Professor of English at the University of Baroda, where he was greatly admired by his students. An author and prolific writer on socio-political issues, he received a Fulbright Award to study and teach in the US. I had met him when I was Director of the Fulbright program in India. One day, at dinner in his home, he talked to me about his desire to work for the tribal people in Gujarat (not far from where Hasmukh Patel also works). Subsequently he quit his teaching position and started the Tribal Academy in Tejgadh, where I took some Indian students for a workshop. It was a unique opportunity for the students from different parts of India to learn about tribal life and be part of a community that was being built into a centre for the tribal population of the villages in that area.

The problems of the *adivasi* community are many. Their distance from urban centres and lack of communication, are two of them. An inability to cope with the urban life and technology is another major concern. The exploitation by developers and political interests is yet another. The overarching problems of poverty and poor health facilities stand out starkly when one visits their settlements. The work of social activists and NGO's tries to tackle all these inter-related issues.

My contact with these NGO's has had a deep impact on me and I talked to the trustees of my Educational Resources Centre Trust to see if we could use our funds to work with these NGO's. Here is an excerpt of what I wrote to them:

"During the past ten years I have had the good fortune and the privilege to visit three NGO's doing significant and valuable work with tribal groups and learn from their work. I have been inspired by the work of the founders of these NGO's: Baba Amte's "Anandwan," (Maharashtra.) Dr. Sudarshan's "Karuna Trust" in Karnataka and Dr. Ganesh Devy's "Tribal Academy" at Tejgadh, Gujarat. I have been appreciative not only of the work they are doing in education giving a new meaning to the word Development, but I have also been touched by the medical work that all three are doing.

Prakash Amte's hospital in Hemalkasa was my first exposure to the needs of tribals. Then I visited Tejgadh and remember my conversation with Dr. Devy and his describing to me the problem of Sick cell ane-

mia. A few months ago I went to B.R.Hills to Dr. Sudarshan's settlement for Soliga tribals, and had a discussion with him on his medical work under the Karuna Trust. He too talked about Sick cell anemia as being a health problem with the Soligas.

I feel deeply that we must somehow collect the data that NGO's have collected in their medical work so that some research should be initiated on common health problem(s) among tribal groups in the country.

I therefore wish to propose to these three NGO's that are doing such amazing and path-breaking work in forest areas with tribals that we involve young medical graduates, especially those who are doing an MD in Pathology, to work with them collect data and provide an outline for an on going research project—perhaps on sickle cell anemia."

The Educational Resources Centre will be able to provide a modest stipend to three doctors/ medical students—one for each of the three locations, if their board and lodging can be provided by the institutions.

Their work can then be followed up with a discussion of their research with doctors in one of the leading medical research centres of the country. The second stage can be discussed later with the three people I am in touch with: Dr. Prakash Amte, Dr. Sudarshan and Dr. Ganesh Devy.

My trustees have been most encouraging and supportive. I am in touch with all the three NGO's I have described, and I am hoping something can be initiated by the end of 2009.

So **that** is what Sharada is going to do next! ☺

Editor's Note: Sharada is also in touch with Devika of the Mountain Children's Forum. Devika continues to conduct workshops while working on her PhD on Ghandi.

For those of you who are interested please look up the three organizations and their funders on the Web.

- Dr. Prakash Amte: Lok Biradri Prkalp;
- Dr. G.N. Devy: Bhasha Research Centre, Tejgadh Tribal Academy,
- Dr. H. Sudarshan: Vivekananda Centre

Betty Avery (Lisle Friend) lives in Blue Hill, Maine and writes that "The new activities sound excellent! Will share news with the new town where I have just moved to."

Bud Baldwin (Dewitt, Jr.) (NY '40, CO '41 & '42) called to send his regrets for not being able to attend the Chicago meeting, as he and his wife were about to board a plane for Paris where they would be during the meeting. Bud, although retired, continues to work hard at changing the US medical system. He is pleased with Lisle's current direction and happy to see Anne Hayner's name come onto the Board list.

Judy Brown (CA '54, Uganda '94, Turkey '97, Leader Training '98, US/Turkey Exchange '99, India Reunion, 2000), Bainbridge Island, WA, writes that "my companion and I are still traveling for his lectures in mathematics, although we just got back from Turkey, which was alternatively my trip, because Leyla is there currently, and I saw old friends again. And Terry did no mathematics research or lecturing. I am working on translation of a Turkish Sufi Muslim 13th century poet...now ready to look for a publisher, which is TOUGH!"

Chris & Dean Coons (CO '48, Family Camp '61, Bali '91, Costa Rica '96, Leader Training '98, Lisle Board & Ligon Award) hosted Dianne Brause for a short but delightful visit recently at their home in Lafayette, CA. Although Chris's eyesight has not improved, they still travel internationally, enjoy their large family and take part in local peace vigils. You can contact them at: <chriscoons@aol.com>.

Dean and Chris were honored in June by the CA/NV Chapter of the Methodist Federation for social action with the "Bishop Leontyne Kelley" Award. They have been active in this organization for over 30 years. Dean as served as Chapter Treasurer for the past 10 years. Chris continues "to adapt to her community activities to her vision disability. She is serving on the Board of the local Meals-on-Wheels agency and is getting in the local campaign to establish a Federal Department of Peace."

Ransford Cooper (CA '52 & '54) lives with his wife Jan in Glen Ellyn, IL and was anxious to get the Lisle video to see if he appears as he was back in California in the 50's. His email is: <jananran@aol.com>.

Kristin Currin (Costa Rica '98, '99, '01, '02) is living in Mosier, OR, and got married in May, 2009, to Andrew Merritt with whom she works with native plants in the Columbia River Gorge. Check out the photos and services offered by their amazing plant nursery on <web.mac.com/humbleroots>.

Barbara Deutsch (CO '47) lives in Harmon, IL and was recovering from recent heart surgery at the time of the spring meeting, thus unable to come to Chicago.

Sophia L. Holly-Ellis (Germany '55 & '58, USSR '56) lives in Detroit, MI. She is "learning, reading, writing, speaking Arabic; tutoring German, English and Sciences; active citizen diplomat for International Visitor's Council under US State Department National Council for International Visitors (NCIV)." She is a BUSY retiree!

Susan Gately (Denmark '56) lives in Wheaton, IL and expressed regret at not being able to come to the Chicago meeting, as she was recruiting 80 volunteers for the annual Fair put on by the Green Earth Institute of which she is a board member. The fair features presenters on organic gardening, nutrition, "How to make a house garden," etc. This CSA (community supported agriculture) project brings inner city kids out to learn about gardening and nature, and their excess food is given to food pantries. Contact Sue at: <suemgately@sbsglobal.net> and the project on the net: <www.GreenEarthInstitute.org>

Ardis Price Hanish (Germany '55, CA '56) and her husband Ed moved to Albuquerque, NM in 2001. "We are happy to be here living close to daughter Laura and granddaughter Shanta (named for CA Lisle Friend)." She'd love to hear from you: contact her at <cahanish777@comcast.net>.

Joyce Hardin (CO '46, NY '47, Family Camp '56 & '61, Elderhostel '90 & '91, Bali '92, OK '93, & Lisle Board) continues to care for her bed-ridden husband, Fred. She says: "The Lisle experience has opened doors and windows throughout my life, definitely equal to four years in college." She is sorry that she cannot be more involved at this time and is not on the Internet, but she reads *Interaction* from front to back and is pleased about the programs Lisle is funding. Joyce & Fred still live at: 6655 Solon Blvd., Solon, OH 44139-4126.

Betsy (Mary E.) Kirk (CA '56) of Manchester, CT is mentoring an inmate once a week at the York Women's Prison in Niantic, CT.

Dianne Koop (Elderhostel '91 & Lisle Board) and husband Denny, have just moved into a beautiful house (big enough for all the grandchildren) at: 2063 Thornapple Dr., Toledo, OH 43614. (419) 754-3470. Email: <dikoop@bex.net>. Dianne Brause stayed with them before and after her train trip to Chicago for the Board meeting. Dianne (Koop) continues her amazing work with youth offenders in a lock-down school where she helps to give strength and support to young people with many strikes against them.

Sharon Kristjanson (Friend, daughter of Farida Kristjanson) does Global Education consulting; works with New Trier HS expanding opportunities for experiential education; and is very networked with the NGO communities in the Chicago area. She can be reached at: <svkris@aol.com>.

Muriel H. McClure (Lisle Friend), Sedona, AZ, continues as a co-therapist with the Minister Therapist of her Congregational Church in its the family program. She continues to "thoroughly enjoy the fantastic red rock view" and joy with her partner, George.

Mary Newman (Costa Rica '97, Leader Training '98, Lisle Board), reports: "As many of you know, I am in the Inactive Reserves for the US Public Health Service (USPHS). I have just accepted a deployment for a short tour of duty from June 7 through September 15. I will be assigned to the Surgeon General's Office in Rockville MD, working in the Global Health Initiative, Office of Field Readiness Deployment—not exactly sure what I will be doing, but it seems to involve curriculum development for the proposed increase in the USPHS involvement in global health diplomacy." Good luck, Mary!

Steve & Robin Pollens (India '82) report that their Lisle experience continues to affect their life voyages. For example, in 1986 they volunteered to go to El Salvador to serve in a refugee camp in La Libertad. They currently live in Kalamazoo, MI.

Joanne Scott (DC '54, USSR '56) "I really enjoyed this issue of *Lisle Interaction*. Thanks for all the interesting news." She lives in Salem, OR.

Barbara Thomas (Japan '55) lives in Fresno, CA, and writes that "I am serving on the Fresno Co. Board of

Education for the next four years." You can write to her at <fresnoco@comcast.net>

Marty Tillman visited with Sharada Nayak (CA '54, Turkey '97, India '98, '99, '00, '02, Netherlands '03, Board) in Washington, during her recent visit to the U.S. to see family. She will also visit with Judy Brown (CA '54, Uganda '93, Turkey '97, India '00, Pacific NW '02, Netherlands '03). Sharada remains actively engaged with the Seed Grant Fund as a mentor and also with many American study-abroad programs sending students to India.

Zoe Tillman, daughter of **Marty Tillman** and Gail Hochhauser, graduated with honors from the University of Pennsylvania in May with a BA in Urban Studies and Classics. She has been a reporter for the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and will remain with the paper over the summer. The family urges all Lislers to NOT cancel subscriptions to their newspaper!!

Geraldine Trammell (CO '42) says she can't get out easily anymore, with a recent eye surgery and some arthritis. She lives in Chicago and can be reached at: (773) 643-5529.

Leyla Welkin (Uganda '94, Turkey '97, Leader '98, '99, '00, '02, Leader Training '98, Pacific NW '01, '02, Leader, & Lisle Board) writes to say she has found a beautiful new apartment on "Lightening Street" in Ankara, Turkey. <leylawelkin@gmail.com>

Bob & Alice (Rife) Wiedrich (CO '46) remember well their Colorado unit where they first met (and were married in June of '48). They enjoy keeping up with Lisle through *Interaction*. Bob broke his neck last summer and had to move to a downstairs unit. Their new address is: 4702 Arbor Ct., Decatur, IL 62526. Email: <arwiedrich4702@att.net>.

Margaret Whittemore (CO '41) is now 89 years old. "Uncle Si and Aunt Edna are gone and so are most of the people in Colorado with me. Creighton Lacy still lives in N.C." She lives in South Yarmouth, MA and her email is: <2mkwhit@comcast.net>.

Donald Earl Wise (CO '45) reports that he "Dates everything from his Lisle experience in CO" in 1945! He enjoys his great-grandchild, reading, friends, the church and singing in the choir. He says "My heart is with you." You may email him at: <donald26jennie@webtv.net>. ☺

In Memoriams

By Marty Tillman

I was saddened to learn of the death of former Board member **Howard Binkley** (DC '54, CO '55, CA '56, Japan '56, DC '66 & '67) in late May. When I first came to Lisle and led a unit in Washington, DC in the summer of 1976, Howard suggested that we contact his daughter Shanna, who was then involved with an urban intentional community in Arlington, VA. An arrangement was made for our unit to be based on their property for the program that summer. When I subsequently was hired to work for Lisle, I lived, rent-free, in this community.

So I've known the Binkley family for 33 years. The entire family has been, in some way or another, involved with Lisle—as unit members, as leaders, as Board members. Howard was an extremely insightful and thoughtful Board member who brought a sharp analytic mind to discussion and deliberation. He maintained an active interest in Lisle's work for his entire life.

Diana Gilpatrick wanted to inform Lisle that her mother, **Jean Lois Witman Gilpatrick** (NY '56, CA '64) died recently on June 4, 2009, at the age of 84. Among other Lisle activities, she and her Dad, Thomas V. Gilpatrick led a student program at Stanford University one summer in the 1960's.

Jean received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Connecticut College for Women. She subsequently received two advanced degrees, a Bachelor of Divinity and a Master of Divinity, from the University of Chicago's Meadville Lombard Theological School. Jean was an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister.

Jean was doing interdenominational religious work on the campus of the University of Illinois, when she met Thomas Vance Gilpatrick, a graduate student and World War II veteran; they married in 1949.

While raising her daughters, Jean continued her to pursue her interest philosophy and religion and her commitment to civil rights. In the summer of 1964, Jean and Tom co-directed a Lisle Fellowship project in Palo Alto, California, which brought together students from different religious, cultural, political, and racial backgrounds. She was active in the First Unitarian Church of Lynchburg, wrote poetry, painted in oils and acrylics, and sang with the Jefferson Choral Society. ☺

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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.
You can download the submission
guidelines from the website.*

Please email your submissions to:

*Dianne Brause: <diannebrause@gmail.com>
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Lisle, Inc. Membership Form

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

(800) 477-1538 * E-mail: <lisle2@io.com>

I want to become/stay a member of the Lisle active membership roster with a tax-deductible contribution!

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Lisle 2009 Active Membership Fees

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- ☐ Supporting Member.....\$150-\$499
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- ☐ Please send me information about becoming a **Lisle Mentor**
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- ☐ Please send me information about "**Providing a Lasting Memorial**"
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- ☐ 70th Anniversary Bookbag.....\$5
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- ☐ 2006 Lisle Directory.....\$20
- ☐ "Tiger by the Tail" by Uncle Si.....\$25
- ☐ "Aunt Edna—50 years of Memories" by Aunt Edna.....\$8
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Notes about your activities for the "Lisle Friends" column in the *Interaction* Newsletter:



LISLE, INCORPORATED

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Upcoming Meetings

<i>Fall Annual Meeting</i>	<i>November 6-8, 2009</i>	<i>Leander, TX</i>
<i>Spring Board Meeting</i>	<i>May 1-2, 2010</i>	<i>Chicago, IL</i>