

Lisle *Interaction*

SUMMER ISSUE • 2008

Mentoring: Lisle-Style

By Barbara Bratton

When the Global Seed Fund was created, the Lisle Board was confident that the membership of Lisle included people with visions of a progressive and globalized world. These Lislers had developed connections to other non-profit organizations which reflected and furthered goals similar to those of Lisle. If you are supporting another non-profit and think that it might be a good candidate for a Seed Grant, consider becoming a Lisle Mentor to them!

Do not be intimidated by this thought: we have lots of backup on-line for you. Remember, being a Lisle Mentor for your favorite non-profit organization not only could bring the group needed funding to begin a new humanitarian program, but you would also feel a sense of great satisfaction in making the world a better place.


In a nutshell, you, as a Lisle Mentor, agree to:

Sponsor a group that you have personal knowledge of and believe that they can utilize a Lisle grant well. Your recommendation gives them credibility.

Discuss the application criteria with them. Because we are favoring applicants that “mesh” with the Lisle goals, you need to tell them of your experience with Lisle and how it pushed your view of “world-mindedness.” Tell them how you see their organization fitting into this picture.

Assist them with the application process. Applications do not have to be professionally written. Prior to submission to the Selection Committee, another committee from the Board, headed by Mark Kinney, looks at the initial application and is in contact with you and/or the applicant to request more data or suggest different ways to make the application stronger.

Monitor the progress of the application. From that point you can be more (or less) involved. You might want to be intimately involved in the whole process, or you might want to pass further contact on to a Board Committee, with your blessings.

Complete information is available at www.lisleinternational.org/grants.shtml. 

IN THIS ISSUE

Mentoring: Lisle-Style	1	Soccer Without Borders	11
President's Message	2	Chintan Research & Action Group	12
Executive Director's Report	3	Medica Mondiale Liberia	13
Chicago Board Meeting Reflections	4	Thanksgiving in Jamaica?	14
Additional Notes from Chicago Meeting	5	Past Seed Grantees	14
Board of Directors & Member Assoc. ...	6	Friends Network News	15
Financial Report	7	My Loving Memories	17
Become A Member Associate!	7	A Lisle Trip to India	18
Annual Meeting in Austin Texas	8	Our Year of Travel	19
Skype to the Annual Meeting	8	Did Lisle Change Your Life?	20
Welcome Lori Bratton/James Burke! ...	9	Midwifery in Mexico	20
Mountain Children's Forum	10	In Memoriams	21

President's Message

There are always three critical aspects of discussing Lisle: clarity of focus in sustaining our purpose, our fiscal health, and the commitment of the Board to governing our organization. On all three fronts this fine Spring, I see us as doing very well! I'm pleased that since the last meeting, we have added Douglas Coutts, '77 DC, who has been working with the UN World Food program for these past 20 years, as a Member Associate. Along with other new Associates, we have added new resources to our Board and broadened those who can advise us in our work.

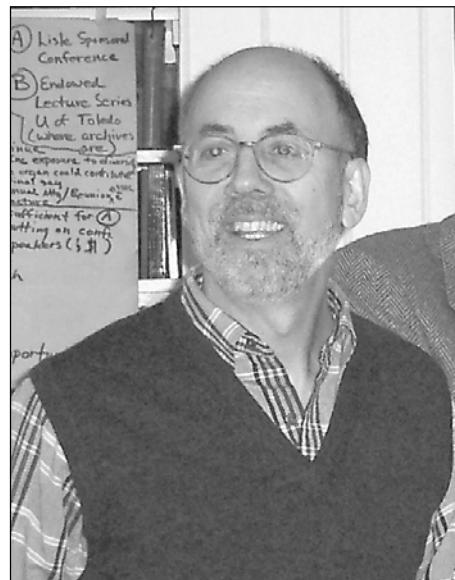
As I write, I know that several members who would ordinarily attend the meeting, are not able to attend. We usually have a split of participation at each of our two meetings—and I'm not sure we want to alter the pattern of two meetings year. Attendance at this meeting is an anomaly from the norm.

Given how we are funding the Global Seed Fund, primarily using interest from our assets, we can be assured of a good working base regardless of the ebb and flow of annual member giving. I'm sure, as we all know, that we may have less to give in 2008 due to market fluctuations. This will, I'm sure, be discussed at the meeting in more detail.

We have a great deal to be proud of in terms of the outcomes of our support of Seed Grantees. We are creating a legacy of connections around the world with grassroots work by nonprofits that are making a difference in people's lives. Last year, we funded a project by a former student I knew at SAIS, and it's likely that another student's work will be in the mix of applications this year. Other Board members and I will work to sustain linkages to past grantees through-



Marty standing beside a poster showing the cover of a book he edited for NAFSA.



Marty Tillman, Our Board President

out the coming year. Mark has done a great job of placing information on the web site so everyone can “see” whom we support. This transparency makes Lisle more visible to the world and hopefully does the same for the work of those we support. A special word of thanks to Smita Patel who worked to edit all of the documents in the Seed Grant application process over the past few months.

And there is Dianne and Elise, our wonderful editors and creative team putting our global publication—*Interaction*—out the old fashioned way. Between the newsletter and the web, we are providing critical outlets for people to remain involved with us and to keep up their old ties to those they knew in their units. We know these two communication instruments are an important lifeline for many many Lislers, who love to read them.

Lastly, I'm always grateful to my colleagues on the Board for their generosity of spirit, commitment to our work and time spent on our governing tasks. We may not meet often, but, I know that when we need to get our work done, everyone is there to pitch in. 🌐

Marty



Executive Director's Report

Since the Annual Meeting there have been a number of interesting events and activities. Clearly the most memorable was the fantastic trip with Suzanne Vogel, Lois and Dick Huddlestone, Barbara Bratton, and my talented wife Nancy which took us to India. Sharada Nayak did a wonderful job in setting up and guiding us to people and places which we will long remember.



Lois Huddlestone, Sharada, Barb, Dick Huddlestone, Nancy, Mark and Suzanne Vogel.

The site visits to Chintan, Sarvodaya Kendra Ashram, and Mountain Children's Forum were very informative and inspiring (rather than perspiring, since it was winter.) We presented checks to Chintan and to MCF for their grants for the year while we were there. What stories we all have to tell.

The new projects for the year have been set in motion and already we have good reports of the results which are being created. The new process of distributed tasks for managing the Global Seed Fund is moving forward with good results. Committee members are stepping forward and doing really good work. It is helpful to have new minds looking at the process and making suggestions. I have taken Smita's wonderful work on revising the forms and letters, and coded the ones which need to be posted on the website.



Mark Kinney, Our Executive Director

I have spent quite a bit of time implementing the next stage of the suggested changes to the Lisle website. In this work, I have tried to simplify the navigation so that it is more self evident to the user where they need to go for information. I am still working on simplifying the behind the scenes server. What I accomplished this time is the major reworking of the structure so that updates will occur much more easily. What I now need to accomplish is removing lots of files from the server, so that they do not clutter up the effort. I am convinced that there are still some glitches with the new version of the site, so if you uncover them, please let me know. Unfortunately, I have not been able to add information from the latest *Interaction* to the website. I have accomplished converting it to a smaller more usable size, and hope to find time to get it posted in the near future.

Nancy and I visited the University of Toledo and took several items to the archives, assured Barbara Floyd, the archivist, that Lisle is still moving forward and found the situation there to be just fine.

All in all, it's been a very productive six months. I believe we are well set up for the next cycle of the Global Seed Fund. 🌐

Mark



Chicago Board Meeting Reflections

By Mark Kinney

The meeting held in Chicago was both small and significant. While several persons were unable to arrive due to cancelled flights and Jon Findley was not able to travel because of a broken leg and Marty needed to stay in DC to support his wife Gail, who had a problem with blood in her eye, we actually got lots done. These are highlights of what we accomplished.

We reviewed the current project reports and were excited by the efforts which are being made. Each of us has received the reports over the past couple of months. We also reviewed the forms and cycle dates and determined that things are in place for the coming cycle.



Walt, Betty, Mary Schinnerer, Nancy, Mary, Barbara, Dianne and James

We held some discussion about administrative details regarding being sure that we are satisfying our fiduciary responsibilities: We decided to be sure to add to the minutes each time a paragraph explaining that we have discussed this each time. (See *Financial Report page 7 for more details.*) Also with our programmatic responsibility, we will ensure that the minutes reflect our conversations regarding the various reports from the field, etc. (See *program reports on pages 10–15.*) We decided to authorize the



Mark, Nancy, Lori, Barbara, Bill and Mary look like they feel a sense of accomplishment!

moving of the website to a commercial vendor in order to make it more visible to search engines, allow us to take advantage of specialized software to enhance capabilities of the site, to make it easier for Mark to update the site, and to help Mark avoid the issues which arise occasionally due to UT changes, etc.. We upgraded the board membership status of Lori Bratton and James Burke, by electing them to full Board Membership. (See *page 9 for the official profiles of both new Board Members.*) And we discussed a number of other items, including the responsibilities for the mid-July issue of *Interaction*.

Finally we broke new ground in that we were able to hold a video call with both Marty Tillman and Jon

Findley at different times, and bring them into the actions of the Board. We hope that in the future we will be able to take more advantage of Skype for this kind of interchange or another video-conferencing mechanism so board members unable to travel to meetings can be part of the group. (See *page 8 for more information.*) All in all it was a very valuable meeting! 🌐



Mary, Leslie Natzke, Nancy, Bill and Dianne.



Additional Notes from Chicago Meeting

By Lori Bratton

Board Members present were: Mark Kinney, Barb Bratton, Mary Newman, Walt & Betty Ligon, Bill Kinney, Dianne Brause. Associate Members: James Burke, Lori Bratton.

Visitors were Nancy Kinney, Leslie Natzke, and Sharon Kristjanson.

The Grant Review Committee and Structure was discussed and affirmed. The Grant Review Committee consists of: Finn, Gail, Dianne, John, James & Betsy



Sharon Kristjanson, Dianne, James, Bill, Walt, Betty, Nancy and Mary

with Mark doing training and management, but not on the decision-making team. In addition, Marty, Smita, Jon, Barb Bratton, Lori, Bill, and Beth have taken on tasks around the Mini-Grant Process as well. The process has been working well and we thank everyone involved. Other Lislens not on the Board are welcome to volunteer as well. *(See page 7 for more details).*

James Burke, new Associate Member *(See page 9 for his biography)* gave a wonderful presentation on the Jamaica Project that we have funded in the past and a proposed special trip to Jamaica to learn about several initiatives there and help out with these projects. *(See page 14 for details on this Thanksgiving's trip especially designed for Lislens!)*

Two other visitors came with particularly interesting presentations about work they are involved in.

Leslie Natzke, who is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer from Niger, will be making a grant application for her work with the Expanding Lives organization, which is located in Niger, where only 25% of the girls go to

primary school and 6% go on to secondary school. The project is to identify West African young women that are "making it" and bring them to the Chicago area for 6 weeks to help them learn skills to become leaders in their home communities. There will be three young women coming to the US on a pilot run this year. Bill Kinney will be the mentor and present this proposal this fall. The project website is: www.expandinglives.org/.

Sharon Kristianson <svkris@aol.com> (daughter of Farita Kristianson) wanted Lisle to know about **Dan Morrison** at <lwell.org> who might be a possible grant applicant or want to create some other association with Lisle, along with **John Wood** from "Room to Read", who wrote a model to do NGO work. Dan's idea is to set up world-wide contacts so someone is "on the ground" to manage a project, focusing on college-age to the "before you have children" age set. Sharon thinks Lisle might benefit from a relationship where we could benefit from their contacts and Lisle could help them to expand into other areas such as the interactive experience, the ongoing relationship for participants to continue to be involved with the community.

Editor's Note: The official Meeting Notes are available for reading and are posted on our web site at: <www.lisleinternational.org> 🌐



Walt, Betty, Lori, Barbara and James.



Board of Directors & Member Associates 2007/2008

Below is a list of the current Board Members and Member Associates. It includes their “class,” or term, of service to Lisle. We have a very dedicated group of compassionate and talented folks helping to guide Lisle—we are grateful for their assistance!

BOARD MEMBERS

- Beth Bader**, Richmond, VA. Class of 2003-2006-2009 <babader@vcu.edu>
- A. Gail Bier**, Knoxville, TN. Class of 2002-2005-2008 <abier@bellsouth.net>
- Barbara Bratton** (Treasurer), Leander, TX. Class of 2002-2005-2008 <dragnfly@io.com>
- Lori Bratton** (Secretary), Leander, TX. Class of 2010
- Dianne Brause**, Dexter, OR. Class of 2003-2006-2009 <diannebr@lostvalley.org>
- James Burke**, Auburn, WA. Class of 2010 <BurkeJ@bsd405.org>
- Jon Findley** (Vice President), Tempe, AZ. Class of 2004-2007-2010 <cyberjon13@gmail.com>
- Finn Hornum**, Philadelphia, PA. Class of 2009 <hornum@verizon.net>
- John Kachuba**, Cincinnati, OH. Class of 2001-2004-2007-2010 <jkachuba@earthlink.net>
- Mark Kinney** (Executive Director), Presque Isle, MI. Class of 2002-2005-2008 <mark.kinney@utoledo.edu>
- William (Bill) Kinney**, Chicago, IL. Class of 2009 <kinneywm@yahoo.com>
- Mary Newman**, Cincinnati, OH. Class of 2001-2004-2007-2010 <Hei2@earthlink.net>
- Smita Patel**, San Jose, CA. Class of 2010 <smita@mymountains.org>
- Marty Tillman** (President), Washington, DC. Class of 2002-2005-2008 <Mjtillman47@aol.com> or <mjtillman@jhu.edu>

MEMBER ASSOCIATES

Member Associates are Lislors who are interested in getting more involved with the governance and/or Seed Grant selection process, but are not quite ready to make a full Board Member commitment. Some are students, those about to retire or discovering more time in their lives. (Please let the Lisle Office know if this describes you and you would like to ease toward more involvement with Lisle!)

Doug Coutts, Washington, DC.

<Douglas.Coutts@wfp.org>

Kristin Currin, Mosier, OR. <Kakic@aol.com> or <jewelweed@fastmail.fm>

Betsy Bridwell (Previous Bd. Member), Seattle, WA. <betsyb@u.washington.edu>

Nancy Jo Zinner, Los Angeles, CA.

<lktysplit@aol.com>

Ann Groves, Portage, IN. <dragroves@aol.com>

BOARD MEMBERS EMERITUS

Betty & Walt Ligon, Pentwater, MI.

<mligon8670@aol.com>

LISLE OFFICE STAFF

Lane Winnett, Leander, TX <lisle2@io.com> or <lisle@io.com>

Office: (512) 259-7621 or (800) 477-1538 Fax: (512) 259-0392.

FOR INTERACTION INFORMATION

Dianne Brause (Editor) <diannebr@lostvalley.org>

Elise Kimmons (Layout & Design)

<eldkim@comcast.net> ☉



Financial Report

By Barb Bratton, Treasurer

I am happy to report that all continues healthy with Lisle's finances. Over 50% of our investments are in cash or cash equivalent investments. Our stock portfolio did drop (since October) by 6% as of the 4/30/08 fair market value statements. We anticipate that this portion of our portfolio will continue to fluctuate rather wildly as the market adapts to the credit crisis. We do **not** have any investments in the speculative mortgage market.

Lisle's Assets are valued at \$225,670. With 58% of the year passed, we have received 92% of our budgeted income—returns on our investments are at 7% and we have received 82% of the membership dues needed to meet our targeted income. A second membership request has been mailed.

A discussion was held at the Board level regarding investments "in anticipation of" the market. Mary Newman felt strongly that it was the Finance Committee's responsibility to make INITIAL conservative decisions of our investments—with a conservative ratio of cash investments, growth investments and dividend investments—keeping an eye on our desire to support socially responsible funds. Mary made the strong argument that, once these investment decisions were made, we should **not** try to anticipate the market. None of us are experts in this area, and even the experts have made serious errors

in guessing at the market flow. Our investments are made for the long run and we need to keep that in mind in the current fluctuating market. The Board discussed this Finance Committee report and concurred with Mary's view.

A Review by an independent CPA has not been done since 2000, and are very expensive. The Board determined several years ago that we would be self-regulating, with Board members being required to study/question the Financial Reports given twice a year, and all of the members of the Finance Committee receive copies of the monthly statements from our investment accounts. We now feel that it is prudent, and acceptable, to schedule this financial Review every ten years, with the caveat of Board review semi-annually. The Finance Committee will do an in-depth review of Lisle Finances at the Austin Office in October. Funds will be dedicated annually for the next three years to schedule a CPA Review for fiscal year 2010/2011.

Please note: We would love to have a Lisle member CPA volunteer for this work at a reduced rate (or as an in-kind donation) in order to continue to allocate the bulk of our income to our Seed Grant Fund. Please contact the Lisle office if you or anyone you know falls into this category. 🌐

Become A Member Associate!

By Marty Tillman

Several years ago, I initiated an effort for the Board of Directors to mentor future Board prospects; we call these non-voting members "Member Associates." This is an effective way of engaging younger professionals and college graduates in the governance of Lisle. Associates are on the Board email list, are encouraged to comment on all issues raised between meetings, and are invited to participate in the Annual member meeting and Spring meeting in Chicago.

Smita Patel, whose organization was a Seed Grant recipient, and Lori Bratton, whose mother, Barbara has been a long-time member, former President and current Treasurer, are two terrific examples of Associates who moved on to become full members of the Board. Several Associates are older Lislens who are unable to fully engage in Board work, but want to remain engaged in the online dialogue about Board decisions and governance issues.

Are **you** interested in sharing in the exciting and important decisions of the board, but are not yet ready for a full-time commitment? Please contact me directly at <mjtillman47@aol.com> 🌐



Annual Meeting in Austin Texas

October 31- November 2, 2008

Barb Bratton (Treasurer) and Lane Winnett (Staff Secretary) are excited about hosting the Annual Meeting this fall in Texas. Barb lives in the house, Lane lives in the garage apartment, the Lisle office is in the small office to the right, the sheep live outside the fence. We can sleep 14 dormitory style and will have several RV's available for privacy. A Comfort Inn and Holiday Inn are within a 10 minute's drive.

Flights will be into Austin International Airport – if we can coordinate arrival times, a van will pick up Lisler's, or, there is a shuttle to the Holiday Inn and we can meet you there. Costs will be manageable as we will be cooking our own meals but we haven't estimated those costs yet.

Friday Oct 31st will be highlighted by a noon meeting at Southwestern University in Georgetown. We have created a one-hour introductory program about Lisle and the Global Seed Fund in hopes of generating interest in the students and alumni who attend from the University. If this initial meeting goes well, we will refine this presentation to give at various venues each Board Meeting in order to expand our member and mentor database. Friday evening (Halloween!) will be barbecue and campfire (with some Ghost Stories from John's books???).



A lovely pastoral setting for the fall Annual Meeting!

Saturday is the Annual Meeting. This will be held at a meeting room in Leander and will include a catered lunch. At this meeting, we will be introduced to the recommended Seed Fund recipients for the new year cycle. We would like as many members to attend as possible—members elect the new Board and Officers. Saturday evening we will take the new light rail train from Leander to 6th Street in Austin and enjoy wandering the Austin City Limits music scene.

Sunday morning is the Board meeting with the new Board—all members are invited to attend this also. It is generally over by 12:00 with transportation scheduled back to the airport (or Barb would love to take anyone who wants on a picnic/hike (1/2 mile) up the riverbed to see the dinosaur footprints!)

So, as they say here, YA'LL COME!!! 🌐

Skype to the Annual Meeting

By Jon Findley

Would you like to participate in the next Annual Meeting but can't travel to Austin? As part of our Annual Meeting in October, we will have a laptop computer signed on to SKYPE, an Internet-based audio service that can be used for teleconferencing.

To join in, all you need is a computer and a high-speed Internet connection. There is no charge for the software or the time you talk. If you have a super-fast computer and a Web-cam, we may even be able to hear and see you. Go to www.skype.com for details. Let us know that you want to join us by sending your Skype user name to Jon cyberjon13@gmail.com and Lane Winnet lisle2@io.com and we'll see you online! 🌐



Welcome Lori Bratton!

New Board Member & Secretary

By Barbara Bratton

The Board was pleased to invite Lori Bratton to become a full Board Member effective immediately, with a final Member ratification vote in October. Lori also agreed to fill the Secretary vacancy for the remainder of this fiscal year and to be nominated for the position for the next year. Lori has attended the last four meetings as a Board Associate.

I am also pleased to introduce our members to my daughter, Lori, as I have been involved with Lisle since 1994, and Lori and I went on our first Lisle trip together to Costa Rica in 1998. I am excited to have Lisle's New Generation of members come from the "next" generation of existing Lisle members.

Lori has truly become a world citizen—beginning with her first Lisle trip to Costa Rica with Dianne Brause and strengthening with her 2000 trip to India with Sharada Nayak. In part because of Lisle's influence, she has gone on to receive her Master's Degree in Archeology and has participated on

digs in Sicily the last three years. She is moving back to Texas to pursue her PhD.

While on her Lisle trip in India, Lori had an accident during the monsoon and ended up in a non-English speaking hospital for emergency surgery on her foot. In a common ward, she was nurtured by Indian families visiting their own patients—often they would

check on Lori first before gathering around their own family members. Although there was pain, fear and disappointment, the lingering emotions from that experience have been two: "I learned that I have the strength and confidence to endure" and "I learned that people are wonderful and caring—despite the barriers of race, culture and language." Good lessons—Welcome! 🌐



Welcome James Burke!

New Board Member:

By Bill Kinney

Some people ask how they can become involved. James Burke likes to ask how he can change involvement for himself and others. Such is the way he has viewed his Jamaica Service Project (a 2007 Lisle Seed Grant Project).

James grew up Kent, Washington and went to college at Western Washington University in Bellingham, graduating in 1991 with the Bachelor of Science degree in Plastics Engineering Technology. James served in the Peace Corps in Mali, West Africa from 1993-1995, and upon his return to the U.S., he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington. James completed his teacher training at Western Washington in 1999. James now works as a Technology Educator in the Bellevue School District in Bellevue, Washington; he concentrates his teaching on sustainable development and renewable energy.

In the years between 2004–2007 James developed a student and teacher exchange program involving students from Tyee Middle School in Bellevue and the Sheffield All-Ages School in Negril, Jamaica. He now serves as a Director of Jamaica Service Project (information on the program can be found on the internet at www.tyee lovesjamaica.org). James is currently developing a renewable biodiesel project in Lucea, Jamaica with the help of Fire Lieutenant Conroy Steven Ghans. As the Director of the Engineers Without Borders Jamaican Biodiesel Project, James hopes to develop a renewable source of fuel from recycled vegetable oil for a fire brigade that often prioritizes fire calls based on the existing supply of diesel fuel.

In his free time James is an avid certified SCUBA diver and motorcycle enthusiast. James is married to Maimouna and has two daughters, Hawa and Djeneba. If you want to contact James or learn more about how you can get involved with the Jamaica Service Project or the Jamaican Fire Brigade Biodiesel Project, James can be reached by email at: burkej@bsd405.org. 🌐



Mountain Children's Forum

By Smita Patel

In November 2007, Lisle International made a grant of \$3000 (along with an additional \$1000 to extend the project) to the Mountain Children's Forum (MCF) for a series of nine workshops with young people in rural mountain communities. The purpose of the workshops is to help young people see themselves as agents for change in their villages, identify issues they want to address, and develop strategies for how their children's group can begin solving those problems.

This grant also provided an important opportunity for the MCF to reach out to new partners with a concrete, inspiring project to help build energy around their nascent children's groups.

We kicked off the project with a special three-day workshop that used the medium of cartoons to help young people think about important issues and communicate about them with members of their community. Hosted and organized by MCF partner, Rural Area Development Society (RADS) in the district of Tehri, the workshop took place January 20–22, 2008.

Seven Lislors who had been visiting India also attended and actively participated in the workshop. They were Mark and Nancy Kinney, Barbara Bratton, Suzanne Vogel, Lois and Dick Huddleston, and Sharada Nayak. The Lislors' participation added an entirely new dimension to the workshop because it gave the young people a glimpse into a world far outside their experience (there were many questions about where the Lislors lived, how many children they had and what kinds of pets). And even more importantly, it provided the powerful motivation that comes from knowing that people believe in what you are doing and care about your work. (Additional details about this workshop are available at the MCF website: www.mymountains.org/workshops/cartoon08.htm). This workshop was followed by work-

shops in Dehradun, Nainital, and Jeolikote, each with about 30 children.

The January cartoon workshop turned out to be more expensive than originally planned because the children were housed on site for three nights and because of the costs of bringing a facilitator from Delhi to teach the children about drawing and using cartoons as a communication tool. In the three other workshops, the children traveled to the workshop site each morning and returned home every evening. This did result in somewhat more erratic attendance as some children could not

find their way to the Jeolikote workshop on the first day and so did not attend subsequent days. In other locations, more than the anticipated 30 children attended.

Because of the considerably greater expense of having a facilitator to teach the children about cartooning, all the other workshops will follow the MCF's more traditional format of using games, group discussions, and presentations to get the young people thinking and talking about what they want to change in their villages, and how.

The MCF's application to Lisle also involved a plan to revisit each of the communities where the workshops were held and talk with the young people about the work they had done as a result

of their experience in the workshop. It will be interesting to see whether the first workshop—with the focus on cartoons and the visit from Lisle—differs from the others in terms of how it energized the children and in their subsequent activities and efforts to improve their community.

It is evident to our team in Uttarakhand that these workshops have enabled the MCF to build new momentum and energy around the idea of young people as agents for change. We look forward to talking more about the impact of this project. 🌐



Lislors and a group of MCF folks on the steps of the Gujarat Cultural Initiative.



Soccer Without Borders

By Diedre Murphy

While gathering a group of excited girls to start a soccer game, Christine, the new Girls Sports Coordinator from Beyond Sport, Inc. leans over to me and points out a girl on the sidelines who says she wants to get married. She is a 15-year-old orphan, not happy living with her aunt. She doesn't get fed as much food as her cousins and has to do more of the housework. She was courted by a 20-year-old man, and feels that marrying him will give her more freedom. He is also an orphan who can't afford to go to high school.

Marriage to a young couple doesn't necessarily mean more freedom. Sadly, it means they continue to face a life of limited opportunities and the struggles that go with daily poverty. Men are known to be very promiscuous, which makes it difficult for a married woman to ask her husband to wear a condom, even when she knows she may run the risk of contracting the HIV/AIDS virus.

Later, the Director of BSI, Francis Malundu Nakonje, and I visit the village to congratulate the volunteer coaches and Girls Sports Coordinator for all their hard work with the girl's soccer program. After a life-skills session on the dangers of drinking, drugs and promiscuous sex, we take pictures of all the girls. This same 15-year-old who had been lingering around the field before, seemed to be very interested in the action. Maybe she wanted to be among this group of smiling and laughing girls? Maybe she just wanted to be involved in a healthy activity outside of doing work at home?

Then we met with the volunteer coaches to discuss BSI's vision and goals for the year. We reviewed the responsibilities from the Lisle grant we received to help build this program. Francis shares that while this rural village is two hours where all the other BSI teams play, their teams could be the model girls program. Christine Siamukole, a 22-year-old Zambian, developed four girls' teams a year ago with the help of her brother, brother-in-law and neighbor who comes coaching with her baby on her back. The grant will pay a small salary to her to coordinate a league and tournaments for the teams, train her coaches and implement life skills workshops.

Christine and her coaches have many challenges to face. The girls have to walk five kilometers to get to practice, and they have to persuade their caretakers to relieve them of their housework responsibilities. They play in their bare feet with long skirts on a hard dirt field covered with holes, rocks and thorns. They are at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS at a rate four times higher than boys partly due to traditional cultural myths. While Zambia has been sensitizing communities of the dangers and consequences of this myth, girls are still at risk in rural areas. And, many families can't afford the school fees for school, so many girls are married off early.

After our meeting with the coaches, we head off to the field. Francis jumps in to support the peer coach and teaches them how to head the ball on the run. The same 15-year-old girl who had been watching the photo shoot the day before was now at the front of the line waiting her turn to play. Christine and I look at each other and smile. Ah, success. I just pray soccer will be the saving grace for this girl's future.

I want to thank all the people who have generously donated money, equipment, support and care packages to help me experience this beautiful country. I am also grateful to Ben, Katlin and Lauren for all their incredible work into developing the Girls component of SWB. And of course, I want to humbly thank Francis, Christine and all the BSI staff for all the invaluable lessons, knowledge, laughs, and innovative ideas they have shared with me. Rural programs have less access to funding, yet Francis and BSI continue to create inspiring sports programming with 10 times the amount of children with very little resources.

I feel that Soccer without Borders and Beyond Sport, Inc. are programs that are literally saving souls. In a country that faces unbearable hardship, playing soccer gives kids the chance to forget about their struggles for an hour or so. Even more, being a part of a girl's soccer program means many girls could potentially have a much different future.

Ndalumba Kapati—Thank you so much! 🌐



Chintan Environmental Research & Action Group

By Bharati Chaturvedi

The objective of the Lisle-sponsored program is to organize a group of Muslim women waste pickers in Seemapuri, East Delhi in order to secure their rights, increase their livelihood opportunities and negotiate with the local authorities to respect women's rights.

Mid-term Achievements and Challenges: We have organized about 120 women and are conducting regular weekly meetings with the group. We initially organized over 200 women, but due to the nature of work and busy family lives, many women are not able to devote time to the meetings. The waste picker women are responsible for raising their families and earning money.

They wake up early in the morning, pick waste with their husbands and return to sort the waste. The work schedule is exhausting and inconsistent.

We have been meeting the police along with the women to find non-confrontational ways to work together. The branch of the police responsible for women has been specially included. We are carrying out an intensive survey to understand if the women are being underpaid for the waste they collect. As soon as we have the results, we will share them in the meeting and plan a joint action, as needed.

We recognized a need for the women's jobs to be more consistent. Since the volume of waste is irregular, earnings and work timings are constantly fluctuating. We have initiated a pilot door-to-door waste collection system for the women, in order to formalize and legalize their work. We are generating improved livelihoods by negotiating with the nearest Residents Welfare Association (RWA) to employ several waste pickers to collect waste

from each unit in the luxury Koshambi towers. Two waste pickers have already started working in Koshambi.


We organized a successful International Women's Day event on March 8, 2008. This was a time for the community members to talk about the progress made since the project's initiation and show their pride.



Women hard at work picking through waste.

As the school admission season draws near, we will be helping the women to admit their children into the schools. The women are hesitant to express their feelings. However, Fatima, Anwara Begum, Bano Begum and Jahani are four active women aggressively expressing their opinions. They are thus setting the trend for other women. We want all participants to be vocal. Assisting this level of participation is a challenge.

Future Plans: Mobilize 200 women waste pickers in project population (80 more than current numbers). Continue to improve livelihoods and increase income in innovative ways. Train women for improved livelihoods. Build leadership qualities in women. Plan and conduct legal workshops. Continue linkages with local authorities.

Editor's Note: Bharati Chaturvedi wrote last November: "...Chintan has been campaigning against capital intensive privatization of waste collection because of its deleterious impact and marginalization of smaller players, including wastepickers and small scrap dealers... Although the Delhi Government is currently continuing with its poor track record of symbolic gestures, if any, the Economist has gotten the point and written about it. Please read this article at the following website: < www.economist.com/world/asia/displaystory.cfm?story_id=10147690>" 



Medica Mondiale Liberia

Medica Mondiale supports women and girls who have survived sexual violence and rape in war or crisis zones around the world—providing medical, gynecological, legal and economic support for rape survivors in the Balkans, in Afghanistan and Liberia and working in cooperation with partner organizations in DR Congo, Uganda, Sierra Leone and many other countries.

In Liberia, two out of every three women were raped during the civil war. Women and girls were tortured, forced to serve as soldiers, or abducted into forced prostitution. And still today, in the Liberian post-war society, rape continues to be highest reported crime and widespread poverty is subjecting women and girls to sexual exploitation and abuse.

Community awareness and prevention work are essential parts of the project. Medica Mondiale sensitizes and educates communities in the project area to create an understanding that violence against women is a human rights violation and a crime that should not be compromised at family or community level, but followed up and dealt with on basis of the existing national laws. In addition, Medica Mondiale is setting up a system of female caseworkers who help to identify and to protect those women who have experienced violence within their communities.

Building the capacity of national staff through a Cross-Cultural Internship, Medica Mondiale will apply the Lisle grant for a study trip of two Liberian staff members to another project site in April/May 2008. Our projects aim at establishing long-term support structures for survivors of sexual violence and at anchoring them locally. Therefore, a key to our approach is building the capacity of the local team. An integral part of all projects is further education and training of the local staff.

In Liberia, Medica Mondiale has built up a highly motivated team of ten Liberian women. Right now the Liberian team is further developing the strategies for the long-term implementation of project activities. In Liberia, Medica Mondiale's project is the first of its kind and

several key team members are eager to exchange experiences and know-how with similar projects in other African countries.

A cross-cultural internship provides the participants with an opportunity to further develop their professional competence. The Liberian key staff is highly interested in an exchange about work approaches, strategies and challenges with another organization. Medica Mondiale has already realized some study exchanges, and we have seen that cross-cultural internships are a very effective and empowering training measure for the local staff as key actors within their home organizations and within their civil societies. Returning to their home country, the participants act as 'multipliers' and trainers and share their knowledge with the other team members.

A very appropriate organization for a study trip is the Katanya Women's Development Association (KAWAD) in Sierra Leone. KADWA is a women's rights organization

that is working against Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). The organization involves hundreds of girls and young women in skills training centers, and also empowers the participants and educates them about the harmful effects of FGM, violence against women, health issues and women's human rights. Similar to KADWA Medica Mondiale Liberia follows the approach of combining skills trainings with psychosocial counseling for vulnerable women. An experience exchange with is an important opportunity for our national staff to learn how similar projects are responding to sexual gender based violence.

Selected participants for the study exchange are Edwina Massaquoi, Women Centre Coordinator in Fishtown, who coordinates the skills trainings and income generating activities; and Anita Varney, Reproductive Health Trainer, who provides reproductive health education and awareness for the target group. Both team members are highly committed and motivated to broaden their professional know-how about combining counseling and income generating activities. 🌐



Thanksgiving in Jamaica?

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-based trip is scheduled for the 2008 Thanksgiving Holiday. The tentative dates for the trip will be November 22–29, 2008. The focus of the trip will be to bring the skills of Lislers and others to the site of a Lisle Seed Grantee program, adding 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 facilitate in the world.

Participants will visit the Jamaican Service Project computer lab and community center. Cooperative teaching and computer-based education opportunities for the group and the school will be arranged. We will also visit the Engineers Without Borders Jamaican Fire Brigade Biodiesel Project in Lucea, Jamaica. The goals of this project include creating renewable energy sources to power the work of the Jamaican Fire Brigade.

The trip will also 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 seeking computer educators, renewable energy engineers and others willing to make a commitment to bring their skills to Jamaica to help in the transformation of the Sheffield All-Ages School and the Jamaican Fire Brigade. If you want to spend Thanksgiving in Jamaica this year, contact Bill Kinney at <kinneywm@yahoo.com> or (312) 237-6601.

Editor's Note: Bill was in Negril June 20–July 7 for the Jamaica Service Project. 🌐

Past Seed Grantees

Compiled by Dianne Brause

Let's look back at the projects that Lisle has funded since the Seed Grant Program began in 2004. Where else can Lisle go? And who of our Lislers (and our Friends) will help take us there as a Lisle Mentor? Full descriptions are available at <www.lisleinternational.org/grants.shtml>.

200–05 Grantees

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

Ecuador: Shunku Llacta—Sponsored trip in June 2005, where the communities of Guayabillas and Santa Rosa which hosted 10 international participants for 14 days.

U.S.A./Europe/Int'l: Service for Peace—The Teen as Coach program is a unique mix of leadership, mentoring, mediation and professional life coaching.

2005–06 Grantees

U.S.A.: Crane Culture Theatre—Multicultural first-third grade classes from two schools participating in a local habitat improvement project which stressed team building and cooperation across cultures, and ended with a tour of a Sandhill Cranes Reserve.

Uganda: Medica Mondiale Uganda Project—Conducted a training program for Ugandan health workers and other professionals working with traumatized women and girls.

Venezuela: Human Rights Across Borders—Took 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.

Myanmar: Connecting Myanmar Students—Connecting Myanmar Students to the Rest of Southeast Asia.

Ecuador: Shunku Llacta—The volunteers and community members built on the successes of previous summer's project, to further develop the artisans groups' international network and business skills.

(Cont'd on page 17)



Our thanks to Lane Winnet, Lisle Office Diva, for saving and compiling all the notes and emails that Lislers send in so we can all stay in touch. Reading about who is doing what in the Friends Network always warms our hearts. We are living examples of Uncle Si and Aunt Edna's inspiration.

June (Holtzendorff) Ammirati (CA '50) of Bronx, NY writes: "Still hope to get re-involved with Lisle, but very consumed with family matters. I appreciate all that so many of you continue to do in the Spirit of Lisle. I have many special memories of Lisle in the summer of 1950.

A. Gail Bier (Board Member) writes: "I am not sure if I have let everyone know that I am no longer with the University of Tennessee and am currently looking for a new position. I am looking locally, perhaps in a different line of work, as well as nationally in my field of international program development. It is easy to keep doing study abroad program administration or its variations however, I feel that I have an opportunity to explore and perhaps embrace something quite different—what that might be is still a mystery.

I thought of the Texas Lislers, past and present, while sitting on a small hillside next to a small patch of the only bluebells in the park.

Thanks to all for the news about the Chicago meeting. I regret not being able to attend and visit with such a congenial forward thinking group and will look forward to seeing you all in the fall in Austin. I have been in Massachusetts, Minnesota and Alabama in the last 10 days on the job circuit and am glad to be home today! Thank you to the new Board members for your energy and assistance.

Jim Brende (Costa Rica '98) of Los Gatos, CA writes: "I enjoy the newsletter and watching where the organization is going. I went to Costa Rica with Dianne – The same trip Barbara & Lori was on. Hello to the 3 of you!"

Betsy Bridwell (Bali '77; Bd. Member) wrote in May that she was "going on a mini-adventure aboard the Semester-at-Sea ship, sailing from Nassau to NYC for seminars focusing on global peace, justice and environmental issues—all things I want to be more

involved with after I retire this summer. It seemed serendipitous, and Desmond Tutu is going to be on board!" Betsy has been the Director of Career Services at the Jackson School of International Studies at the University of Washington.

Suzanne Brooks (Costa Rica '95) wrote recently to Dianne Brause. "I admire you and all that you are doing. I am in the midst of coordinating the Northern California Women of Color Day/Diversity Event for 2008; still working on the Uruguay projec, to be called California Sol; working as General Manager (without pay) to develop <hipchickmusic.com> to assist and promote women in music and film; confronting some of the racism being used against Barack Obama by members of some women's organizations who inadvertently sent some of it to me with their names on it (I know them); and working to get my teaching credential so I can earn more money, especially in anticipation of surgery to correct cervical spinal impingement which has me in some danger. Nonetheless, despite struggle, I am happy and upbeat. I enjoy your news. Aloha and God bless."

Dean & Chris Coons (D: Family Camp '61, Bali '91, Costa Rica '96, Leadership Training '98; CO '48 & Lisle Board) of Lafayette, CA had a fabulous trip through Egypt in April 2008. They toured through Cairo, Alexandria, Luxor and the Aswan Dam (by river boat!) Chris asked their Egyptologist guide whether he had ever heard of **Aly Abdel Aziz Sabray** (CO '48) and he was "astonished" that Chris would know of him so intimately. Dean writes, "The seeds of Lisle were indeed well-planted!" Chris and Dean also saw a Whirling Dervish demonstration while on board the boat. Chris's vision loss remains unchanged. She continues to be very active in community activities, however.

Kristin Currin (Leadership Training '98, CR '98, '99, '01 & '02) of Mosier, Oregon owns a native plant nursery in the Columbia River Gorge of Oregon & Washington. Living off-grid and working towards harvesting rainwater for irrigation. Check her website: <web.mac.com/humbleroots>.

(Cont'd on next page)



Sophia (Holley) Ellis (Germany '55 & '56, Russia '56) of Detroit, MI is enjoying tutoring German and English and volunteering with International Visitors Council of Metro Detroit. She has talked to people from Chad, Oman, Morocco, Bahrain, Georgia, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Israel, UAE and Qatar. She is studying Arabic!

Marina (Zaccaro) Firestone (Lisle Board, CO '48 & Family Camp '63) of Fort Lee, NJ is looking forward to a hip replacement in April.

Ruth Ingeborg Fuss (CA '54, Germany '55 & '63) of Venice FL writes: "For a couple of years I lead the Worship Committee at Village on the Isle. We select local clergy to minister at our hour mid-week service. I also give Holy Communion to our Catholic nursing home residents once a week. I do back exercises and walk often."

Penny (Gates) Haughwout (NY '42 & '47) of Stamford, CT writes "Good work!!!! Forward we go." *Penny is Uncle Si's niece.*

Finn Hornum (CT '51, Denmark '52 & '58, CA & CO '55, current Bd. Member) wrote Dianne: "I thoroughly enjoyed your reflections e-mail. You must have had a wonderful and enriching year. Your description of your trip to France was particularly entreatening since Barbara and I spent almost three and a half weeks touring there during late August and September. Among places we visited, we saw the caves in the Dordogne region. Barbara teaches Anthropology so she was really knowledgeable about what we saw and it was really a fantastic experience."

Finn also contributed to a person-hunt initiated by a German man, Johan Henrik. He helped him search for **Rigmor Nissen** (CO '56, Denmark '69 & '70). He shared that **Carl and Alice Nissen** became involved with Lisle in 1953 where they were both in the Denmark unit. They directed the Denmark '55 unit. "It is possible that Rigmor Nissen is related to them."

Eleanor (Durham) and Hans Spiegel (CO '46, Watkins Glen '47, CO '47, Germany '58, Bali '88) of Leonia, NJ send Cheers and greetings!

The daughter of **Farida Kristjanson** (CA '50, Turkey '97), **Sharon Kristjanson**, is a Lisle Friend living in Chicago. She wrote Marty Tillman at the end of June that "I just heard Marian Wright Edelman speaking on the "Tavis Smiley Show" on NPR. She was talking about the many influences in her life, including, among other things, a Lisle Fellowship Program! She said she went to the USSR for six weeks: they were the second group of American students allowed into the USSR, and the student exchange had a memorable impact on her." Sharon continues to offer Lisle opportunities to connect with other creative people.

Editor's Note: For those not knowing her, Marion Wright Edelman is founder of the Childrens Defense Fund. She went with Lisle to Russia in 1958 in one of the first exchange programs to the then "USSR."

Ruth Lofgren (Lisle Friend) writes: "Many years ago I knew Dewitt and Edna Baldwin at the University of Michigan. How delighted they would be to see how Lisle has grown and adjusted over the decades to continue to serve the mission of peace through international education. Congratulations to all involved with Lisle and to you for an excellent newsletter. Best wishes for continuing growth and service." Email her <ruthlofgren@sbcglobal.net>.

Ray Steiner (NY '40) just turned 90 in April and is going strong! See his article on page 17 about his memories of Lisle.

Mercia (Lockyer) Stewart (CO '49 & MI '50) of Pacheco, CA writes: "Bob and I are beginning to show our age but still trying to be in church, park and community activities."

Dean Stout (CO '47 & SD '89) of Manson, WA volunteers for Habitat for Humanities, the local elementary school and Hospice.



My Loving Memories of Lisle Fellowship

By Ray Steiner (NY '40)

If anyone had told me in the summer of 1940, when I hitchhiked from Ann Arbor, Michigan to Lisle, New York that 68 years later I would be writing about the wonderful five weeks' conference with Lisle Fellowship, Inc. along with fifty international, interracial, interdenominational fellow students from all over the globe, I would have said, "That is not possible at all!" Well, it did happen and I can truthfully say that the Lisle experience has influenced me all of my interesting, happy life.

What I really enjoyed about Lisle, were the deputations teams organized by Aunt Edna and Uncle Si Baldwin! Each week of the conference several teams of four would go out to nearby communities to perform in the church community as a speaker, a musician, a game leader, an arts specialist, or a prayer leader—lots of talent shown by those teams. The communities were always happy to have a Lisle team in their home for Thursday through Sunday of the week.

On Monday the teams would return to Lisle, NY where we had seminars (Monday Tuesday, Wednesday) on our visits, about problems the community had and what might be done about those problems.

I cannot say enough about what we all experienced in those five precious weeks. Everywhere we traveled I was thrilled to tell about Lisle Fellowship which had great dreams of a peaceful world!

Then years later, to my utmost surprise, my wife Phyllis and I met Uncle Si and Aunt Edna's nephew, Mark Kinney and his wife Nancy by way of Lisle *Interaction*. We found out that they had bought property one mile from us in Presque Isle, Michigan. What a coincidence to have prospective neighbors like them! So now we see them often and exchange memories of our experiences.

The Lord had blessed us and you cannot realize what fun we have had living in this beautiful community that we affectionately call "God's Country." Phyllis and I have been here twenty years after fifty years in Ann Arbor, Michigan. We soon will have been married sixty-two years. There is so much that I could tell that it would take a book indeed! All I can say is "Long may Lisle

Fellowship continue to influence the lives of many nations. That all people learn to live for one another in peace and charity." 🌐

(Past Seed Grantees, cont'd from page 14)

2006–07 Grantees

India: Gujurat Cultural Initiative—Regeneration of integrated transformation of tribal community through their cultural initiatives in four tribal villages of Banaskandtha District in Gujarat, India.

U.S.A. and Guatemala: Global Visionaries Youth Leadership Program—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.

Jamaica: Jamaican Computer Lab Project—The purpose of this project was 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.

2007–08 GRANTEES

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

India: Mountain Childrens Forum Community Engagement Workshops—a series of nine workshops will expose young people to the concepts of collective action and local engagement.

Zambia: Girls Got Goals Soccer Project—helping support a full-time salary for a Zambian woman to coordinate a girls soccer program as well as purchase much needed sports equipment. 🌐



A Lisle Trip to India

by Nancy Pearson Kinney

A Lisle trip to India? Do I want to go? Will I be healthy? Who else is going? These are some of the approximately one hundred questions I had when the idea surfaced. Did I find satisfactory answers? You bet! Was it a great experience? Again, you bet!

Our aim was to visit some of the current Seed Grant projects Lisle is funding in India. The people who chose to go and to pay their own expenses were Dick and Lois



Mark, Shri Rajagopal (Vice-Chair-GPF), Rita Roy, Sushri Radha Bhalt (Chair-GPF) and Barbara.

Huddlestone (CA '50), Sue Vogel (NY '48), Barb Bratton (Costa Rica '98) and my husband Mark Kinney (Executive Director) and I. We appealed once again to Sharda Nayak (CA

'54) who has planned and executed so many Lisle programs in India over the past years, and she agreed to work things out with the grant recipients, hotels, restaurants, and Lislors we wanted to meet. We arrived by January 8, 2008, to find that winter in New Delhi is very pleasant. Visits to Chintan, a social service agency working with illegal immigrant trash pickers and the Gandhi Peace Foundation showed us that Idealistic Indians are taking responsible action to seek justice for the poor. Presenting a check to Chintan and an award to Lisle's friend, Rita Roy were great experiences, as well.

Sharada felt that we should all see the Taj Mahal, Fatehpur Sikri, and the ancient city of Jaipur, so she made the arrangements for stops at those attractions on the way to Gujarat to find Hasmukh Patel and Shilpah Vaishna at

Sarvodaya Kendra Ashram. There we met some of the tribal people whose lives have been improved by Lisle's funds and Ashram initiatives to help women and children. We were amazed yet again.

We returned to Delhi by overnight train and boarded a van for Uttararchand in the foothills of the Himalayas. As the altitude increased, the temperature dropped, and after an inspirational stop at the holy city of Haridwar, we found Smita Patel and her cousin Aditi Kaur at the Mountain Children's Forum office in Dehra Dun. They joined us to travel to a workshop for children interested in affecting community life by creating cartoons to call attention to social problems. We joined the kids in learning how to draw and sit on the floor wearing our warmest clothes in the unheated room. What fun to interact with the kids!

The short conclusion is that your money which funds these projects is being well spent.

The longer evaluation of the programs themselves is that they are all creating miracles in the everyday lives of some of the least advantaged Indians. What a wonderful way to spend eighteen days with great people in a beautiful country! And we didn't even tell you about the Wisconsin Rural Development Project people we met in Delhi, or the volunteers at the Women's Police Station in Jaipur, or our visit to a Sikh Temple or....

Editor's note: Perhaps with enough interest expressed, this trip might happen again some year? Just a hope on my part, as I would love to go again. 🌐



Sharada, Barbara, Lois, Shilpah, Dick, Suzanne, Mark and Hasmukh.



Our Year of Travel

By John Kachuba & Mary Newman

This year found us traveling extensively both home and abroad. In the spring, Mary was awarded a six-week Fulbright Senior Specialist appointment to the University of Malta in Msida, Malta. She taught a course in occupational safety and health through the university's Institute of Labor Studies. Mary owes her selection for the award, at least in part, to Lisle. Mary's Lisle experiences on trips and as a Board member



John and Mary at the Azure Window, Malta

werere cited in her application and one of her references came from Mark Kinney. She used some of Lisle's concepts about experiential learning in her course in Malta, since her students were nontraditional students employed in safety and health occupations.

I also had the opportunity to teach at the university, in this case the university's first-ever creative writing course. In a unique volunteer activity on World Book Day (April 23), I conducted a short-story writing workshop for elementary school children at the St. James Cavalier Center for Creativity in Malta's capitol, Valletta. This was quite the challenge, as my "class" consisted of over 300 children, ages six to eight!

Malta is fascinating, with a heritage that combines several cultures: Phoenician, Carthaginian, Roman, and Turkish among them. It's a land rich in history; the oldest freestanding structures in the world are the island's Ggantija Temples. Imposing castles and fortifications are all over the country, reminders of the centuries in which the Knights of Malta ruled over the island and much of the Mediterranean. These same knights accumulated incredible wealth, which they poured back into

imposing palaces, churches and cathedrals that are now some of the best examples of Baroque art and architecture anywhere in the world. In fact, the entire capitol city of Valletta is designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site because of its history and treasure trove of art.

We were able to visit almost all of these places and also toured the country's scenic coastal areas where stunning white limestone cliffs meet the azure sea. Little fishing villages, complete with the colorful Maltese luzzus (fishing boats), vie for space with the ever-increasing vacation villas being built by wealthy people from the cities.

During our six weeks in Malta, we made many friends among the university, labor, and writing communities. We were treated as celebrities and appeared on Maltese television and were interviewed in Maltese newspapers. The U.S. ambassador to Malta held a lunch at her residence for Mary and invited university professors, labor leaders, and government officials. A similar lunch held for me put me in touch with Maltese writers, editors, publishers, and government officials from education and tourism.

By the time we left Malta, we had made many solid connections among the Maltese that could offer us the chance to return to the island. Hopefully, we may do that soon.

With the August publication of my new book, *Ghosthunters: On the Trail of Mediums, Dowrsers, Spirit Seekers and Other Investigators of America's Paranormal World*, Mary and I went on a three-month book tour. We traveled through New England and other parts of the Northeast and followed that with trips throughout the Midwest. In October we took part in a paranormal cruise to the Bahamas, seeking out pirate haunts in Freeport and Nassau. In November, our book tour will take us to Florida.



(Cont'd on page 22)



Did Lisle Change Your Life?

By Dianne Brause

Can cross-cultural travel serve as a pathway to peace? Over the September 12–14, 2008 week-end, I will be exploring the answers by presenting a workshop about the positive affects of cross-cultural travel on the traveler, and being a host at a conference at the University of Oregon entitled “Non-Violence as A Way of Life.”

I want to offer this idea as one factor toward the creation of a more non-violent and peaceful world to conference attendees. My experiences through Lisle and other organizations sponsoring interactive and educational “pilgrimages” have been major turning points in my life. This is a very exciting topic for me at this moment in history, when our very way of life seems in peril—partly as a result, I believe, of people not having had the opportunity to know, trust and value one another.

I am currently in a Ph.D. Program through Wisdom University where I hope to write my dissertation on a similar topic. Visit the University’s website at: www.wisdomuniversity.org As a part of these two



projects, I plan to document my ideas through anecdotal stories from a variety of types of people who have traveled cross-culturally. That is where *you* come in.

I am inviting anyone who feels that your life has been significantly changed by your travels (or intercultural exchanges within your own country), to send me an account of your experiences and how they affected your thoughts and actions around creating

peace on the planet. These submissions can be a few sentences long to however long you want to make them (stories, books or theses are welcome as well!) If I want more information in a scientific, research, or interview format, I will contact you later—after I begin that phase of my writing.

If you have some insights you would like to share with me, please send your written thoughts via e-mail: diannebr@lostvalley.org or post at: Dianne Brause c/o P.O. Box 38, Sulphur Springs, OH 44881. (If you want to be included in my presentation at the conference, please send in by September 1st) Thank you! 🌐

Midwifery in Mexico

Elise Kimmons, Lisle Friend and newsletter layout person, traveled in June to the state of Chiapas, Mexico to participate in an international conference for midwives. The cross-cultural exchange drew midwives from Mexico, Central America, South America and the U.S., and was set in the beautiful highland colonial city of San Cristóbal de las Casas.

Elise made new friends, reconnected with midwives from long ago, explored the city and its churches, and gained a deeper appreciation for the wisdom held by indigenous and traditional midwives. She also loved being immersed in the Spanish-speaking culture. 🌐



A traditional curandera/midwife and her assistant prepare herbs for a healing of “susto” during a breakout session. It was an amazing experience to watch!



Elise and her new friend, Martha, a CNM from Las Vegas, shared breakfasts, taxis, and long walks throughout the week.



In Memoriams

Compiled by Lane Winnett

Annis Bassler (Japan '55) died in 2000. [Ed. Note: Upon her husband, Bassier's, death in 2008, daughter Jennie dispersed the trust which included a generous contribution to Lisle. Thank you, Annis, and Blessings to your family.]

Elaine Brown (CO '47, CA '51), of Concord, California, died April 30, 2008, according to a letter from Dean Coons. The Coons had known Elaine since the early 70's, when Uncle Si stayed with them and visited Elaine's parents in Rossmoor. Uncle Si and her father had been friends a long time. "I never heard her talk about anything but the CA '51 experience. They lost their cook and Elaine stepped in and did the cooking for the remainder of the encampment," wrote Dean. At Elaine's memorial service, Chris offered a "memory comment" which the family appreciated, since they knew how much Lisle had meant to their mother. Elaine graduated from Stanford and entered the field of social work; she devoted her life to the welfare of children, through working with adoptions, special education, foster care, day care licensing, respite family care, and a toy lending library. She also volunteered countless hours with the Girls Scouts (leader and life-long member,) PTA, and helped on a suicide prevention hotline. Her husband Darrell, to whom she was married for 50 years, preceded her in death. She was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, and left a legacy of joy for life, enduring smile, and a love-filled heart.

Norman Hayner (CO '46, Denmark '52) passed away around April 1st. according to his daughter, Anne <ahayner@nd.edu> who works at Notre Dame in the Peace Institute. Anne called to offer two boxes of Lisle mementos including, photos, 8-mm pix, letters to the Lisle archives at Toledo. Marty remembers, "I stayed in their home in an early recruiting trip—and recalled meeting Anne and her brother when they were little!! They were raised with no TV which impressed me to no end..."

Dr. Charles G. McCormick (CO '41, NY '41 & Leader-CO '46) of New York City passed away May 11, 2007. This information was received from his wife Ella in Jan. 2008.

Robert P. McCullagh (CA '43), passed away in 2007. His wife, Jeannine McCullagh <bjmcula@san.it.com>, reported that "Bob was a Lisle participant briefly during the summer of 1943 in LA as he waited to be drafted. He served three years in Civilian Public Service. We have made a small contribution to Lisle for many years and I will continue to do so as I am able. I wish you well with the Global Seed Fund." [And Blessings to you Jeannine, as well.]

George Naifeh (NY '48) of Aiken, SC passed away Nov.09, 2006. The Lisle office received this information on Jan 15, 2008.

A recent card from the Varney Family said that **Chuck Varney** (NY '47 & '48, CT '50) passed away peacefully on January 31, 2008. It went on to say Yoshi (his wife) can be reached by mail at Hearthstone, 426 W. North St., Whitewater, WI 53190. In conclusion the card says, "We know she would appreciate and better remember your written messages rather than a phone call."

Yoshi Ariki, who became Chuck's wife, was Uncle Si's assistant in the NY '48 Lisle unit. Chuck passed through Watkins Glen during that time and must have proposed to Yoshi before moving on. Yoshi was evidently considering it when Sam Barefield, one of the deputiation setup persons for that unit, took up a collection among unit members so that she could make a long distance call and respond to his proposal. A very good writeup of Chuck's life can be found (through Google) in the Whitewater Gazetteextra for Feb. 10, 2008.

Editor's Note: We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families of these fine people. 🌐



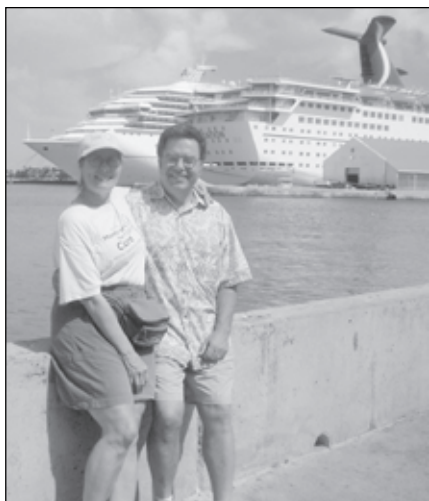
Lisle' Statement of Purpose

Lisle is committed to broadening the ideal of a global community and increasing the appreciation of all cultures. It does so by bringing together persons of diverse religious, cultural, sexual, political, and racial backgrounds to interact with each other, and to reflect upon their experiences. Lisle is committed to an educational process which emphasizes cooperative, democratic leadership and participation.

Lisle supports organizations and individuals that demonstrate diverse cultural and racial decision-making, planning, and administration. Lisle supports intercultural learning experiences in which participants enhance their communication skills, discover greater tolerance for different ideas, and gain greater respect for all life. Lisle supports projects that result in resolving conflicts, community building, and increased self-knowledge." 🌐

(Our Year of Travel, cont'd from page 19)

Ghosthunters combines some of my investigations of haunted locations across the country with interviews of paranormal celebrities. It also contains related chapters, such as buying haunted items on eBay, or taking ghost tours, which all go to show how an interest in the paranormal has become part of American pop culture. 🌐



Mary and John in Freeport on the paranormal cruise.

Publisher

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

Editor

Dianne G. Brause
Dexter, Oregon

Graphic Design & Layout

Elise Kimmons
Eugene, Oregon

Printed by

Western Oregon Web Press
Albany, OR

Contributing Authors

Barbara Bratton
Lori Bratton
Dianne Brause
Betsy Bridwell
Bharati Chaturvedi
Jon Findley
John Kachuba
Bill Kinney
Mark Kinney
Nancy Pearson Kinney
Walt & Betty Ligon
Diedre Murphy
Mary Newman
Smita Patel
Ray Steiner
Marty Tillman
Lane Winnet

Submissions Solicited!

We'd love to include your Lisle memories, travel stories, journal entries, poetry, artwork and photographs of unit participants and travel locations. You can download the submission guidelines from the website.

Please send your submissions to:
Dianne Brause: diannebr@lostvalley.org
AND
Elise Kimmons: eldkim@comcast.net



Clip, fold and mail



Lisle, Inc. Membership Form

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

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

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

Lisle 2008 Active Membership Fees

- Student or Reduced Income..... \$0-\$15
- Basic Member \$35-\$74
- Contributing Member \$75-\$149
- Supporting Member \$150-\$499
- Sustaining Member \$500-\$999
- Benefactor \$1000 and above
- Organizational Member \$200

Information you'd like to receive from Lisle:

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

Lisle Items for Sale

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

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

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

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone/E-mail _____

Units attended _____

Notes about your activities for the *Interaction* newsletter





LISLE, INCORPORATED

900 County Road 269, Leander, TX 78641

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

Website: www.lisleinternational.org

E-mail: lisle2@io.com

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #188
Albany, OR

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

MEETINGS

Annual Meeting	October 31-November 2, 2008	Austin, TX
Spring Board Meeting	May 2-3, 2009	Chicago, IL
Annual Meeting	October 23-25, 2009	Seattle, WA
Spring Board Meeting	May, 2010	Chicago, IL

