

Lisle *Interaction*

WINTER ISSUE • 2005

2004 Grantees Successfully Chosen!

By Marty Tillman

As you read more background about our first small grant awardees in this issue (see pages 3–5), I hope all Lislers and friends feel gratified about the outcome of our first grant-making effort. The Board was excited about the quality and diversity of the nine proposals that we received. We realized our goal to have each grant application tied to a Lisler who served the nominee as a mentor through the writing and review process. A team of three Board members, Marty Tillman, Mark Kinney and Beth Bader, acted as the Review Committee and set up the grant guidelines and timeline.



Our hard-working Board discusses the grant-making process.

With great intention, I think the committee and Board screening and review process was a very “Lisle-like” one. We did all we could to clarify and work closely with each nominee on their application. We asked questions and we dialogued to insure we fully understood their intention and program goals. We wanted each applicant to feel the process was both transparent and fair. This was important because

we knew we did not have sufficient funds available to make awards to more than a few applicants in this first round. At its conclusion, we received favorable feedback about the fairness of the review process from those who did not receive funding.

Once all questions were answered, the committee members created a point system to review each application. When there was a conflict, such as when one member was a mentor for an applicant, the member recused himself from reviewing that application. This

initial screening process resulted in a recommendation to the full Board of those applications deemed most worthy of funding. At the Annual Membership meeting in the fall, the Board had a chance to read and review all applications including those put forward for funding. There was the usual candid and open exchange of views and questioning which one would expect at a gathering of the Board! In the end, members felt proud of how much we had accomplished in

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the past year and of those applicants who would receive the first small grant awards.

As you will read elsewhere in this issue, throughout our deliberations at the fall meeting, we were aided by a team of Lislors and friends with long experience in making small grants. Thus, the meeting itself became a learning laboratory for the Board. We all felt that we would move into the coming new year with more confidence about our application and review process.

A big question is the continued involvement of Lislors as mentors to grant applicants. We encourage all Lislors to consider nominating and working with a community non-profit organization, either in their home community or overseas, who they think is deserving of consideration for the 2005 grant cycle! 🌐



Betsy, Marty and Jon hiked to the bridge over Anthony Creek.



Now these are happy Lislors at a closing circle!



Edith Ballard and Leslie Brockelbank found lots in common, even though they live on opposite sides of the country.



Marisa de Leon, of Eugene, and Barb Bratton enjoyed taking together.



Elise Kimmons, our newsletter layout diva, and Judy Brown meet again. They first met during a Lisle meeting at Judy and Jack's on Bainbridge Island seven years ago.



Grantee Highlight: Mountain Children's Forum

By Aditi Kaur

The Mountain Children's Forum (MCF), supported by a grant from Lisle, and mentored by Sharada Nayak will hold an educational workshop for children in the remote mountain villages of the Indian state of Uttaranachal, located in the Himalayan foothills in North India.



The stunning Trishul Himalyas in North India.

The six-day workshop will be held in the district of Pithoragarh, which borders Nepal and Tibet. 70 children from all over the state will be participating. During the workshop the children will stay in the homes of local villagers, giving them an opportunity to learn more about one another. In this mountainous terrain travel is difficult, and the young people rarely go far from their villages, let alone to another district.

Using music, games, art, field trips and other activities, the workshop is intended to help children discuss the important problems and issues in their lives, build leadership



Instruction in soil testing.

skills, learn more about the world around them and acquire new ways of thinking and new tools to address the problems in their communities. The topic of the workshop is education, particularly the high dropout rate of girls. However, this theme will be interlaced with discussions about the environment, leadership and citizenship, overcoming barriers between people, the rights (and responsibilities) of children and how they can help drive the forces of change in their own communities.


The MCF strives to include senior officials from the district and village governments in these meetings and discussions. That serves the dual purpose of making govern-

ment seem less intimidating and more accessible to the children, while also carrying the children's voices and concerns to the government officials. The outcomes of the workshop, including the children's discussions, will be shared with local and state governments as well as with Lisle.



Mr. Umesh Pandey warned against using fresh cowdung as fertilizer because it harbors a worm called Kurmula and is a highly destructive pest in this region

The Mountain Children's Forum (MCF) helps young people improve their lives by giving them a voice and a role in the development of their communities. The mountain communities where the participants will come from are remote, cut-off from resources and opportunities, and are made even more isolated by the difficult terrain that surrounds them: they have long been marginalized and forgotten. By tapping these community's energy and idealism, the MCF endeavors to create a platform from which the young people of the mountains can discuss their problems and work together to find solutions, and act as the ambassadors of the mountains.

The MCF is a non-profit organization, registered under the Indian Societies Act. For more information about the MCF, please see: www.mymountains.org. 

Editor's Note: Aditi Kaur is an energetic and thoughtful young man who co-led a Lisle trip to India with Dianne.



Hands-on learning about soil and planting.



Grantee Highlight: Service for Peace

By Mark Kinney

The vision of Service for Peace is a world of peace created by people serving others compassionately every day. This organization prepares conscientious people to take on the role of peacemakers. In 2002, Summer of Service began in Washington D.C. with 350 youth; it has since expanded to nine countries and 25 U.S. states. Oregon was one of many new sites for Service for Peace this past summer. Visit their website at: www.serviceforpeace.org.

The new chapter initiated the program, *Teen as Coach*, in August during a week-long program involving nearly 40 teens. Rose Ann Kennett and **Vicky Martin** (Bali '98, Leader Training '98, India '99) were the co-directors of the Oregon chapter of Service for Peace. In addition to coaching and mentoring talents, Rose Ann was a social worker for 16 years with at-risk youth. Vicky, an elementary school counselor, has taught peacemaking skills in schools and summer peace camps in the U.S. and overseas for 15 years. She also created a successful high school to elementary school mentoring program.

The *Teen as Coach* program is a unique mix of leadership, mentoring, mediation and professional life coaching. The researched benefits of mentoring prove that teens who help each other and the younger children they serve have increased self-esteem and are more equipped to contribute to their communities and families. The message and goal: *"Teenagers living with confidence and courage create lives*

of purpose, direction, and contribution." The program instills core leadership values through education and service to others. The summer service projects for 2004 were renovating an after-school teen center and mentoring/coaching elementary school students in a summer camp.

This grant will help build up this innovative program. For the next eight months, Rose Ann and Vicky will meet with 10–15 of the teens who began their training this past summer. They will provide continued leadership training in communication, coaching, conflict resolution, and community building for two hours each month. Each teen will find a younger child or peer to "buddy" coach. This will provide a foundation of peacemaking, leadership and service skills for each teen.

In addition, the co-directors will assist the teens in fundraising and writing other grants to meet their ultimate goal of working on an overseas project next summer, which will involve teaching, coaching and mentoring children. The plan is to work with an existing children's program in a country with historical and/or ongoing conflict between different racial, ethnic and/or cultural groups. In June, the co-directors will provide a two-day training to help prepare the teens to participate in this overseas project, which will take place in July and August, for 10–14 days.

Supporting an organization like this really does feel great, doesn't it? 🌐

These two pictures relate to Dianne Brause's article about her Sufi Pilgrimage into Turkey in the fall of 2004. Read about it on page 18.



Dianne enjoyed meeting playful cotton pickers in rural Turkey



The Church of Divine Wisdom, 6th century. It later became a mosque, and is now a museum.



Grantee Highlight: The Heart Place

By Abby Rosenheck

Shunku Llacta (meaning “heart place” in the Kichwa language) is a grassroots organization in northwest Ecuador that brings together local residents and international volunteers to advance rural community development projects. Lisle is generously supporting our trip in June 2005, when the communities of Guayabillas and Santa Rosa will host 10 international participants for 14 days.

The two communities are located in the rainforest of northwestern Ecuador and are so remote they can't be reached directly by car. Volunteers will work with community members on projects including building a community center, working with children in local elementary schools, and practicing sustainable forest management work. They'll enjoy homestays with local families and explore the beautiful and dramatic natural surroundings, including pristine rain forest, diverse native flora and fauna, waterfalls and swimming holes.

Volunteers will also meet with local community groups, including Community Councils, Artisans' Committees and Youth Committees from both communities. Together, international and local participants will create a community action project in order to work together, learn from each other, and promote Shunku Llacta's mission of developing sustainable and viable economic opportunities for the communities.

This project will outlast the duration of the trip, allowing the local communities and the volunteers' home communities to benefit from cross-cultural exchange and cooperation after the trip is over. The trip will end with a community celebration bringing together both local communities and the volunteers for a night of traditions, music, Ecuadorian cooking and fun.

To learn more about the project or to participate: e-mail: shunkullacta@yahoo.com or call Abby at (415) 648-4596. You can also search for Shunku Llacta at www.Idealist.org for the full volunteer description.

Abby Rosenheck is the granddaughter of Vede Rosenheck (Lisle '39). Besides working with Shunku Llacta, Abby works as a garden educator in San Francisco public middle schools and is starting a non-profit to support urban school gardens, called Burbank Sprouts. 🌍



Freshly picked cacao pods, a crop grown in the region, are ready to make into chocolate.



Pristine, protected rainforest that surrounds the communities.



The home of some American ex-pat farmers who will help in hosting volunteers.



President's Message

As I write, we've just concluded the fall Annual Membership Meeting held in Dexter, Oregon at the Lost Valley Educational Center. It was a very significant meeting because the Board reviewed the work of the new Mini-Grants Committee which screened nine terrific applications for small grants. For the past year, the Board has energetically moved to implement our new innovative grant effort to support both U.S.-based and international nonprofit organizations engaged in good works which reflect Lisle's mission and philosophy.

Over this past year, many Lislors and friends have written to me and to others expressing their views about the new direction which Lisle has taken.

Most of you have expressed strong support for our new initiative. A few others have been disappointed. I want to say that I hope you will continue to express your views to me, to the Board members (*see the "Board Development article on the facing page for their names"*) or the Lisle office. And, I hope you are enthusiastic to read the summaries of the first group of projects we agreed to fund in this issue, and to see the focus of others we could not support. There was a very dynamic response to our first request for proposals! Also noteworthy was the effort of nine Lisle mentors to both identify these projects and most importantly, volunteer to work with these organizations on their proposals and mentor staff leaders through our grant review process.

We all took heart that individual donations to Lisle during the past year were above our budget projections! At a time of distress in many local state economies, and with many of us deeply concerned about the direction of our foreign policy, Lislors remained loyal to Lisle and our work.



Lisle President, Marty Tillman

Well, thanks to everyone for their long journeys into the woods!! We had a very productive time together. Thanks, Elise for meeting us all! Thanks to Edith for trekking West and for your gift to support furthering creation of a viable alumni database. Thanks a heap Dianne for all that you did and for the support of your community in so many ways (for me, I loved the salmon dinner!!). And, of course, thanks to Lane for your good efforts to pull things together for us all. Everyone on the Board is deeply grateful for your continued support.

Mark your calendars for the Spring meeting in Chicago at the ICA again. We decided to establish

this site as our annual Spring meeting site. The dates are March 18–20. Plan to arrive by 6PM on the 18th. We'll meet until noon on the 20th. We also set up Philadelphia as our fall annual meeting site with a date to be confirmed.

Mark has already sent out drafts for the three grant acceptance letters as well as those to the organizations we want to review again at the spring meeting. I hope we make progress in coming months on revisions on our web site and also work together on launching our next grants cycle! I hope you are feeling rejuvenated by our discussions and proud of our new direction and the potential impacts expected.

We have great expectations for our grants initiative in 2005 and hope that you will continue to support our efforts to serve as a catalyst to individuals working for change and intercultural understanding in communities here and overseas. Best wishes in the New Year. Please write me online at mjtillman47@aol.com. 🌐

Marty

Calling All Mentors!

We want to thank the Lislors who stepped forward to serve as mentors on our very first finding cycle. They include: Craig Jacobson and George Taylor, Judy Brown, Betsy Bridwell, Leyla Welkin, Ling Chin, and Marty Tillman.

In order for our new structure to work, we need **You** to become a mentor for the 2005 funding cycle. See Mark's Executive Director's Report for further detail on how to be involved in this process. 🌐



Executive Director's Report

The past few months have been very interesting as Lisle has received and evaluated grants for the first time in many years, if ever. During our Annual Meeting this fall, we chose three creative proposals to fund. You can read about them on pages three, four and five.

Now we are planning to repeat a similar grant cycle for 2005, through sending out RFP (request for proposal) information in the spring, accepting proposals at the end of the summer, evaluating them in the fall, and deciding on funding during the fall board meeting. We plan on having reports on the results of the first set of awardees to share at the Annual Meeting next October.

Shortly, we hope to have a revision of the Website up and running which will provide information regarding our funding purpose, cycle, process, and evaluation. Look for that by the end of the winter.

As we all know, the reports and pictures of the earthquake and tsunami in southeast asia are astounding. The Lisle board is committed to being part of the long-term response to this disaster. We are specifically asking for help in receiving targeted proposals for funding during our spring-



Executive Director, Mark Kinney

fall grant funding period. Please know that the board is also taking steps to ask individuals with whom we have contacts to put together proposals

If you know of someone who has connections to the affected areas, please help them put together a proposal for a Lisle grant. There are several approaches to doing this. Of course, you can create a proposal yourself. But in addition, you could become a Lisle Mentor to someone else, Lisle or not; or you could help to link a prospective applicant to me and I will find someone to be the Lisle Mentor for their proposal. These grants are for up to \$3000 to assist in a project which furthers Lisle's mission in the world.

If you would like further information about the RFP guidelines, either look back at the spring/summer 2004 Interaction, or call or email the Lisle office for a packet of materials. You can email me at mark.kinney@utoledo.edu or call 989-595-3667 to discuss your ideas.

Thank you for your continuing support of Lisle! 🌐

Mark

Mark Your Calendars

The Spring Board Meeting will be held this March 18–20, 2005. We'll return to the International Conference Center in Chicago, Illinois.

The conference center is run by the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA), an organization whose mission is very much in harmony with Lisle's philosophy. ICA is involved in sustainable community development and social innovation around the world and is concerned about the human factor in international development. If you would like to learn more about ICA, visit the website at www.ica-usa.org.

The conference center is located just a few blocks from Lake Michigan in an ethnically diverse and historically interesting neighborhood.

Plan to arrive by 6PM on the evening of the 18th. We'll be done by noon on the 20th. Call Lane Winnett at the Lisle office (800-477-1538) for details and to make your reservation! 🌐



The ICA building faces the Lake Michigan shoreline.



Fall Board and Annual Meeting

October 28–31, 2004

By Betsy Bridwell

The Lisle Board of Directors and a few other friends of Lisle gathered in Dexter, Oregon in late October for our fall Board meeting and Annual meeting. Dianne Brause was our generous and delightful hostess at the Lost Valley Educational Center, where we enjoyed delicious vegetarian meals, walks through the woods, meadows and gardens, and festive activities and entertainment, in addition to our formal meeting time. We had to dodge a few raindrops, but I think we all appreciated our time in this peaceful setting.



We had lovely weather and Barb, Nancy, Mark, Betsy and Edith enjoyed getting out into the sun!

In addition to Board members Marty Tillman, Mark Kinney, Jon Findley, Leyla Welkin, Dianne Brause, Betsy Bridwell, Barb Bratton, and Mary Newman, we were joined by Lisle friends Nancy Kinney, Judy Brown, and Edith Ballard. Several guests also attended some of our sessions to share valuable information about small grant-making endeavors as Lisle embarks on this new direction for the organization.

Barb distributed the annual budget for review and discussion by the board. Office expenses are very low because Lane is currently spending minimal time on Lisle business. There are very few phone calls and the grant informational mailing process is now in place. We are very pleased that Lisle did not lose its financial base of membership dues as a result of our structural change. And for the most part, Lislers have been very positive and supportive of our current work. The board discussed the use of restricted funds such as the Bagoes Oka and Edelman (which are set up to support people attending Lisle programs) in light of our new direction. We agreed to look into the possibility of

releasing the restrictions on Bagoes Oka as well as soliciting grant proposals specifically for Bali programs. During our next round of grant reviews, if there is an appropriate grant proposal, we will consider using the Edelman scholarship fund to support minority involvement in a program.

There was a discussion of our membership in both NAFSA and IVPA, for which we pay a total of \$500 in annual dues.

Since both of these organizations serve providers of international and intercultural programs, we felt that it was no longer appropriate to spend Lisle funds on membership dues. It was a difficult decision in many ways, because Lisle was a founding member of NAFSA, but there isn't a compelling practical reason for continuing now that we are not conducting programs ourselves.

The perpetual discussion of the New York land was again on the agenda! The real estate agent has cautioned Lisle that the land is difficult to sell because of its inaccessibility.



Mark gets some pointers about organic gardening from Rick Valley.



Dianne giving a "walk and talk" about the natural landscaping at Lost Valley.



We have been paying \$400 annually in taxes for 30 years, but we have also realized income by logging. Since the Lisle land is surrounded by timber company land, the board authorized Mark to pursue selling to the timber company and to sell the land if he determines it is appropriate.

Restructuring the Lisle website was discussed, particularly in terms of designing it to reflect who we are now and the work we are doing. We need to have grant information and application forms online for applicants, and yet be clear that we do not take unsolicited applications—we are continuing to invite applications through Lisle mentors. We also want the information available for prospective donors.

The board continued its discussion of the upcoming 70th anniversary in 2006 and the ways we might celebrate the event. Among the things considered were: holding our fall meeting in Ann Arbor; holding a special summer event somewhere; encouraging special contributions from Lislers (\$70? \$700?); a trip to the archives at the University of Toledo; collecting Lisle memorabilia, photos, and/or written thoughts for some kind of publication or CD Rom.



Nancy and Leyla enjoyed the fall colors and water music of Anthony Creek.

The board confirmed new terms for some members whose current terms are expiring: Mary Newman, John Kachuba, Jon Findley, and Gail Bier renewed for another 3-year term, through 2007. Betsy Bridwell and Leyla Welkin will continue for an additional year, through 2005. Marty Tillman announced his last term as president (through 2007) and wants the board to begin considering candidates for his replacement.

Most of our time was spent on matters directly related to the grant process. We were particularly pleased to welcome several guests who shared their experience and wisdom as both givers and receivers of small grants.

Leslie Brockelbank of the Mackenzie River Gathering foundation and Cary Thomson of Helios Foundation talked

about the focus of their organizations, the grant process they follow, and general ideas and advice for us as we begin to implement our own grant-making process. *(See article on page 13)*

Carolezoom Patterson, who currently fundraises for DIVA (Downtown Initiative for the Visual Arts) in Eugene, has long been involved in grassroots organizing and advocacy for social change issues, particularly on disability issues. She shared ideas with us about fundraising and tapping small family foundations that might be interested in supporting the grantwork Lisle is now doing.

Kayse Jama and Stephanie Stephens, founders of the Community Language and Culture Bank (CLCB) in Portland, spent an evening sharing the work that they do and how small grants have been instrumental in their success. It was very inspiring to hear how CLCB grew out of grassroots organizing by Portland-area refugees and immigrants after 9/11 to counter the mistrust and fear among the community's diverse citizenry. CLCB fosters intercultural understanding through educational programming, cultural sensitivity trainings, and open forums on pressing issues.

Mark and Marty gave the Board a report of the process of the grant committee, which also included Beth Bader for the actual review of applications. Brian Palmer and Barb Bratton were involved initially in getting the process established, but are currently inactive. The committee spent a lot of time reviewing applications and discussing how the process could be improved, and how we might be clearer in soliciting information.

They then reviewed the nine proposals, gave more detailed information on each project, and explained the ranking/rating system and how they made their decisions. The committee recommended three projects for funding this year, at \$3000 each, for a total of \$9000. The board approved these awardees after an extended discussion. I think many appreciated what a difficult process this was because of the quality of the applicant organizations and the work that they are doing. There were certainly more than three that we would like to support if we had the funds. Perhaps our funds will grow in future years!



Nancy is all smiles!

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The board discussed the whole mentoring process and how we might do a better job of helping people who aren't experienced in writing grants but who have exciting projects that we might like to support. We also discussed bringing new members onto the grant committee and how we might encourage not only Board members but other Lisle friends to join in the process.



Barb, Nancy, Edith, Betsy and Mark standing in front of the mural on the chicken coop.

Finally we planned locations for future meetings. We will hold the Spring 2005 Board Meeting in Chicago again this year, at the Institute of Cultural Affairs conference center. Because Sharada Nayak will be in the country at that time, we will have the meeting slightly earlier than usual—March 18–20. We are thrilled that Sharada will be able to join us! There was some discussion of making Chicago our regular spring meeting site because the facility works so well and the city is centrally located. Philadelphia will be explored as a location for the Fall 2005 Board and Annual Meeting, most likely on the second or third weekend of October.



Marisa de Leon shares about the school she started in Uruguay 50 years ago.

Regrets were sent from Board members and Lisle “regulars” who usually attend. They included John Kachuba, Gail Bier, Beth Bader, Bill Kinney, Kristin Currin, Chris and Dean Coons, Norma Stephens, J.J. Smith, Helen St. John and Portia Foster. 🌐

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The Wizard of All Delights Lislars

By Jon Findley

On the Friday night of our stay at Lost Valley, we were treated to a performance of “The Wizard of All” by a group called Urgent Carnival from Eugene. It was their 13th and last performance of the season, and we enjoyed it thoroughly. With tongue in cheek, the players led us down the “oil-slick road.”



Dorothy and companions encounter the cowardly lion in the Haunted Forest.

We followed along as Dorothy and Toto went looking for their democracy. They were directed toward the Emerald City by a good witch. On their way, they encountered Scarecrow Bush, Cheney the Tinman, and Rumsfeld the Lion. These three had wonderful costumes and personalities to match the public figures they represented. Many of the obstacles they encountered had environmental themes and were associated with familiar logos of big business in the world today.

This band of roving players did a masterful job, from the sets to the costumes to the music. We are grateful for their insight and encouragement and wish them the best of luck in the future. I fear that they will have no lack of material for encore performances in the next political cycle. Like they were doing, some of us are still searching! 🌐



The “Wizard of All” performs its last song. Creative, playful and sharp!



In the Midst of Transition, Lisle Remains a Vital Force

By Carolezoom Patterson

In 2000 I came to Lost Valley to meet with Lislers from around the country and be a part of the first organizational leadership training. Attracted to Lisle through the considered and thoughtful presence of Mark Kinney at the Council conference, I decided to get more information and explore the Lisle “style” while it was in my own back yard. I found the group to be intriguing and the weekend to be challenging. Consensus decision-making, valuing diversity, allowing the group process, honoring dialogue and relationship. Lisle seemed a perfect match for my inclinations and I joined up.



Carolezoom Patterson, Eugenean and fellow Lisler, who offered her expertise in grant-making.

I’m a community organizer. Trained by the Industrial Areas Foundation in the Saul Alinsky style of organizing, I have used a one-on-one relationship building method of organizing for social justice and political change for more than half my life. Born with muscular dystrophy, much of my work has been centered on the struggle for equal rights for people with disabilities in US and abroad. I worked for six years at Mobility International USA in leadership exchange programs building the movement of people with disabilities worldwide. While I’ve not been on a Lisle “unit,” my passion for international exchange, social justice and the power of human relationships were a great match for Lisle.

This fall I had the opportunity to meet with the Lisle Board at Lost Valley again, this time to discuss fundraising around the newest Lisle grant-making initiative. Strikingly, despite the years passed and the little contact I’ve had, the resonance with Lisle is still there. In our brief conversation, the values we share rang through. Meeting just after the election, our hope held strong despite the outcome of the election, as did our passion for cross-cultural understanding in the aftermath of war in Iraq. The social and economic injustices were heavy on our minds. Yet Lisle is still going strong. I found the power of this small group of Lislers impressive: coming together year after year, putting personal energy and a modest amount of resources into a consistent, positive agenda. Lisle continues to make important things happen.

I found it heartening to share a moment with folks with whom I hold values in common and who are acting out those values globally. Lisle has changed a great deal since my first encounter—staffing, priorities, funding, a new direction in grant-making. Yet Lisle is finding a new place for itself in this global reality.

My life, too, has changed immensely in the four years since my initial contact with Lisle. I have always used a wheelchair. But I recently had a tracheotomy and now use a ventilator full time. I went from a footloose, fancy-free life of complete autonomy to a web of interdependent relationships that help me do the most basic tasks of everyday life. I am no longer in the field of international exchange; my day to day work is no longer social justice organizing. Actually, my work in the political sphere has largely been translated into using art to express my political and personal reality. In addition to my own artwork, I am currently organizing participation in a new community art center in downtown Eugene, the Downtown Initiative for the Visual Arts.

Seeing the art center coming together and seeing Lisle transforming, I have great respect for the power of people to make good things happen at a local level. Following the recent presidential election, I found myself expressing one thing over and over again to anyone who would listen: that the energy folks put into the election every four years could be refocused to the local level where steady and regular participation would make a difference. If we can get people

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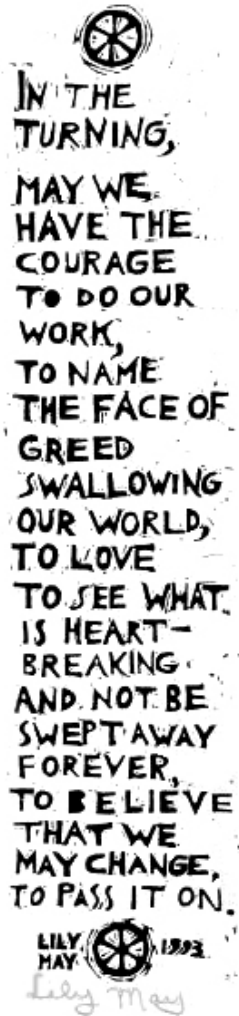


to put a tenth of the energy they put into the national election into holding local and regional politicians accountable and working at their local level during the next four years, we will change the nation despite the setback of the election.

This beautiful woodblock pictured below, by Canadian artist Lily May*, put my sentiments clearly.

So Lislers, “continue to believe in change, and pass it on!”

Carolezoom Patterson is a Lisle member, an artist and the program manager for DIVA: Downtown Initiative for the Visual Arts at 110 West Broadway in Eugene. Visit her website at www.carolezoom.com, and check out DIVA at www.divanow.org. 🌐



**Lily S. May, woodblock on canvas, 1993.
Reprinted by permission.*

Purchase this and other original artwork at www.artsofmay.com.

Thanks to All!

By Dianne Brause

I want to give special thanks to Cary Thompson, Leslie Brockelbank, Kayse Jama, Stephanie Stephens and Carolzoom Patterson for their wonderful contributions to our Annual Meeting. Their knowledge and experiences in both giving and receiving grants was invaluable for Lisle. It was great to spend time with each of them and to get to know more about their programs.

Everyone on the board was impressed and we appreciated their willingness to spend their weekend time to support our growth and development as a nonprofit organization. I hope we will stay in contact!



Kayse Jama and Stephanie Stephens, founders of the Community Language and Culture Bank

We want to thank the Lisle committee that helped organize this time together: Dianne, Betsy Bridwell and Leyla Welkin. Without the capable “Service and Sacred Space Department” of Lost Valley, we would not have had such comfortable places to meet and sleep. Special kudos to the kitchen staff for preparing wonderful food that kept us going!

Thanks also to Lisle guests, Edith Ballard and Marisa de Leon. Edith traveled all the way from Baltimore, where she spends many hours tracking down and re-connecting with Lislers from around the world. Marisa, who lives in Eugene, brought a CD from a school for disabled children in Uruguay, her home country, that she founded many years ago. The school was the first of its kind in Latin America, and has since become a model and showplace for the Western Hemisphere. 🌐



Helios Resource Network

By Cary Thompson

I have been working in the Eugene community for many years and have had several small successful businesses. Since the local citizens supported me, I have more recently been giving back to them in time and money as a participant in non-profit and community organizations.



Cary Thompson, Mark and Marty talk during the dinner Saturday night.

Part of this work revolves around giving grants to small local groups who are doing good work for social change. Our latest grant program is based on a matching grant model which requires grant participants to come up with money from their friends and co-workers, as well as new donors, to involve others in the process.

The current program is working very well. We have given out over \$7000 to eleven Lane County nonprofit

groups in the past two years, and we're justifiably proud. You can see all our grantees at: www.heliosnetwork.org. Click on the "Matching Grants" link.

Helios is busy with the following projects as well:

Sustainability Indicators Project: The Indicators project gives the residents of Lane County direct feedback about how their community is doing in terms of their social, economic and natural environment.

Local First Lane County: This public education campaign encourages Lane County residents to support and promote our locally owned businesses.

Liaison with the University of Oregon and Lane Community College: Creation of increasing dialog between "town and gown" is essential for our community and its sustainability.

Sustainable Eugene Listserv: A listserv related to sustainability in the Eugene-Springfield area.

Website: We're updating our directories of community organizations, businesses, and resource people, in addition to creating information sheets on local resources on a variety of topics.

Directories: Comprehensive directories for the Eugene-Springfield area, including community organizations, businesses, and resource people.

Facilitated Connections: We help facilitate connections among the public, community organizations, and institutions and agencies. 🌐

To My Fellow Lislars Who are "Getting On"

By Judy Brown

I have just come back from the Annual Meeting of Lisle at Lost Valley Education Center, near Eugene, Oregon. The experimental, spunky Lisle spirit was so tangible at that meeting that although there were not as many of us there, it was still as invigorating a Lisle Meeting as I've been to.

The agenda was simple. Nine proposals had been submitted for grants and we considered them all carefully and chose three to fund that excited and suggested that two others re-work and re-submit. In other places in this issue you'll be able to read about the proposals we funded.

My purpose in writing this is different. I have an idea I want to suggest to you who have the chance of tweaking your wills. I have not as yet included Lisle as one of my

legacies because quite honestly, I didn't know if Lisle had the commitment and enthusiasm to go on.

Actually, I don't think it did have the energy to go on in the old way. Recruitment was ever more difficult and took too much of our energy. But this new grant-giving format means that Lisle's mission and goals can not only go on, but spread out, and I find it very exciting. So exciting that I'm going to include Lisle in my will now with the faith and assurance it will continue alive and well for an inestimable period.

I'm writing this to encourage the others of you who have had transformative experiences with Lisle to consider doing the same. Think about it! 🌐



Board Development

By Marty Tillman

We are fortunate to have all current Board members returning to serve Lisle for the coming year, with one exception: Brian Palmer. Brian has relocated to Sweden where he is teaching, but he has consented to remain engaged with Lisle through an Associate role.

The role of a Lisle Associate provides a means for continued involvement for those not able to serve fully by attending meetings. Lisle Associates receive all Board materials and remain on the Board's email list. Associate members include: Kristin Currin, OR; Bill Kinney, IL; and Nancy Jo Zinner, CA.

We have a relatively small Board now but one with much depth in experience in international education, grant-making and past leadership of Lisle programs. They represent all regions of the country: Beth Bader, VA; Gail Bier, LA; Barbara Bratton, TX; Dianne Brause, OR; Betsy Bridwell, WA; Jon Findley, AZ; John Kachuba, OH; Mark Kinney, MI; Mary Newman, OH; Marty Tillman, DC; and Leyla Welkin, WA.

Given our new direction, Lislers with current or recent experience with grant-making, foundations or philanthropic work are especially encouraged to consider helping out. If you are interested in becoming a Board member, feel free to contact Marty Tillman at mjtillman47@aol.com. 🌐

Lisle Still Needs You

By John Kachuba

Have you been wondering how you can remain involved with Lisle as we follow our new direction? There are several ways in which you can still devote your time, talents, and resources to Lisle activities.

You can serve as a mentor for a worthwhile project that could use some funding from Lisle in order to become successful. Or, how about making a financial contribution to Lisle so that we can fund a greater number of deserving projects, or projects that are of particular interest to you?

You could participate in Lisle grantee project by visiting them or offering them your personal abilities and resources.

Please come to Lisle annual meetings and reunions to stay connected with fellow Lislers and to explore new opportunities for involvement. The meetings are great places to share your news, joys and successes with other Lislers. You can also submit them as an article to *Interaction*.

Party down! Get involved with planning Lisle's upcoming 70th anniversary celebration.

Lisle's new direction still relies on some old traditions, namely that of volunteerism and financial support from Lislers. There's much to be done and we hope you will join us. 🌐

A Lisle Gathering

By Judy Brown

If you were in Lisle's California 1954 program or Turkey-1997, or India-2000, or Holland-2003, you are specially invited to a gathering that will take place in the Pacific Northwest based at Judy Brown's home and a camp nearby on Bainbridge Island.

The dates are August 16-19, 2005. A core of participants who enjoys connecting decided to get together to enjoy each other and speak about our current enthusiasms.

If you were in one of those programs, and would like to join us even if you don't know many of us, we invite you to contact Judy Brown. Write her at: 14906 Sunrise Drive, Bainbridge Island, Washington 98110 U.S.A. Or telephone Judy at (206) 842-3772, or email her at jubrown7@juno.com. We'd like to have others attend! 🌐

Finance Report

By Barbara Bratton

Lisle's endowed funds continue to grow in value as the stock market recovers. The finance committee is re-evaluating the investment "mix" at this time to focus on socially responsible funds with dividend/growth return. We have been very pleased with the performance of our major holdings. Cash, stock and bond assets at this time are valued at \$198,964 and we still own the 50 acres of land in New York we hope to sell for \$15,000.

Response to requests for dues have continued to be high. Historically, we have taken in \$13,967 in 2000, \$17,022 in 2001, \$11,926 in 2002, \$18,704 in 2003 and \$14,180 in 2004. Requests for support for the new fiscal year went out in November and we are received memberships as we speak. Thanks to all who continue their financial support of Lisle! 🌐



2004—A Great Year for Grants

By Mark Kinney

We received nine grant proposals this year, with funding requests ranging from \$300 to \$3500. The three proposals we funded are highlighted on pages 3–5. The screening committee had quite a hard job selecting the projects, and we were, frankly, quite disappointed that we could not fund the following grants as well.

Northwest Indian Cultural Immersion, submitted by Craig Jacobson and George Taylor (fellow Lislers) is a program for bringing native and non-native youth together during the summer for a travel and work experience in the Pacific Northwest.

Destitute School Girls Computer Training, submitted by Beriso Tusse and mentored by Judy Brown, wanted to fund part of a larger project in Ethiopia which assists young girls to enter the workplace, overcome drug addiction, and improve decision making within the community.

Global Leadership Class Scholarship Fund, mentored by Betsy Bridwell, asked for funds to support six students of color and low income to participate in a Global Leadership Class in their high school in the Seattle. Year-long coursework would provide college credits and 60 hours of public service which the HS requires for graduation.

Cultural Awareness in Education, mentored by Leyla Welkin, asked for funds to assist in developing the European and Turkish connections for a project to bring teachers together to learn how to increase their sensitivity to the cultural, racial, gender, and linguistic differences in these parts of the world.

Day of Giving, submitted by Ling Chin, called for assistance with a middle school project to expose and engage the students to giving to those less fortunate, through working with a measles eradication project.

Operation Understanding DC, mentored by Marty Tillman, plans to assist Jewish and African-American students to participate in a year-long study of civil rights, with the goal being to eradicate discrimination through education and dialogue, and ultimately a change in attitude.

These projects are in line with Lisle's fundamental vision of bringing diverse people together to learn from one another and create a world that is more committed to world-mindedness. Your contributions to Lisle this year will make it possible for us to make more grants in the future. 🌐

Double the Grants for 2005?

By Mark Kinney

It is heart warming to know that our grants will make a difference in India, Ecuador and the Pacific Northwest. We'd like to do more! Can we double the grants Lisle will give next year? By so doing we will have more good news to share in future *Interactions*, and can help people in even more countries!

Now is a time when you can give a monetary gift to Lisle enjoying the effect it will have. It's a way to "walk your talk." Be an ambassador to the world and let others know of the good work which Lisle is doing. Show your friends this issue and ask them to participate in funding similar projects. Ask them to leverage their good intentions by giving a gift to Lisle.

Maybe someday in the not-too-distant future, a Lisle program will visit and participate with one of these funded programs. Wouldn't that be exciting? 🌐

Join the Celebration

By Nancy Kinney

Did you know that Lisle will be 70 in 2006? Can you believe that for almost seventy years people from many countries of the world have been communicating and working together to appreciate one another's cultures and contributions while under the leadership of Lisle?

How would you like to commemorate our 70th year? Do you have ideas for a theme, a logo? Would you like to help plan or host the Annual meeting? Do you have a special place where you would like to celebrate this anniversary? Would you like to meet some of the grantees chosen by the Board to receive Lisle funds for their projects? Would you like to find longlost members from your unit?

We invite you to send us your ideas. The committee will select the best ones and will contact you for further clarification. Let us know how you want to be involved!

Send your ideas to the Lisle office, lisle2@io.com, or mail to the Lisle office: 900 County Road 269, Leander TX 76401. 🌐



June (Holtzendorf) Ammirati (CA '50) "I am glad to hear about Lisle's new direction. Seems like a good move. Sorry I can't be active, but appreciate all that the Board and active Lislers do."

Konrad Borst (CO '53, Denmark '54, Germany '59) wrote: "My turning point was under the watchful eye of the Baldwins in Denver, Colorado, about 1953, and Celeste McCollough was the great helper. If she is available, I request you to transmit my greetings. Frankfurt was also a great experience. Judy Brown helped me very much with her book *A Glove on my Heart*. Also it was a joy to meet Tillman as a joint friend of Basic Education in India. Sigrid Kern née Gewinner disappeared from my radar screen although she lives nearby. I enjoy the approach of Dianne Brause in her article on Palestine: the worst situation anywhere it seems to me. I am a Lisler and proud to be one! Thank you, continue this mission, implement your decisions, why not change the approach? At the end, everything between heaven and earth is decided between persons in a non-profit setting, and there are a myriad ways to achieve that."

Jean Brookhart (CO '45) wrote from Huntington Beach, CA. She was asked to talk about Lisle at her church and wrote, "I surely stressed the value of Lisle."

Chris & Dean Coons (CO '46, Fam Camp '61, Bali '91, Costa Rica '96, Leader Training '98) while missing the Annual meeting this fall, did pass through Eugene to visit with Marisa de Leon. Chris has had some health challenges recently and is doing much better. She's even been doing water exercise and aerobics. She and Dean are keeping busy with kids and grandkids. They are also very active in community service, working with homeless shelters, the Kerry election and the ACLU.

Della K. Cowing (Bali '91 & '92, Leader Training '98) wrote "Ken and I have not been in contact with our e-mail for awhile. We are just beginning to get used to Don's absence. Whatever mood he was in, he left a large footprint, and we are surely missing having him around." Ken has been experiencing heart trouble and Lisle friends are invited to write him at: 704 Harborgate, Charlotte, NC 28031-7082.

Cora Belle (Walburn) Crane (CO '45) retired from 23 years' teaching. She is active in Retired Teachers (CA) and is an HICAP Counselor.

Kristin Currin (Leader Training '98, Costa Rica '98 & '99) traveled in Africa from September until early November. She and her partner helped build a new Kindergarten school in a squatter village of about 350 people on

the coast of Kenya. They were planning to continue on to Uganda and South Africa. She has mentioned the grant opportunities to many people of worthy projects.

Carolyn (Black) Dougall (DC '62 & '64) wrote "My husband and I have enjoyed travel in the US, Canada & S.A. recently. I teach ESL to ex-patriots in the Knoxville area and am active in The Presbyterian Church and Recording for the Blind."

Jim Elsmann (CA '58) an attorney now living in Bloomfield Hills, MI, wrote "Lisle was formative. I learned the reality that there were other non-American languages, lands, peoples and peoples hurting. Back then Jesus was at the center of Lisle, but in a very kind way." He hosted Russians during the Cold War, worked inside Chino Prison, worked the fields with Mexican Braceros and a Black minister in the Oakland Ghetto. "Uncle Si was a big influence in my life. With his help I went to Harvard Divinity School...later to Michigan Law School."

Marna Feldt (CO '56, Jamaica '57, India '90) wrote confirming that Frank and Lucy Buchanan led Jamaica '57 unit. It was Leslie Brockelbank with Charles Gray who led in Jamaica '56.

Joyce (Walker) Hardin (CO '46, NY '47, Fam. Camp '56 & '61, Elderhostel '90 & '91, Bali '92 and OK '93) "I like the new direction. I appreciate all the work everyone does and have done thru the years! Most of my time is taken up caring for my husband, Fred Hardin. (Fred was a Lisle participant over the years).

Sybil (Wong) Kyi (DC '54) reports that she retired from Hawaii State Government Service in December 2003. Sybil is involved in some local community volunteer work and national educational networks. She loves spending time exploring, doing projects and playing with grandkids!

Betty and Walt Ligon (we know who they are!) spent a week at a ranch/retreat center near Dubois WY, where they were "dudes" during the day and participants in the evening ecumenical seminars led by John B. Cobb, a process theologian. Topics of discussion included "Empire and Ecology", what is happening to people and resources, the widening gap between rich and poor on a global scale, and how the current era of "economism" will lead to disaster. Their 12 year-old grandson attended with them and got a lot out of it.

Karen Marie Metzler (Cuba '80) is writing a chapter on adulthood for the Harvard textbook on lifetime development of developmental responsibilities. Her work is to be edited by Dr. Allen Crocker.



Brian Palmer (India '82, former Bd. Member) is now teaching political engagement and democracy full time at a teacher's college in Stockholm, Sweden. He hopes to keep in touch with the Board's work by being a Lisle Associate.

Catherine Peters (CO '49 & '51, Bali '88) is a retired schoolteacher in New York City. Catherine has attended several annual meetings over the years.

Viola Rosenheck (NY '39) writes that "the proposed new direction makes sense to me!"

Mercia (Lockyer) Stewart (CO '49, MI '49) reports she is still active in church and some community activities, especially at a center for Spiritual Enlightenment in San Jose, CA.

Claire (Stone) Santway (CO '49, CN '52) "I am still alive at 78! I hope to become a 'Lisle Mentor', and spread my precious Lisle experience to work with a mini-grant to a local program for teenagers who are at risk. I think the new direction for Lisle is an excellent development."

Dr. Irving Smith (CO '42) Dr. Smith took part in an Alaskan Cruise for Christian singles and couples in July 1998. He presented powerful Biblical portrayals of Adam, King David, Peter and Paul.

Helen Baker St. John (Uganda '94, Hawaii '95) and husband made a six-week trip across the back roads of the United States in the summer of 2004 in their camper van. Helen also hiked in Switzerland this past fall. She also mentioned "I always enjoy receiving the Lisle Interaction. It's always enjoyable to catch up on the news of members and hear about new places."

Ray Steiner (NY '40) is proud to be "86 years old and counting", and has been married to wife Phyllis for 58 years. They live in Presque Isle, MI. They have five children, nine grandchildren and just welcomed their first great-grandchild in October 2004. They had the "good fortune" of meeting neighbors Mark and Nancy Kinney recently, saying "Never thought I would meet Uncle Si's nephew!" He remembers that his six-week Lisle Unit in the summer of 1940 was his happiest summer, meeting Aunt Edna and then Uncle Si at that time. He claimed, "1940 Lislers are scarce!"

Mary Anne (Graham) Tiley (NY '47) lives on the St. Clair River in Michigan. She works part time as secretary at a Methodist Church. Mary Anne has been married 54 years to Arden and they have three children, grandchildren and one great grandchild. "Because of Lisle, I went to Scarritt, worked for New Detroit Speakers Bureau (anti-racism teaching) and took part in Ecumenical

Institute, teacher of church school teachers, PTA and YMCA activities and Amnesty International Freedom Writer and Habitat for Humanity. "So keep Lisle going so others can be led to impact those around them. I hope I have. It's been a fascinating ride! ... Thanks for keeping Lisle alive and well and making us all channels of peace, joy and love."

Yolanda Arguedas-Retana "Hola amigos. Cómo han estado? Espero todo bien en sus vidas. Hace mucho no se nada de ustedes pero bueno. Disculpen. No los he olvidado. Solo es que no había tenido el tiempo. Estoy muy feliz. Soy mama! Mi hija tiene tres meses ya. Se llama Alisson. Bueno todo el embarazo y tenerla fue complicado pero ya gracias a Diós paso todo y todo está bien. Espero seguir en contacto con todos, que están bien, Un abrazo de su amiga!

Translation by Elise: Hi friends. How have you all been? I hope all is well in your lives. It's been a long time since I know anything about you all, but OK. Forgive me. I haven't forgotten you. It's just that I haven't had time. I am very happy: I am a mother! My daughter is three months old. She is named Alisson. My pregnancy was fine, but to have her was complicated. But thanks to God, everything went well and it's good. I hope to continue being in touch with you all, and that you all are well. A hug from your friend!

Editor's note: Yolanda was one of the first Costa Rican youth who joined our program, traveling with the group to other parts of her home country where she'd never been. Since then she has lived in Germany and Canada, learning the languages. She is now a host and guide for ecotourism in her home community.

Earl Downing (past Board member and Leader Training '98) continues to encourage people to participate in "Volunteers in Mission" trips to Poland. Write him to find out more about the volunteer program. He reports that he had colon cancer and surgery, but now feels blessed as a "survivor". You can write to him at: 3422 Hilton Estate Dr., Brighton, MI 48114.

Trudy (Gertraud) Kracher Bruckmeier (CA '57) wrote to assure Edith that "her hair has always been red"—despite what *Interaction* said! [*Sorry Trudy: no slander was meant!*—Editor] She reports that they had good garden and orchard crop, and do weekly bike trips with friends. 🌍



My Turkey Pilgrimage, 2004

By Dianne Brause

This Fall I had the privilege of traveling with my Sufi teacher to his homeland in Turkey. We were hosted by Faruk Celebi, head of the Mevlevi Sufi Order and his sister, Esin Celebi, both 22nd generation great-grandchildren in a direct lineage from Jelaluddin Rumi.

You may know Rumi from his poetry, written in the 13th Century. Today he has become the most read poet in America—although he has only been widely translated into English in recent decades! And, you might recognize Rumi's students as "the whirling dervishes" or from images of people spinning around with their arms up, wearing ceremonial costumes that include high conical hats and white skirts that flare out in a circular arc like a flowing river or a spinning top.

Rumi (or Mevlana as he is known in Turkey) was widely revered by the people of Konya, where he lived, taught, spoke his poetic thoughts and was buried. Over the centuries, his followers fell into or out of favor as leaders and conquerors came and went. Some 80 years ago, Ataturk closed all schools having to do with spiritual training including Sufi schools.

However, Rumi and his twirling followers have recently become popular tourist attractions bringing in needed money from all over the world. Sufi pilgrims, devout Muslims and international travelers yearn to see authentic performances of the "Sema" which was first performed over 700 years ago to commemorate Rumi's death. These are now allowed as "cultural" events.

Our group included long-time initiates in the Mevlevi Order of America and those just recently attracted to "the turn" as well as lovers of Rumi's poetry and two professional photographers. As individuals from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Sufi, and other traditions, we all found something to delight our senses and fill our hearts with joy. History spans many centuries in Turkey, and Istanbul literally bridges the gap between Europe and Asia.



Semazens perform at a birthday celebration of Rumi

The sheer beauty and diversity of architecture, culture and religious tradition enhanced by exotic Turkish cuisine and the riot of colors, tastes, smells and textures of the ancient market places is enough to overwhelm any newcomer.

We toured Christian churches from the time of Justinian, ancient Roman and Greek baths and ruins where noblemen lived almost a modern life of luxury, long before America was founded. We visited the purported resting place of the Virgin Mary at Ephesus and the Christian churches carved into the mountainsides at Cappadocia.

In Konya, we were able to spend quiet time at the tomb and museum of

Rumi and his beloved Shams of Tabriz as well as in the home of my teacher. We met other Rumi Pilgrims from Germany, England, France and SE Asia and were able to celebrate the sacred turn and the ancient music with them—even when we were unable to communicate through language. We also met Turks from various parts of the country including Kurdish rug salesmen and gypsy migrant cotton pickers.

Truly it was a blessed time of communing with others as we shared our perspectives and learned from age-old traditions. It was a marvelous experience and I'm sure that Rumi would have been in alignment with the Lisle philosophy. 🌐

"I am neither Christian, Jew,
Zoroastrian, nor Muslim;
I am neither of the East nor the West,
nor of the land nor of the sea.
I seek the One, I know the One, I see the
One, I invoke the One."—Rumi



Faranji: A Venture into Ethiopia

Book Review by Marty Tillman

Our very own Judy Brown wrote this book, and it's a pleasure to review a book by someone who has had a very lengthy tie with Lisle. Last year, after dedicated service, Judy left the Board. Her late husband, Jack had been on the Board as well. Both Judy and Jack were at Lisle in 1954 and then led units to Turkey ('94 & '99), Uganda ('97).



This is Judy's autobiographical tale of a three-month cross-cultural experience which Judy and Jack shared during their retirement in 1991 to Ethiopia. Sponsored by the Seattle-based branch of an organization of former Peace Corps volunteers called Ploughshares, they joined an idealistic group of volunteers—including four "Soviet" citizens (the USSR was about to break up) and two other Americans.

This "venture" is a sensitive and poignant portrait of life in a poor isolated village 60 km outside Addis Ababa, where this volunteer team, side-by-side with local Ethiopians, hoped to use their technical skills to improve agricultural outputs, provide medical care and teach.

The book's title means "white foreigners" and Judy details the struggle of their group to come to terms with their interpersonal conflicts, local conditions, and the usual frustrations of trying to accomplish a lot in a short period of time in a developing nation.

As Judy candidly puts it: "Ploughshares idealistically aimed to demonstrate a cooperative world in microcosm, one in which widely variant nationals become a close-knit group and work together in harmony...." Sound familiar?

Faranji: A Venture into Ethiopia, by Judith Reynolds Brown, published by Fithian Press, Santa Barbara, California, 1994. 🌐

Ghosthunting Ohio

by John Kachuba.

Whether you believe in ghosts or other aspects of the paranormal, every culture has its folklore and many, many people have had an experience they simply can't explain. John Kachuba decided to investigate for himself, so he started with his home state of Ohio. *Ghosthunting Ohio* (\$14.99, August, Emmis Books), examines more than 30 of the spookiest haunts, from cemeteries to inns and taverns to libraries and cafes, all over the Buckeye State. The results might surprise even the most devout skeptics.

"There are experiences that defy logic, science, and technology, strange occurrences for which we have no explanation. I cannot explain the whitish orbs that appeared in some photos I took in buildings said to be haunted. I cannot explain the feelings of negative energy I felt in a haunted basement," says the author in the book's introduction. "I am not a 'sensitive' or medium. I'm an average guy, just like you, with a curiosity about things paranormal. My intentions ...were to accurately and objectively describe for you my observations and experiences, as well as the experiences of others I met along the way, and then let you draw your own conclusions."

In *Ghosthunting Ohio*, readers will learn of haunted locales from across Ohio, including: The Majestic Theatre in Chillicothe, where victims of the 1918 Spanish influenza were "stacked like cordwood"; Fort Meigs in Perrysburg, where an invisible soldier has been known to walk employees to their cars at night; The Cincinnati Art Museum, home to at least three ghosts—including a seven-foot tall medieval monk; The Ashtabula library, where the ghost of Ethel, a former librarian, is said to still walk the halls; plus tales of Logan's Guitar Man, Columbus's Lady in Gray, and many more.

John Kachuba is the author of *How to Write Funny* and the co-author, with his wife, Mary A. Newman, Ph.D, of *Why is This Job Killing Me?* He currently lives in Athens, Ohio, a city which is widely regarded as one of the most haunted places in the world.

Editor's Note: I read John's book over Christmas vacation while in Ohio. I hoped to meet a ghost, but it was too snowy to go out on a serious ghost-hunt! 🌐



Peru: Language, Culture and Incan Ruins

By Betsy Bridwell

Since there was no Lisle program for me to participate in this summer, I decided to fulfill a long-held dream of visiting Peru and seeing Machu Picchu. I have been studying Spanish informally for the past year, trying to relearn some of my high school Spanish, so this opportunity to study Spanish for three weeks in Cuzco seemed a perfect blend of time spent experiencing the country and culture, as well as working intensively on language skills. A highlight of the program for me was living with a family while studying at one of the local language academies.



The legendary city of Machu Picchu

Cuzco is a fascinating city that sits at 11,000 feet in the Andes and was the capital of the Incan empire, the “navel of the world” for them. It is surrounded by several Incan ruins, which our small group from Seattle explored by horseback one afternoon. It was delightful to ride from one site to another, taking in the scenery, then dismounting to explore each set of ruins before riding on. Even our language academy was directly across the street from the Temple of the Sun, one of the most important places in Incan Cuzco.

Unfortunately, very little of the wealth of this fascinating empire remains except the remnants of magnificent stone structures that they built. I knew that the Incas were conquered by the Spanish, but I had not realized how brutal that conquest was. Because the Spanish were interested only in the value of the massive amounts of gold and silver artifacts they found, the beautiful works of art that adorned temples and palaces were melted down and destroyed. They were, after all, ‘heathen’ images, not Christian, for the Incas revered

the sun, moon, stars, and natural elements. Other famous images in Incan culture were the condor, which represented the spiritual realm; the puma, which represented the human world; and the serpent, which represented the dead.

A highlight of my trip was finally seeing Machu Picchu, the famous ruins high in a remote area of the mountains. Although there are many other spectacular ruins in the area, Machu Picchu is certainly considered the gem of them all, and it did not disappoint me! Standing on a high point and looking down on the image I have seen in countless photographs was awe-inspiring. It never ceases to amaze me how the Incas managed to construct these places.

We also took a three-day excursion to Lake Titicaca on the border with Bolivia – the highest-altitude navigable lake in the world, at 12,700 feet. We visited the Islas Flotantes – small man-made islands built entirely of the reeds that grow in the area – and then spent the night on another island, where the indigenous people host guests in their homes. They had a party for our group at the community center, where they dressed us all in their native costume and taught us their dances. There is no electricity on the island, and walking home after dark, at that high altitude, I have never seen such stars in my life – it was breathtaking!

But, as always, it is the people that make a place special. My host family was absolutely wonderful and welcoming. They said “we are your mama and papa” (even though they are younger than I!), and “this is your home.” Trying to function in Spanish was a challenge, and at the end of three weeks I was definitely ready to come home, but I wouldn’t trade the experience for anything. It was very much in the spirit of Lisle! 🌐



The abuela of the host family and Betsy, both in traditional clothing. The host family home is on Amantani Island in Lake Titicaca.





Peruvian mother and her children at the mercado in Pisac. Yes, those are tourists in the background!



Betsy at the ruins of Sacsaywaman near Cuzco, showing the size of the hand-cut stones used by the Incas.



Betsy enjoyed the mercado at Pisac. The mercados are the mainstay of the Peruvian social and economic culture.



Five native children, and their puppy, at the Pisac mercado. Older children are the caregivers of the younger ones when the mothers are otherwise occupied.



A Peruvian weaver in a plaza in Cuzco. Notice the detailed stonework of the pavement.



Betsy hiked across Amantani Island and came upon this man carrying his goods, framed by the un-mortared arched doorway. You can get an idea of the elevation.



Deceased Lislors

It always brings a sad feeling to hear of old friends and fellow travelers passing on. Since the last issue of *Interaction*, we received notice of the following deaths. We hold these good folks up to the light and wish their families well.

Andrew Cheng (NY '40) The Lisle office received word that Andrew passed away years ago.

George Theuer (NY '38) passed away on July 2, 2004. Marilyn Diehl, George's daughter, reported to Edith Ballard that her father had passed away peacefully. Marilyn wrote to Edith, "He lived a good and full life...how wonderful of you to have been keeping in touch."

Bob Walker (CO '50, '56 & '58) of Knoxville, TN died recently. He had been a strong advocate for the poor and received the Circle of Change Award given by Community Shares in 2003. Carolyn Black Dougall (DC '62 & '64) also of Knoxville informed us of his death. She wrote, "He will be missed."

Frank White (USSR '62) died in June, 2003. His wife Lynn wrote, "Since 1976, my husband has received newsletters from you...I know he admired the work that Lisle Fellowship did." 🌐

Come, come, whoever you are,
Wonderer, worshipper, lover of leaving.
It doesn't matter.
Ours is not a caravan of despair.
Come, even if you have broken your vow
a thousand times
Come, yet again, come, come.

—Rumi

Publisher

Lisle, Incorporated

Editor

Dianne G. Brause
<diannebr@lostvalley.org>

Contributing Authors

Dianne Brause
Barbara Bratton
Betsy Bridwell
Judy Brown
Jon Findley
John Kachuba
Aditi Kaur
Mark Kinney
Nancy Kinney
Carolzoom Patterson
Abby Rosenheck
Cary Thompson
Marty Tillman
Lane Winnet

Graphic Design & Layout

Elise Kimmons
Eugene, OR

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

We invite your journal entries, poetry, artwork and photos. If you are feeling tickled by the inspiration to submit articles for *Interaction*, please write to Elise for guidelines.

Or, just send something in, and we'll take the liberty of editing it as needed!

Elise Kimmons

295 East 46th Ave.
Eugene OR 97405
Phone: 541-484-6072
E-mail: <eldkim@comcast.net>





Lisle, Inc. Membership and Pledge Form

900 County Road 269
Leander, TX 78641

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Member..... \$35-\$74 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor..... \$1000 and above |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing Member.... \$75-\$149 | <input type="checkbox"/> Student.....\$15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Member..... \$150-\$499 | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Member \$200 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Member..... \$500-\$999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced Income (as you can) \$_____ |

Would you like information about: including Lisle in your estate making a memorial donation
 nominating a Lisle Saint Ligon Service Award nomination
 the Mini-grants becoming a Lisle mentor

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

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

Notes about your activities:

I wish to pay by: Check VISA Mastercard
Credit Card # / exp. date _____ / _____

Signature _____

Lisle's Statement of Purpose

Lisle broadens global awareness and increases appreciation of cultures through programs which bring together person of diverse religious, cultural, sexual, political and racial backgrounds, to interact, and to consider reflectively their experience. The Lisle experiential approach emphasizes cooperative, democratic leadership and participation. Lisle program participants enhance their communication skills, discover greater tolerance for diverse ideas, and gain greater respect for all life. Conflict resolution, community building, and increased knowledge of self are outcomes of the Lisle experience. Lisle seeks to exemplify multicultural/multiracial decision-making, planning, and administration.

Lisle experiences involve participants intimately in the life of the community. Through living and learning together, members explore and integrate different values, beliefs, and life styles.

Lisle is committed to a more just social order in which persons of all cultures, social classes, religious affiliations, nationalities, and political persuasions are full participants. Lisle believes that actions and plans must be rooted in a clear understanding of the hopes and aspirations of all people. However, idealism must be tempered with a realistic vision. The future leadership of our world community demands experiences which develop emotional maturity, social sensitivity, self-awareness, and appreciation of cultural diversity. 🌐





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

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

MEETINGS

Spring Board Meeting	March 18-20, 2005	Chicago, IL
Fall Annual Meeting	October dates: TBA	Philadelphia, PA

