

Little Kabul: Fremont, California

hile spending the weekend in the San Francisco Bay Area, Lislers were Afghanistan bound by just traveling across the Bay to Fremont, California, Fremont is often called Little Kabul, and once we all found our way to the Afghan Coalition Center, Dr. Farid Younos gave us a very informative presentation on an Afghan's life here in the United States. Needless to say there is great culture shock, with survival becoming the main concern for many years after arrival in America.

By Brenda Hepler



Our host, Dr. Farid Younos and his guests at the Salang pass Restaurant. They graciously answered our many questions about their transition to a new life in America.

Over the last 20 years many Afghan businesses have developed to serve their community, a mosque has been built, and everyone has tried to learn English. Part of the coalition's work is not only to help the Afghans adjust to their life here, but also to help those still in Afghanistan. Though they have encouraged their children to play with children who are not Afghan, becoming involved in the schools requires knowing English well and becoming involved in community politics beyond their own immediate needs requires going beyond the

as we were then escorted to the Afghan market in order to see the flat bread being made and of course to taste it and buy it. One of the bakers had worked in a bakery since he was two years old. His job then was to put the indentations into the bread. There was also a fine meat market, with the skinned goats being brought in over the butchers' shoulders as we stood in line. I now know where I can get goat meat, which a Moslem Indian told me was much better than lamb.

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survival mode. Only now people are gradually becoming American citizens and becoming comfortable enough to consider expanding into American politics and culture while at the same time maintaining their Afghan cultural ties here and in Afghanistan.

He spoke about the four highest priorities in the Afghan culture, "The Three Z's": the protection of their women, their land and possessions and hospitality. Their sense of hospitality was surely felt by us all



The fresh Afghan bread looked, smelled and tasted great!

We were then taken to an Afghan restaurant, the Salang Pass for tea with card a m o m - flavored flatbread. We all gracefully sat down on pillows around low tables. Afghan women were there and they answered our questions. These women have only

been here a few years. They missed their homeland very much, but were studying English and were happy that their children were getting a good education. Raising their children is difficult, as they do not understand the culture of which their children are so much a part. For boys, they are given much freedom, which can lead to problems, and for the girls, it is still the first "Z", and this can become problematic, too.

Mr. Younos responded to a private question. How does he counsel married couples relative to wife abuse? He points out the quotation in the Koran that says, "Be kind to your women." Here was the first step in cross-cultural learning...discovering the new culture through the world they have already experienced.

When we finished our tea, we got up, not quite as gracefully as we sat down, and were warmly sent on our way. We parted with a better understanding of our differences while at the same time finding a connection common human concerns and issues.

I'd like to give a big "Thank You" to our Annual Meeting Committee! Ray and Anja Miller, Jane Brown, Suzanne Brooks, Brenda Hepler, Honey and Bill Eisenberg. Without the great help from Lane and Barbara at the Lisle office, it couldn't have worked. The Planning Committee, including my husband Dean and I, are all grateful for the notes, E-mails, calls of thanks for the event—all felt it was an upbeat weekend that will keep Lisle and it's purpose going into next year. There were new faces, new ideas blended with the past, and once again, all felt proud that Lisle is a meaningful part of their lives.

—Chris Coons

Global Exchange Visit

By Betsy Bridwell

uring the fall Annual Meeting, I chose to join the group that visited the offices of Global Exchange, an organization I had heard of but didn't know a great deal about, except that they conducted "reality tours" to Cuba, among other places. Their activities are broader than I even imagined. Tours are a part of the public education component designed to build grassroots support for issues of human rights and political/economic justice. They support fair trade through the sale of crafts from artisans in over 37 countries and advocate for corporate accountability, immigrant rights, and elimination of sweatshops. I left feeling inspired by the work that they are doing and decided to become a member to support their efforts.

One person in our group had some issues with the term "reality tours", thinking that there was an element of arrogance that they were dispensing the "truth" about the places they visit. I would argue, however, that they are offering a perspective that far too few Americans ever get, an opportunity to see the complexity of global issues and the impacts of U.S. foreign policy and the global economy on other parts of the world. Although they have a more specific agenda than does Lisle, it seems that there are similarities in what we do, trying to build a greater understanding of the value of other cultures and the issues and concerns that impact us all. *(Read more about Global Exchange on page 22.)*



In an alley in the Mission District, we admired beautiful murals that reached out to touch our hearts.

Vickie Marie (UG '93, Turkey '97, India Reunion '00) is a teacher in Sacramento, CA who used her introduction to Global Exchange and visit to the Murals in the Mission District to great advantage. Following the Annual Meeting she brought her class on a field trip to San Francisco. Her students appreciated the opportunity to learn about sweat shops as well as the cultural aspects of the Mission by visiting the Murals. (#)



President's Message

hile Lisle has struggled to maintain momentum for our programs in this past year, I think the news from Lisle's world is promising for the new year. You'll read in this issue about our great success this fall in India, a terrific second summer program in the Pacific Northwest, and a continuation of our program in Turkey. Unfortunately, we canceled the Bali program never expecting-nor anticipating-the horrific bombing of the nightclub on the island. You'll be heartened by many new initiatives we have taken to innovate and change and I hope you especially read about the work underway by Board Member Leyla Welkin. The Board is committed to exploring creative collaboration with K-12 teachers and Leyla's project will set in motion new outreach efforts towards teachers and their professional asso-



Marty Tillman President

ages, and non-violent communication. A Lisle 'unit' is not a touristic group experience; sometimes you have to use your creative abilities, sometimes you are physically or mentally tired or not in the mood to comply with every demand. And you still have to find a way to deal with it—and that is very educating!" I bet this sounds familiar to many Lislers regardless of the Unit or decade in which they were in a program. And that is just the point-we are focused, we know what we do well, and we will work hard to adapt Lisle to insure that our intercultural education process is around to challenge global citizens for another seven decades.

My Board Development Committee activities yielded several promising future candidates for the Board and a new member, Lisler Suzanne Brooks *(Read more*)

on page 12). Replacing Mary Newman as Vice President in the coming year is Jon Findley. The overall Board structure is sound and we need to keep building opportunities for new people to serve in the critical arena of governance for Lisle. Towards this end, I am proposing that we adopt a new model to allow younger persons a chance to experience Board work without making a full commitment to serve—something we might call the Board Member Associate Program (MAP). These individuals will serve on a year-to-year basis and participate in our on-line dialogues concerning policy and program issues. (*Read more on page 21*)

I have received several ideas from Hans and Ellie Spiegel concerning locales for the Fall 2003 Annual Membership Meeting in the New York City area. Lislers in the Greater New York area who want to become involved in the set-up of the program for this meeting should be in touch with me and Lane Winnett in the Texas office.

Two items of unfinished business include: the Insurance Survey of selected alumni and a review of our Mission Statement. Both will be completed in time for the Spring Board Meeting.

My three principal goals for 2003 are: 1) Increase member giving; 2) realize the outcomes of Leyla's teacher project; and 3) implement the new Board Member Associate Program. \bigoplus

Marty

ciations. Leyla will spend the next several months exploring options for such cooperation. She also will work closely with Mark to identify organizations and institutions around the country whose mission and focus might be a good fit with ours. *(Read more on page 11)*

I'm feeling very gratified about the renewed energy and commitment from both the Board and Lislers about our work. Perhaps they are turning away from the violence in the world and consciously turning *towards* our person-centered work. Lisle has never been an organization that judged the worthiness of its mission or the value of its group process on the basis of numbers alone. Despite our awareness that other educational programs may reach more people (and have throughout most of our history), we are sustained by a belief that few programs actually succeed in changing—or challenging—how people think and feel about themselves and the culture in which they live and travel. But, we continue to see the evidence that our programs do just that!

One such example is the note from a European Lisler (a member of our Dutch program leadership team) which arrived in the Texas office recently. She participated in the Pacific Northwest program this summer and wrote: "...I learned about leadership, myself as a leader, the dynamics of a group, the interaction of people from different cultures and different

Executive & Program Director's Report

S ince October, 2001, I have spent my time doing the following things in regard to program development. I have made efforts to develop programs in Japan and Peru.

In Peru, I have collected good ideas from Patty and Carlos Aranaga about concerns they have in regard to safety and elevation in doing a program in Peru. They suggest that it would be best to keep the program at a narrow band of elevation to avoid altitude sickness. They also suggest that it would be best to be supported by an in-country group and to stay away from urban areas. Carlos was stationed in Bolivia several years ago as a diplomat. He suggested that perhaps a program would bridge the two countries. He further offered that if things turned out, that he might be willing to co-lead such an effort. At this time, I do not have a proposal for a program in Peru to present, as I am not convinced of the adequacy of connections to do a quality program and I am not convinced of the safety which can be assured to possible participants in such a program. Of course, the original idea for the program developed in Germany in conversations with Conrad Borst. I have been back in touch with Conrad and he is interested in helping, but acknowledges that at the age of 70, he is not able to do as much as he might. In a nutshell, the idea is that his wife who lives in Peru and runs a primary school in the desert 30 miles outside of Lima might be the host for the program. The focus of the program would be teaching in the local school. Contact Mark if you have Peru ideas.

I contacted a Lisler friend, Akiko Sugioka, in Sapporo, Japan. She recently retired as the founder of the Sapporo International Communications Plaza which supports foreigners in Sapporo. The idea I was building on was to focus a program around environmental efforts being made by Japanese government and business leaders to move aggressively to meet the environmental requirements of the Kyoto agreement and similar agreements. Akiko has been very helpful in suggesting several governmental and university leaders who might be willing to assist. Her idea is that I should come to Japan to talk with them. I have indicated at this time that I would not be able to make such a trip until at least next fall. Akiko suggested that costs in Japan are really high and that we would probably need to seek funding from some outside source. She also indicates that her contacts would like to broaden the scope of the program to include connections which exist between Japan and China and Korea. If we could find some way to recruit participants for such a program it could be really exciting, I think. We would also need to find some ways to create legitimacy for our being a group which knows enough about



Mark Kinney Executive and Program Director

the issues to be offering such a program. Yolande Houben has recently indicated interest in working with Akiko, since they were both in the same unit in Washington DC. I am in the process of working with Yolande to further develop this program idea. Suggestions are welcome!

Judy Brown has been working with the folks in Holland on the program there for 2003. *(Read more on page 15.)*

The Board is receiving a proposal from Leyla Welkin for a project which would explore the possibilities of a thrust of Lisle programs focused on teachers. Her proposal is an outgrowth of work she has been doing for her doctorate, as well as interest which has been expressed by several Board members and Board President Marty Tillman. Programs which are developed as a result of this project are likely to be more focused that recent Lisle programs on leadership within classrooms and among colleagues in educational settings. This project should allow Lisle to access new client groups for future programs. *(Read more on page 11.)*

This year's program in Costa Rica was small but of high quality. The leader report which we have received describes a lot of learning which went on and a program which is able to draw upon many connections in order to provide a very interesting set of experiences for our participants.

The India program is just starting at this time. Recruitment for this program has been very strong, and the group is expected to have a wonderful time under the leadership of past board members Sharada Nayak.

I have worked with the administration of all of the programs to create workable budgets, and to assist with questions relating to recruitment and planning. In terms of my work as Executive Director, I have done the following:

I have been representing Lisle as Chair of the Executive Committee of IVPA for the past two years. Currently we are working on refining our "best practices" for volunteer programs, and a major alliance with GoAbroad.com which will provide much more visibility for IVPA. IVPA provides a wonderful search engine for finding a volunteer experience in any part of the world. IVPA members include Lisle, AFS, Amigos de Los Americas, World Teach, Global Volunteers, Cross Cultural Solutions and about 50 other organizations. Once again this year, Lisle was represented at the California Study Abroad Fairs, through coordination with IVPA, as well as at a Poster Session at the NAFSA Conference in May. Lisle will be represented next year through a Poster Session which I have proposed and had accepted for the 2003 NAFSA Conference.

I have been working hard to get more visibility for our Website. I have been updating information on a regular basis and took a course in web graphics which I used as the basis for updating much of the look of the site. Much remains to be done. There is a major need to have other people in Lisle, especially from the office, funneling information to me for insertion into the web, but so far that is not happening with any regularity. Recently, I have added a connection to the *Board Operating Manual* which provides a wealth of information for board members about all sorts of things including everything from the Bylaws, committee assignments, reimbursement forms, ideas for consensus decision making, etc. Plans call for the addition of the Leader handbook materials in the near future.

Jon Findley has been really helpful in helping my understanding of the technical difficulties I have been experiencing. The results of this effort have been the inclusion of some foreign language tags for people who do not use English as their primary language, explorating ways to assess the success and activity of the webpage, and the renewal of the domain name registration. I have been successful in making the *Interaction* PDF files much more manageable. It is a wonderful resource to have most of the past *Interactions* on the web. Finally, I have been working to update our information on related sites that refer clients to us.

Updates have also recently been added to the Lisle Website describing the new programs this year in The Netherlands, Costa Rica, and India. I plan to update information for a new program in the Dominican Republic shortly. I have just now added the India 2002 Journal, which is very inspiring to read.

Work continues to make the pages more visible for search engines, and I also am constantly updating the web

information for the major search sites such as GoAbroad.com and Studyabroad.com. Thanks to Barbara Bratton's work, the latest minutes from the Annual Meeting and the Board meeting in Redwood City are posted on the web as well.

After much effort and assistance from Lane, Barbara, and others at UT, we finally have gotten the Americorps grant voucher for Evonne Ellis transacted. Hurray!!

I have been working to create a survey on health insurance. Beth Bader-Gilson has done some great groundwork to develop a questionnaire as well as the methodology for conducting the survey. We are ready to begin the survey process and are in need of a couple of additional persons to make the phone calls so that we can proceed.

We Kinneys are planning to teach in Szeged, Hungary during the spring semester 2003. Nancy and I hope that this will provide new possibilities for Lisle programs over the next few years.

We continue to seek new ideas for programs and program efforts, as well as concrete recommendations for recruitment. These ongoing concerns are issues which are always in need of new thinking and approaches. (#)

Mark

Sabbatical in Hungary

While the Kinneys have been keeping busy this year with juggling jobs, apartments, homes, boat garages, children (Bill is entering law school at Northern Illinois University; Kathy and family at work and play in Albuquerque), Lisle and myraid other projects, they have also been readying themselves for a *temporary* move to Hungary! Please note it's *temporary*.

Nancy, who still hasn't retired from teaching, will be on sabbatical to teach American government in the English Language Department at Juhasz Gyula Teacher Training College. Mark plans to teach his Group Process in Education course at Jozsef Attila University and to work for Toledo/ Szeged Sister Cities International.

Finding the right teaching materials, getting work permits, airline tickets, schedules, etc. has been a challenge. Luckily they have a contact at Juhasz Gyula who is very fluent in English and willing to help them those details.

The Kinneys will be able to use computers to keep in touch with the Lisle Board and the International Voluntary Programs Association (IVPA), which Mark chairs the Executive Committee, so it is hoped that the work of Lisle will continue with few glitches.

They will be gone from February 1 to May 22. If you are traveling their way, be sure to get in contact with them!

2003 Spring Board Meeting Chicago April 24 – April 27, 2003

By Lane Winnett

he International Conference Center, 4750 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, Illinois will be the location for the Spring Board meeting April 24 – April 27, 2003. The Center is a not-for-profit conference and retreat center of the Ecumenical Institute and The Institute of Cultural Affairs. Within sight of Lake Michigan, it is conveniently located on Chicago's north side. Public transportation brings a visitor to the front door. Just two blocks from Lake Shore Drive (US 41), the setting makes driving easy.

The Center is set in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood in an historic terra cotta limestone building dedicated to community service. Uptown is a special place. It stands as a true urban human mosaic while boasting a number of landmark buildings and historic homes. This neighborhood is richly diverse: 83 languages are spoken in the local school district! Other agencies in the building serve multiple constituencies, so that at any moment of the day the lobby is filled with faces and languages from around the world.

Board members will arrive Thursday evening. Marty Tillman as President of the Board will open this meeting with a "Welcome to All" and an agenda for the week-end events. Friday will be used for committee meetings and board discussions. There will be a buffet dinner and fellowship on Friday. The Board meeting will begin at 9:00 AM on Saturday. On Saturday afternoon there will be an activity in the Uptown neighborhood. Everyone will gather for dinner at a local restaurant and return to the Center for an evening speaker/ program. The Board Meeting will resume at 9:00 AM on Sunday and conclude by noon.

We encourage all Lislers to attend all or a part of this board meeting. The Board will be discussing upcoming programs, scholarship fundraising and the teacher initiative among other topics and concerns. The board welcomes and values input from all Lislers.

The Center offers comfortable rooms with linens and towels included, three meals a day served buffet-style and a conference room for our meeting. Saturday's dinner will be at a local restaurant and the cost is not included in the package rate. There are three types of rooms available:

Private room w/Single bed; Shared room with two or or three single beds per room; Dorm room with bunk beds. No private baths are available.

Weekend Packages and Rates:

 Private: \$170.00; Shared: \$140.00; Dorm: \$130.00 (Includes three nights: Thursday, Friday and Saturday; three breakfasts, two lunches and one dinner)

•Private: \$130.00; Shared: \$110.00; Dorm: \$100.00 (Includes two nights: Friday and Saturday; two breakfasts, two lunches and one dinner)

•Private: \$80.00; Shared \$70.00; Dorm: \$60.00

(Includes one night: Friday or Saturday; one breakfast, one lunch and one dinner. If spending Saturday night only, the dinner cost of \$8.00 will be deducted)

•Commuters: lunch: \$7.00; dinner: \$8.00

We have secured a limited number of rooms and the center has to be notified as to numbers for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The Center must have a head count no later that April 13, 2003. Call Lane at 1-800-477-1538 to make your reservations well in advance.

Come join the Lisle board in these exciting inter-cultural locations and hear about our new programs to Holland and the Dominican Republic and other exciting future programs.

Lisle thanks Maggie Ennis (CO '53 & '54, CA '55) who referred us to this great facility.



This picture shows how good you can feel at the close of the upcoming Annual Meeting! These beauties closed the circle in October, 2003



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Lisle Scholarship Initiative

By Betsy Bridwell

he Lisle Board has approved the Scholarship Committee's proposal to implement a new initiative, which would establish a permanent general scholarship fund to support diversity recruitment for Lisle programs.

At the Lisle Board Meeting/Annual Meeting in California in October, the committee discussed the need for an ongoing effort to build scholarship funds and agreed that participant diversity could be further encouraged through a strong general scholarship fund. The Board views diversity in broad terms that would include a variety of age, gender, ethnic and racial groups and educational/socio-economic levels.

In the past, many of you have been generous in responding to specific scholarship appeals. This new *Lisle Scholarship Fund* will be used to enhance participation in all programs and continue strengthening one of the core characteristics of Lisle programs, that of participant diversity.

Lisle members and friends are all highly encouraged to be founding donors to the Lisle Scholarship Fund and consider donating on a regular basis to support this fund. Donations made on behalf of friends and relatives who are interested in international affairs and intercultural exchange are a great gift. No amount is too small (or too large!). If you feel that your own Lisle experience changed your life in some significant way, you can help others be touched by Lisle as well.

Donating to the fund is easy. Simply use the Membership and Pledge form on the last page of this *Interaction* to donate individually to the Lisle Scholarship Fund or to include your donation with your membership renewal. Or you can simply send a check directly to Lisle, made out to the Lisle Scholarship Fund. We are continually grateful for the dedication of our members in supporting the Lisle vision and sharing it with others. Keep up the good work! (#)

> Haiku Nature sides with short people Looking at mountains Gives us perspective. —Suzanne Brooks

Scholarship Recipient Thanks Donor: John David Lefever

am Yolande Houben, a psychologist from the Netherlands and a former Lisle participant in the Washington D.C Unit in 1966. I enjoyed the Unit in 1966 very much and that was the reason I kept in touch with Lisle all that time.

In 2003 we in the Netherlands are going to organize a 3week Lisle Unit in the Netherlands on the integration and refugee problems in Europe with the emphasis on the Dutch perspective. Because of that initiative I was very glad to be able to attend a modern Lisle Unit to see if the original objectives were still growing strong!

The Northwest Pacific Unit in Oregon and Bainbridge gave me a lot to think about. I learned about leadership, myself as a leader, the dynamics of a group, the interaction of people from different cultures and different ages, non-violent communication. A Lisle unit is not a touristic group experience; sometimes you have to use your creative abilities, sometimes you are physically or mentally tired or not in the mood to comply with every demand. And you still have to find a way to deal with it—and that is very educating!

The theme of the Unit was the building of a sustainable future and it was very good to see and live with the Lost Valley intentional community in Dexter, Oregon of about 25 persons, who try to work on those ideals. We did a million things and it gave me another positive perspective on American society. In Europe the United States is not always looked upon very positively, but now I can truthfully testify that there are many Americans who try to work on a more peaceful and sustainable society!

Leyla Welkins was a very good leader of the unit; I was very glad to get to know her and she'll be my model for our unit, where I'll be one of the leaders.

I would like to thank you very much for giving me this opportunity; it is unique to get this experience and Lisle (and a special thanks to Leyla) is the only organisation in which you can learn so much in such a short time.

Please let me know if you want to know more about me or the program. I'll be very glad to inform you.

Gratefully

Yolande Houben, Netherlands 🌐



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Treasurer's Report

By Barbara Bratton

Lisle's portofolio of assets has, unfortunately, reduced sig nificantly in value, along with most everyone else's in America. As of 9/30/2000 our portfolio was valued at \$237,459, it went down to \$199,773 by 9/30/2001 and down to \$190,150 by 9/30/2002. The losses in the overall Dow can been seen to reflect in the overall loss of the fair market value of Lisle's holdings. We have chosen not to sell and search for other investments as we feel our holdings are basically secure and conservative and the values will come back. We had a FNMAE bond at 8% which was called and we invested this into another bond at 6%. We continue to try to find a buyer for the 50 acres of land in New York so we can invest that value into an interest bearing account.

The budget for Fiscal Year 10/1/2001 through 9/30/ 2002 anticipated \$30,700 of income and expense. Our actual income was \$24,675 and our actual expenses were \$26,892 so we overspent our income by \$2,217. The new budget for 10/ 1/2002 through 9/30/2003 is projecting \$31,000 of income and expense so we are hopeful that our wonderful members will bring their giving back to their pre-9/11 level. Our programs have been covering some of the expenses of running Lisle for the last several years and we continue to plan a return to Lisle in the program budget. If you wish to see specifics on our income and expenses or receive a copy of our Form 990 Non-Profit income tax return, please contact the office and we'll be glad to provide this for you.

MAP Program Initiated

As a result of discussions at the Fall Board Meeting, a new Board Development Program called MAP (Member Associate Program) has been affirmed and initiated. The idea is to invite persons who are especially excited about Lisle and its efforts to take a year or so to explore the idea of becoming a full Board Member. During that time, the Member Associate will be included in the on-line communications of the Board and are welcomed and encouraged to interact on-line. They will attend as many Board Meetings as possible.

Nancy Jo Zinner *(See page 21 for an article about her Doctoral thesis)* and Kristin Currin, who were both active participants during the fall Board Meeting, are our first Member Associates. Anyone else who might like to explore this opportunity is welcome to let a Board member or the Lisle Office know of their interest.

Program Committee Report

By Betsy Bridwell

Costa Rica—John Kachuba will be leading this program for three weeks from late November to mid-December 2003. The program description will remain the same, and the cost will be \$1800 full rate. A Spanish speaker still needs to be confirmed as co-leader, but it looks like Yolande Arguedas is a strong possibility.

India—plans are to alternate this program between summer and fall, with next year's program still being in the fall because of Sharada's plans to attend the Holland program in the summer. She will also keep the women's theme for 2003. Timing, cost, and description will remain the same. Also briefly discussed were the customized/individualized options, which has been done once. The Lisle office in Texas will maintain the paperwork on participants on these programs as well.



New Member Associate and Costa Rica trip leader, Kristin Currin, shares the most recent group's adventures at the Annual Meeting

Dominican Republic—plans are coming together for a two-week program during the coming summer, June 16-29, 2003. Dianne will be the leader,

with Oscar Canizares as in-country coordinator/leader. *(See more on page 16)* Holland—the deposit is due soon for the facility where the program will be held. There is strong interest from at least 10-11 people, with money received from two. Discussion and approval of setting up a bank account in Holland to facilitate collecting fees from non-U.S. participants is underway. Lisle/Mark will draft a statement for participants in Lisle programs, particularly Holland, in light of the current world situation and volatility of emotions among many in Europe and other countries regarding American policy. The idea was to prepare participants to expect discussion and to be sensitive to varying

Mark will leave for Hungary on January 29. Given the six-hour time difference and the fact that phone communication can be difficult, plans are for continued correspondence by e-mail. Mark should have no problems staying involved and being in communication electronically.



viewpoints.

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Mark Kinney Receives First Walt & Betty Ligon Service Award

By Marty Tillman



A surprise feature at last October's Annual Meeting was the announcement that long-time Board Member (1983-present!) and Executive/ Program Director, Mark Kinney, would receive a beautiful glass globe as recipient of the first Walt & Betty Ligon Service Award. The award is presented by the Board of Directors to an individual who has demonstrated an outstanding commit-

ment to Lisle's ideals and mission, one who has represented Lisle's place in the world better than Mark for two decades. A plaque was also made which will carry the name of each

recipient and permanently and be housed in the Lisle office. The Ligons were on hand for this presentation by President Marty Tillman.

The Ligons themselves received a crystal globe as the honorary namesakes of this award. Their combined length and quality of service to Lisle is surpassed only by Uncle Si and Aunt Edna's.

Treasurer Barbara Bratton also surprised Nancy Kinney with a token of appreciation for her devotion to Lisle and her support of Mark throughout the many years of their





service to Lisle: a pair of earrings that originally belonged to Lisle co-founder Edna Baldwin and were later passed on to Lisler Edith Ballard. (#) Job Well Done!

By Lane Winnett

The Lisle office has received the following comments from Lislers, and wishes to share their thoughts with all of you. To keep this as a regular column, please send your comments to the Lisle office.

"Happy to receive your newsletter: Winter 2002. Glad that on pages 18 and 19 you voiced self-doubts because when the US wans to punish rogue states they throw overboard their values! We are aware of the issues that will be important in the Holland unit." —Konrad Borst, Germany (CO '53, Denmark '54, Germany '58)

"Lisle continues to do such good work. I have benefited from it many times! Keep it up. "—Leslie Gottlieb (CO '55, DC '62, CA '67)

"India: Women's Voices" program to India was immensely enjoyable, educational and relaxing. The people were great and Sharada Nayak was the best leader and all-around tour guide/ friend I've ever encountered. She's marvelously amiable, humorous and 'just-there' every minute."—Pat Neason (India '02)

"Thanks so much for the great newsletter. My best wishes to Lislers everywhere."—Charlotte "Cherry" (Forbes) Wunderlich (CA '64)

Congratulations! to Karen Marie Metzler (Cuba '80) who has been nominated for a Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Congressional Fellowship to serve on the office staff of an U. S. Senator or Congressman.

Board member and India program leader **Sharada Nayak** has just written that St. Lawrence University in upstate New York—a terrific liberal arts institution—has notified her of their decision to bestow an Honorary Doctorate on her at their Commencement in mid-May! Three cheers and hugs to her. You can reach her at: <nayak1000@vsnl.com> (#)



Sharon Parker, an eminent teacher in the area of Racism, gave a thoughtprovoking lecture to the Lisle group on Saturday night of the October Board meeting. Sharon's presentation opened up lots of questions and the sharing of beliefs, experiences and discussion by Lislers and guests.

LISLE Interaction

Lisle is still needed, don'tcha see?"

By Darwin Holder

E xcitement shows in his face and his eyes sparkle with enthusiasm as he talks of a past Lisle program, a program where, Uncle Si exuberantly says, with a joyous laugh, "I think I learned more from the program than any other participant; don'tcha see?

I'd never been to a Lisle program, but Uncle Si's enthusiasm was infectious, and I wanted to be part of Lisle and the Baldwin's dream of better cross-cultural understanding. I believed Lisle could really make a difference in the world. That was almost twenty years ago, and my belief in Lisle is stronger today than it was so many years ago. My belief in the need for Lisle is stronger than ever as well.

One of the wonderful things about Lisle is that individuals can help in so many ways. You can attend a Lisle program, or send someone you love to a program, or send someone you don't even know, just because you love the world. You could lead a program, or design and lead a new program, or make yourself available to be a Lisle board member, or recommend a sensitive human dynamo you know, to become a board member. You could talk to groups at your religious organization, local university, or book discussion group, about what the Lisle experience can do for the world, or just tell them what it did for you, and tell them where they can get more information about Lisle. Or you could tell the Lisle leadership what you'd like to do for Lisle, what you want to do to make a difference, and then do it.

All of the above and many more services by people who know and believe in Lisle are needed. We don't all have the time to do some of these services for Lisle, but money goes a long way toward allowing Lisle to keep on keeping on, to reach more people, build more stability into programs, and to bring diversity to Lisle programs and the Lisle board.

It is a shame to have to cancel a program because not enough people sign up, when we could keep the program alive with a few well-placed scholarships. Scholarships would also let us bring Lisle to people who otherwise might miss participating in and contributing to the program. Printing and mailing require money, and we do a lot of it. With more money, we could do more mailings. Competition is very stiff for travel abroad programs, but because Lisle has so much to offer, I think it behooves us to be competitive, because right now the world really needs what Lisle has to offer.

It takes only the briefest glance at world news to know that the world needs Lisle now more than ever, and Lisle needs your support, now more than ever before. We need you to help us serve the needs of the world so it will become a better place for our children, grandchildren, and many generations to come. And so those who follow us will benefit from the dream so many have us dreamed with Uncle Si and Aunt Edna, and those dedicated Lislers who have taken up the banner in their place.

It's up to you, don'tcha see? Just as Lisle, a small organization, makes a difference in the world, even the most modest gift makes a difference in Lisle, and in the giver.

Sharada Interview Exerpts

Excerpted by Marty Tillman

Below are excerpts from an interview with Sharada Nayak, which appeared in Education About Asia, Fall 2002. Sharada is a former Executive Director of the U.S. Education Foundation in India—the Fulbright Program, Board member and current leader of our successful India program who resides in New Delhi.

On influences that shaped Sharada's identity as an Indian, a Hindu and a global citizen:

"My first visit to the U.S. as a scholarship recipient to Briarcliff Junior College from the UN Association planted a seed in my mind that stirred and drew life from a new climate of internationalism. It was a time of an international vision (in the early 1950's) and a stirring of people's movements in countries of Asia. I was probably the only young person—I was fifteen—to have a privileged seat in the Parliament House at the midnight session of India's constituent assembly, thanks to an uncle who was one of the assembly members. Hearing Nehru make his famous speech as India gained her Independence...left an indelible mark on me, sustaining my love, pride and commitment to India. The idealism has stayed with me all these decades of bad and good times for India and the world...."

On what educators can do to combat extremism and increase tolerance between people:

"My goal and dearest wish at this point in my life is: to establish a Diversity Learning Centre where multicultural studies would bring together people from other countries in this region, and with democratic societies like the U.S. where we can share our experiences in pluralism, in dealing with diversity each in our own country...a Center for international research on multiculturalism, teacher training, student *(Cont'd next page)*



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study projects and documentation/dissemination would be invaluable at the present time."

"I am pained by the violence and prejudice that has surfaced, particularly after September 11th. It has been dormant, but now there is overt discrimination, hate and prejudice expressed in many countries. In India...the sporadic violence and death of innocents makes me more determined to build defenses in the hearts and minds of our children. There are moments of discouragement, but I know that there are enough people who are concerned and whose voices must be heard, whose efforts at harmony must be encouraged and supported. If we raise our voices and listen to our conscience, I know that sanity will prevail."

On the responsibilities of educators to help prepare students to live in our interdependent world:

"What would I want American students to learn? The meaning of the words "humility" and "humiliation." Both these words are the other side of the word "arrogance." To most people of the world, America is seen as the richest and most powerful nation on earth. Arrogance is often seen as a consequence of wealth and power.... Because it is difficult to give without arrogance and to receive without humiliation. This brings the lesson down to the personal level—our attitudes towards the poor in our own neighborhood, and our sympathy for the oppressed anywhere...."

New Teacher's Initiative Program now under Development

By Leyla Welkin

With a name like Lisle (what does that mean and how do you pronounce it?) sometimes we need to try a little harder. In these tough economic and risky international times it is important to reach beyond our usual ways of finding participants.

Lisle is always looking for new ways to make our programs exciting and useful. Recruitment improves when we can target our programs well to a particular kind of participant. For many years we have noticed that teachers are well represented in our units. One of the reasons teachers join Lisle programs is because many teachers have time available in the summer months when most programs are scheduled. We also offer three-week programs that require longer vacations than many people can take from their jobs. Teachers tend to have longer breaks built in. Another reason that we have many teachers in Lisle is not so prosaic. Teachers, more than many other groups in our society, deal in a direct and daily way with cultural diversity and differences. Because teachers, like Lisle, value education and understand the vital importance of intercultural interaction and understanding, it makes sense to pay special attention to their needs.

The Lisle Teacher Initiative has been created to tune up our value for teachers. For the next year or so the board has decided to focus attention on finding organizations with which to collaborate and sources of funding to support this goal. Leyla Welkin is coordinating the effort working with Mark Kinney and a committee on the board. The project had an initial financial boost with the help of a work study grant Leyla was given for this academic year, which is being aug-

mented by Lisle financial support. Additional funds and other partnering organizations are being sought. Networking is well under way. The initiative is seeking organizations that work with teachers and understand their needs for continuing education and training.

Our goal over the next two years is to create new programs designed to be especially useful to teachers. We will create some entirely new programs that are tailored for teachers, offering training in leadership with intercultural groups. We also hope to improve our recruitment of teachers for regular Lisle programs. Some



Leyla Welkin presenting her ideas about the Teacher's Initiative at the Annual Meeting

of the design of our programs will fit the needs of specific partnering organizations. Lisle's strength, offering learning to almost anyone about the broad question of cultural understanding, can be applied in very specific ways.

This is an exciting opportunity to innovate and improve our program offerings and recruitment. Any Lislers with contacts, ideas or resources to share with the initiative group are encouraged to contact us. We are particularly interested in information about foundations or organizations that fund teacher education and training. Please send suggestions directly to Leyla Welkin at <lwelkin@earthlink.net> and/or to Mark Kinney at <mkinney@utnet.utoledo.edu>. (#)



- Stan Lisle Business Highlights State --------

New Board Member: Suzanne Brooks

By Mark Kinney

The Lisle Board of Directors is excited to welcome Suzanne Brooks (CR '96) as a new Board Member. Suzanne comes to us with a wealth of experience, which includes developing multi-cultural programs in several states. Originally from



New Board Member Suzanne and friend Lucy Washington collaborated in performing song and poetry.

Pennsylvania, she now resides in California.

She is a member of several organizations committed to cross-cultural communication, including being a Board Member of Women and Life on Earth (Boston/Berlin based); President/CEO/ Founder of the International Association for Women of Color Day; and President of the

Jack Hall Foundation of Sacramento, California (for young unwed mothers). Her background includes a BA from LaSalle University, an MA from Washington State University and is currently working on a doctorate from The Fielding Institute.

At the Annual Meeting this fall, Suzanne gave us a lively demonstration of the Hula, incorporating dance, chant, gourd and plenty of aloha spirit. She inspired several attendees to leap to their feet and dance along with her. (#)



First Woman Coalminer

The beam from your helmet Undimmed by the dust You emerge from more Than a mine. From my own dark hole I look hard at you, Digging my own way out Into the light —Suzanne Brooks

Suzanne Brooks' Magazine Venture

In addition to her many other projects, Suzanne Brooks is reviving a magazine that she previously published called the *Education and Employment Diversity/Equity Quarterly*. Suzanne describes it as a publication for individuals, institutions, organizations, businesses, community and cultural groups who are looking for a rich information source filled with useful, provocative, and relevant information on issues of diversity, equity, justice and culture. Each issue covers such topics as employment, and education news and concerns, role models, contemporary culture, unique businesses and organizations meeting cultural needs, and community concerns.

Contact her for writer's guidelines and financial details by E-mail at: <CreativeSy@aol.com>. Identify "Quarterly Submission" in subject line. Or you can take the plunge and mail submissions, along with sufficient postage for the return of your materials to: Roxane Fritz, Executive Editor, Creative Concepts Systems, 3325 Northrop Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95864.

Suzanne is also a poet, and has published three books of verse. Look for more of her poems elsewhere in this issue! (#)

Progression

The rain in all those want-filled days of ragged clothes and roaches washed away the dirt and cold of being poor. We laughed and splashed in storms now forgotten in today's neat row house with well-poured martini. Yet, when I consider the sterile, insulate future, I stand in the sun alone, on the verge of tears.



LISLE Interaction

Thinking about Lisle

By Suzanne Brooks

S ince I'm an activist, some might think that I would have a personal definition of social justice handy—but I don't. Years ago, I wrestled with definitions and debated related terms with friends and foes alike. Now, I find that there is so much to be done, and so little time in which to do it, that I spend less time on the theoretical."

This quotation is the opening of the section focused on my activist work in the article, *Social Justice: The Fielding Community Speaks*, which appears in the Winter 2002 issue of the *Fielding Focus*, published by the Fielding Institute of Santa Barbara. The article highlights the thoughts of nine faculty and students. For me, it represents the ongoing evolution of my life and life's work which have been enhanced qualitatively and quantitatively by individuals, groups and institutions I have come to cherish.

I think it is in the nature of activism, that activists themselves are either loved or disliked. We are the ones who enjoy service as volunteers. We love the camaraderie, as much as the joint sense of purpose found with those who share our ideas and ideals. We are also the ones most likely to point out the "emperor's new clothes."

In my case, much of my life has been spent in civil rights battles—largely in higher education institutions. No battlefield could be more daunting. As an education administrator charged with addressing discrimination on campuses, I have often found myself wrestling with the complainant who turned to me for help as much as struggling with the perpetrator of some discrimination or abuse. It is this double struggle that can lead the strongest advocate to despair.

I was deeply engaged in such a struggle in 1996, when for some reason, I came across a few Lisle brochures in my office. I recalled having referred students to the organization and encouraging participation, but no one I knew had ever gone on a Lisle trip. In the midst of the court battle about discrimination, which was rapidly depleting my emotional and financial resources, I had returned to study as a doctoral student at the Fielding Institute. Suddenly, it occurred to me, why not try to go on a Lisle trip myself. I completed the paperwork and mailed it. Dianne Brause responded.

The call from Dianne was a gift. Though there was no scholarship available, she regretted, she offered her deep and sincere interest in the work I had done and the difficult time I was enduring. At the end of the call, I had a new friend. Some days or weeks later, an opportunity to participate in the Costa Rica program emerged. I used my last resources to purchase the plane ticket and was on my way to an experience unlike any I'd ever had before.

I was not new to travel, including international travel, but the Lisle experience was so much more than just a trip. It was as much about getting to know, learn from and share with my cotravelers as it was about Costa Rica. I have many fond memories from 1996, but most of all, I came away with the knowledge that there are many more activists in the world than I had imagined. We may be in different places and be working on different projects, but our concerns, our values, our deep commitment to humanity and the global environment are the same.

Since then, I have become more and more a part of the family—a family which not only celebrates differences but is unafraid to challenge and question each other from a position of trust in our mutual respect. We disagree honestly and passion-ately, but without hostility. We agree heartily and with much laughter and a fair share of song. There is a broad, reciprocal kindness and genuine concern for each other and for all around us that I recall with warmth whenever I read or hear the name, Lisle. The smiles, the circles of hands, the applause freely and widely given—all give me hope, assure me that our work is not only worthwhile, but successful.

I was honored to be invited to join the Lisle Board and have now been inspired to take my second Lisle journey—to the Netherlands. I have also decided to visit Anna Gyorgy and Women and Life on Earth (an international women's peace organization) in Berlin (I also serve on their board); to meet women in a Netherlands Women of Color group that I have mentored via the Internet; to attend a Global Business/Government Women Leaders conference hosted by Irene Natividad in Marrakech and to go to Rome, Assisi, Pisa and maybe Florence. Along the way, I will promote March 1st as International Women of Color Day and the publication of the *Education and Employment Diversity/Equity Quarterly. (See adjoining article.)*

This will be one of the most important trips of my life, coming about because of the inspiration and understanding I have drawn from Lislers. What is it that I am getting? I feel a sense of belonging, the warmth of understanding, encouragement for my activities and hope for the future. On a personal level, I have found friends, like Chris Coons, with whom I am sure I shall always be able to share my brightest success or darkest hour. Now I am working to bring old and new friends together, to bring others similar to and different from us into the Lisle family. I am excitedly looking forward to 2003 and the years after, hoping to make a contribution, which repays at least a little for all Lisle gives. I hope, too, to be a bridge which connects many other groups and individuals to Lisle and have begun working in that direction. \bigoplus



Tisle Program Highlights Sector Photo Journal Pacific Northwest Program, 2002



The group of eager participants at Lost Valley Center, Dexter, Oregon. L–R, standing: Benian, Keran. L–R, seated: Avery, Joseph, Sara, Yolande, Alfredo, Lisa, Evan, Leyla, Roy



While in Washington, they visited Chief Seattle's grave in Suquamish. Chief Seattle is known for his diplomacy and friendliness across cultures. The group focused their exploration of Northwest culture on Native American salmon traditions.



The group participated in alternative building techniques, among them this Papercrete maker. Concrete was mixed with paper pulp to make durable ecological building blocks.



The group visited another unique community in Oregon: Deadwood. They cleared brush and felled dangerous trees. It was hot, but they got a lot done. The Community was very appreciative of their efforts.



Berry picking excursion to a local farm to glean post-harvest leftover berries. Berry picking gave an opportunity for group members to bond as they worked together.



LISLE Interaction

🗺 Lisle Program News 🗺

THE NETHERLANDS

THE MULTICULTURAL FACE OF EUROPE JUNE 16 - JULY 4, 2003.

This three-week unit will provide a chance to learn about how a densely populated country like Holland copes with immigration and integration issues, and how the Dutch methods compare to those in other countries.

After a period of introduction and getting acquainted, we will have a sequence of speakers and discussions on Dutch/European history and recent changes focused on globalization and immigration. These will be interspersed with visits to local communities and the nearby world famous Kröller-Müller museum, among other places.

During the the second and third weeks, the group will visit Amsterdam, Rotterdam and The Hague to experience in reality what we have talked about during the first week. We will visit multicultural institutions and local landmarks. We will visit a reclaimed Zuiderzee area and a new town, as well as interact with local planners and multicultural experts. We may also visit the Delta Works to learn about the "fight against water."



The intention is to alternate these all-day trips with days of more regional, slower-paced activities, such as visits to nearby multicultural sites, the market in Zwolle, a boat ride through rural canals (Giethoorn), and perhaps a sail on an old fishing vessel. Home stays will be arranged for a long weekend between the second and third week, so participants can become acquainted with life in a typical Dutch family.

The group will stay in a roomy house in the middle of Holland in a wooded area. Cooking and house keeping will be done by the members of the group. The area is a good area for relaxing. Lots of walking and bicycling are possible. The group will have the use of its own transportation; the large cities mentioned above can be reached in about an hour, barring traffic jams.

The leadership team includes people from both the Netherlands and the USA. Coen and Tineke van der Wal are a Dutch retired couple who participated in a Lisle group in Turkey (1997) and a reunion in India (2000). Their primary responsibility will be the organization of the unit's daily activities. Judy Brown is a writer and retired teacher who with her husband Jack, has worked as a leader with three other Lisle programs, and is currently on the Lisle Board. She enjoys facilitating good discussion. Yolande Houben lived and studied 2 years in the USA and participated in that time in the Washington '66 Lisle Unit. She is a psychologist, (M.A. at the University of Amsterdam) working for YFU International Exchange, an organisation that sends and receives international students from all over the world to live with host families and study a year or semester abroad. She is an intercultural trainer and counselor and traveled widely in Europe, Asia (Japan), South America (Chili), Mexico, Canada and the USA.

Cost: \$1500 EURO, variable depending on the current USD/EURO exchange rate.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Growing Friendships June 16-29, 2003

• Build and repair homes in a sugar cane village (batey) with local people

• Cultivate bridges between peoples of the D.R., North America & Haiti

• Enjoy swimming in the warm ocean waters & cooling off in inland rivers

• Explore diverse ecosystems: mountains, coastal areas & rich farmlands

• Experience the land that Christopher Columbus "discovered" in 1492

• Create friendships while working, playing and traveling as a diverse group.



This intercultural and intergenerational program will be a pilot project between Lisle, Inc. and SELIDER of Santiago, D.R. A group of youth, adults and elders from several countries will work and sweat, talk and share, argue and laugh and become friends and a "family" of diverse backgrounds, interests and skills.

After an initial orientation to the program, the country and the people of the Dominican Republic, the group will tour this exciting island with its many colors, flavors and rich history. We will taste the local cuisine, enjoy the sunny beaches, get a glimpse into the variety of

(Cont'd next page)

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lifestyles of the Dominican people and try out our Spanish and our ability to dance and sing with our generous and fun-loving hosts.

During the second week, we will settle into a small guesthouse, called El Parador, in the village of San Rafael on the southeastern shore of the island. Meals will be simple and plentiful. Each day, we will travel by bus to the nearby town of Barahona, where we will work along-side the Haitian and Dominican cane cutters who live in the bateves. Some of the service work will be strenuous, but the lighter jobs will be given to the older or less able participants. Those with advanced Spanish may be able to create other service projects in areas such as health, education or creative arts.

While knowledge of conversational Spanish is not necessary, it will enhance the participant's ability to deepen new friendships. A willingness to interact, learn, grow and respect all others is a commitment asked of all participants. Meetings will be held daily to share what is being learned and felt by participants. Since the Dominicans and Haitians have had a long history of mistrust, and the USA has influenced Dominican political, economic and military history over the years, this project will be a mini-experiment in learning the skills and value of good communication and peace making.

Leaders: Oscar Canizares of the Foundation SELIDER and Camping Tours, Inc. has many years of experience working with Dominican youth to increase their knowledge of their country, enhance their leadership skills and sense of self esteem and offer them opportunities to provide service to those less fortunate than themselves. **Dianne Brause** of Lisle, Inc. was a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Dominican Republic from 1967 to 1969. She is a Lisle Board Member and has created, led and participated in Lisle programs on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in SD, in Mexico, in Hawaii (as guests of the Native Hawaiians), in Costa Rica and in India. Dianne has written many articles about socially and environmentally responsible tourism for a variety of magazines.

COST: \$1,000 - \$1250 (Sliding scale); \$ 77 \$850. (Youth 12+, second family member or low-income adult

Anyone who has contacts for potential participants, funding sources or scholarships, please contact her at <diannebr@lostvalley.org>.

SELIDER of Santiago, Dominican Republic is a foundation designed to support youth development, enhancement and service work. It is working in collaboration with the Dominican Presidential Plan to Aid Against Poverty, bringing youth into the poor areas to support in projects such as building and repairing homes within the bateyes among the Haitian inhabitants,

Ages 12 and up are welcome!

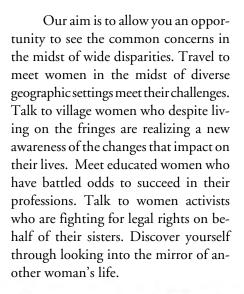
Costs: Sliding Scale for Adults: \$1000-\$1200. Youths and low-income: \$750-\$850.

INDIA: WOMEN'S VOICES

OCTOBER 19 TO NOVEMBER 8, 2003 NOTE: The program dates are tentative. Alternatively the program may occur in early 2004

Meet women in another part of the world; listen to their voices, share their silences. Discover yourself through looking into the mirror of another woman's life. Take this opportunity to travel through India meeting women in their diverse roles and regions, in homes and at the workplace.

Listen to their questions. Understand to their concerns. Learn about commonalities. Seek to understand the Indian woman's world!





Sharada Nayak, the leader, is an international educator and longtime Indian advocate for equal opportunity for women and minorities, will share her insights and enthusiasm. Ms. Nayak has been actively involved in Lisle since the early 1950's, and also led the 1998– 2001 Programs.

Cost: \$1,950 for double occupancy. Single room supplement \$300. Entrance fees to monuments and museums. are not included. Airfare and airline reservations to and from Unit site are the responsibility of the participant.

COSTA RICA 2003

COMMUNITY, NATURE & ECOTOURISM NOVEMBER 23–DECEMBER 18, 2003 Many who join the Lisle Costa Rica program leave with similar feelings of *(Cont'd next page)*



🗺 Lisle Program News 🗺

being connected to a new culture and with a new found desire to explore the world which surrounds them.



On our next program in Costa Rica, we will explore the issues of nature, community, ecotourism, and ourselves. We will discover the richness of different local perspectives while traveling through mountains, rain forests, and coastline in one of the most beautiful and bio-diverse countries in the world. We ask you to bring a sense of adventure for possible service projects, brief home stays, rustic accommodations and explorations into lush tropical environments.

We will visit a network of agricultural, eco-tourist cooperatives, and have the opportunity to learn from different host communities and their environments. Through journeying into biological preserves, we will have a chance to understand their perspective on the nature that surrounds us. Through noting and observing negative environmental impacts in Costa Rica and by meeting the people that are working to create sustainable solutions, we will gain knowledge of environmental concerns that have become global issues. While walking beneath canopy of jungle and cloud forest, and along the enticing coastline, we will see and feel the magic of tropical nature.

But mostly, by being conscious, interactive travelers we will learn more about ourselves as individuals, eco-tourists and global citizens. Group dynamics, discussions, consensus decision making, intercultural exchange, and the mission of becoming global citizens are issues we will explore. Leadership in Lisle is a function not a role. Run largely by a community of volunteers, Lisle helps to facilitate a group experience where all are considered leaders and equals in the community. Lisle believes in learning through experience and communicating with each other to gain appreciation of the world and lives that we all share.

The travel will be rough at times but well worth it. We will travel by bus with local participants to rustic, shared accommodations with at least one home stay—all the while being surrounded by an abundant tropical environment and a feeling of "pura vida," pure life—the motto of Costa Rica. Knowledge of Spanish may enrich your experience but is not required. All ages and abilities are welcome. Though some activities may require a certain degree of physical activity, we will attempt to accommodate all participants' interests and abilities.

We hope that you can join us for an incredible journey into the land and communities of Costa Rica.

Trip Leader: John Kachuba has been to Costa Rica three times as a leader on a Lisle program and has developed ties to the communities we visit. He is a writer and teacher at Ohio University.

Costs: \$1800 + airfare: (Student price: \$1,650). ⊕

...the people are so welcoming, sweet, generous, and knowledgeable about their surroundings. The kids are the best part for me though. (Costa Rica 2001 journal)

Administrative Details

The international nature of Lisle's programs means that travel or accomodation plans could change because of economic, political and natural disruptions. Up-to-date schedules, plans and prices are available upon request and may supercede information enclosed herein.

Applications—You can downloaded one from the web site at: www.lisleinternational.org. Or request one in writing from the Lisle Office at: 900 County Road 269, Leander, TX 78641. You can also phone for more information at: 1-800-477-1538.

Deposit/Payment—A \$250 deposit is required with the application. A refund policy is available upon request. The remainder of the program fee is due ten weeks prior to the starting date.

Cost—Includes room & board, and program related in-country travel. Airfare and airline reservations to and from Program site are the responsibility of the participant.

Academic Credit—The University of Toledo offers up to six semester hours credit for students who take part in a Lisle program; it waives the out-of-state tuition surcharge. To take advantage of this, please discuss the situation with your college advisor. Contact Lisle's Program Dirrector, Dr. Mark Kinney, at <mkinney@utnet.utoledo.edu>.

Financial Assistance—Lisle has limited funds available to assist several participants to attend Lisle programs. The numbers of participants receiving funds, as well as the amounts allocated, is variable. Lisle has several endowed scholarship funds available to assist a participant to attend a Lisle program. The back of the application form has instructions on requesting financial assistance. We also know how others have raised funds in the past. Ask us for ideas! \bigoplus

🗺 Lisle Friends Network 🗺

As always, it is so nice to stay in touch with what yo u all are doing. Thanks very much to both Chris Coons and Lane Winnet for their hard work in handling the letters, E-mails and phone calls from you. Our Lisle Network is indeed widespread, and the friendships formed during the various programs over the years continue to be refreshed through this section of Interaction—Editor Dianne G. Brause

Edith Ballard (former Bd. director, CO '44, CA '52, DE '54, CR '99) writes "I am searching for the unit of SNG, Cheng Khoong." Does anyone have any contact information? Contact her at <edith@all-systems.com>. Edith and her sister, **Norma Stephens** (CR '99) enjoyed Annual Meeting in the fall. She recently cruised the Inside Passage in Alaska!

George Cole (NY '38, '45, '46, '47, CA '43, CO '46, '47, CT '48, '50) is diligently working Edith on the Lisle Directory database.

Mogens Jensen wrote this to Edith Ballard: "I will list the units we were in: Jean: CO '46, Den. '54, Ger. '62; Mogens: CA '57, Ger '59 (Leader), Ger. '62 (Leader) So you can see that Jean and I were together in Ger '62 where I was the Leader and Jean the Co-Leader. We also both attended the Family Unit in Michigan in '56. You must have met Jean at the Thanksgiving recess in '53 at the Methodist Church camp near Benton Harbor, MI. We were at the 1955 Thanksgiving at the same place. I remember walking at the shore collecting driftwood, and someone used it in the fireplace. Jean and I were married in Sep '55, the year I came to the States. The two German Units I led were Ketterswang and Kaufbeuren. Hej, it is fun to try to remember this! Let me know if you need some more "remember when's." You can reached Mogens at <jensen183@home.com>

Ted Crawford (CO '49) has co-authored book with Albert Ellis: *Making Intimate Connections: 7 Guidelines for Great Relationships and Better Communication.*

Dr. Donald E. Cowing (Bali '92, '93) continues to enjoy Maine and its seasonal beauty, especially when brothers are there.

Ted Klaseen (CO '48, CA '59) reported successful bypass heart surgery, and the Dean Coons' were glad to see Ted and wife Vi, at annual November Methodist social action retreat in No. California. Ted was doing well.

Marna Feldt (CO '56, JAM '57) past board member and executive secretary, sends "Congratulations to Marty Tillman on becoming president of Lisle!"

Katherine Lazarus (CO '43) an exemplary Lisler in her 55 year Jewish-Gentile marriage and "Rainbow family"; hosting member and weekly volunteer for SERVAS for many years; peace activist and 46 year resident in an integrated Brooklyn, NY neighborhood. **Rosalind Murray Meyer** (NY '48, Spain '73) Congratulations to Rosalind and Richard as "Man and Woman of the Year" for work with Leukemia Society Campaign in SE Michigan, and September found them receiving the "Salute to Excellence" from Downriver Council for the Arts.

Barbara Goss (CO '47) as a retired teacher, keeps busy playing lots of tennis and participating in dog shows.

Mary Anne Tiley (NY '47) of Algonac, MI is trying to start a Web business, but finds time to volunteer at church and for Habitat for Humanity. She enjoys baking, watching the freighters going by on the St. Clair River, as well as helping the birds and ducks become fat and happy.

Wilma Comstock Martinez (CO '44) and husband Rafael, have found a retirement community: Westminster Woods, 1500 Bishop Estates Rd, Apt. 17A, Jacksonville, Florida, 32259. Their children live in TX and CA.

Rev. Richard Chartier (Lisle Program Director '85, '86), Poughkeepsie, NY sends his best wishes to Lisle. He is a semiretired ordained minister and adjunct professor at Duchess Community College, teaching major religions and social problems.

Cora Belle Crane (CO '45) at age 83, reports she is "somewhat slower" but continues to be active with her church, counsels "older" adults with health insurance needs and gives help with genealogy.

Gladys Gray (NY '36, CO '42) at age 85, tells us she is "not too active" but her Lisle experiences "made her a pacifist". From that beginning, she and her husband as Quakers worked for AFSC, serving in California, South Korea, India and Philadelphia, PA. She is grateful to Lisle for inspiring her to these wonderful years of service.

Viola Druss Rosenheck (NY '39) 3701 Henry Hudson Parkway, Riverdale, NY 10463, asks, "Who else is around from Lisle '39?"

Charlotte (Cherry) Wunderlich (CA '64) does editorial work for non-profits, businesses and professionals. She finds rewarding volunteer work with a wonderful support and educational organization, Thyca (Thyroid Cancer Survivors Association). Cherry serves on the national board as corresponding secretary, writer and editor. For more information on Thyca, visit their website at: <www.thyca.org>.

Yolande Houben-Nijst (DC '66, WA '02) will be on the leadership team for June 2003's Lisle Unit in The Netherlands.

Fleda A. Jones (CO '44) is busy in many activities, including studying the Japanese language.

Catherine Peters (CO '49, '51, BALI '88) enjoys retirement, her church activities, and was especially glad to have attended the Annual Meeting in California this fall.



Ransford S. Cooper (CA '52, '54) is "Glad to still be kickin'!"

Helen Whitacre Burke (NY '41) has fond memories of finding Betty & Walt Ligon on the same Caribbean cruise in 1999!

Joanna Nesselroad (CO '45) had cancer surgery in 2001, but is grateful for husband Paul and supportive son and daughter. She's very proud of young adult grandchildren.

Muriel Carlson (NY '39) is trying to keep up with her Email <carlson680@aol.com> as health problems permit, but gets to church, several clubs, symphony. "Lisle was the most meaningful and broadening experience of my college years!"

Dean Stout (CO '47, SD '89) of Manson, WA is busy as building manager for Lake Chelan Habitat for Humanity, and he volunteers two days a week helping first graders learn math.

Orion Six (CA '50, MI '50, OK '93, '94, '95) has slowed down due to recent illnesses, but still makes time for Jacobson Native American Cultural Center and Retired Sr. Vol. Program.

Olive McWilliams Leonard (NY '41) resides at 205 Wilson Ave, Satellite Beach, FL 32937. She credits Lisle with personal fond memories and those of family members being involved in international travel and programs encouraging international understanding.

Helen M. Ergil (CO '43) In September 2001 she moved from Palo Alto, CA to a life-care community in Southbury, CT. She is near her ancestral home in Woodbury, close to son and involved in historical society, library and nature center activities.

Gordon Streib (NY '42) writes "60 years ago my Lisle experience was an important point in my life. I was drafted as a CO and spent 45 months in Quaker camps. Today the world needs Lisle, and many other similar organizations. May it live long and continue to bring about peace and freedom."

Maude Martin Johns (CO '45) spends time with each of her six children and volunteers with AARP as a tax consultant. She was among the 9000 women in attendance at United Methodist Women's Assembly in Philadelphia.

Joyce Hardin (CO '46, NY '47, Family Camps '56, '61, Elderhostel '90, '91, BALI '92, OK '93) a former board member is full-time caregiver for husband, Fred. She's a part-time grandmother to eight grandchildren, ages 8–22 years.

Honey Eisenberg (CA '54) and husband Bill, architect, enjoy living in the San Francisco Bay Area (Walnut Creek, CA) near daughters and their families. Honey teaches ESL to adults for various corporations; she's happy to have found Chris Coons (Lafayette, CA) in same exercise class, and has connected with her CA '54 unit members. The Eisenbergs enjoyed participating in Annual Meeting, and their assistance on the planning team was part of its success.

Muriel Hibbard McClure (CO '48, CT '48, '49) awaits Lislers phoning for B & B accommodations in Sedona, Arizona. Don't disappoint her! Call: 928-282-9521.

Dr. Thomas Maxwell (NY '48, MI '42, CA '61, CO '62) made a journey from home in Thousand Oaks, CA, across the country to Florida's Suwannee River, and explored this historical river basin by kayak.

Wally Allen (Denmark '54) sends his greetings and good wishes to all from Tucson, AZ.

Dr. Claire Fulcher, Board Member in the 1970's, writes of joy of learning of Betty and Walt Ligon's Service Award, and how they "truly deserve incredible recognition".

Roy and Mirabel Deming (CO '43, '44, '52, NY '44, '45, '47, '48, '49, Family Camp '56, Elderhostel '91) are active in peace and justice concerns in Janesville, WI area and enjoy their five children and 12 grand children! A full-service retirement community meets their needs, and they are close to Lislers Ginny and Larry Judd in Whitewater, WI.

Virginia and Laurence Judd (CO '41, '44) thank the Lislers, **Chuck and Yoshi Varney**, (NY '47) for leading them to Fairhaven Retirement Community. Lots of good memories are shared when these LISLE families gather.

Rev. Donald E. Wise (CO '45) in 14th year of retirement, though busy with activities in Methodist church: teaching an adult class of 30, co-chair of Social Action and Outreach, singing in a 28 voice choir, volunteering with Red Cross and Midwest Distribution Center. (I'm sure these Decatur, IL Lislers are missed when they retreat to NW Wisconsin in the summer, and to Florida in February—Editor)

Hester Duncan Willis (DN '57) of Grand Rapids, MI, is retired, but continues to work with CASA, the court appointed advocates for family court. Hester wonders if other Lislers find this volunteer program as rewarding as she? Contact her at this e-mail: https://www.esterwillis@aol.com.

Ray and Anja Miller (DN '55, '59, CA '57) are busy Lislers in community and international activities. Ray is professor during the Fall semester at San Francisco State University. Anja translates and interprets whenever she can. Their help was greatly appreciated in planning the fall Annual Meeting in San Francisco area.

Edith Ballard wrote that **Thomas Maxwell** (NY '48, MI '49, CA '62, Colombia '66) is in the search of a book entitled *Interaction: The Democratic Process.* He wasn't the author, but he did update Edith on the books he's written. "Sorry, that doesn't sound like anything I wrote. My most recent book was *(Cont'd next page)*



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Hiking in Wildwood Regional Park: Natural History, Folklore, and Trail Guide. The SMMNRA visitor center has been selling it like day-old bread. Ten years ago I did a book on the local Chumash Indians in the Conejo Valley. It is entitled, *The Temescals of Arroyo Conejo*. Both books are fully illustrated with photos and drawings of my own design and both are full of stories that can be read to or by children. It has a glossary and index which adults can help them access. The cover of the Wildwood book has a color reproduction of the Conejo buckwheat, a rare and endangered species that grows only here and on a nearby mountain." You can reach him at <tmaxwell@nobles.callutheran.edu>.

Carl Kline writes "life is full and immensely satisfying. Brenda and I are now the proud grandparents of four grandchildren, from six years of age to three months. My passion continues to be nonviolence! I try to give expression to that passion in my work with *Nonviolent Alternatives*, in my teaching at the University of Sioux Falls in the Education Department (I teach the "Human Relations" course and also do "Creative Conflict Resolution" workshops for teachers); in teaching "World Religions" at Mt. Marty College; in pastoring a small, rural, UCC congregation; and in my volunteer work with Peace Brigades International. A newer interest is antiques and collectibles. I have booths in some local malls and often work in one, in what I call my "recycling" business. I've come to especially appreciate the artisans of old buttons, marbles and books."

Eva Reich (CO '41) sent Marty Tillman a letter from her home in Maine asking that she be removed from the mailing list after receiving our mail for 50 years! She is in ill health and unable to get around after a fall. She fondly recalls her "deputations" in her unit. She had dedicated her life to God after many years of work in the nonprofit world. She signed her letter, "With a loving heart."

Deceased Lislers

All of us at Lisle extend our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of Lislers listed below:

Daisy Carr of Lubbock, TX reported that her husband, **Gaylan Carr** (CO '47) died in March 2002. He had fond memories of his Lisle experience. Because he always enjoyed reading Interaction, Daisy wants to continue receiving the newsletter.

George Crossman who attended and led units in CA, CO and Germany in the '50s, reported the death of his wife, **Rita (Kay) Crossman** (CO '55, '58). Rita passed away in 2000.

The daughter of **Charlotte (Hall-Sheldon) Berlow** (NY '42) reported that her mother passed away in 2001.

Dr. Werner Diller of Leverkusene, Germany (CA '50) passed away in August 2002. Frau Karin Diller wrote: "my husband always liked to tell me about his Lisle seminar in California, half a century ago".

Edwin Bissell (NY'39); Mary Felton (NY'38); Bernadette (Pascucci) Goodman (NY '64); Sophia (Wakim) Karayusuf (CO '42); Rev. Donald Kessler (CO '41); Rex Knowles (NY '39); Satya Paul Raheja (Denmark '55); Susan Dail Ross (CO '57); Jo Marie (Thompson) Ruddell (NY '37); Marie K. Savage (Elderhostel '90); Elaine Schmidt (CA '53); Hans Schmidt (CO '51, DC '54); Warren Sherk (NY '36); Rajendra Vikramsingh (MI '49); Ed Wieben (CO '41); and Sigrid Willadsen (CA '51).

Deceased "Friends" of Lisle we've heard passed on are Carolyn Bernstein Ferry; Dr. Kathrine Whiteside Taylor; A.J. Walton; Professor Charles McCoy, a United Methodist pastor, civil rights activist and ethicist, in Berkeley CA. (#)

International Travelers

The seeds of travel are often fertilized by Lisle experiences, with Lislers globe-trotting all over the world well into their years. Here's what some Board Members have been doing between meetings!—Editor

Judy Brown visited Lislers in India and Holland.

Marty Tillman is off to Bologna, Italy and the SAIS campus there along with a State deptartment-sponsored trip to work with educators in the Republic of Georgia in March.

Bett & Walt Ligon after attending the Annual Meeting in San Francisco Bay Area, they enjoyed a great train ride from Seattle, WA back to Michigan. In November they headed to London for a month.

Gail Bier, in this past year, reviewed current and potential program sites in Ghana, where she also took a 10-day seminar on economic development. She worked in Italy, France, Portugal and Spain as well. Her time on these trips is spent speaking with faculty, administrators, viewing classroom, student housing, etc.. In 2003 she plans to go to Rio de Janeiro and to Chile. In April she will be in China. During the summer she has initial plans to be in Russia for vacation."

Dianne Brause attended the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the US Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic last spring, and there met Oscar Carnizarra, who is heading up the prepartion phase of a new Lisle program there. *(See more on page 15)*.



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Lisle Is Leading the Way to Mutual and Reciprocal Understanding

By Nancy Jo Zinner

It is impossible to predict the extent that the events of September 11, 2001—as well as the potential imminent threat of war we now face—will continue to impact travel and tourism, and yet many of us continue to be lured into promises of leisure, sun, sand, and shopping. "Typical" organized tours limit travelers' interactions with locals, who are mainly seen as entertainers, merchants, and service-workers. Too often, trav-

elers return home with unbalanced and unrealistic perceptions of the values and customs of the local people. What these kinds of tours so desperately lack is what Lisle has proven it does best: creating domestic and overseas units offering meaningful opportunities for Lislers to have genuine and reciprocal encounters with local people in non-commercial settings.

I came to know about Lisle back in the mid-1990s while I was a graduate student of intercultural management at the School for International Training (Brattleboro, VT).

My previous travel experiences in Asia, as well as my work as a tour guide for international high school students, inspired me to write a thesis about organizations that claim to offer culturally-oriented travel programs. Natu-

rally, once I discovered Lisle and its mission to enhance crosscultural understanding, I knew that I wanted to be part of the Lisle Family.

Through an exhaustive search, I pinpointed six organizations that fit my criteria.

My intention here is not to provide you with a comparison of any kind, but rather to briefly highlight the aspects of a particular Lisle unit that made for the most outstanding cultural immersion unit in the bunch. By phone, I interviewed then-President of the Board Barbara Bratton and Board Member Dianne Brause, both of whom had recently returned from a Lisle unit in Costa Rica. They spoke passionately about the encounters they had with the local people: staying in their homes, living alongside them in farming cooperatives, cooking and eating, dancing and talking together, and performing community service. Of course, there was plenty of time to take in the sights and commune with nature—actively and in relax mode!



Nancy Jo Zinner at the October Annual Meeting.

Lisle's emphasis on the group process is the key in setting it apart from the rest. Lisle leaders do much more than balance budgets and plan activities. They must demonstrate their ability to be culturally sensitive and flexible in the face of unpredictable conditions (such as those that surface especially in a developing country such as Costa Rica). Lisle leaders must be able to abstain from judgment and giving orders; instead, they create safe spaces in which to pursue active listening and consensus decision-making. They must be diligent in inviting all group members to test their assumptions, air their concerns, and lend support to one another. Leaders find ways to utilize

> local input, services and talent to maximize benefits to the local community. Including locals in the Lisle unit itself, while posing additional cultural challenges that transcend just language differences, added another unique element to the Costa Rica units, in particular. Working in tandem with local contacts, leaders create opportunities for exchanges that are mutually and reciprocal in nature so that both travelers and locals alike are afforded the chance to learn about one another.

> In studying various philosophical and programmatic elements in several cultural travel programs, I developed a deeper understanding of the importance that Lisle, especially, plays in helping to create competent global citizens. With units in do-

mestic and overseas settings, units in developing and developed countries, units that include people of all ages-all of which emphasize the importance of the healthy functioning of the group as an integral part of the cultural travel experiencewhat I found is that Lisle still has a ways to go in one main area: the lack of diversity of its participants. Through its current campaign to solicit donations for scholarships, Lisle is renewing its effort to expand its membership across racial, ethnic and economic lines. Simply stated, the greater the diversity within our ranks, the more we can potentially learn about ourselves and about one another-and the more we have to share and offer when we travel together. Hopefully you have already received correspondence from us about contributing to our Scholarship Fund. If you haven't already done so, please consider making your donation today. The "face" of our organization depends on our efforts to be inclusive, open and worldly in our composition and focus.

Carl Klein's Thoughts on War

Blow are excerpts from an essay written by Lisler Carl Kline. He is a former Lisle Board member and Leader to India, he currently teaches and is the Campus Minister at South Dakota State University and Co-founder of Nonviolent Alternatives. The full essay appeared in the Fall/Winter 2002 issue of One Step, the newsletter of Nonviolent Alternatives, 825 4th St, Brookings, South Dakota 57006; <carlek@brookings.net>. It is printed with permission.

"There were many mornings on the Rosebud program when I would walk through the prairie grasses and observe the [spider's] web work of the previous night....I was always awed at the complexity and uniqueness of each one...I'm thinking these days about the web of war. We wake sometimes in the morning to find it has gained a new form, or been constructed on in a new place, overnight. It is hugely complex and engineered by the best and the brightest. The resources for building it are enormous and it catches all of us in the web. But I also know that webs collapse and dissolve...they all disappear with time. We need to remember this about the web of war. We can help remove the support strands. The web can be torn down.

"One support strand for the web of war is *morality*. Different moral justifications are used to hold the web of war in place, when in reality, there is no longer any moral foundation for war. War in the 21st century is a response of ethical and moral bankruptcy. ...In our time, the only moral response to violence is nonviolence and a commitment to justice. It is the only response that works. We need to share these understandings with others who are still acting out of dated and failed strategies and wrong-hearted responses.

"A second support strand for the web of war is *fear*. This was an essential ingredient in determining the result of the U.S. mid-term elections [last November]. People are frightened: of terrorists, of snipers, of traveling, of school shootings, of economic loss, of random violence, and of angry people. Followers of Mahatma Gandhi teach us that fearlessness is a necessary characteristic of satyagraha. The New Testament teaches the same thing, "there is no fear in love." We need to rebuild neighborhoods and communities where caring and compassionate relationships ensure security and justice.

"If we can remove these strands of the web of war in our own lives, reaching out to others, this engineered marvel will be fatally weakened. War cannot survive without a moral foundation and without large numbers of people being governed by the antithesis of love, fear...Gandhi was right! Nonviolence is the way of our being! Violence is the aberration! We need to remind ourselves of this truth and act on it in these dangerous times."

6LOBAL EXCHANGE Global Exchange (<www.globalexchange.org>) is an international human rights organization dedicated to promoting political, social and environmental justice globally. Since their founding in 1988, they have been working to increase global

awareness among the U.S. public while building partnerships around the world. Their goals are: (1) to educate the U.S. public about critical global issues; (2) to promote respect for the rights outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; (3) to encourage both the U.S. government and private institutions to support policies that promote democratic and sustainable development; and (4) to link people in our own country and people in the global South who are working for political, social and environmental justice.



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

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

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LISLE

Interaction

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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 emo tional maturity, social sensitivity, self-awareness, and appreciation of cultural diversity.





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Meetings

| Board Meeting | April 24–27, 2003 | Chicago, IL |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Annual Meeting | October 2003 (TBA) | New York, NY |

Programs

| June 16-July 4, 2003 |
|-----------------------|
| June 16–June 29, 2003 |
| Oct. 19-Nov. 8, 2003 |
| Nov. 23-Dec. 18, 2003 |
| |



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