

## *New Global Seed Fund Grants Awarded*

*By Jon Findley*

The Global Seed Fund Grant committee reviewed five proposals requesting funding. Each year we get a variety of proposals and have hard decisions to make. Many of the proposals describe very needy and deserving projects and amazing staff and volunteers doing fantastic work on extremely small budgets. The work of the review committee is not easy but it is rewarding. We see that Lisle can make a difference even with our limited funds.

The job of the committee is to evaluate each proposal, assign points for various factors, and come up with a final score for each proposal that is then used to rank them. The process and the criteria we use are described on the Lisle Web site.

The ranked proposals are then presented to the Lisle Board where the final funding decision is made. This year, the Board's decision was to fund three of the proposals as submitted. The two lowest-ranking proposals either lacked sufficient detail or fell outside Lisle's scope. The unfunded proposals are returned with comments and an invitation to resubmit a revised proposal in the next funding cycle.

The three proposals selected for funding are great examples of how the work of Lisle continues in the new era of Seed Fund Grants. These projects are described below.

### **Empower the Children**

The Lisle funded project, "In Our Global Village – Kolkata, India," of Empower the Children (ETC) will give the children in Kolkata, working with volunteers

from abroad, the opportunity to document their lives and share their world with students in Scotland.

Empower The Children (ETC) provides educational opportunities and school lunch programs for slum-dwelling and disabled children in Kolkata, India. ETC has also an extensive network of volunteers and school children in other parts of the world, creating an ongoing exchange between these distant worlds.



*Rosalie Giffoniello, ETC Founder & Project Director with students from her school in the Calcutta Slums.*

During the past year, ETC has developed a cultural exchange program between seven of its Kolkata schools and seven schools in Perth/Kinross, Scotland. The goal of this partnership is to raise the consciousness of the students in Scotland and help them understand the living conditions of children in another part of the world and to provide the slum-dwelling and dis-

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*Publisher*  
*Lisle, International*  
*Leander, TX*

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## *Submissions Solicited!*

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

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

*<[www.lisleinternational.org](http://www.lisleinternational.org)>*

*Please email your submissions to:*

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abled children in India, whose lives are generally outside of mainstream society, an opportunity to increase their knowledge about the world around them and create a bond with the Scottish children.

Over a three month period in the coming year, about 95 students in ETC's educational programs will be paired with volunteers from abroad to create picture books documenting their worlds and lives. The books will include photos, drawings, and text, enabling the Kolkata students to "speak" directly to their Scottish friends about their everyday lives. It will also provide them an opportunity to look closely at their families and their environment and become aware of things that might benefit from change.

The students will be guided by a group of volunteers who will bring to Kolkata their expertise and enthusiasm. The volunteers will have the opportunity to work closely with the children, get to know them personally, meet their families and explore their environment. Their goals are to assist the students to document their community and learn as much as possible about the students' lives. Very rarely would "outside individuals" have the opportunity to become part of these marginalized communities, which tend to view outsiders with suspicion. But their connection to the ETC schools will provide the volunteers acceptance within these communities.

This will create a rich learning opportunity for all involved—the children in the slums as well as their families, the volunteers who work with them, and the children in Scotland who ultimately receive the books that are made, will all benefit from cultural and personal exchanges involved in this initiative.

Rosalie Giffoniello is the Project Director and the co-founder of ETC. She lives in Calcutta, India and administers educational and food programs for slum-dwelling and disabled children. The Lisle Mentor is Smita Patel.

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#### The Mountain Children's Foundation

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The Mountain Children's Foundation was awarded again Lisle funding for its project, "Uttarakhand Workshop on the Juvenile Justice Act." Lisle funding will support an educational workshop for children from the remote mountain villages of the Indian state of Ut-

tarakhand, located in the Himalayan foothills in North India. The three-day workshop will take place in Dehradun, the state capital of Uttarakhand, with 42 children from all over the state participating. In this mountainous terrain, travel is difficult, and the young people rarely go far from their villages, let alone to another district, so visiting the state capital would be a special learning experience for them.

Using games, field trips, interaction and other activities, the workshop is intended to help children discuss the important problems and issues in their lives vis-à-vis peace and security. It will also help them build leadership skills, learn more about the world, and acquire new ways of thinking and new tools to address the problems facing children in conflict with law or those that are in need of care and protection. The workshop will focus on the state's Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act and how it can help protect children from exploitation and abuse. But as always, the theme will be interlaced with discussions about leadership and citizenship, overcoming barriers between people, the rights (and responsibilities) of children, and how they can help drive the forces of change in their own communities.

The project will seek to involve police officers and senior government officials and bring them together with the children to discuss the JJ act and issues of child safety and protection. This serves the dual purpose of making government, particularly the police, seem less intimidating and more accessible to the children while also carrying the children's voices and concerns to government officials. The outcomes of the workshop, including the children's discussions, will be shared with the Women and Child Department the Social Welfare Department and the Police Department, district-level authorities as well as with Lisle.

The Mountain Children's Foundation (MCF) was one of the first recipients of a Lisle grant and continues to credit Lisle with giving it the boost that enabled it to prove the power of its child-focused model.

Based in the mountain state of Uttarakhand in Northern India, the MCF empowers young people by providing a forum from which they can speak and be heard, harness the power of collective action, access resources, and bring about positive change in their communities. The MCF operates through an innovative and

*(Cont'd on next page)*

unique network of more than 30 partner organizations working with more than 12,000 young people in village-level children's groups in some 500 communities across the state of Uttarakhand. The children's accomplishments through the MCF, which include educating and mobilizing their communities around complex issues such as water resources management, disaster preparedness, and child rights and protection, community engagement and most recently India's Right to Information Act, have astounded their parents, village leaders, and even senior government officials.

Aditi Kaur is the Project Director and the co-founder and president of The Mountain Children's Foundation. Aditi has been with the MCF since its inception in 2002. The Lisle Mentor is Smita Patel.

#### Nepal Charitable Foundation

The purpose of the Bigutar School Book Project, of the Nepal Charitable Foundation, is to provide books for a library at the school. From an academic perspective, a primary problem has been that the students need to pass a national exam in order to graduate and the low graduation rate of about 25% has largely been due to their poor results in science and English. With a few exceptions, the only books available are small, paperback-like versions of perhaps fifty or so pages issued by the government. They are old-fashioned in nature, devoid of any photographs, charts or diagrams and consist largely of passages which are memorized.

Although the school has many problems, just the availability of a variety of books, which might be inspiring, would help. It would be a small, but practical way to improve the school's quality and to help the students, particularly in English and science. The establishment of a library is an attempt at a practical (neutral) and more fundamental way of approaching issues of ethnic tension in the area.

Over time, this project has four goals: first, to buy and transport the proposed books to Bigutar; second, to improve the students' achievement and graduation rate; third, to provide an academic context which will enable the students to solve problems within an open and more analytical framework and fourth, to encourage an environment which will foster the development of many of the ideals for which the Lisle foundation stands, such as

a sense of intercultural awareness, community building and a greater tolerance of different ideas. Assessment and reporting of the first goal can be done immediately. With the establishment of a library, it is hoped that the number of graduates will increase and progress on the second goal can be documented and reported at the end of the school year.

The last two goals are the most difficult to measure, and with regard to the present and recent students, it will take several years to evaluate in terms of long term trends. Since there now seems to be a commitment to improve the educational environment, this long term evaluation will also be possible.



*Students at the Bigutar School in Nepal sit at wooden desks in one of the eight classrooms constructed using local materials.*

The Nepal Charitable Foundation is a federally recognized 501(c)(3) corporation primarily dedicated to investing in the future of Nepal through the promotion of education. Their main goal is the identification and support of promising poor, rural students. One area of focus is a small, remote village called Bigutar. It is a peasant village of about 400 persons situated in the mountains of East Nepal about a half-day's walk away from the district center of Okhaldhunga Bazaar (pop.2000).

*(Cont'd on page 6)*

# *Lisle at 75: Reflections*

*By Marty Tillman*

It's a big deal for any nonprofit organization to celebrate a 75<sup>th</sup> birthday! The Boy Scouts are 100; the Institute of International Education is 85; the YMCA is 87; the YWCA is 94; the American Red Cross is 105; the American Friends Service Committee is 83. In the realm of international education programs, AFS began in 1914 and the Experiment in International Living was established in 1932; the Council on International Educational Exchange in 1947 (and led by Lisle Jack Egle for 30 years.) Good company all!

Lisle and I go back 34 years and in this period alone we have gone through several important transformative periods. For seven years, between 1976 and 1983, I worked as a full-time modestly paid staff member. This was the era when we worked hard to revitalize Lisle on campuses the old fashioned way—by direct visits to offices of study abroad and international student affairs, much as happened in Lisle's earliest years when the Baldwins traveled extensively (and as Finn Hornum did in the 1950s and Jon Findley did in the 1960s.) What was perhaps different for me was that it was my full-time work—it was the start of my professional career as an international educator after graduating from the Experiment in International Living's School for International Training [SIT] in Vermont.

We “experimented” with new materials and applied new language to describe Lisle's philosophy of experiential cross-cultural learning; and we referred to “units” as programs and to the process of shared team experiences happening through “field experience” rather than through deputations. We attached themes to programs to capture the focus of the overall program. But we still kept the overall recruiting focus upon undergraduate college students. We had modest success in bringing new leaders to programs and on occasion we had some especially large programs. But it was always—summer to summer—a difficult venture to fill the programs.

Looking back, I am proud of the fact that, with the support of Uncle Si (DeWitt Baldwin and co-founder with his wife, Edna) I took several risks. Building upon my field work and linkages to the Gandhian community

in India (where I served as an intern in New Delhi at the Gandhi Peace Foundation in 1975 as part of my SIT Masters degree program) we initiated an innovative program in India which lasted for more than a decade into late 1980s. Lisle partnered with the Foundation and my very good friend and research partner, Rita Roy, became Lisle's primary liaison and collaborator in setting up each summer's programs.



*Lisle, New York, June 26, 1943  
Katsuro Miko, Hilda Richard,  
Catherine Glazier, Mary Fabrizio*

Lisle remains very tied to India thanks to the ongoing leadership and support of Lisle Sharada Nayak. Sharada's distinguished career as an educator and champion of intercultural education and study abroad for U.S. students has brought her numerous awards.

A leader of many of this era's programs was Carl Kline, a campus minister whom I first met at Hood College outside Washington, DC; I brought Carl with me to India in one of my first programs and it's fair to say it changed the course of his life at that time. He joined the Board and championed our work with the Gandhian community, with the U.S. peace education network on campus and within the church community as well.

I led two efforts in this period to establish an independent Lisle office away from the Baldwin's retirement residence in Rockville, MD. The first was to move us to space in downtown Washington DC in the offices of the Foreign Student Service Council which was on the grounds of the venerable Meridian Inter-

*(Cont'd on page 6)*

*(Lisle at 75: Reflections from page 5)*

national Center. A classmate of mine from SIT, Terri Rosenblatt, worked for the Council and introduced me to their Executive Director. We remained at the Council for about two years.

And then through a connection I had developed through my SIT internship in India, I urged the Board to consider a bolder step—to develop a partnership with Rockland Community College in Suffern, NY and to create what I called the “Lisle Center for Intercultural Studies.” I had met the President, Seymour Eskow, in India and he was a national leader to internationalize community colleges in the U.S. Lisle agreed to pay half my salary and RCC the other half through a federal grant which was focused on the internationalization of community colleges in New York State. It was here that I met Howard Berry and Linda Chisholm, two innovative educators who would later go on to lead what is now known as the International Partnership for Service-Learning and Leadership. This nonprofit was incubated and launched at Rockland by a team of us and supported by President Eskow. The Partnership was a pioneer in the service-learning field and I was proud to be on their first Board of Directors.

Of course, we need to remind ourselves that Lisle has been instrumental in supporting and launching some of the most important international education organizations of the last century. Lisle was a founding nonprofit member of NAFSA: Association of International Educators (est. in 1948 as the National Association of Foreign Student Affairs); as mentioned earlier, Lisle Jack Egle was Executive Director of the Council for International Educational Exchange for 30 years; Lisle Aage Nielson of Denmark, who after participating in one of the most innovative units ever in 1952—a unit lasting for one year in Connecticut—decided to return to Denmark to create the Scandinavian Seminar and New Experimental College which were both pioneering academic ventures for experiential learning.

The title of the only written history of Lisle is *Tiger by the Tail*, authored by the Baldwins. It’s an apt description of the feisty, informal, non-formal, global, non-hierarchical, slow-to-change, humanistic, and innovative organization, led by a mixed up crew of Board members, that we all love...

*Happy Birthday to us and three cheers to you all!* 🐾

## *The 75<sup>TH</sup> Challenge*

*By Barb Bratton*

**Y**ou all know that the continuation of Lisle depends on bringing in new members with an understanding of the historical impact and future possibilities of this grand ole organization. We challenge each and every one of you to propose a young friend or relative interested in your history of Lisle whom we can enable to attend the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Philadelphia. There will be special programs of interest for them in order to encourage them to become active members in Lisle’s Younger Generation.

For more information email: [<dragnfly@io.com>](mailto:dragnfly@io.com) or write to: 900 County Road 269, Leander, TX 78646

*(Nepal Charitable Foundation, from page 4)*

The Bigutar school includes grades 1-12 and consists of three buildings constructed by the villagers themselves. The buildings, which include eight classrooms were built with local timber, stones, mud and imported sheets of corrugated metal for the roofs. The windows are shuttered without glass and the floors are dirt. The school furniture consists of wooden benches and each classroom has a single light bulb powered by a small hydroelectric turbine. At present, there are about 350 students, some of whom live in villages up to two days walk away. About 40 students thus live in Bigutar as boarders.

Peter Prindle, project leader, is a retired cultural anthropologist who has worked in Iran, Japan and Nepal. He was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Nepal in 1962 and has traveled to Bigutar frequently since 1971. The Lisle Mentor is Nancy Kinney.

We will keep you informed of the progress of these funded projects. If you have any questions or want more detailed information about the organizations or their work, please contact Mark Kinney at [<mark.kinney@utoledo.edu>](mailto:mark.kinney@utoledo.edu). 🐾

# Meet Our New Board President!

By Smita Patel

It is such an honor to be a part of Lisle! I was born in India and came to the US when I was six. I have lived most of my life in California. I realize now what a blessing it is to grow up in two such different worlds, to be able to easily move across cultures, and to be as comfortable in a village hut as in a fancy house. I have also seen that this openness and appreciation for other cultures is a state of being that comes naturally to most Lislors.

Although I never had the transformative experience of participating in a Lisle unit, Lisle has touched and influenced my life in a similar way, nonetheless. In 2005, a seed grant from Lisle transformed the organization my cousin and I had started—The Mountain Children’s Foundation—and gave us the momentum to create a groundbreaking model for youth activism and leadership.

We live in an era of globalization and technological interconnectedness unimaginable in the days when Uncle Si and Aunt Edna first developed their unique way of bringing young people together to learn, share, and serve. However, the need for such interactions is as great as it ever was in their day. Even as study-abroad and student exchange programs have proliferated, real communication, respect for differences, and an openness to learning from others seems to be ever-more lacking in this angry, rancorous world of ours.

Lisle is one of a very few organizations that still cherishes those values, and, through the Global Seed Grant Program, actively promotes them. We should never underestimate the impact of Lisle’s continuing work. In an era where many funders are driven by fads, Lisle has held steadfast to the belief that what matters most is people—how they relate to and learn from one another and how we can help them work together to build a better world.

Lisle’s support of intercultural learning, peace, understanding, and inclusion provides a rare opportunity for organizations to work on these issues. Indeed, Lisle’s insistence on multicultural interaction has helped our grantees stretch and grow to build that component into their work.



For example, Friends of African Village Libraries, which received a Lisle Seed Grant in 2009 for Summer Reading Camps in Burkina Faso, suddenly found that none of the American volunteers would be able to make it that summer. Because they knew Lisle valued the intercultural interaction, they rescheduled their reading camps for early fall when several study-abroad students from Santa Clara University would be in town. As the project’s director told the Lisle board at the Annual Meeting in October, the camps benefited greatly from the presence and participation of the American students who, in turn, relished their interaction with the children. Similarly, one of the 2010 grantees, Empower the Children, developed a proposal specifically for Lisle, in which slum kids in Calcutta will create books of pictures, stories, and poems about their lives to share with school children in Scotland. Neither of these projects would have taken place were it not for Lisle’s support.

Lisle is still as relevant and as needed as it was back in the 1930s and I am excited about the work and opportunities that lie ahead of us. On a personal level, my life has been enriched by the Lislors I have met. I hope to meet many more, especially at Lisle’s 75<sup>th</sup> Celebration!

Until then I wish you and your loved ones all the best for a wonderful 2011. ☞

# *Marty Passes the Baton*

*By Marty Tillman*

**A**t this meeting (November 2011), I was very pleased to turn leadership of the Lisle Board over to Smita Patel. Smita is one of Lisle's early seed grant recipients for the work of the Mountain Children's Forum. The Board became reacquainted with her high quality work after she made a terrific presentation to the Board about the project's outcomes. Smita represents Lisle's future and is fully engaged with us as we begin our adventure to re-invent our focus for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

And so it goes for Lisle, always adapting and changing to meet the needs of the times. For seven decades, adaptation and change have been a hallmark of how the program "units" responded to the important issues facing the communities in which the group lived and performed service. In later years, Lisle tied its programs to cutting edge social or political issues facing a country, a community or a world region: the Lakota Indian reservation, the inner city of Philadelphia or DC, the Middle East, India, and so many other locales.

I believe that the struggle the Board willfully went through to re-vision Lisle only five or six years ago has resulted in a stronger and more vibrant organization. We have a Board fully committed to our new objectives and one with new ideas. Any nonprofit that has been around as long as Lisle needs the active support of its supporters/donors but most importantly, of its Board of Directors. Our "working" Board performs administrative and program functions without pay. I am proud of how the current, as well as past Board members with whom I have worked, have responded.

There is much more to be done to sustain our work with the Global Seed Fund in coming years and to strengthen Board operations. We need to increase our support to those submitting proposals. We plan to provide more support to proposal mentors and clarify their role. We also hope to continue engaging with funded organizations after their Seed Fund cycle has ended.



*Marty introduces Smita to the realities of being the President of the Lisle Board. We love her smile!*

With five years of experience with 23 projects, we have momentum and achieved success in the development and implementation of the Seed Fund. We have succeeded perhaps beyond our expectations. This is a testament to the hard work, imagination and creativity of the Board.

As a closing word, I want to acknowledge and thank Mark Kinney for his continuing leadership and dedication as Lisle's Executive Director. As we all know too well, Lisle presents unique challenges to those who take on leadership. I've appreciated working with Mark over this decade as we faced the challenge of keeping Lisle vibrant and true to its mission and purpose. ☞

*Mark Your Calendars!*

*\* July 15, 2011 \**

*This is the date that all Seed Grant applications for the 2011-2012 grant cycle are due!*



# Executive Director's Report

By Mark Kinney

Lisle has once again made awards to several world-wide projects through our Global Seed Grant Program. The results we have created in the past several years have been outstanding and we are excited about the new projects. Please read about them in other sections of this *Interaction*.

We have made an important transition in welcoming Smita Patel to take over from Marty Tillman as President of the Board of Directors. Smita has been a very active member of the board, having participated in one of our earliest grants, and acting as a mentor for several others as well as helping to strengthen the materials which we use in the grant process. She has big shoes to fill, and she has great capacity to do so. And Marty has the satisfaction of having led Lisle through a major transition time with great success. A wonderful heritage to look upon as he heads into his retirement and personal consulting.

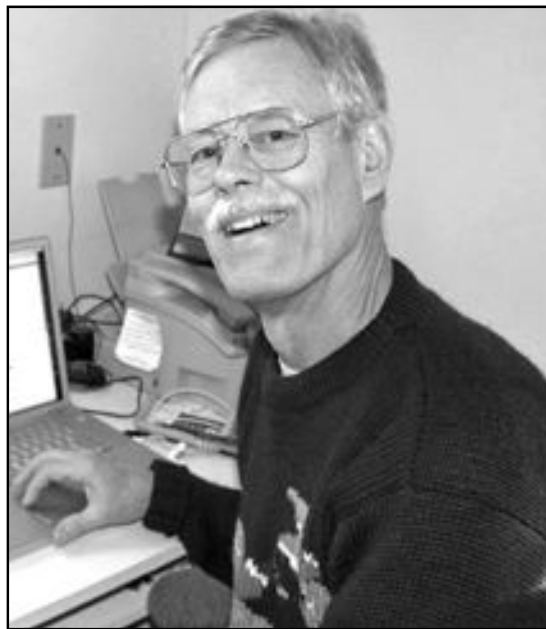
## The Seed Grant Process

**Materials:** We have been very effective in revising the Seed Grant materials for the past two years. This has been a cooperative effort between Smita Patel and me with help from the Seed Grant Committee. Lots of acknowledgement is due to Smita for spending the time and effort to make the materials work well.

**Online Application Option:** The on-line application allows for submission of the application from the website directly rather than using word or a hard copy process. The benefit has been to make the transmission of the materials to the committee for their deliberation more seamless. This year we have also offered a form process within Microsoft Word as well.

**Applicants:** Each of the past two years, we have thought that the number of applicants would be very small, only to receive an adequate number. That is great. We do need to continue to be diligent in our advertising processes and our personal connections in order to facilitate new projects.

**Finding mentors:** As in the past, we also had two applicants who were outside of Lisle that applied. Due



Mark Kinney, Lisle's Executive Director

to the efforts made at the May board meeting, we have been able to find a mentor for several projects and have them as viable candidates this year. A big thank you to Gail, Smita, and Nancy Kinney.

## Webpage

**Managing materials:** As I have done since the advent of the website, I have maintained it this year. I think it does pretty well representing Lisle to the world for both outsiders and insiders. Our site contains a great deal of information for multiple kinds of users. There are, of course issues which arise from time to time.

One way the website continues to work well is that Jon Findley occasionally goes to the site and looks at various pages and then emails me with problems which he encounters. There are always problems with websites, so this constant monitoring is very helpful. I continued to place new items to the site, including the *Interaction*, news from projects, information about upcoming meetings, etc.

(Cont'd on page 13)

# Meet Our Board!

It's high time we showcased our Board Members. They have written a short bio of themselves, and as you get acquainted with them, you will discover their diverse backgrounds and life experiences, and also appreciate how Lisle came into their lives!



**A. Gail Bier:** My international interests began in my youth in Seattle, expanded with studies in demography and research on migration in Spain working as a university professor in Barcelona for the Fulbright Commission and advising scholars wanting to study in the U.S. Since then, I have assisted various universities (in Massachusetts, Ohio, Louisiana, Tennessee and Minnesota) to develop/administer international education programs. I currently live in Duluth, MN with my two cats and enjoy canoeing, hiking, reading, learning poker and friends. I am currently searching for a new occupation.

**Betsy Bridwell:** I connected with Lisle in 1997 when I traveled to Bali on a program. My roommate on that trip became a Board member and encouraged me to join the Board, where I have served for several years. I live in Seattle and recently retired from my job at the Jackson School of International Studies at the University of Washington.



**Barbara Bratton:** In 1995, recently divorced and feeling sorry for myself, I was approached by Walt and Betty Ligon – family friends – to join the Board of an organization which would open up the world of travel and segue nicely with my desires to have an impact in the world. I joined the Board in 1996, traveled to Costa Rica on a Lisle program in 1998 and became President of the Board. I was elected Treasurer in 2001. The Lisle Office is located at my CPA office in Leander, Texas.

**Lori Bratton:** I became involved with Lisle in 1998 and am currently serving as the Board Secretary. I recently completed my MA in Anthropology. I am

enjoying my down time back home in Leander, Texas where I am exploring my future options and indulging my love for animals by taming our newest addition, Donkey, the guard donkey.



**Dianne Brause:** I began my relationship with Lisle in 1987 at the Rosebud Indian Reservation in SD, followed by units in Mexico, Hawaii, Costa Rica, India, Pacific NW and Leader Training held at my “intentional community” in Oregon. I have been a Board Member since 1988 and been Editor of *Interaction* in more recent years. Lisle has made a tremendous impact in my life and even in my dissertation topic for my upcoming PhD with Wisdom University.



**James Burke:** I was introduced to Lisle through Bill Kinney during our Peace Corps service in Mali, West Africa. In 2006 I applied for a Lisle Seed Grant to give my new international non-profit a boost helping teachers and students with technology in Jamaica. I live in the Seattle area with my wife and youngest daughter, and I am a pre-engineering teacher for the Bellevue School District.



**Jon Findley:** I have been involved with Lisle since 1964 when my sister suggested I go to a unit in Washington, DC. Since then, I have participated in more than ten units, and served on the Board of Directors and the Seed Grant Review Committee. Currently, I live in Arizona and am involved with environmental issues at all levels, including internationally.

**Anne Hayner:** Since 1987 I have worked with international students and alumni of the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the Univ. of Notre Dame. My current project is to build a professional peace-building network among Kroc alumni. My academic

studies have included languages, culture, religion and peace studies, and I have lived at various times in France, Germany, Israel and Ireland. My connection with Lisle is through my father, Norman Hayner, who was active in Lisle in the 1940s and '50s and was influenced by Lisle philosophy his whole life.



**Finn Hornum:** I met Lisle in 1951 at the House in the Fields in New Hartford, CT. Next, I helped Aage Nielsen found the Danish units, which I attended in 1952, 1953, and 1954. Uncle Si invited me to do recruitment travel for Lisle in 1955, a fantastic experience. I then participated in the CA and CO units in 1955. I was co-director of the Scandinavian '57 and Denmark '68 units and became a member of the Lisle Board of Directors. I am delighted to be back in the fold again.

**John Kachuba:** I am a writer, an author of five nonfiction books, a short story collection, and have a sixth coming in 2011. I hold advanced degrees in Creative Writing from Antioch and Ohio University and I teach at Ohio U. and the Gotham Writers Workshops.



I frequently travel internationally with my wife, Mary Newman, and have taught at the U. of Malta, the National U. of Singapore, and will teach at Silpakorn U. in Thailand. I co-led two Lisle Costa Rican programs. I live in Cincinnati, OH. My Website is <[www.johnkachuba.com](http://www.johnkachuba.com)>

**Bill Kinney:** I am the grand-nephew of Uncle Si. I have served on the Lisle Board for about five years and have participated in and helped lead Lisle experiences in New York, Bali, India, Jamaica and Chicago. I live and work in Chicago, Illinois.

**Mark Kinney:** I am professor emeritus of education at the University of Toledo. I have been a Lisle Board member since 1983, President in 1984, and Executive Director of Lisle shortly thereafter. I have led several Lisle Units



including Bali, Japan, Mexico, Uganda, and the Lisle Elderhostel programs at the University of Toledo. My uncle and aunt, Si and Edna Baldwin, were the parents of Lisle.



**Mary Newman:** I am the founder/president of Healthcare Environments, a company specializing in handling occupational safety and health issues for healthcare workers. I am a Captain in the U.S. Public Health Service (inactive reserves) and have served on some USPHS missions, notably relief efforts in Texas after hurricane Ike. I have a PhD and am a Fulbright Fellow, with grants at the U. of Malta in 2007 and Silpakorn U. in Thailand in 2011. I participated in a Lisle Costa Rica program. John Kachuba and I live in Cincinnati.

**Smita Patel:** I was born in the mountains of Northern India and came to the US at the age of six, so I have grown up “intercultural.” I work at a non-profit organization that explains California’s complex educational issues. On the side, I am involved with several grassroots organization working for the development and upliftment of marginalized communities.



**Marty Tillman:** I joined the Board in 1998 after a hiatus of about 15 years from the time I was a full-time Lisle employee for seven years. I started my Lisle work in 1976, led many programs in the U.S. and to India, visited over 200 campuses to recruit students, moved the work to Rockland Community College, and planned the 1983 conference/gathering at Cornell University on the theme, “A Wider World View” which brought 300 people together. I have worked in the field of international education for 30 years.



*Editor’s Note: We were unable to obtain current pictures of Finn Hornum and Bill Kinney. But rest assured, they are every bit as cheerful and good-looking folks as all the others pictured above! ☺*

# An Exceptional Annual Meeting

By Betsy Bridwell

All who attended the annual meeting in San Francisco November 5–7 agree that it was a wonderful gathering. Many thanks are due to Chris and Dean Coons and to Smita Patel and her family and friends for all that they contributed in making everything work so well.

Most of us stayed at the Fisherman's Wharf Hostel in Fort Mason, within walking distance of the Wharf and Ghirardelli Square with views of Alcatraz and the Golden Gate Bridge. Although there were mixed reports on the comfort of the beds, the place had a cozy lounge and served very good coffee with the continental breakfast. On Friday the board meeting was held at a local church. In the evening, we walked down to the wharf for dinner at Boudin's, famous for its sourdough bread. This was obvious as we entered and saw displays of bread baked in the shapes of crab, lobster, and other denizens of the sea.



Saturday's board meeting was held in Mountain View at Smita's workplace. Smita's friends and family prepared three different types of lasagna for lunch. Later, Smita's family prepared an Indian buffet dinner transforming the conference tables into a beautiful banquet setting. It was a wonderful party with Patel family and friends joining Lislers!



*Chris and Dean Coons were a wonderful addition to the weekend. Chris talked about a Thai organization she works with, "End Child Prostitution & Trafficking." Learn more at: <[www.ecpatusa.org](http://www.ecpatusa.org)>.*

Friends of African Village Libraries (FAVL), a seed grant recipient from 2009, talked about the project, illustrated the presentation with pictures and answered board questions. It is always much more meaningful to hear stories in person rather than on paper. Seeing photographs and hearing about how the project has effected both the children and the American college students who participated is what inspires me to continue to be involved with the work that Lisle is currently doing. Find accounts of current and past project reports on pages 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7.



*FAVL Board members gave a presentation about how Lisle's funds have helped forward their goals.*

*L-R: Sue Frey, Deborah Garvey, Michael Kevane, Hélène LaFrance*

After many years of leadership as President of the Lisle Board, Marty Tillman handed over the gavel to Lisle's new president, Smita Patel. After experiencing what she organized for this meeting, we have no doubt she will be highly effective in her presidential duties!

We wound things up on a rainy Sunday morning in the downstairs dining area of the hostel. With a circle, a song, and hugs all around, we left at noon for our various activities and destinations. ☞

## Gratitude for Annual Meeting

By Lori Bratton

Anyone who has ever organized a board meeting or similar event knows how challenging it can be. We'd be remiss if we didn't give special recognition to the folks who made this year's meeting a resounding success.

- Smita Patel and Chris & Dean Coons, who all worked so hard and did such an amazing job organizing this meeting.
- Surjeet Patel, Smita's mother, who opened her home to many of us in the days before & after the meeting.
- Rosaline and Jay Maloney and Sudha Fatima, friends of Smita, who cooked a magnificent lunch for us Saturday and much of that night's dinner too, not to mention the hours they spent before and after to insure a wonderful evening.
- Amar and Vinita Singh, Smita's aunt and uncle, who, along with Surjeet, hosted the scrumptious Indian cuisine banquet for us on Saturday night.



Amar Singh at the buffet.

The conference room was transformed for fine dining and fellowship. About 40 Lislors and Friends were there, meeting one another, sharing stories and smiles. *Thank you all so much!* ☞



Elise Kimmons, Smita Patel, Vinita Singh and Surjeet Patel enjoyed the social aspects of the Saturday evening banquet.

(Executive Director's Report from page 9)

### Organizational functioning

**Organizational structure:** We are a small organization. We have need to bolster the process of recruiting board members. In addition, treasurer Barbara Bratton and I have discussed transferring the Lisle telephone so that it answered at Barbara's work number and that we note on our publications and website that the telephone will be answered by the Lisle Treasurer.

### Financial stability

**Acknowledging effectiveness of treasurer:** Barbara Bratton our Treasurer continues to do outstanding work in providing the reports she does for Lisle both directly to the board and for the IRS. Thank you Barb!!! She and the finance committee continue to ensure that Lisle manages its resources well.

**Interaction:** We are thankful to Dianne Brause and Elise Kimmons for their efforts over the past few years in making *Interaction* a wonderful mechanism for keeping Lislors up to date with what is going on.

**Contacts with alumni:** Last year we empowered Dianne Brause to take on managing the database for Lisle. It has been a wonderful way to talk with Lislors and find out how they are doing as well as keeping our records up to date.

### Paypal

**Donations on-line:** I am happy to announce that Lisle is now offering the option of making our donations through Paypal We have recently activated our account and a link on our homepage which will allow on-line donations with a choice of membership levels, plus any items you may want to purchase. We have experimented with the process and know that it works, so why not go to your computer and try it right now? (See page 15 for the step-by-step instructions.) Thanks to James Burke and Jon Findley for their ideas and help in setting this up. ☞

# Jack & Judy Brown: Ligon Service Award

By Barbara Bratton

We are so pleased to honor Jack (posthumously) and Judy Brown with the Ligon Service Award this year. So many of us have treasured our relationships with this great couple, and their contributions to Lisle have been many and varied.



Mark Kinney honored Jack and Judy Brown's significant contributions to Lisle.

Jack and Judy attended their first Lisle program in California, 1954. They had been married for two years and Jack was in medical school and had the summers available. It seems that Jack and Judy spent their entire married life working "beyond" themselves. Through the Congregational Church, they moved to Gaziantep, Turkey in 1957 and lived there for six years. Their eldest daughter, Leyla, was born in Turkey. While in Turkey, Jack practiced general medicine in a fifty-bed mission hospital. They again returned to Turkey in 1970 and 1971. Their love for Turkey, its language, history and people continue to this day, as Judy has recently published a translation of the poetry of the 13<sup>th</sup> century, *Sufi Flights: Poems of Yunus Emre*.


In 1991, they worked together in Ethiopia through the Family Service Organization—a new NGO formed by former Peace Corps members. In this project, they worked with the Ethiopian farmers to establish organic and sustainable agricultural projects and Judy wrote a book, *Faranji, a Venture into Ethiopia*, published in 1994.

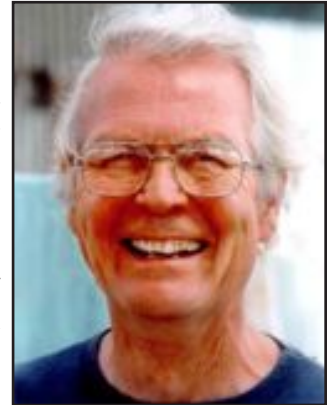
Jack reconnected with Lisle in 1993 when he became a member of the Board of Directors and he and Judy led the 1993 trip to Uganda. Later, Judy became a Board Member and they again, led a Lisle trip to Tur-

key in 1997. In addition to leading these two trips, they attended Lisle programs in the Turkey/US Exchange (1999) and India (2000). Judy also participated in the Pacific Northwest Program (2002) and Holland (2003).

All during this time, they were active members of the Board of Directors. Jack resigned the Board in 2000 and passed away April 3, 2001. Judy continued on the Board of Directors until 2003.

One would consider a 50-year relationship with Lisle, leading programs and Board membership to be sufficient "service" to Lisle. But Jack and Judy were also generous in involving their children as Lisle's. Their oldest daughter, Leyla Welkin, was a Board Member for six years, led several Lisle programs, and continues being "world-minded" in her current work in Turkey for Women in Crisis (see *Interaction* Spring, 2010). Their son and daughter-in-law, Craig and Zann Jacobson, were members of the Lisle board for three years and leaders of a Bali trip. Judy recently mentored their daughter, Marcy Summers, in proposing and receiving a Lisle Mini-Grant for the Tompotika Beach Cleanup in Indonesia—summer of 2010.

We are so pleased to recognize Jack and Judy Brown as the Ligon Service Award winners of 2010—for their entire lives of "world-mindedness" and ten years of active Board work. We always hold you in our hearts. 



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## Celebrate Lisle's 75th Birthday!

By Marty Tillman

The 2011 Fall Annual Meeting will be held in Philadelphia over the weekend of September 16-19, at the Chamounix Mansion, an International Hostel & Meeting Center just outside Center City in Fairmount Park. Lisle has reserved rooms for those who want to sleep over for one or more nights at very low rates. Contact the Lisle office in TX at: 1-512-259-7621 to confirm your stay. You can find more details about the hostel facility on its website at: <[www.philahostel.org](http://www.philahostel.org)>

We're holding our annual meeting early this Fall because many Lislers are returned Peace Corps Volunteers and, as this is the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of Peace Corps, we knew many will be on the east coast for a major Peace Corps event in Washington, DC the following weekend.

We urge Lislers and their families to come together for fun, reflection and fellowship over the weekend. Join us and learn about the new Lisle, our successes of the Global Seed Fund and re-connect with how Lisle has revitalized its mission and global impact. ☞

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## Lisle + Paypal

By Mark Kinney

Lisle can now accept donations and people can purchase Lisle items on the website through the Paypal portal. Below are the simple steps to make an secure on-line donation, or, purchase a Directory, *Tiger by the Tail*, or a T-shirt.

Click on "Donate" on the [Lisleinternational.org](http://Lisleinternational.org) homepage.

Select type of donation (basic, contributing, supporting, sustaining, benefactor, other).

If you click on "Other," insert the whole dollar amount you wish to contribute in the blank provided.

Click on "Check out with PayPal" and follow the directions on the Paypal site. ☞

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## Outreach Report

By Dianne Brause

It continues to be my pleasure to call Lislers on the phone while upgrading our database. Many times we don't have a current phone number for people in the database. But when I call and actually reach a Lisler, more often than not we end up having a great conversation. I hear about the "good old days" at a unit in Watkins Glen, NY, Denmark, India or Costa Rica. Often we talk about other Lislers who are remembered, but perhaps lost to the person on the phone. I learn about the accomplishments made over generations by these Lislers. I feel inspired by our talks.

If you don't want to wait for me to track you down, contact me instead. We'll update our database, and I will enjoy hearing about your life, post-Lisle. We'd love to hear from you and put it in the next *Interaction*. Your fellow Lislers will love to know about your life. I guarantee it! So, call me at 419-562-6148 or email me at <[diannebrause@ymail.com](mailto:diannebrause@ymail.com)>. ☞

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## Treasurer's Report

By Barb Bratton

Grants are funded from dues received. Two of our grantees for 2010 were unable to complete their programs and we did not award these funds. If we had, we would have drawn from a fund of previously unawarded dues (surplus in some years). However, that surplus is about depleted. In the future, we will grant to the extent of dues received.

We hope you will continue, or increase, your gifts in order to keep our mini-grant program viable. The Finance Committee is considering other fund raising programs and any help you can give us in ideas or volunteer time would be wonderful! ☞

*You may request a copy of the year-end financial report and Form 990. Please email Barbara Bratton, Lisle Treasurer at <[dragnfly@io.com](mailto:dragnfly@io.com)>.*

# *The Global Seed Fund— A New Vision for Service in the World*


*By Marty Tillman*

Once upon a time, in 2004, the Board felt that Lisle had turned a corner in its struggle to maintain and sustain the intercultural education model of the previous decades—the one readers know intimately from their college years. It was the founding model in 1936 and represented Lisle’s guiding principles and philosophy. Board members decided it was time to devise a process which would result in a definitive decision as to whether or not Lisle could continue or should close its doors.

This was certainly not the first time that Lisle’s Board, or Lislers, had broached this idea: after the rise of the Peace Corps, the numbers in units declined. My own work did not measurably raise our program numbers in the 70’s or 80’s and when I returned from my numerous campus recruiting trips, I reported to the Board that it was hard to excite students about our work. In my road-trip homestays with Lisle families, I frequently found that many Lislers quietly wondered whether or not Lisle should cease to sponsor units. Perhaps the most difficult period for us was after the death of the Baldwins. We knew that for many loyal Lislers, support for Lisle was quite personal—people had donated to support the life work of the Baldwins.

Over a period of many months, under the leadership of Mark Kinney and with the active support of the Board, we opened the door to consideration of several future scenarios. We discussed these with many Lislers who had remained active over the decades in Lisle’s work. We “floated” ideas for deliberation and tried to make the process as inclusive and “Lisle-like” as possible.

At the time we announced this new direction, we did hear from some Lislers who were unhappy with this decision, but, many more were proud that we had taken the risk and acknowledged that it was important for Lisle to change to meet the challenges of these times. Over the years, we continue to hear from Lislers who are excited to read about the grassroots work that the Fund has supported. We are now working to develop new communication linkages and organizational ties to grantee organizations and leaders.


The Seed Fund has matured and so has the way in which we solicit grantee proposals and review those we deem worthy of consideration of grants up to \$3,000. We’ve provided 23 nonprofits in the U.S., Asia and Africa and The Caribbean with a total of \$75,000 in the past five years. 

## *Seed Grant Process Snapshot*

*By Anne Hayner*

Lisle International awards small grants (\$500-\$3,000) to individuals or organizations in any country to support projects which broaden global awareness and cultural understanding through experiential learning, with the goal of creating a more just social order. Each application requires a Lisle Mentor, an active member of Lisle who reviews the grant application, assists with communications with the Lisle Board, and helps to ensure that interim reports and final evaluations are submitted. If prospective applicants

needing Lisle Mentors submit a brief project summary at least one month before the application deadline, Lisle will make an effort to match appropriate projects with mentors.

Applications are available to view/download at: [www.lisleinternational.org](http://www.lisleinternational.org) The application deadline for projects undertaken from October 2011 to October 2012 is July 15, 2011. For more information, contact: Mark Kinney, Executive Director, at [mark.kinney@utoledo.edu](mailto:mark.kinney@utoledo.edu) or call him at (989) 595-3667. 



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## Former Grant Projects Update

By Mary Newman

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### Topotika Conservation – Indonesia

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Following last year's successful trash removal from the villages and beaches of Tompotika, Indonesia, funded in part by a Lisle Seed Grant, AITo (Alliance for Tompotika Conservation) continues to work on local environmental issues, such as deforestation, endangered species preservation, climate change, and pollution.

In August AITo again sponsored a trash pickup, this time focusing on removing trash, litter, and maritime plastic from area beaches. Three American teenagers and one from North Sulawesi joined eight Tompotika high school students in leading the cleanup. Visitors and villagers of all ages pitched in to help and by the time the project was completed over 128 bags of trash were collected.

In addition, the teenagers put on a skit in one village about waste pollution and its effects upon the naïve wildlife, especially sea turtles that nest on the beaches. The entire village—hundreds of people—turned out to see the play.

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### Spanish Immersion Program – Detroit

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The Spanish Immersion Program was one of three pilot programs in the Detroit Public School system designed to increase students' foreign language skills; two of those programs no longer exist. In this remaining program, students receive seventy per cent of all their subjects' material in Spanish. Under a program titled Connecting Children: Bridging Cultures of African Descent, Lisle awarded the program a Seed Grant to help defray the costs of sending some students on a trip to the Dominican Republic.

When Mark Kinney called to inquire about the program, he discovered that, unfortunately, the planned trip never materialized: illness, school funding issues and the quake in Haiti, conspired against its success. Therefore, the funds were not awarded. ☞

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## Jamaica Service Project Update

By James Burke

It seems like only yesterday that Bill Kinney and I were putting together a seed grant proposal to send my American computer science students in Bellevue, WA to Jamaica to construct a computer lab for Sheffield All Age School just outside Negril. Five years and 50 participants later, the Jamaica Service Project has evolved into the global 501 (c)(3) non-profit Afro-Caribbean Technology Exchange <[www.actejamaica.org](http://www.actejamaica.org)>. Thanks to Lisle, the organization is as strong as ever with more companies and individuals signing on to support this international effort.



*Cross-cultural education, peer to peer.*

In addition to opening up the developing world to 12–14 year-old American students and their parents, we also brought almost half of the Sheffield School teachers to the Bellevue School District for on-site instructional technology training. And, Lisle sent two separate groups down to Jamaica in November '08 and '09 to offer additional support. ACTE has branched out to support the Negril Recycling Center in alternative energy technology, by partnering with Engineers Without Borders in assisting them in the manufacturing of biodiesel with waste vegetable oil from the resorts. Read about this at: <<http://lisleinternational.wordpress.com/bio-diesel-in-lucia>>.

If you are interested in joining me on one of my thrice-yearly sojourns to this island paradise, please write me at: <[actejamaica@gmail.com](mailto:actejamaica@gmail.com)> Thanks to the Lisle board for supporting this program! ☞

**Beth Bader** (Denmark '75 & '77) wrote: "I'm sitting here in Richmond watching it snow—it is something that we really look forward to down here. I'm still juggling family responsibilities in PA with my faculty responsibilities at VCU. Yet, I am finding time to have fun and do the things that I have missed out on for quite a while! You'll be "amazed" to hear that all of the international students in our Special Education and Disability Policy programs somehow find their way to my office. Wonder why? :) I miss seeing you and hope that you are experiencing as much joy and wonderment this holiday season as I am.

**Dianne G. Brause** (Lisle Board and *Interaction* Editor, plus lots of programs as leader & participant) has returned from a two-month pilgrimage to the Middle East, Greece, and Turkey. She is currently living in Ohio on the "home place" while her mother is living in an assisted care residence nearby. You can contact her at: PO Box 38, Sulphur Springs, OH 44881, (419-562-6148). You can send email to her NEW address at <[diannebrause@ymail.com](mailto:diannebrause@ymail.com)>.

**Jean Powell Brookhart** (CO '45) reports: "During my English teaching life, I organized two-week visits to the Soviet Union, Greece, China, and England and France, where we interacted with students and families. Much earlier, in 1950, I bicycled through Italy, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Germany where we stayed in youth hostels and interacted with students from many other countries."

**Catherine (Glazier) Burnight** (NY '43) wrote: "As I sort out and throw away, I found the old photos of Lisle, NY 1943 and thought they might be of interest. (See page 20 for a snapshot of Gerhild Rabl Waterman.) In 1943 when foreign students were scarce, exotic or suspect, and races were separate and unequal, Lisle helped turn me in a new direction. Eventually, I become Brown University's (Providence, RI) first Advisor to Foreign Students, Faculty & staff. I later spent five years in SE Asia, and have taught a lot of ESL classes! I am now a widow and live in a delightful retirement community in DC. Thanks to Lisle—may it continue to serve and have a long and useful life." (3050 Military Rd. NW Apt. 657, Washington, DC 20015-1370. 202-364-9648).

**Richard D. Cole** (CT '48, NY '49) reports that he is retired from 52-53 years private practice in Derma-

tology; now located in greater Los Angeles area (of 3400 N. Valley Dr, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266; (310-802-8110), but no longer in practice. He says that he "knew Morris Bratton at Georgetown and Walt Ligon in Nashville, TN. Also knew **Mary Nell and Sam Barefield** ( NY '46 & '48, CT '48-50) in Watkins Glen and Nashville."

**Martha Dailey** (India '87) says: "After retiring as a history teacher, I was Executive Director of a historic colonial house museum and then helped manage the restoration of the birthplace of Susan B. Anthony in Adams, MA. Retired again but keeping busy learning the French Language for the second time and moving back and forth from Denver, Colorado to Massachusetts."

**Marina Firestone** (CO '48, Fam Camp '63) wrote: "This year I am experimenting with an email version of my traditional holiday greetings. I hope this works and it certainly will save lots of time and paper; I can now spend more time with you (Mark & Nancy Kinney) on the phone or in person during the busy holiday season. Wishing you and yours all the best this holiday and in the coming year. Love! <[nat-marina@verizon.net](mailto:nat-marina@verizon.net)>."

**Leslie Gottlieb** (DC '64, CA '67) says: "I have been Director of Communication for Lighthouse International, which helps people who are visually impaired, for 4+ years. I am involved in numerous local programs, especially for homeless people."

**Brooks Hill**, Lisle Friend, wrote, "In the late 1980's and early 1990's, a frequent highlight of my week would be going out to breakfast on Saturday mornings with Uncle Si. Sometimes I invited different friends to join us. While the conversation was always stimulating and rich, they would often get around to asking Si the same question: "To what do you attribute your longevity?" In his early 90's at the time, Si's response was almost always the same: "I associate with younger people."

**Lois and Dick Huddleston** (CA '50, India '07) tells us: "Our UU 'Tapestry' congregation is trying to make a 'sister church' with the large church in NE India that the Kinneys went to aid the teachers in their 11 schools. Daya Shanka and her husband, Bob Fischer visited and are working on it. Daya will go back in October."

**Walt & Betty Ligon** (Walt: NY '48, MI '50, CO '51 & '57, DC '54, CA '58; w/Betty: SD '86, Bali '88, HI '95, Leader Training '98, Lisle Board, Board Emeritus '98, Holland '03). Walt and Betty now live at Clark Retirement Community (1551 Franklin St. SE, Apt. 3013, Grand Rapids, MI 49506. "Our life-style has changed some but we still do what we can to make the world a better place." Email them at <[mligon5670@aol.com](mailto:mligon5670@aol.com)>.

**Johnnie Miller** (CO '46, CT '48-50, Lisle Board) sends a note: "Would love to attend the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. So enjoyed the last Annual Meeting I attended. Arnold is losing leg muscles, but I keep going 'like the Easter Bunny.' How about a Florida 75<sup>th</sup> Celebration somewhere here! Congrats to Marty for all his good works. Love Lisle." Johnnie can be contacted at: 5702 Capt. John Smith Loop, North Fort Myers, FL 33917-9011; (239) 543-4624; <[johnnie-downsouth@aol.com](mailto:johnnie-downsouth@aol.com)>.

**Andy Nahmias** (CA '50 & '51, Lisle Board) shared a great deal about his life and especially his appreciation to Uncle Si and Aunt Edna for the support they gave him as a young foreign student in America seeking to become a Dr. Since then he has dedicated a lifetime to helping people (and especially children) around the world. He can be reached at: 747 Houston Mill Rd. #3, Atlanta, GA 30329, (404- 636-8984); Email at <[nahmias@bellsouth.net](mailto:nahmias@bellsouth.net)>.

**Sharada Nayack** (CA '54, Turkey '97, India '98, Leader Training '98, India Leader '00, India Reunion) wrote "I have made an important decision: I have taken an apt. as an office for my trust in Bangalore and plan to spend many months every year there doing my writing. I am very happy in Bangalore, close to the family. Besides my son I have a sister and cousins there and it is nice to be in close touch with them. I also have the much needed privacy to do my writing, and I have already started work on that on my computer. So I hope 2011 is a productive year.

**Mollie (Taylor) Stevenson Neely** (DC '67) lives on the family 100-year-old ranch which has been home for seven generations of the family, starting with her great-grandmother who had been purchased as a slave and worked on the land where she is now buried in a park on the property. Recently, a group called

the: "13 Moon Walk for Peace" came to Houston and planted a Peace Pole there at the "Taylor-Stevenson Ranch" (11822 Alameda Rd. Houston, TX 77045. (713) 478-9677.

Paul Nesselroad, the husband of 63 years of **Joanna S. Nesselroad** wrote, "Joanna attend Lisle in Colorado '45, and she often talked to me about her Lisle experience over the years. She was always glad to get any communication concerning Lisle. Joanna is now 86 years old and still living but she is in a nursing/rehab home. She has been ill since 2000. Her recent memory is not much. She is remarkable in many ways but mostly it is the past. Her health is good. You are welcome to keep her on the mailing list but any communication with her will not mean much. Thank you and Lisle for the past mailings I wish you and Lisle the very best.

**Beverly Staples Rymer** (NY '48) says: "John and I have been retired in Highlands (144 Harbison Orchard Rd., Highlands, NC 28741) for 20 years. Active in Presbyterian Church, Library Board.

**J. J. Smith** (CA '63) says: "I retired from Fannie Mae in 2007. Since then, I have been leading a community revitalization project for an inner city community in Houston." (713-748-2851), <[jsmith0313@comcast.net](mailto:jsmith0313@comcast.net)>.

**Hazel Hutton Soper** (CO '41, NY '48) tells us about her: "Church work, Bible Study Fellowship with various internationals at local Community College. At almost 90, I do very little volunteer work other than church. Am always glad to hear from other Lislens and will offer bed and breakfast on short notice (10902 W. 101 Terr., Overland Park, KS 66214-2533, 913-888-8013). She continues, "My son, Dr. Jay Charles Soper works with the deaf in Bogota, Colombia. He is translating the Bible into Colombian Sign Language and simple sentence structure. Most of the deaf do not read."

**Helen Baker St. John** (Uganda '94, HI '95) recalls: "It is with great fondness and pleasant recollections that I think about both of my trips with Lisle. Each trip has left me with many memories that have influenced other aspects of my life. Best wishes and regards to all Lisle members." <[hbaker@u.washington.edu](mailto:hbaker@u.washington.edu)>.

*(Cont'd on page 21)*

## Are You an RPCV?

By Mark and Nancy Kinney

**A**s you may already know, while it's Lisle's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2011, it is also the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the U.S. Peace Corps to be celebrated in Washington, D.C. September 22–25, 2011. The 2011 Lisle Annual meeting will be held in Philadelphia from September 16–19 in order to facilitate attendance at both events for people who have ties to both organizations.

The Lisle Board is interested in finding Lislers who are also Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCV's). We have created a committee to work on linking the Peace Corp experience with Lisle's legacy. We would like to know how your Lisle experience compared and contrasted with your Peace Corps tour of duty, and how your life has been impacted by international contacts and exposure to other cultures and locations.

Please give us the following information if you are interested in our study, please write up the following information, and return it by email to one of the email addresses below, or give us a call at (989) 595-3667.

We want your current name, address, phone and email address, and written consent to participate in this study; the year/locations of the Lisle Units you attended; your name when you were a PCV; the PCV Country of service; dates of PCV service, and your PCV activities.

Email your "story" to <[mark.kinney@utoledo.edu](mailto:mark.kinney@utoledo.edu)>, <[nkinney@wccnet.edu](mailto:nkinney@wccnet.edu)>. ☞

*Aboul Mansuri is offering to donate 10% of the cost of any items bought from him through his Shaklee business—in memory of his late wife, Jean Mansuri (NY '48). Please call him from anywhere at: (707 743-2208). Address: 13872 Crabtree Way, Gainesville, VA 20155.*

## Looking for Gerhild Waterman

**R**ansford Cooper (CA '52 & '54) wrote a letter to Lisle saying: "I met Gerhild (Rabl) Waterman from Vienna, Austria at the 1952 California unit. We corresponded for about a year after she returned to Vienna, and our contact ended when she married Daniel Waterman, an American studying in Vienna, and they came to live in the United States. I got over it, married, and here I am 80 years old and a grandfather. Recently I found, in a carton long in storage, a family photograph album that Geerd's mother had sent to me in 1952. It dates from the late 1930's to 1952, and has many photos of her and her family, and their life at that time. I would very much like to return it to her, for no doubt she has grandchildren of her own who would like to see what her early life was like."

If anyone knows how to contact Gerhild or Daniel, please contact Ransford Cooper at: 733 Highland Ave., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137. Phone: (630) 469-5868 or email at <[jananran@aol.com](mailto:jananran@aol.com)>. ☞



*Gerhild Rabl Waterman, 1952*



*Dianne Brause went on another Pilgrimage last fall. She visited Greece, Turkey (where she saw Leyla Welkin), and Syria. Here she is standing in front of the golden-domed and exquisitely tiled Dome of the Rock, in Jerusalem. You can read details about Dianne's trip at <[diannebrause.blogspot.com](http://diannebrause.blogspot.com)>.*

## Discovering My Great-Grandpa

By Barb Bratton

**C**onspiracy, murder, miscarriage of justice, love, laws and Teddy Roosevelt: we discovered all this in a family search for history.

My middle sister (of five) died of cancer last April. While at her gravesite, my father mentioned that his grandfather, Joseph A. Walker, was in an unmarked grave in this same cemetery. He had always hoped to put a marker on the grave and have him acknowledged for his ultimate sacrifice—as the first Secret Service Agent killed in the line of duty.

My sisters and I took on the cause. We located the unmarked grave and discovered that great-grandpa's picture was on the wall at the Denver Secret Service Office and on the Wall of Honor in Washington, DC. And, the Agency seemed thrilled to participate in marking Walker's grave and honoring his death.

Joseph A. Walker was the Agent in Charge of the Denver Secret Service office, which was undertaking federal investigations of land fraud in the region. My Grandfather Walker was a key investigator. By 1907, seventy wealthy and influential men had been indicted and several Utah congressmen investigated in this scheme.



On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1907, Walker traveled with a geologist, and a miner to a suspicious air shaft on the homestead of the superintendent of the Porter Coal Company. Walker stayed on top as the others lowered themselves to the bottom of the shaft and found passages. Returning, they found that their ropes had been dropped into the shaft. One was able to climb to the top, and there he found Walker, shot twice in the back with shotgun blasts. Roosevelt passed two laws as a result of Walker's murder.

Our family members did research and worked with the Secret Service to plan a memorial. My 89-year-old father was overcome with pride. The tombstone dedication was on November 3, 2010. Engraved on his stone, along with the brass star imbedded in the granite, was a sentence written by from my great-grandmother, "No one can know how I miss him." Thankfully, Walker has been rediscovered. ☞

(Network News, from page 19)

**Mary B. Vezie** (CA '53, Germany '54) reports that she is going to move to a retirement called "The Redwoods" which is a place set up for "peace activists." This year she had an 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party with her twin brother. She is currently having an art show of some of her watercolors at the Community Church of Tiberon, CA. She can be reached at: 773 Miller Ave., Mill Valley, CA; (415) 388-7918; email is <[maryvz@pobox.com](mailto:maryvz@pobox.com)>.

**Suzanne (Hall) Vogel** (NY '49, CT '49, India '07) reports: "I miss you all. Wish I could be with you, especially when you are in Leander! ...[I've had] recent contacts with **Andre Nahmias** (CA '50, '51, Lisle Board) and family along with Walt & Betty Ligon a few months ago, and with **George Levinger** (NY '49, CA '50-51)...Big concerns about this country sliding backwards in terms of general welfare and peace."

**Douglas Wallace** (Denmark '56) shares that he has been teaching a course on "Film and Spirituality" at the University of Minnesota and he also writes an annual theological reflection on the Academy films. His address is: 210 W. Grant St. #321, Minneapolis, MN 55403; (612-333-0520); email: <[soarhigh@uslink.net](mailto:soarhigh@uslink.net)>.

**Alice & Bob Wiedrich** (CO '46) reports: "Not much going on this summer! Bob is in a wheelchair which limits his activity! Alice is still involved in United Methodist Women and Church Women United, attended the UMW Assembly in St. Louis." (4702 Arbor Court, Decatur, IL 62526; 217-875-5325).

**Barbara Braxton Wilks** (CA '50, CT '52) "I love to read the Newsletter and look for names and remember from California 50 and Connecticut 52. The Lisle experience had a profound effect on my life. We still live in Florida, the life of retirees." (14800 Gulf Blvd, #204, Madison Beach, FL 33708, (727) 398-0796.

**Nancy Jo Zinner** (Leadership Training '98) writes: "All the best to you, Lane & Barbara!!" [Nancy wrote her MA Thesis on Lisle]. (713 W. Islay Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101; 310-804-1256; <[njzinner@aol.com](mailto:njzinner@aol.com)>. ☞

# In Memoriams

**W**e regret to announce the following deaths. Obviously, Lisle affected their lives in profound ways, and as Lislers, they made a difference. They are missed.

**Wallace Cayard** (NY '48) passed away on August 7, 2010 at Sherwood Oaks, a retirement community north of Pittsburg, PA. His wife, Leonara writes: "Wallace attended the Lisle Watkins Glen, NY unit in the summer of 1948. He was a retired professor of Philosophy and Religion at West Liberty State College in WV. He had mentioned the Lisle summer project as a significant part of his spiritual development. Getting to know people of different cultures and religions was very important to him. The headline in this issue of your publication, "We Are All Connected," is particularly relevant in that respect.

"Wallace and I attended the 40-year reunion Watkins Glen '48 unit in Houston, Texas followed by the 50-year reunion of his HS class in Port Neches, Texas. He felt the difference between these two reunions was striking. Wallace had a lot in common with the Lislers, who shared his values and had become ministers, teachers, or other service-oriented professionals, but not his high school classmates, who had become oil refinery workers, etc. I did want you to know how important the Lisle experience was for one of its participants." Sincerely, Leonora B. Cayard, (180 Norman Drive, Cranberry Twp, PA 16066).

**Jean Ervin** (NY '48, MI '49, CO '49, Family Camp '61 & '63), and wife of **Don Ervin**, passed away in October of 2010. Her memorial service was held at University Church in Chicago on October 16<sup>th</sup>. Jean had been suffering from congestive heart failure for a number of years and eventually "she just got very weary" according to Lisle friend and long-time co-worker, **Juanita Salvador-Burris** (Lisle Board). She was about to move into a hospice situation when she died.

A couple of years ago after our spring board meeting, a number of the Lisle Board members and friends visited Jean and Don in their apartment near the University of Chicago, close to where they, the Salvador-Burris's, and others had created an interra-

cial, intercultural cooperative living situation which both saved old apartments from total gentrification and provided a safe, community/neighborhood environment for dozens of families from the US and abroad.

Don can be reached at: 6233 South Woodlawn #1, Chicago, IL 60637. Phone #: 773-493-5495; or you may email him at: <[erwin.mcdonald@worldnet.att.net](mailto:erwin.mcdonald@worldnet.att.net)>.

**Everitt Sheldon** (NY '37 & '42, Lisle Board) passed away August 76, 2010. His daughter, **Catherine E. Sheldon** (DC '68) wrote, "I regret to have to tell you that my father, **Everitt Sheldon**, passed away just three weeks before his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday. Despite a long illness he retained his optimism and concern and love for others until the end. My brother, **David** (NY '45, DC '69), and I are still at the California address: 430 9<sup>th</sup> Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025-18020.

**Clyde W. Summers** (NY '39, Denmark '72) died on Oct. 30, 2010 in Germantown, PA at the age of 91. He is survived by his wife; two daughters, **Erica Summers** (Denmark '72) and Lisa Summers; two sons, Mark and Craig; a sister, Majel Drake; and eight grandchildren.

Clyde was born in 1918 in a one-room tarpaper shack in Grass Range, MT of struggling farmers, who settled on a farm in Winchester, IL. At 16 he went to the University of Illinois, earning a BA and then a law degree. During the war, he declared himself a conscientious objector—a move that caused the IL Bar to deny him admission. The United States Supreme Court upheld the bar's decision, but an impassioned dissent Justice, Hugo Black, hailed him as "moral and intelligent." Clyde earned further law degrees at Columbia and taught at the U. of Toledo, Buffalo, Yale, and the U. of PA. He was widely viewed as "the nation's leading legal expert on union democracy and union elections." He later worked with John F. Kennedy, and was known to ask about a case: "What is good, what is just, what is kind?" Clyde Summers was certainly a good Lisler!

**Craig Walton** from the Denmark 1956 unit died in October of 2007, as reported by his wife, Vera. 

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## Items for Sale

- Oral Histories from 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary DVD \$10 ea. \_\_\_\_\_
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- 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary T-shirt -or- Bookbag \$ 5 ea. \_\_\_\_\_
- Current Lisle Directory \$20 ea. \_\_\_\_\_
- Tiger by the Tail**, the history of Lisle \$25 ea. \_\_\_\_\_
- Aunt Edna: 50 Years of Memories** \$ 8 ea. \_\_\_\_\_  
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### *Upcoming Meetings*

<i>Spring Board Meeting</i>	<i>April 29-30, 2011</i>	<i>Chicago, IL</i>
<i>Fall Annual Meeting</i>	<i>September 16-19, 2011</i>	<i>Philadelphia, PA</i>