

Lisle *Interaction*

WINTER ISSUE • 2006

New 2005 Mini-Grant Awards Made

By Mark Kinney

In October 2005 the second set of Mini-Grant awards were made. We were pleased to award five grants for 2005, all very worthy projects.

• **The Crane Culture Theater (CCT)**, a local theater group in Sacramento, California, with the consultation of Lisle mentor Sonja Brodt, serves to cultivate the values of living in harmony with the earth through cultural contexts. Stories of cultures from around the world are brought to stage to help attendees gain greater respect for all life, appreciation of diverse cultures and inspiration to both visit and protect natural environments in their greater community.

The Project's purpose is to build community by empowering students to develop values of respecting and protecting nature and one another by increasing their natural and cultural awareness. By juxtaposing activities that focus on natural history with activities that focus on different cultures, and by interweaving the two in the theater program, the project aims to increase students' awareness of the value of both natural and cultural diversity within their own communities. Classes will be targeted in low-income areas south of Sacramento with a high mix of cultural diversity inclusive of African Americans. These communities have among the highest degree of social and cultural friction in the region.

• **Medica Mondiale**, a German-based NGO, supports traumatised women and girls in war and crisis regions with a particular focus on survivors of sexualised violence. In Northern Uganda war has waged for the last 18 years. It led to the killing and maiming of thousands of civilians, the massive displacement of entire district populations into IDP (Internally Displaced People) camps (approx. 2 million) which are under deplorable living conditions; it included the abduction of over 25,000 children, rape, sexual slavery, forced marriages, physical disfigurement, spread of HIV/AIDS, destruction and erosion of moral and social values of the community and severe poverty. Thousands of women and girls are affected by severe war traumatisation through sexualised violence.

Medica Mondiale is in the process of developing a training programme for Ugandan health workers and other professionals working with traumatised women and girls. With the support of Lisle mini-grant and hereby mentored by Anne-Rose Heck, Medica Mondiale will conduct a workshop and additional meetings in Lira, Northern Uganda with 40 women living and working in Northern Uganda. Participants will have diverse backgrounds concerning age, social status, profession, religion, ethnicity, sex/gender, population group and district.

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The content and goal of the workshop is an exchange of existing concepts and ideas for trauma healing both in the Medica Mondiale project countries (like Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Kosova) and in the various districts of Northern Uganda. Through this process of mutual learning the danger of just importing western concepts of healing and treatment will be diminished

• **The Human Rights Across Borders** project will take a delegation of leaders of various community organizations that belong to the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign (PPEHRC) to Caracas, Venezuela for the World Social Forum (WSF). The World Social Forum (this year being held simultaneously in three locations around the world) is a gathering place for people of every ethnicity, religion, country and race from around the world to come together to strategize for humane, collective solutions to world problems, and in particular war, poverty and social injustice.

The delegation will be made up of lead organizers from organizations of welfare recipients, homeless people, public housing tenants, uninsured people and the unemployed from around the US, most of whom have never traveled internationally (if at all). These organizers have much to share and to learn with and from other delegates at the WSF from around the world, as well as from communities in Caracas that are confronting the same problems of unemployment, poverty, homelessness and struggles for health care and education.

Delegates will attend the (polycentric) World Social Forum to be held in January 2006 in Caracas, Venezuela. In addition to attending the World Social Forum, delegates will stay in a poor neighborhood in Caracas and will visit communities in Caracas and possibly beyond. Following the trip, delegates will hold educational sessions in their communities (which are all poor US communities around the country) and organizations to share the experience with fellow grassroots organizers, from among the poor, unemployed and homeless in different parts of the US.

For more information about the PPEHR and/or this delegation, please contact <jenkwru@yahoo.com>, or visit www.economichumanrights.org. You can also view photographs by Harvey Finkle at: www.hareyfinkle.com.

• **Shunku Llacta** (meaning "heart place" in the Kichwa language) is a grassroots organization in northwestern Ecuador that brings together local residents and international volunteers to advance rural community development projects.

Lisle is generously supporting our trip in Summer 2006, when the communities of Guayabillas and Santa Rosa will

host 8 international participants for 14 days. The two communities are located in the rain forest of northwestern Ecuador and are so remote they can't be reached directly by car.

Shunku Llacta came to collaborate with Lisle because Vede Druss Rosenheck (Lisle, NY'39) never forgot the impact Lisle had on her as a young person, and she shared her experience with her granddaughter Abby Rosenheck, who works with Shunku Llacta.

This coming summer, Shunku Llacta volunteers will work closely with an artisan's leadership group in each community. Members of the artisans' groups will host volunteers in their homes, as part of a community tourism program they are developing. Volunteers will help with projects in each community, like working on construction of the community center, teaching children in local elementary schools, helping with sustainable forest management work, and leading workshops to share their expertise. Last year, volunteers taught about knitting, children's health in the home, and Brazilian dance.

Volunteers will enjoy homestays with local families and will explore the beautiful and dramatic natural surroundings, including pristine rain forest, diverse native flora and fauna, waterfalls and swimming holes. Together, the volunteers and community members will build on the successes of last summer's project, to further develop the artisans groups' international network and business skills. The artisans groups work to market local handicrafts and community tourism opportunities, and to promote Shunku Llacta's mission of developing sustainable and viable economic opportunities for the communities of Santa Rosa and Guayabillas.

• **The Myanmar Project** funds nine college students from Myanmar to attend a conference sponsored by the Yale Southeast Asian Studies Council entitled "Regenerations: New Leaders, New Visions in Southeast Asia. The conference will start their personal explorations of neighboring cultures by two complementary means: developing friendships with other conference participants and writing an exploratory cultural comparison. The students will begin lifelong connects with neighboring countries by engaging with other Southeast Asian students, American students studying these countries and scholars of Southeast Asia. The Myanmar students have been triply isolated from peoples of Indonesia and Vietnam, the two countries featured in the Yale Southeast Asia Program.

The Myanmar students, who plan to return to serve their people, are the recipients of the grant. Currently they are studying at several colleges throughout the NE USA. 🌐



2004 Mini-Grant Final Reports

By Mark Kinney

We have now completed our first year of grant making. Two of the three projects have been completed with very interesting final report information, while the third project time frame has been extended, since travel to Israel for last summer was not possible. Each of the projects created very interesting results.

• **Shunku Llacta** world team project brought together international volunteers and rural community development professionals for 14 days in Ecuador. Evaluations of the project indicate that people had a powerful learning experience. Many reported that they were impressed with the chances to work as a group, and reflect often through group facilitations and discussions about what they were doing and learning. This aspect of the project will sound very familiar to Lislers.

The project leader wrote: "...I wanted to send you a note to let you know that our volunteer project with Shunku Llacta was an amazing success! The community members and international volunteers alike told me over and over how happy they are to have had this experience and how hard it was to say goodbye to each other. Lisle's mini grant has served as a major catalyst for this small, grassroots organization, encouraging us to do so much work. Lisle has directly helped the two rural community groups that Shunku Llacta supports to take on new leadership roles and to make positive change in their communities by connecting with international volunteers. The mini-grant has given these groups, both led by women, the chance to practice so many new skills and bring positivity and hope to their families and communities through this international exchange. Our international volunteers, too, have told me the trip has impacted them very deeply."

You can visit their website at: <http://homepage.mac.com/abigail14/ShunkuLlacta/Menu3.html>.

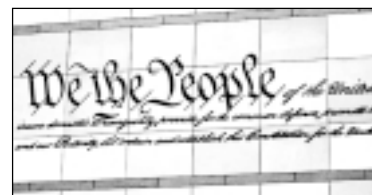
• **Mountain Children's Forum** (MCF), grant, mentored by Sharada Nayak, organized an educational workshop in May 2005 for children from remote mountain villages of the Indian state of Uttaranchal, located in the Himalayan foothills in North India. Held in the remote district of Pithoragarh, which borders Nepal and Tibet, the workshop brought together 57 children from six distant districts around the state.

The purpose of the workshop was to help prepare children, and through them their communities, to face the types of disasters that frequently occur in their mountain regions, including landslides, forest fires, floods and earth-

quakes. Along with disaster preparedness, the children discussed such issues as their rights and responsibilities, the power of working as a group towards common goals, gender inequality, the need to look after their environment, and their problems and concerns. Under the MCF model, young people establish village-level children's groups through which they identify problems in their communities and then work together to find solutions. One of the most important segments of the workshop was when representatives from different MCF chapters talked about the work their group had been doing. Their accomplishments ranged from ensuring universal birth registration in their village to promoting vaccinations to helping put out a forest fire. For photographs and the full workshop report, please see: www.mymountains.org/workshops/disaster05.htm.

• **Project Hope: Teens as Coach** project used about half the grant money (\$1400) before July. The other half was slated for the summer training. We would like to use the remainder to continue with the monthly trainings this year. This seems to be the best way to prepare the teens for overseas work because they are practicing coaching, peacemaking and leadership skills throughout the year. As I said, we are trying to raise other funds for the ongoing work and overseas travel.

Some of the teens are very well trained now in our "Teen as Coach" program. We are turning over the leadership of our Service for Peace chapter to the teens this month. We strongly believe that these teens are the leaders of today and we want to give them experience in running a program. Six teens will hold leadership positions and be responsible for the work of the chapter for the next year. We have our first "Teen as Coach" - trained teen, Rita Asaoko, going to Israel this month. She will be going there with other teens and adults.



Marble carving of the preamble to the U.S. Constitution, seen during the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia.



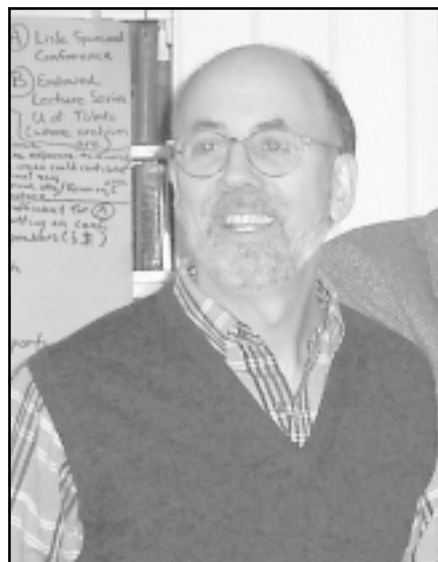
President's Message

Happy New Year to everyone! All of us on the Board are very excited about entering into the 70th year of Lisle's history. Yes, that's right: **1936-2006!** Lisle has been quietly going about the business of trying to impact individuals and changing worldviews through two centuries. How many nonprofit organizations do you know that can say that? We hope every Lisle is proud to have been associated with Lisle's long record of accomplishments.

From the decade of its inception, it's worth noting that the former Experiment in International Living, founded in 1932 (whose founder, Donald Watt, was a contemporary of Dewitt & Edna Baldwin), now known as World Learning, remains a vital force in education and international development, as does the American Field Service (AFS) which is also a product of this pioneering era in international education and cross-cultural learning.

And there is the Scandinavian Seminar. Founded in the 1950's, it was an innovative year-long program which was started by the late Danish Lisle Aage Nielson (following his participation in an experimental Lisle program/unit in Connecticut in 1948). There was much synergy between the Seminar and Lisle for many decades.

Are you curious to learn more or be reminded of what you once knew of Lisle's history? Then, please consider joining us for the fall Annual Meeting to celebrate our 70th in Toledo, Ohio. We will be based on the campus of the University of Toledo, which is where, thanks to the sustaining work of Mark Kinney, you will find the Lisle Archives. Most of the original student files, correspondence, photos, and administrative records about the early units and other data from the life of the Baldwins with Lisle are found in these archival records. Fully documented, we are arranging for a tour and discussion with the university archivist. So join us!



Marty Tillman, Our Board President

I hope you enjoy reading about the 2006 Mini-Grant Awardees in this issue. Especially noteworthy is the fact that we are supporting an important educational program for students studying at colleges and universities around the U.S. from Burma. As you know, it was as a direct result of the mission service work of Uncle Si and Aunt Edna from 1922–32 in Burma, that Lisle was born. And here we are, more than 70 years later, collaborating with a Lisler working to develop future leaders among the youth of Burma. Isn't that a wonderful circle closed? I'm very proud that Lisle is supporting this project given the nature of the oppressive totalitarian state these students have left. It's a fitting way for us to celebrate Lisle's 70th birthday by playing a small role in enabling international students to realize their dreams and see a better future. 🌐

Marty Tillman



A lovely family photo of Marty, his wife Gail, and their daughter Zoe, at the Annual Meeting.



Executive Director's Report

Lisle has continued to move forward in a sustainable way during this year. The able direction which is being given to the board by President Marty Tillman, and the work of all of the board members in continuing to respond to the needs for Lisle programming has been very effective.

During the year Lisle has begun planning a big celebration for the 70th anniversary of Lisle, to be held in Toledo, OH October 6-8, 2006. More is written about that in another article. The mini-grant committee has responded to the needs of the 2004 recipients, and has received the final reports for the projects. It has also refined the RFP (requests for proposals) forms for the 2005 cycle and implemented the use of these documents. It has received more than 10 proposals for funding, screened them, evaluated them, and selected five for funding during 2005-2006. The committee is beginning to develop the materials for the 2006 grant cycle. Much of this material, the forms, the description of the grant program, and the descriptions of both the 2004 and 2005 projects are posted on the Lisle website under "grants" at: <http://www.lisleinternational.org/grants/grants.html>.

My work has been primarily to work with the grants committee screening the grant materials and asking for clarifications as needed, as well as serving as a member of the committee. I have also worked hard to implement the new Lisle webpage, and to revise the webpage as a result of the changes in grant year cycle, and information from the Interaction. I believe you will find it a very useful Lisle site.

Nancy and I are living in Hungary this academic year. In August I began a 5 month Fulbright Fellowship to teach at Eszterhazy Karoly College in Eger. Subsequently that grant has been extended to May of 2006. I taught 2 courses during the fall, gave a series of talks to the "education faculty" (basically the college of education in US terms) about American Educational practices. I also have given two sessions for my department faculty members about building instructional websites for themselves. I have traveled to Drebecen to give talks to doctoral students and to Szeged to talk with elementary students and discuss future training possibilities for doctoral students, and also for the education faculty members at Juhasz Gyula Teachers College.

In many ways this is a Lisle-like experience. There are several ways in which the educational infrastructure in Hungary makes it difficult to provide the kind of "thinking" education which Nancy and I am familiar. There are few books available, students have little money for purchasing



Mark Kinney, Our Executive Director

them, classroom facilities are limited. On the other hand, students do have great access to the Internet. The problem is that they generally do not really understand how to make use of the computers to access the material, and then have only a limited idea of what to do with the ideas once they find them.

Nancy, for her part has been teaching a class in federalism and helping other faculty members in English and American Studies by teaching individual sessions for them.

All of that does not begin to mention the in-classroom observing, the fun times visiting rural schools around Eger, and the chances to meet and enjoy the graciousness of the Hungarians around us. In addition, Nancy and I have found the thermal pools and the Olympic sized swimming facilities in Eger to be wonderful. The college Rector even made available passes so we can use the swimming pool. What a treat. I never get a chance to swim in a 50 meter pool in the US. Almost all of our pools are 25 yards or 25 meters long.

The short of it is that Nancy and I are having a great time, learning a lot, and only now beginning to think it will be nice to come home at the end of the spring. 🌐

Mark Kinney



October, 2005 Board Meeting

By Barbara Bratton

The Annual Meeting was called to order on October 5th in Philadelphia, PA. Present were Board Members Walt and Betty Ligon, Marty Tillman, Jon Findley, Barb Bratton and Dianne Brause. A quorum of five was met.

Lisle members and visitors included Barbara Walker, Catherine Peters, Libby Shanefield, Edith Ballard, Alex Cox, Finn and Barbara Hornum, Lane Winnett and Charolyn Gouldy. Minutes from the Spring meeting were approved. The finance reports including the IRS Form 990, historical members' contributions and projected budgets were presented. After discussion the 2005/2006 budget was set at \$23,000 revenue and \$23,000 expenditures.



Edith Ballard, Barbara Hornam, Betty Ligon, and Finn Horman listen in as an agenda item is explained at the Annual Meeting..

Thoughts to Lisle friends in the Katrina area were expressed. (See pg. 17 for details.)

We talked about bringing in new Board members but keeping it small. By far the majority of the current workload falls on the grant committee and we discussed reaching out for new committee members that would not also be Board members.

• Election of Board Members/Officers

The 2005/06 Board will be Marty Tillman (President), Jon Findley (Vice President), Mark Kinney (Executive Director), Barb Bratton (Treasurer), Betsy Bridwell (Secretary), Dianne Brause, Beth Bader, Gail Bier, John Kachuba, and Mary Newman. Walt and Betty Ligon are Board Member Emeritus. The Board and Officers were approved by all Lisle Members present at the meeting.

• Old Business

Our 70th Anniversary will be held at the University of Toledo October 6–8, 2006. The UT Library will make a sampling of the archived Lisle material available for viewing. Rooms will be available for \$50 to \$80 per night. (Complete plans are reported on page 8.)

A discussion was held regarding closing the Bagoes Oka and Marian Wright Edelman funds as separate scholarships with separate award requirements which no longer “fit” the grant style of Lisle activity. Rolling these funds into other restricted funds will make the growth on the funds available for further grants. This issue will be tabled until the Spring meeting.

A review of the reports received from the 2004/2005 grant recipients was discussed. The Mountain Children’s Project in India and the Shucta Lacta project in Ecuador were very successful. Project Hope in Seattle has reported partial success in their project although all of their ambitions goals were not met. All participants expressed again their appreciation for Lisle support.

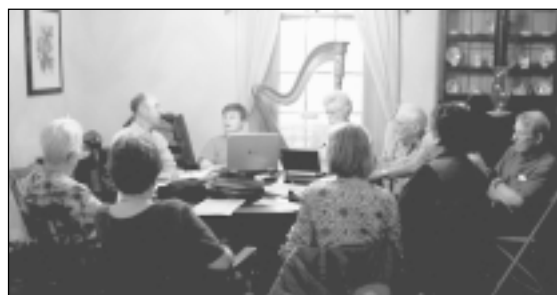
Interaction deadlines and article responsibilities were assigned.

• New Business

Marty gave a report on the process of evaluating the grants.

1. Requests come to the office and mentor packages are sent out with a deadline.

2. Applications are received, receipt is acknowledged, and they are forwarded, electronically, to Mark. Mark does an initial review for completeness and corresponds with the applicants if additional information is required.



Board Members and Lisle guests in the old sitting room of the Hostel. Note the harp in the window!





Marty, Betty, Alex Cox and Barbara Walker join hands for the closing circle.

3. Barb keeps a timeline and summary sheet of the progress of all applications.

4. After the deadline, all complete applications are forwarded electronically to the Grant Committee.

5. Each committee member, before discussion, ranks the applications according to a common numerical guideline.

6. At the first committee teleconferencing, some applications are clearly stellar and there is a consensus to grant funds. Some applications are clearly outside of the Lisle guidelines and are determined not to be granted. Discussion is held around the middle group—pro's and con's.

7. A second teleconferencing meeting is held to finalize decisions, reach consensus and refine the amounts to be granted to each project.

• **2005 Grant Awards**

For this award year, grants were awarded to: **Medica Mondiale**, a German organization doing work with women in Uganda, \$3,000; Lisle Mentor was Anne-Rose Heck.



Spinner at Betsy Ross' house explains the process of spinning wool.

Human Rights Across Borders, a program in Caracas, \$2,200; Lisle Mentor was Alex Cox. **Myanmar Foundation for Analytic Education**, a project for Burmese students, \$1,971; Lisle Mentors were Ellie & Hans Spiegel. **Shunku Llacta**, a project in Ecuador, \$3,000; Lisle Mentor was Vede Rosenheck. **Crane Culture Theatre**, a group in Sacramento, \$2,500; Lisle Mentor was Sonja Brodt. Congratulations to all! 🌐

October Board Meeting Surprise

By Edith Ballard

The group was very small at the Philadelphia Lisle Meeting. The biggest adventure was being in the downpour with Dianne and Jon walking the six blocks from the Constitution Hall. Alex Cox had dropped us off to see the new Constitution Hall and asked if we could walk to the restaurant. No rain then. An almost hurricane downpour soaked us all, when the Hall locked us out. The two umbrellas we had did little good.

The biggest surprise of my life was seeing my two sons walk up to me in the Singapore Kosher Chinese Vegetarian restaurant, as I was spreading a drapery rag on my chair to look for any dry spots I could sit on. If you get to Philly try that restaurant.

As Paul and Marlin stood there and Marty introduced them to those present around the table he added, "Each year we give an award called the Walt and Betty Ligon Award...Edith is this year's recipient." I truly was surprised.

My reaction was that it should have gone to someone else who did so much for years. Mine has only been an effort to keep those strayed from Lisle back in the fold.

I agree with George Cole that everyone does what one can and with him I'm generally opposed to calling people saints or giving that type of reward.

On my visits to the meetings in Oregon and Chicago I've become sold on the new approach. People like Dianne Brause, Beth Bader and Jon Findley are on that grant committee, and it is doing a great job! 🌐



Ligon Award recipient, Edith Ballard, is all smiles, standing next to her son, Paul, and Alex Cox.



See You In Chicago—April, 2006

By Lane Winnet

The Spring Board Meeting will be held April 22–23, 2006. Once more we will return to the International Conference Center in Chicago, Illinois.

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

The conference center is located just a few blocks from Lake Michigan in an ethnically diverse and historically interesting neighborhood. The Lislars have eaten at some great neighborhood ethnic restaurants doing the board meetings there.

Plan to arrive on the evening of April 21 before 10 P.M. The board meeting will begin at 9 A.M. on Saturday, April 22, 2006, and conclude by noon on Sunday, April 23, 2006.

Call Lane Winnett at the Lisle Office (800-477-1538) or email Lane at lisle2@io.com for details and to make your reservation! Lane will need to give the Center an accurate headcount by April 6, 2006. 🌐

Lisle in the Literature on Experiential Learning

By Marty Tillman

I found a small volume published by Jossey Bass: *New Directions for Experiential Learning*, published in 1981. I have a chapter in this volume which I am proud to have written about “The Lisle Fellowship: a Case Study.” It was an effort of mine to re-cast Lisle’s educational philosophy into a contemporary understanding of the field of experiential learning and to give Lisle and the Baldwins credit for the pioneering work we had achieved. I just realized this was 25 years ago this year.

You never know what you can dig up on the net. I was curious after re-discovering my essay/chapter about Lisle’s experiential pedagogy in the Neff book, written 25 years ago this year, and searched on “google scholar” (www.google.com) and then click on “more” to find the scholar link to academic papers and materials to find these). The Peterson piece is by an old NAFSA friend and then surprise—Tom Webb, from Denmark, I believe—wrote about Lisle in the third highly scholarly piece. (See pg. 22)

Some of this may be useful in our 70th celebration at the University of Toledo as we consider our past and the way in which Lisle has made a lasting contribution to the field of experiential learning. 🌐

Lisle’s 70th Anniversary

By Mark Kinney

Plans are coming along for a wonderful event in Toledo Ohio, October 6-8, 2006 to celebrate the 70th year of Lisle. Plans are afoot to provide a deputation to the University of Toledo Library for a viewing of the Lisle Archives and a chance to donate to them. Won’t it be fun to search through the history of Lisle and find out more about what Lislars have done? The board is also discussing setting up a video archiving project during the celebration so that people can record short vignettes of their Lisle experiences for cataloging in the archive.

It has been suggested that perhaps we can have a teleconference with Representative Dennis Kucinich about the Department of Peace Connection with Lisle. Of course there will be the usual Lisle business meeting, and we hope to have some exciting project reports to share.

Tentative plans call for lodging to be at the Westgate Red Roof Inn and the Colony Motel in the Westgate section of Toledo, which is about 1 mile from campus. More complete information about this event will be forthcoming in the next issue of *Interaction*, and will be posted to the Lisle website when available.

If you have ideas for this event, or would like to help out, please contact Mark and Nancy Kinney, mark.kinney@utoledo.edu. After June 1, when we return from Hungary, you may call us at 989-595-3667.

Do come and join us in October 2006! 🌐



Add Quality to the Lisle Archives

By Mark Kinney

Many of us have lots in our collections from our memorable Lisle experiences. You can help in two ways: you can clean out part of your house and contribute to the researchable historical collection of Lisle materials.

So what should you think of donating to Lisle? The focus should be on donating what will be useful for researching the organization. Therefore, materials such as identified photographs, scrapbooks, diaries and letters of those who were in Lisle programs, videos of interviews with participants, etc. Materials such as agendas and invitations are often helpful. One-page recollections of your experiences are welcome. Common memorabilia like notes on napkins and nametags, is not useful for research, and probably has more relevance to you than to the collection.

Should you want to see if an artifact that you have is still needed within the archive collection, please go to the Lisle website: www.lisleinternational.org, and look at the UT Archive listing there.

Please send the materials directly to Barbara Floyd; Carlson Library; Attn: Lisle Archives; 2801 W. Bancroft; Toledo OH 43606. 🌐

Financial Report

By Barbara Bratton

The 2005 Annual Meeting approved a \$23,000 budget. Of this budget, 14.5% or \$3,329 is allocated for administrative costs of running an office. 2.2% or \$500 is allocated to fundraising—which is essentially done through direct mail. Most Board members treat the costs of their attending meetings as their gift to Lisle but because of the cost of renting meeting rooms, preparing and copying information, advising members of the meetings and some travel assistance, the Board meetings cost \$2,000 or 8.7% of the budget.

Interaction is considered one of the benefits to our 1,500 members and costs \$4,500 or 19.5% of the annual budget.

Property tax is \$360 on the New York Land (which we would love to sell!!) is considered an administrative cost and included in that budget.

The balance of the funds raised or earned through investments is being contributed through the Grant Process—this is \$12,671 or 55% of the budget. 🌐

The Lisle Website

By Mark Kinney

During 2005 I implemented a new version of the Lisle website. Most of you know this already. If you haven't taken the time to go to the site and see what is there, please do so. I hope you will be pleased with what is there. The site is: www.lisleinternational.org.

My work has been to implement new aspects of the page and to revise the webpage as a result of the changes in mini-grant year cycle, information from the *Interaction*, etc. I believe you will find it a very useful Lisle site. I am also very aware that sites are only as good as they are useful. If you have suggestions for additions to the site or you find problems in using the site, please write to me at mark.kinney@utoledo.edu.

There is so much for Lislors to access now! Read on!

A list of Lisle Archive materials. You can use this list to see if information you want from your activities with Lisle can be found. Then you can contact me with any questions you might have about actually getting the documents. Program evaluations, individual reports of program outcomes, copies of brochures, theses and dissertations written about Lisle, and much, much more.

Material about the Lisle Mini-Grant program including the forms, the description of the grant program, and the descriptions of both the 2004 and 2005 projects are posted on the Lisle website under "grants" at: <http://www.lisleinternational.org/grants/grants.html>.

Also, you'll find information which may be helpful to prospective donors, information about Lisle's history, access to current and past Lisle *Interactions*, and much much more. Please enjoy the site! 🌐



Lisle Mini-Grant Cycle for 2006

By Mark Kinney

We have now moved through the awarding of two years of Lisle Mini-Grants. The third year grant cycle will remain substantially the same as the previous ones. While some minor date adjustments may be made, the Lisle Board expects that grant applications for 2006 will be available beginning in June. Applications must be submitted by the 1st of September, with awards being announced during the Annual Meeting, 70th year celebration the first weekend of October 2006 in Toledo, OH. The mini-grant cycle will be from November 1, 2006–October 31, 2007.

During the first year that Lisle awarded Mini-Grants (2004), we awarded three grants. The 2005 cycle of awards were given to five applicants, although the amount awarded to several was less than the amount awarded to the 2004 grants, allowing for a similar total amount of funding to be expended.

The Lisle Board looks forward to receiving many interesting applications in 2006 as we have the past two years. Should you have questions about the process, please go the Lisle homepage, look to the left, mouse over “Grants”, and then click on “About mini-grants.”

If there are questions that you still have and would like to discuss a possible proposal idea for a grant, please contact me at mark.kinney@utoledo.edu.

A sightseeing jaunt following the Annual Meeting led one group to visit the Amish.



Sunday is “go to meeting” time in Amish country near Lancaster, PA.

2006 Grant Committee Review Process

By Marty Tillman

Because we are only into the second year of the new mini-grant award program, we thought it might be useful to explain how the Board makes its decisions regarding grant awards.

The Board has assigned a sub-committee comprising three to four members who are responsible for reading and rating each grant application. Thanks to the particular expertise of Beth Bader, we have designed a very professional scoring procedure to objectively rate each proposal. Following receipt of all applications, the committee takes several weeks to review proposals. At the same time, Mark Kinney is in communication with the lead contact person for each proposal to insure that all questions have been fully answered. If members of the committee do have questions, the grant writer is provided an opportunity to clarify their answers or more fully explain any aspect of their proposal. We therefore try hard to intentionally create an honest dialogue with each applicant to be certain we fully understand their intent and need for Lisle funding.

To date, we feel quite good about this process. Even when we do not decide to make an award to an organization (and we have only been able to fund about 50% of applications submitted in these first two grant cycles) we make it a point to take care to fully discuss the committee’s reasons for denying funding. We suggest ways in which an organization can strengthen their proposal, and we urge applicants to try again.

In other words, to borrow a famous phrase from the late psychologist Carl Rogers (someone close to Lisle’s method of group process in the old units), the grant committee tries to make this a “person-centered” application process—from start to finish.



2005 Mini-Grantees Not Funded

By Beth Bader

The Lisle Board received a total of eleven completed applications for the 2005 mini-grant cycle. After the deliberations of the Grants Committee and approval of the Board, five of the proposed projects received full or partial funding. This left six remaining projects, all with merit, unfunded. The following is a short synopsis of the unfunded projects with the hope that the world-wide network of Lislens can identify other sources of funding which the grant seeking organizations could pursue in the future.

• Teaching English in Peru

Funding was requested to pay travel expenses for two teenagers to live and participate in day-to-day living among Peruvians for a two-month period of time. The young people would also serve as volunteers teaching English in a mixed public school in the Lima coastal district that provides pre-school education to children three to five years of age. These endeavors were to be combined with coastal conservation volunteer work near Pisco, Peru.

The program's contact person was Rosalind Joseph. The Lisle Mentor was Barbara Walker.

• Senegal Midwifery Project

Midwives On Missions of Service (MOMS) requested funding to take medical supplies, teaching materials, and midwives to the maternity clinic and birth center in Mboro, Senegal for a three-week pilot project. The Mboro clinical site is a regional training center for Senegalese midwives who, upon graduation, return to their villages and set up their independent midwifery practices and serve their communities.

The program's contact person was: Sudy Storm (sudy@globalmidwives.org). The Lisle Mentor was Elise Kimmons.

• Fellowship of Reconciliation Interfaith Peace-Builders Delegation to Israel and Palestine

Funding was requested to reimburse Ms. Ray for part of the expenses she incurred during a trip she made to Israel and Palestine with the Fellowship of Reconciliation and to pay for copying informational handouts that would be used when presenting the information about the trip to local groups.

The program's contact person was Peggy Ray (peggyray1@juno.com). The Lisle Mentor was Anne Marie Keyes.

• Integrating a Psycho-Social Care Model within a Comprehensive Treatment Program for Children/Families Affected by HIV/AIDS

Funding was requested to assist with transportation costs to Nairobi, Kenya that would lengthen the amount of time that Dr. Gregg Stracks would be able to dedicate to the provision of mental health services, as well as to obtain necessary materials/supplies for his project. The purpose of Dr. Strack's project is to help create and integrate a psycho-social program of care into a health care program for children and their families affected by HIV/AIDS at Kenyatta National Hospital.

The program's contact person was Dr. Gregg Stracks (gstracks@ix.netcom.com). The Lisle Mentor was Andrew Selig.

• Stringing the Blessed Beads of Friendship & Understanding Between Turkish & American Women

A small group of Mevlevi Whirling Dervish women in Eugene, Oregon requested funding to supplement travel and project expenses during the historic celebration of Sema (Remembrance) in memory of Jelaluddin Rumi. The Mevlevi Sufi group will make friends, gain deeper understanding and pass on their experience to others when they return as well as exchange "Blessed Beads" with their Turkish "sisters" in a gesture of love, trust, and mutual respect. (*See pg. 21 for an update about this project*)

The program's contact person was Dianne Brause (diannebr@lostvalley.org). The Lisle Mentor was Dianne Brause.

• Women's Rights Violation & Harmful Traditional Practices (HTP) Reduction Forum

The request for funding from Lisle was to be used to conduct a monthly forum at Shashemane District level in Ethiopia aimed at ensuring gender equity and equality through advocacy, education, healthful life and improved livelihood opportunities for marginalized, rural Ethiopian women. A similar program has been implemented in 4 Peasant Associations of Shashemane District, but with funding, the project would be expanded throughout the district to the remaining 34 Peasant Associations. 🌐

The program's contact person was Dube Tusse (gfeaddis2003@yahoo.com). The Lisle Mentor was Craig Jacobson. 🌐



Thanks again, Lane Winnet, for ably compiling all the news that folks send into the Lisle office. Edith Ballard is also keeping the Lisle Network alive, and we appreciate her efforts to keep fond connections active.

Olivia (Foster) Allaway (CO '46) "Bill and I are involved in PAX 2100 and a new UNESCO.com for Santa Barbara, CA".

Sid Anderson (NY '45) "I knew Uncle Si and Aunt Edna well. I'm writing books in my senior years as the best way I know to share what I feel are life's most important experiences. Over the past 60 years my wife and I have been members of many organizations that we felt were trying to go to the heart of the world's problems, and studied them carefully. Gradually, we have become more and more impressed by PCI (Population Communications International) which we are totally convinced is opening a better life for more people around the world than any other—truly remarkable! Research has proven their success. For instance, their program in China is the most popular and effective on TV! PCI feels that since the dawn of time the most important truths have been shared by story tellers—around the campfire—and now, on radio and television around the world." Sid lives in New Milford CT.

Helen Baker St. John (Uganda '94, Hawaii '95) Spent 10 days in Virginia, Maryland & Pennsylvania visiting family and old friends. Otherwise, Helen stays in the Seattle area, gardening, teaching, camping, bicycling and enjoying two new grandbabies: Susan—2004 & Josie—2005.

Alice Gail Bier (Lisle Bd.) "For those of you who haven't yet heard, I moved from New Orleans LA to Knoxville Tennessee to help the University of Tennessee with its international plans. While sad to leave my friends and colleagues in New Orleans, I am excited about this new work opportunity, meeting new people and making new friends. There's an old campfire song that goes, 'Make new friends, but keep the old, ones are silver, the others gold.' I hope that you stay in touch and I so much look forward to seeing you either in Knoxville or wherever you are. I have an extra bed for any of you who happen to be coming this way, please know y'all have a place to stay and you can save your pennies for another part of your life's adventure." Gail's new address is: 1110 West Nokomis Circle, Knoxville, TN 37919-7704, Phone: 865-525-7121, Cell: 865-802-9682, abier@sstar.com.

Howard Binkley (Lisle Bd., DC '54, '66, '67, CO '55, Japan '56 & CA '56) wrote: "And a Happy, prosperous, health-full 2006 to you, too. 'Lisle' in Collegiate dictionary =

(Leconte de) Lisle former name of Lille (France); also called 'Lisle thread' a fine high-twisted and hard-twisted cotton thread...used especially for hosiery. My point: Lisle not being used as an acronym or an organization with a purpose, the term means little to those not familiar with Lisle (Fellowship) and its purpose. I don't want to belabor the point, but feel we need a descriptive title e.g., League of Intercultural Servers for Life and Education?? (We can do better than that!) So be it—will try to throw out other ideas for consideration. I co-led for just half the summer unit at Girls Friendly Society in Washington (1954/5?—before I left to co-lead the unit in Colorado—busy summer). A Hawaiian girl (Sybil Wong Kui, DC '54) was in DC and her father provided a mass of Hawaiian food and orchids for us to have a luau. On several occasions when I was visiting in the Hawaiian Islands, I tried to reach her but lost address/phone so no success, but made several helpful Lisle contacts in the islands. (As you know, each island is different from the others—quite a variety of cultures and habitats.) Evey (**Evelyn Binkley** CO '55, CA '56, DC '66, '67 & Canada '73) will pass thru here briefly in January en route to Bosnia."

Betsy Bridwell (Bali '97, Lisle Bd.) writes that, "Greetings to all! Since I have fallen off the map for a while, I thought I would give you an update on what is happening and why I have been so out of touch. At work, I have been working full-time—my own half-time Career Services job as well as filling in for the undergraduate academic adviser while she is in Ghana this quarter. It has been insanely busy, and I have been overwhelmed. On top of all this, my stepmother died in late October, and I have been very concerned about my 85-year-old father, who is in Orlando, FL. He has serious short-term memory problems that seem to be worsened by this loss. I spent a week with him just before Thanksgiving. Now he has just had a biopsy on two lumps under his arm and on his neck. It is likely I will be spending the holidays down there with him and trying to figure out next steps. Luckily, my stepbrother and his wife are just a couple of hours' drive away, but they will be gone over the holidays. I am planning to be in Chicago for the spring meeting, and I hope to see many of you then."

Chris & Dean Coons (Lisle Board, CO '48, Family Camp '51, Bali '91, Costa Rica '98, Leader Training '98) write in their Holiday letter: "We took our first (15-day) cruise from Ft. Lauderdale to Los Angeles via the Panama Canal. In 2006 we plan to take a 28-day cruise from Bangkok to Capetown.... All 6 of our children and families are now on



the West Coast... Our health status remains relatively stable considering our age. Please stay in touch.” chriscoons@aol.com and dmcoons@aol.com.

Kristin Currin (Costa Rica '98, '99, Leader for CR 2001 & '02) wrote she is still living off grid in Mosier, OR raising organic produce for local restaurants and running a native plant nursery. She is working towards propagating rare native medicinal plants found on the land and becoming a botanical sanctuary. She recently wrote to Jon Kachuba: “On September 23rd I left my little mountain home to journey towards San Francisco to meet up with family and celebrate my mother’s 60th birthday. On the light rail to the airport I met a woman heading towards Washington DC to march in protest of the war. She inspired me and during our conversation told me there was to be a march in San Francisco as well. When I told my family they decided to put aside all the other plans we had for the day of birthday festivities and join the peaceful march. I thought strongly of all of you and what amazing advocates for peace and change and understanding you have each been over the years and I guess I just wanted to send this brief message out to let you know that your work and ideas have had a profound impact on many others and me, and I want to say thank you to each of you for continuing that work. Thank you Lisle!” jewelweed@fastmail.fm.

John’s response: “Wonderful to hear from you! And what an inspiring message. It all works something like a wheel, I think (maybe that’s why the Buddhists use the symbol of a wheel in their iconography)—an elder inspires you and you, in turn, give hope and inspiration again to other elders, as well as those younger than yourself. I’ve said it before, but I’ll repeat that I find much inspiration and hope for a new generation in what you do and say.”

Martha Dailey (India '87, Germany Bd Mtg 2000) is director of a small colonial museum (website: bidwellhousemuseum.org) and lives in Williamstown, MA. Her E-mail is: mldailey@msn.com.

Earl Downing (Lisle Board, Leadership Training '98) continues to be very active in intercultural activities between Polish and American people. On Sunday, Oct. 23rd, 2005 he was awarded one of several “Polish American Heritage Awards” at St. Hyacinth’s Church. Earl is a retired Pastor of the United Methodist Church and has deep roots in Poland both from his birth family and his current heart connections. In past years he led groups of people to Poland to do service projects and explore their ancestry. Currently he enjoys helping to network interested people with

projects in Poland. If you would like more information, contact him at: Rev. E.W. Downing, 3422 W. Hilton Est., Brighton, MI 48114. (810) 227-7215. Earl@Downing-Home.com.

Sophia (Holley) Ellis (Germany '55 & '56, USSR '56) “The German program was dropped from the curriculum (Detroit, MI) so I’m teaching biology again after 20 years away from it.”

Louis G. Ferrand (Jamaica '61) Louis lives in Alexandria, VA wrote that he is the Legal Advisor to the Secretary General of the Organization of American States.

Ruth Ingeborg Fuss (CA '54, German '55 & '66) “I live in a retirement community (Venice, FL) where I volunteer as a mail courier twice a day delivering inter-departmental mail in our four buildings. I am chair of the Worship Coordinators Committee as well as chair of our floor. I write and distribute minutes of the Resident Council and I lead a ‘Read, Listen & Share’ group. I consider myself a Bridge-Builder thanks to my Lisle Training.”

Gladys Gray (NY '76, CO '42) writes that her husband “Bob and I have our ups and downs, especially in relation to energy. I am feeling older now that I have reached 88. I do not remember Richard McClure, but I do remember Bob Birge. I’d still like to find out who from the first Lisle Fellowship is still alive. I’m not in touch with anyone. Our phone number is (609) 953-9458. We don’t get to the big Friend’s gatherings now. Our travel is pretty much limited to annual visits to our kids and their families in San Diego and Edmonton. We are not sure how much longer we will be able to keep that up. It is just easier to stay right here and enjoy our arboretum and activities at Medford Leas. Our girls have been getting here to see us fairly often but we would like to see the grandchildren and great grandchildren much more than we do.”

Carol M. Hansen (India '98) lives in Madison, WI and noted that “I wrote a so-called ‘chapter book’ for early independent readers. I am presently looking for a publisher, having submitted to Barefoot Books (Cambridge, MA). The ‘book’ is 4200 words and features an urban Indian family celebrating Devali. The Barefoot Group is interested in culture sensitivity, etc. If they are committed for the year, I plan to contact their Mother House in Bath, OK where the Indian presence is of longer duration.”

Mogens (Family Camp '56, CA '57, Germany '59 & '62) **and Jean (Horton) Jensen** (CO '46, Denmark '54, Family Camp '56, Germany '62) They live in Grand Blanc, MI. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary September



24, 2005. Jean was in the '54 Denmark unit when she met Mogens during her deputation in Skibby, Denmark where Mogens worked at the home for delinquent boys. Mogens and Jean were married the next year in Ann Arbor, MI where Jean was the Lisle Secretary. Uncle Si Baldwin officiated at the ceremony and **Finn Hornum** (CT '51, Denmark '52, '53, '54 '58 & '68, CO '55 & CA '55) was best man.

Maude (Martin) Johns (CO '45, Elderhostel '89) "Busy with United Methodist Women and visiting our children in MA, MO, and 2 weeks with daughter in Alaska. Do enjoy being in our retirement home in Sedona, AZ."

John Kachuba (Board Member, Leader Training '98, CR '99) and **Mary Newman** (CR '90) spent September 24, 2005 at a small peace rally in Athens OH, since they were unable to make it down to Washington as they did before Bush invaded Iraq. "It's nice to see that we are no longer in the minority and that most Americans now know how wrong-headed our foreign (and domestic) policies are."

Olive (McWilliams) Leonard (NY '43) of Satellite Beach, FL wrote "Our son lived one year in New Zealand as a high school AFS Exchange Student. We have hosted students from Sweden, Costa Rica, Switzerland and Iran. Have always been involved in intercultural exchange and understanding."

Walt and Betty (Walt-NY '48, MI '50, CO '51, '57, DC '54, CA '58; Betty & Walt-SD '86, Bali '88, Holland '03, Leader Training and Board Emeritus '98) "We have been active with the Democratic Party in Mason County (Pentwater, MI) publishing their monthly newsletter and helping to plan activities. We are also active in local Methodist church and work with a local peace group. We are hopeful about Lisle's new direction as a funding organization and enjoy going to Lisle meetings."

Jeanne (Ackley) Lohmann (CO '43, NY '49) "I'm still writing, have several poetry collections in print (most recent) *The Light of Invisible Bodies* and a new prose work, *Dancing in the Kitchen* will be published this year. (Google the Web for "Jeanne Lohmann"). At 82, I'm blessed with a good life, and grateful to be able to share what I love!" Jeanne lives in Olympia, WA.

Rosalind Meyer (NY '45, Spain '76) of Gross Isle, MI wrote, "Still interested in peoples of the world. Alaska, Iceland, Greenland, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and five Balkan countries toured in 2005."

Johnnie (Massey) Miller (CO '46, CT '49 & '50, Lisle Board) "It was great to make contact (with the Barb & Lane at the Lisle office) in Sept 2003 when visiting my brother near Austin, TX. So missed the meeting in NYC. Still going great at 80 down in beautiful Florida (N. Ft. Myers). Arnold and I are still in good health. Wish the above age were 60! Good going for the future!"

V. Ione (Moody) Murchison (NY '47, Hawaii '95) of Elk Grove, CA wrote. "I like the direction you are taking."

Catherine Peters (CO '49 & '51, Bali '88) Catherine wrote, "My retirement days are working out peaceful, comfortable and allowing me participation regularly in (1) Bible study group for International Students. Excellent to mix and talk with Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Africans, Russians and others; (2) Education Program at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine; (3) Variety of Programs at the International House as an alumnus; (4) Invitations to performances at the Julliard School of Music. Catherine would like to make contact with participants from the Colorado programs. Her address is: 220 W. 107th St., #35, New York, NY 10025. Please write!

Betty Ruth Raygor (Leader of DC '62) "I am no longer in Florida. Thank Heaven! I decided it was time to sell in 2000 and move back north where all my family lives (St. Paul, MN). I am serving on the University of Minnesota Retirees Board, and the North Suburban Senior Council. Robin and Rick live within 3 miles of my townhouse and Diana lives in La Crosse, WI, so she gets up here often. I would love to hear from any DC-1962 Lislors. My email is: BRRAYGOR@msn.com."

Margarita Romo (India '89) wrote "I read the most recent Lisle Interaction with great interest and I am always curious as to whether I will see someone I'll recognize. I've since lost track of our group...at the time I was known as Margaret Romo Simmons. There were 30 of us, 20 from the states and 10 from India. Since then I have continued to work with our farm worker community (Dade City, FL) and have developed many projects that assist in their growth. We also have ties to Jamkhed in India through Connie Gates and I recently did receive a letter from my friend at the Center for Revolution. I still think that is a grand name. I am seeking funds to build a cultural arts center/church, we expect to see this become a reality soon."

Dawn Russell (CO '48) "I'm going through old stuff, preparing to write some stories of life long ago and found a yellowed copy of the Pueblo, Colorado *Star Journal* for



August 5, 1949 with a photo of six young men and women with quite a long article about these folks, their colleges, and the 10 countries at Camp Lookout, Lisle Fellowship. Would this be of interest to anyone now? I was so provincial and uninitiated to the world at the time of my Lisle experience that I had quite a time taking it all in. Learning to experience and value a girl from Georgia even stretched my stereotypes, and though I was aware of and in awe of those from other countries, I don't remember them. You can email Dawn at lowdaw@pacinfo.com.

Carol Jean Stifler (CO '42) wrote "Not too active at 88, but am living in a wonderful, active, creative senior residence of 400 terrific people here at Covenant Village of Cromwell, CT almost 20 years now."

Marty Tillman (Bd. President, DC '76 & '77, India '77 & '78, AK '79 & '80, Leader Training '98): "In March, I'm excited to return to India for two weeks to represent my career services office at The Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies to employers in the public, private and nonprofit sectors. I'm hopeful of connecting with old Lisle friends in both Mumbai (Bombay) and Delhi (especially former Board member **Sharada Nayak**). In 2005, I was fortunate to have published several articles and edited two volumes on the topic of Education Abroad and Career Development.

Margaret K. (Keagy) Whittemore (CO '41) Margaret of South Yarmouth, MA wrote: "Wish I could do more at 85 years of age, but I can pay. Lisle was a changing experience in my life, and the memory lives on and guides me yet.

Brandon Wick (CR '97) wrote Dianne Brause to thank her for being a reference in his application to the Cross-Cultural Solutions organization (www.cross-cultural-solutions.org). He is now working for them in the capacity of "Communications Manager." He noted that he emphasized his "...participation in the Costa Rica program as valuable international development and leadership experience. I remember reluctantly being elected by the group to arrange the cross-cultural opportunities in Coopeunioro, but then loving it! And because of my Spanish ability, I found myself leading impromptu projects and helping Ben with the Hydro-Electro Survey. I was thrilled to see that project come to reality in the Lisle Program News a while back." You can email Brandon at: bdwick@yahoo.com. 🌐

Kudos to Lisle

June (Holzendorf) Ammirati (CA '50) "I continue to be interested in the work of Lisle and appreciate all that so many do so much."

Muriel Carlson (NY '39) "I am glad the new approaches are proving effective and hold to the Lisle spirit and message."

Elizabeth (Hempstead) Dexter (NY '48) "Thank you for sending your newsletters all these years."

Ardis (Price) Hanish (German '55 & CA '56) "My thanks for being such an important influence in my life. Thank you Lisle!"

Joyce (Walker) Hardin (CO '46 and Family Camp '56 with husband Fred) "My best wishes to you all and to the new programs."

Anne (Hall) Reese (CO '53) "...I do like the direction taken by the Board. My best!"

Carol Jean Stifler (CO '42) "I still feel that Lisle was the **best** thing that ever happened to me!" 🌐

More sightseeing in Philadelphia had the group appreciating the bronze statues of the signers of the U.S. Constitution.



Catherine Peters in the Hall of the Signers



Barbara Walker with two of the signers of our Constitution.



Tribute to Edith Ballard— 2006 Ligon Award Winner

By Barbara Bratton

In 2000, the Walt and Betty Ligon Service Award was set up to honor those persons who have given of their time, extraordinarily, to the life of Lisle. To this end, we have been pleased to honor Walt and Betty Ligon, Mark Kinney, Dianne Brause and Sharada Nayak. We are delighted to add to those names a big thanks to Edith Ballard.

Edith first attended Lisle in Colorado 1944 and went back as staff in California 1952. She has stayed in touch with Lisle over the years and attended annual or other Board Meetings whenever possible. In 1999, she came back to the programming side of Lisle as a participant in a trip to Costa Rica with her sister Norma Stephens.

The day Edith discovered the joy of emailing was a banner day for Lisle. Although she has always been a wonderful correspondent, in 1995 she dedicated her time to the Lisle database in order to have the most accurate historical record possible and make it her personal goal to search out “Lost Lislere’s” and bring them back in contact with us. To this end, she has written hundreds of letters and emails and reintroduced people to the ongoing Lisle. Without exception, people responded to her correspondence with pleasure at the memory of their Lisle experience and interest in the current status of Lisle. Many have begun contributing again on a regular basis. She has spent hours reviewing the program records to make the Directory as accurate as possible, given 70 years of history.

The Walt & Betty Ligon Award occurred during the Saturday night banquet at the Annual Meeting. We were delighted to be able to smuggle her two sons, Paul and Marlin from Baltimore, into the Saigon Kosher Vegetarian Restaurant in Chinatown of Philadelphia. She was pleased, of course, to see them, and they managed a meal’s worth of small talk to sidetrack her wondering why they really came to this meeting. When the award was made, her pleasure was even greater, having their company.

Edith commented, “The best part of the celebration of my receiving the award is the opportunity it was for my sons to meet all of you. Especially did I enjoy telling them as I introduced Alex [Cox] that he had stayed with me one night



when he traveled for Lisle. I was also able to remind Paul he had stayed with the Lignons in MI, the time we used the Ludington ferry in 1996 to cross Lake Michigan. Thank you for the award. It was truly a surprise. Perhaps my trait of failing to attend to detail was an asset for that accomplishment.”

Edith does a fabulous job of gathering folks together, as you can see from the following bits of web-building.

Edith is currently mounting an effort for Northwest Lislere’s for a reunion in the Tacoma-Seattle area this summer. She suggests, “We could get together between July 2–8 at the Friends General Conference (as

we did in Amherst), or later between July 10 and 15.” You can contact Edith at: 8648 Oakleigh Rd.; Baltimore, MD 21234-3827; (410) 665-6587; edith@all-systems.com.

She also lends a helping hand for fellow Lislere’s in need: It has come to the attention of the Lisle office that Karen Metzler (Cuba ’80) needs to go to John Hopkins in Baltimore from Cleveland for tests and treatment for a fairly severe medical problem which would include uncovered costs for room, board and transportation while staying in Baltimore. She has requested contact with Lislere’s in the area.

Edith has volunteered to coordinate any support that Lislere’s or others might want to give in regards to housing, transportation, meals, visitation, ideas for financial backing or direct donations to offset Karen’s costs. Contact Edith at the above listed address.

Walt Ligon writes regarding Karen: “Betty and I knew Karen Metzler in a different venue than Lisle. It was at a Carl Rogers workshop in San Diego in the early 80’s. She struck us as a very gutsy person just from the fact that she was there. I can’t recall much that she told us about her Lisle experience in Cuba in 1980, but I see her name on the list we have of persons from that unit.”

Edith still manages to travel around quite a lot, and always seems to run into Lislere’s from the past! Read on...

Not only has she participated in the following Lisle Trips: CO ’44, CA ’54, Costa Rica ’99 & many annual meetings, she throws parties: “All my immediate family
(Cont’d next page)



entertained at the Cusing, WI Olson-Jenson reunion in July; My grandson Marlin III with devil sticks and the rest singing. My sister **Norma Stephens** (Costa Rica '99) and our brother were there from CA. All the siblings of my grandparents emigrated to Polk Co., WI in the 1880's.

My birthday, July 15, was spent in Ladysmith, WI with schoolmates from the 20's and 101-year-old teacher of our rural school. Currently, after school on Wednesdays, I'm reading fairy and folk tales to 8-12 year olds at the Sheppard Pratt Mental Hospital. I stand in Peace Paths and Peace vigils for Women in Black, as well at Friends (meetings) sometimes.

Edith is trying to keep mentally active, possibly acquiring new skills: "I'm exploring the possibility of speaking Spanish with my son Marlin on Wenesday evenings. We plan to play Spanish scrabble. My grandson (12) has been permitted to use both English and Spanish lately."

She island-hopped in Hawaii in 2005: "I spent a few days in Hawaii with fellow Lisle **Ruth Matsuura**. **Howard Binkley** and I were at the same luau in DC in 1954. It was **Sybil Wong Kyi** (DC '54) and her father then who provided for it. She is a very generous person.

I recently went to Oahu and the Big Island with my son Paul and his wife. I met Sybil and she took me up the mountain to see **Will Kselka** (CO '55, '56) but we could only stay 20 minutes because she had an earlier engagement and by the time we arrived at Will's on the top of the mountain the sun was setting. She refused to ride that treacherous road in the dark. We had a good 20 minute talk with Will and his wife. She treated me to a great Japanese meal at an interesting restaurant and gave me two lei, one for my daughter-in-law.

I then flew to the Big Island to see Lisle, pediatrician and widow of State Senator Richard Matsuura, **Ruth Hase Matsuura** (CA '53). We were housemates in San Francisco when she was in medical school. I met her several children and many grandchildren. One of her grandchildren, Ruth Kai, is here at Goucher, benefiting from her Hawaiian heritage. We had a happy time seeing the volcano and much of the Matsuura family heritage. Ruth presented me with a lei made with three or four times the usual number of flowers pressed into a design.

Recently, I discovered **Larry Swift** (CO '49) had followed me at the Wesley Foundation in Madison Wisconsin, and we have exchanged news about mutual friends there. Back in the fifties both of us discovered **Doris Hibbard King** (CO '45) sister of **Muriel McClure** (CO '48) at Bruderhof on visits to that community where she still has membership.

Ed. Note: Our congratulations and thanks to Edith for all of her time and dedication! 🌐

News from Lislors Re: Katrina

Mary Newman : " I am a commissioned officer in the USPHS inactive reserves. I have been notified by the service that "all hands are needed" and there is a real possibility that I may be called up to duty somewhere in that area. Because of this I am on "standby status" and need to be close to home in the event I am activated. "

Sharada Nayack : "I feel helpless too. We have been through a similar situation in Bombay although the entire city was not as badly affected as New Orleans. I think the ability to cope with disasters like these is sadly lacking in civic bodies and officials, despite the ability to predict hurricanes and heavy rainfall."

Alice Gail Bier evacuated from New Orleans the day before the hurricane, curled up on the front seat of a jam packed car that night somewhere on a backroad in Mississippi with two cats, her mother's jewelry and the family silver. She started driving again at 4:30 am to keep ahead of the impending storm and made it to Knoxville, TN later that afternoon...her house and all her stuff are still in New Orleans. 🌐

Lislors Affected by Hurricane Katrina

The following Lislors live in the area where Hurricane Katrina struck, but we have not yet heard from them.

- Carl Ennis (husband of Maggie Ennis) of Long Beach, Miss. mserce@hotmail.com
- Dottie Smith of New Orleans (DC '54) dotsmith@mac.com
- Susan Egnew (Denmark '67) of Metairie, LA (505) 833-8636.

If anyone knows how they fared, please contact the Lisle office. Our blessings go out to them and all others affected by the various disasters of 2005. 🌐



Looking Back, Watkins Glen, 1947

By Mitsuye Yamada

The Spring issue of the Lisle Interaction brings back memories of a Lisle of almost 60 years ago. Reading the reports of the deaths of Miriom Zusman and Roy Deming (who were both at the '47 Lisle Unit in NY) juxtaposed with the field reports of projects from India to Ecuador, I am reminded of how far Lisle has come in the past six decades.

While perusing the tiny faded photographs taken that



Writing reports at Watkins Glen.

summer which Ruth Sherman sent to me quite recently (for I've misplaced mine long ago), a flood of memories comes back to me. There is one snapshot with Uncle Si holding court as we sat around in front of the lawn of the mansion that was our home in Watkins Glen, New York, for four weeks. I recognize a few faces: Miriom behind Uncle Si and George Cole on the extreme left. All three are no longer with us.

Apparently our gathering into small groups to write our reports of the Deputation Trips (as they were then appropriately called) were occasion for these photographs. Our forays into the rural communities of upper state New York were our "mission." Compared to the substantive goals of the 2004 Lisle Mini-Grantees as described by Mark Kinney in the last Interaction, I must admit that our goals were quite modest by comparison. I think our goal was to explain to the rural communities, the concept of what was then called the Lisle Fellowship where the demographics appeared to be people of mostly Nordic descent. We were invited to speak at church services and community gatherings. We described how we had created a small multiracial community to learn about how world peace is possible. We ourselves are an "experiment" to

prove that people of many nationalities and religions can live in peace and harmony, we said. But our efforts were at times frustrated because we often could not get past explaining to our hosts that we were not foreign missionaries. After one of these sessions, a woman came up to shake my hand and said, "You are doing good Christian work.." In that time frame, 1947, only two years after the end of World War II, the presence of our motley crew must have presented a rather odd spectacle from their point of view: a Japanese American, a Jewish American, a Norwegian, and a Texan. The idea of the United Nations had not yet made inroads in the consciousness of the people in this part of our country. Indeed, the United Nations was still a fledgling organization, Eleanor Roosevelt's the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was still to be written, and human rights organizations such as Amnesty International was nonexistent. In this context, Uncle Si's and Aunt Edna's vision, which they translated into an organization like Lisle, is all the more remarkable.



At the Watkins Glen Falls, NY.
L. to R.: Iris (Sokoloff) Shah,
Knut Hedeman, ..., ..., Mitsuye...

(Cont'd next page)



On the lawn at Watkins Glen, NY.
Can you find Uncle Si, George Cole
and Miriom Zusman?



Within the Lisle community that summer, I was not the most cooperative participant because I was reluctant to disclose my own doubts about the vision of the Lisle leaders. My background was Protestant, but I had become skeptical of the sincerity of the Christian Church during World War II. After leaving the Minidoka Incarceration Camp in Idaho in 1943, I had spent the following four years in blissful anonymity at the University of Cincinnati and New York University. In 1947 no one in the East had ever heard about the incarceration of 110,000 Japanese nationals and Japanese Americans on the West Coast into camps during the war, and this gave me an opportunity to put that unpleasant part of my past behind me.

But at Lisle, I was suddenly confronted by people who had not only heard about the camps but also were curious about



This is the large stately mansion Mitsuye and the group lived in at Watkins Glen, N.Y

them, and wanted me to tell them “what it was like.” They were persistent, “Did they treat you well?” “Are you bitter about what happened to you?” I felt threatened by the prospect of talking about a sensitive subject with people whose politics I didn’t know. I retreated into spending my time with people I had known before: my roommate, Rose Hiraga; and my classmates at NYU, Iris (Sokoloff) Shah and Bill Shank. I developed close relationships with people whom I thought accepted me as a giddy schoolgirl I was pretending to be.

Uncle Si came to visit me in Chicago after I left Lisle in the Fall of 1947 and asked if I would like to accompany him for a meeting with a Professor Borghese, who was then, I believe, the Director of One World. An indication of where my mind was at the time, I do not remember much about the discussion they must have had about the sustainability of the world. I only remember vividly my meeting the professor’s wife, Elizabeth

Mann Borghese. A mere graduate student in English Literature at the University of Chicago at the time, I was awestruck simply because she was the daughter of Thomas Mann whose works I admired. I must say this was a missed opportunity! I was to meet Ms Borghese again years later at the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions in Santa Barbara, California. By then I recognized her for her own accomplishments, a Senior Scholar at the Center, often called a Think Tank, and as the global authority on ocean law and policy.

That summer at Lisle was a magical time of new experiences and new ideas for those of us fortunate enough to have stumbled onto this “experiment.” Lisle is no longer an experiment. Although I have not been active in Lisle since that summer, the fact that I have kept in touch with some of the participants—Ruth Sherman, Penny Haughwout, Hans Spiegel and Chuck Varney—attests to the durability of the core idea that have remained within all of us. For many of us, the seeds that were planted in our consciousness during our short time at Lisle have born fruit in our lives as human rights activists, college professors, and social workers.

With our present administration’s reluctance to support the unilateral treaty system of the United Nations, we are in danger of undermining the rules that support the rights of the world’s people and the protection of the environment on our planet. In this present political climate, the importance of organizations like Lisle looms larger than ever. The Baldwins, if they were still among us, would be proud to see the considerable contribution to world understanding that Lisle has made in the past half a century. 🌐

Ed. Note: Anyone who can name more people in these photos are welcome to contact the Lisle Office.



In the dining room. Ruth Fisher Sherman is in the left forefront. Mitsuye is sitting at the middle table wearing a light headband.



Current Enthusiasms—Gathering of Lislors

By Judith R. Brown

Ever since California in 1954, Lisle has meant for me a source of my international friends. All our married lives Jack and I had dear people to be seen once again each time we visited Holland, Indonesia, India, Austria...and the countries go on, each with some personality living vibrantly within its borders. Over the years, we not only became fonder of some of these persons as we saw them, but some of them were in Lisle programs with each other. Shared Lisle values made a kind of automatic link so that this circle of people, fond and admiring of each other, expanded.

It was only natural that these people might want to stay connected. And we all know how willy-nilly we can become disconnected from friends we never see. So when the Holland '03 Lisle Program finished we spoke about having another short get together on Bainbridge Island in August '05. This would include all the Holland folk plus others from as far back as California '54, Turkey '97, and India, 2000. Really, anyone who had ever been in a Lisle program was welcome, but we highlighted these programs because both Jack Brown and I had been in all of them except Holland, which was after his death. Many of the same people had joined us more than once.

The numbers grew to 12 of those people who were committed to coming—from Austria, Germany, Holland, and the U.S.—so I rented space for us for three days in a church camp on the shores of Puget Sound in a village called



Judy Brown

Indianola. What the camp afforded besides private rooms for us, was a “room with a view” for us to gather in for our chats. But almost best of all was a place to have beach fires each evening. Our theme was “Current Enthusiasms” and each person had all the time he or she wanted to speak about their own current pursuits. The subjects ranged all the way from watercolor painting to relationships with a grandchild, to the aesthetics of mathematics, to a quest for the historical Jesus, to the importance of secular values like tolerance. We all expanded our worlds hearing each other. The final day we all piled in cars and drove

an hour north and took a ferry to Whidbey Island where one of us has a beach house. And on a lovely terrace overlooking a Puget Sound cove there was more food and more talk!

Here are the names of those who were there: Coen and Tineke van der Wal, Dan Adams, Vicki Marie and her husband Forrest, Hedwig Wrany, Leonore Schwann, Ann Groves, Betty and Walt Ligon, Terry Rockafellar, and Judy Brown. Tim Nicholls from New Zealand, Nili Bilkur from Turkey, and Sharada Nayak from India were very much with us in spirit.

In our three days together, although it was not specifically stated, I felt an underlying gratefulness for Lisle as an organization, a force that had helped us to institutionalize our connectedness. Without words we recognized the legacy Lisle has offered us. 🌐



Dianne Brause and Barbara Bratton squeeze into an Amish carriage at an outdoor museum in PA.



The Annual Lisle Meeting was held in the Chamounix Mansion, now a hostel.



Following in the Footsteps of the Elders

By Dianne Brause

As I write this, I am listening to the various celebrations going on to commemorate the life and work of Martin Luther King, a man whom I had the great privilege to be in the presence of on a variety of occasions as a White exchange student in a Black women's college in Atlanta in the Spring of 1965. I consider MLK to be one of my heroes and mentors, as is Rumi, Gandhi, Rev. E.G. Johnson (my maternal grandfather), JF Kennedy and Uncle Si Baldwin. So what did all of these people have in common? For me, they exemplify the admonition of Jesus to "Love your Neighbor — AND your Enemy as Yourself". It seems to me that our world would do well to experiment more with this advice during these days of war, killing, torture, terrorists and the naming of "enemy" given to anyone who doesn't seem to be 100% behind one's point of view!

In my life, I try to remember to follow in the footsteps of these people in my choices of daily action. When I heard that the Lisle Annual & Board Meeting was going to be on the East Coast in early October and that a big Peace March was scheduled for September 24th in DC, I decided to attend both.

First I flew to Baltimore to visit friends and to join the 300,000± people expressing their feelings about our continued war and killing going on in Iraq. I had not been at a march in Washington for many years (maybe since the 25th Anniversary March of MLK) and this one turned out to be both peaceful and almost festive. It seemed like Americans of all ages, colors, creeds and religious persuasions were happy to stand with their

homemade signs and march past the White House to demonstrate their disapproval of our government's choices within the global community to dominate rather than cooperate in creating a world safe for every child to grow up in free from fear, starvation, and the lack of basic human rights.

I flew to Ohio to my farm and family of origin. I then went on to visit close friends from my years in New

England before flying back to Philly for the Lisle Board meeting and some sightseeing. I especially was impressed with the new Constitution Center, where I was reminded of the fine values and standards, which underlie the creation of this country that I love! My prayer is that we remember our roots again soon!

In December, I went to Turkey to be involved in the celebration commemorating the death of Jelaluddin Rumi, the poet and the "founder" of the Whirling Dervish movement. On my 61st birthday, I felt blessed to be able to "turn/whirl/spin" with other American Sufi men and women in a building first constructed in 1491 (the year before America was "discovered") in a ceremony that has been performed for 732 consecutive years since Rumi's death!

Later, we paid our respects at the tomb and museum of Rumi in a town called Konya in Anatolia province. It was here that we "blessed the beads" that we carried from the 150 women and girls who were sending blessings and wishes for peace to women and girls in Turkey. The women receiving our beads were so pleased to understand that some women in America really do wish them well—as mostly they assume that we either hate them or don't care one way or another—based on the media they get.



Buddhist monks participating in the March in DC.



Dianne, Gulistan and Basheera stand in front of Rumi's tomb in Turkey.

I feel blessed that I am able to even attempt to walk in the footsteps of my mentors including Uncle Si and the many Lislers who, for almost 70 years, have put their bodies on the line to make a better world of love and understanding! May 2006 be a year of growing Peace and Global Security! 🌍



Deceased Lislars

Compiled by Lane Winnet

Franz Biglmaier (CA '51, Germany '54, '55, '56 & '57) passed away on September 8, 2005. His passing was reported by Sigi Kern (former Treasurer of Lisle Germany) and Franz's son, Johannes Biglmaier (biglmaier@gmx.de). Sigi wrote, "Franz has been on one of the oldest German Lislars, attended CA '51 and arranged the four Lisle units we had in Germany. He was President of the German Lisle Organization for many years. You may call him 'Uncle Si of Germany'. Franz's wife, Annemarie (Germany '55 & '56) died in 2002. She also worked for Lisle in these early days." Franz maintained contact with Lislars in recent years via letters and occasionally personal visits to friends from the California '51 units.

Mary (Miller) Dietrich, MD (NY '40) age 85, passed away October 25, 2004. Daughter Mary Lou Dietrich wrote, "It wasn't until I was sorting through my mother's old letters that I realized how important Lisle was to her, how it changed her life. Her letters home are full of fear, trembling and exhilaration. She made friends there who remained friends for life (Millie Gabber Downer, for example, from Mississippi). Her outlook became ecumenical and world big. So sorry, I didn't know some of this for her obit. So sorry she—my mother—is gone."

Maggie Ennis (CO '53, '54, CA '55) Mimi Dupin wrote the following lovely remembrance about Maggie, whom we reported had passed away from cancer in the Spring '05 *Interaction*. "I would be happy to contribute to the memorial for Maggie. She was a wonderful person. She had such a great love of music that she shared with all of us at the 1955 California Unit—she convinced many of us 'crows' that we really could sing like larks—and for her we did. She had an ebullient personality and a wonderful sense of humor and was fun to be around. She was always compassionate and caring." Our sincerest condolences to Maggie's husband, Carl.

Dr. Thomas Gilpatrick (CA '64) died January 18, 2005. Among his survivors are his wife Jean (Witman) Gilpatrick NY '46 and daughter Diana Gilpatrick. Jean and Tom co-ed a Lisle Fellowship Project together at Stanford University in 1964.

Frank B. Hood (CA '50, Japan '55 and a member of the Lisle Board) passed away October 13, 2005 as reported by his brother, George Hood. A memorial service was held at the Calvary Presbyterian Church in Indiana, PA. Marty Tillman wrote: "I just wanted to say that Frank was, for many years, a senior manager—Editor, I think—of the *Indiana Gazette* newspaper. He was a swell guy who was on the Board when I joined Lisle in 1976-77. He had a soft voice, was always clear in his thinking, and unwavering in his support of Lisle. He will be missed."

Rosemary (Hirst) Smith (CO '43) "...died on 29 May 05, full of years (86), grace, and love." Curtis Smith, spouse.

Harumi Takeuchi (NY '40) "I regret to inform you that my father passed away on August 20, 2005 at the age of 88. My father's thoughts were always with Lisle, the cause of which had influenced his way of life until the very end. My mother, Hisako Takeuchi and my sister, Hiroko Ikeda join me to express their gratitude for the long association of Harumi Takeuchi with Lisle and what it stands for. Yours sincerely, Haruhisa Takeuchi."

Tom Webb (CO '45, MI '50, Leader of Denmark Units '53, '54, '55, '56 and '57) Ellen (Kristensen) Webb wrote: "Dear Friends, I am sorry that I haven't written you before...Tom passed away peacefully on November 25, 2004. All five of us were there to say goodbye. We held a beautiful memorial service for Tom at the Vartov church. Tom and I were together for 49 years. We met at the Denmark unit in 1955."

George Wright (NY '39) Elsa Wright wrote, "I regret to inform you my husband died January 2004, after a long illness." 🌐





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Submissions Solicited!

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

If you are feeling tickled by the inspiration to submit articles, you can download the submission guidelines from the website.

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





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MEETINGS

Spring Board Mtg.	April 21-22, 2006	Chicago, IL
Anniversary/Ann. Mtg.	October 6-8, 2006	Toledo, OH

