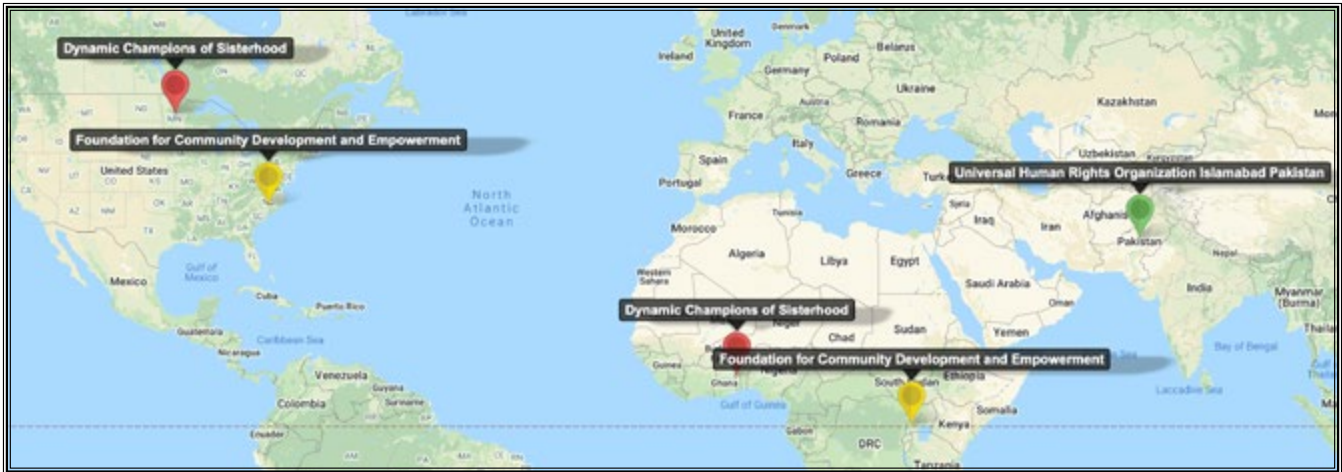




Lisle Interaction

An Annual Publication of Lisle International

ANNUAL ISSUE □ 2021



2021 Global Seed Grants

Cross-Cultural Book Clubs Empowering Girls to Change the World

Organization: Dynamic Champions of Sisterhood (DCS)
Location: USA (MN) and Togo (India and Afghanistan)
Lisle Mentor: James Burke

Dynamic Champions of Sisterhood (DCS) will address the social and emotional struggles of Togolese girls through participation in at least one of six book club discussions over the course of the year with girls from another country. The asynchronous online discussions will take place with a

Cultural Connections

Organization: The Foundation for Community Development and Empowerment (FCDE)
Location: Western Uganda (Kasese and Rukungiri Districts) and U.S.
Lisle Mentor: Smita Patel

Cultural Connections is a pilot project designed to advance intercultural understanding between Black/African American students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Ugandan university students, as well as leaders

-continued on page 14-

-continued on page 15-

In This Issue

New Global Seed Grants 2021.....	1
2020 Seed Grant Reports.....	4
Leadership Report.....	9
Ligon Service Award.....	11
Lisle Business News.....	12
Annual Meeting	16
Seed Grant Help.....	16
Lisle Reflection.....	18
A Small World.....	20
Hans Spiegel Memoirs.....	22
In Memorium.....	24
Lisle Friends.....	33
Finance Report.....	37
Membership Form.....	39
Meeting Dates.....	40

Three Lisle Seed Grants awarded for 2021! By A. Gail Bier

In an extraordinary year derailed for many by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Lisle Board selected three unique new projects to support with Lisle seed grants. As always, the projects further Lisle’s mission to bring people together and build understanding across geographic and cultural boundaries. One of our favorite projects this year

Publisher
Lisle International
Leander, TX

Editors
Alice Gail Bier
Mark Kinney
Smita Patel
Anne Hayner
James Burke

Graphic Design & Layout
James Burke

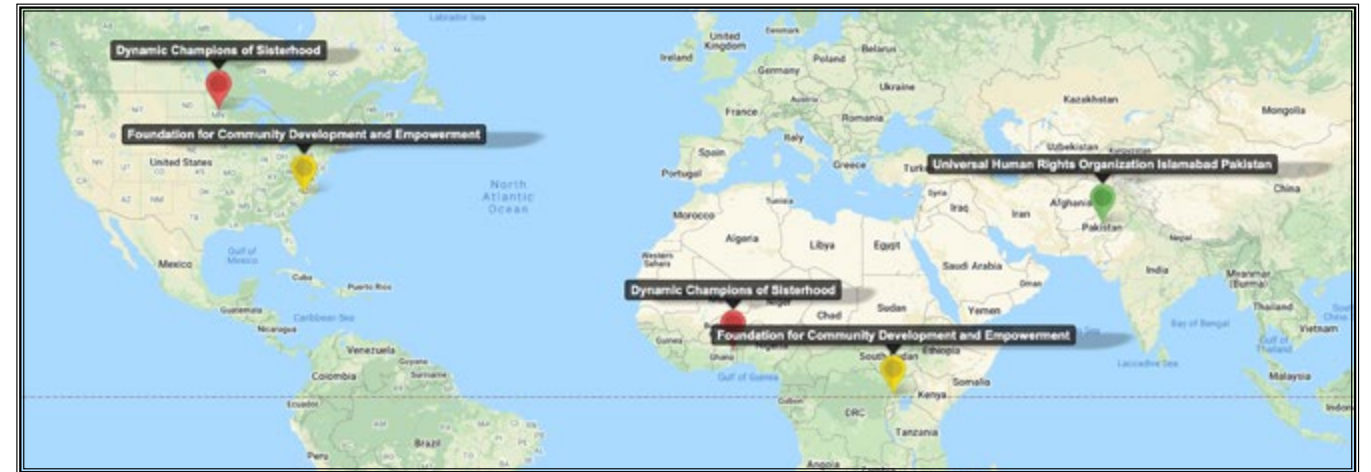
Contributing Authors
Jon Finley
Sharada Nayak
Betsy Bridwell
Barb Bratton
Bill Kinney
Mark Kinney
Nancy Kinney
Dania Stroughan Valenzuela

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

Please e-mail your submissions to the Lisle office : <office@lisleinternational.org>

is a cross-cultural book club started by three teenage sisters in Minnesota through which they are connecting girls in Togo, Afghanistan and India. Read more about it in this issue, along with updates on Lislers around the country and a beautiful story about how Lisle created a full circle for one of our newest board members, Dania. For a detailed description of the application and mentoring process, see <https://lisleinternational.org/> We hope you will join us next year! §

2021 Global Seed Grants



Religious Minority and Prejudice: Connecting Women through Interreligious Dialogue in Pakistan

Organization: Universal Human Rights Organization Islamabad Pakistan
Location: Pakistan (Islamabad and Rawalpindi)
Lisle mentor: Mark Kinney

The Religious Minority and Prejudice project proposes to develop communication between Muslim and non-Muslim women in Pakistan’s twin cities Islamabad and Rawalpindi. Pakistan has been trying to build nationalism centered on shared Islamic identity. However, in the process of national identity formation, successive governments dominated by majority Sunni Muslims, largely Deobandi-Salafi Muslims, and their educational, and religious policies led to the systematic exclusion, discrimination, and persecution of religious and sectarian minorities. The lack of cultural communication is

-continued page 38-

Mentor a Seed Grant!

Have You thought About Becoming a Lisle Mentor?
By Dianne G Brause

Have you ever considered becoming a mentor for Lisle’s Seed Grant applications? There are basically two ways to do this. One is to let the office know that you are open to taking on this important role. Every year there are a few potential applicants who find out about the Lisle Seed Grant opportunity, but do not personally know any Lislers. But to apply for a grant, they must have the approval of a Lisle mentor who can help them craft their formal application in alignment with what Lisle is all about.

I have found that sometimes mentoring a particular applicant can feel easy and that they don’t need much support, and at other times, it feels like quite a lot of

-continued on page 36-

Reports from 2020 Global Seed Grants

Reports from 2020 Global Seed Grants



Lisle Global Seed Grants Continue even with Covid-19
 By Mark Kinney

In the fall of 2019, long before Covid-19 was a household name, the Lisle board approved seven projects for 2020 funding. All of those projects encountered major challenges in implementation because of the pandemic, so we agreed to offer extensions and flexibility in how the organizations carry out activities to enable them to complete the projects. Three grants were substantially complete as of January 2021, our original grant-end date. As of publication, the four other grants are in the process of completing the goals they set. The following is a status report of the seven projects.

***Mentor a Seed Grant!
 Contact Lisle for more info.***

Afghan Girls Exchange Program
Organization: Afghans for Progressive Thinking (APT)
Location: Afghanistan and Uzbekistan

The originally proposed Afghan Girls Exchange Program planned to send five young women to Uzbekistan to participate in a Model United Nations (MUN). The MUN simulates UN committees in order to broaden participants' world-views and gain a better sense of appreciation for diversity through interaction with people of different cultures.

On February 27th 2020, the MUN activities were organized in both Afghanistan and Uzbekistan. The young women also participated in the C7 World Economy and Business Conference and visited educational and historical places in Uzbekistan. Through interaction with people of different cultures and respectful exchange of ideas, the participants

-continued on next page-

observed the contrast and similarities between closed and open atmospheres. They increased their tolerance and appreciation for differences of opinions. The goals of the seed grant proposal were to build a cultural connection between Afghan youth and youth from other countries; to build a strong team spirit among Afghan women; and to encourage them to plan and lead programs that promote peace and equality in Afghan society. The activities helped the group achieve these goals. The students built friendships with people from different ethnic and religious backgrounds. They also developed their critical thinking and interpersonal skills. The most successful and important aspect of this project, according to the directors, was that the young women learned skills to lead, solve problems and address challenges. §

“Our Birth” – Doula Training for Roma Women
Organization: Regina Foundation Miskolc
Location: Miskolc, Hungary

The goal of “Our Birth” was to improve the relationship between medical staff of the local public hospital and disadvantaged Roma families through the training of doulas, or midwives, and their integration into the local medical establishment. Cultural misunderstandings and stereotypes have a significant negative impact on the Roma community when it comes to childbirth. The project provided midwife training for selected female members of a rural Roma community who have personal experiences in the field of childbirth and parenting and are interested in supporting women during childbirth in the local public



-Afghan Girls Exchange Program-



-Doula Training for Roma Women-

Reports from 2020 Global Seed Grants



Bridging the Generation Divide

Organization: Mountain Children's Foundation

Location: Uttarakhand, India

The Mountain Children's Foundation (MCF) received a Lisle Seed Grant to help bridge the gulf between the oldest and the youngest generations, using Lisle's approach to intercultural understanding.

As a result of the migration of many men to cities in search of work, the social fabric in these villages is frayed and the vibrant culture of these communities is rapidly fading. Though related by blood and living in the same community, the youth and the elderly in these villages might as well exist in separate worlds. Seniors often feel very alone while young people are often unmoored, disconnected from their own roots.

The MFC proposed a project to help bridge the gap between the elderly and the very young by getting children to

work with their grandparents to resurrect the old stories and songs of their culture. These would then be shared with the larger community through village fairs with songs, stories and dance. The goal is to create bonds of empathy and communication so that young people are moved to more actively aid and support their elders in their day-to-day lives as well as renew a sense of identity and pride in their cultural heritage

-MCF continued on page 34-



-Mountain Children's Foundation-

Reports from 2020 Global Seed Grants

Bridging Cultures with Music, Dance and Education

Organization: Fandangos Across Borders

Location: Mexico, Tennessee, and Texas

The Fandangos Across Borders (FAB) project sought to share music and dance traditions of Son Jarocho and Son Huasteco from one of its main ancestral hubs in Veracruz, Mexico, with the old-time music and dance traditions in historical epicenters in Middle Tennessee and Texas in order to foster strong ties between unique regions of the two countries at a local and interpersonal level. Although the project was interrupted by the pandemic, the closing of borders and travel restrictions, it was able to complete some aspects of the project and set itself up for continuation of the events and program plan into 2021 and beyond with the continuing objective to further cross-cultural appreciation and connection through participatory music-making public presentations, and other inclusive, didactic events.

The original project was conceptualized to take part in three locations. The first took place in February, 2020 in Tlacotalpan, Veracruz, Mexico, where two of the project principals joined a series of participatory musical events typifying Son

Jarocho music called "fandangos." These fandangos and other cultural events in the town, including instrument and dance workshops, were held as part of the annual Candelaria festival. The second phase was to bring the Fandango performances and workshops to middle Tennessee. Due to Covid restrictions, Part II has been postponed until fall 2021, assuming Covid restrictions allow.

The third part was to be in-person performances and exchanges at the 2020 Festival of Texas Fiddling this past December. Instead, the Son Huasteco masters, Trio Sotavento, were streamed as part of a video component of the online 2020 Festival of Texas Fiddling (available here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SdoHnv_UwO0). The Trio Sotavento group will travel to the Dec. 2021 festival as part III of our project.

-Bridging Cultures continued on page 15 -



-Bridging Cultures with Music-

Reports from 2020 Global Seed Grants

Change from the Inside Out

Organization: Crossing Borders Education

Location: Cotacachi, Ecuador

The full title of this project is Intercultural Workshop to Strengthen Cotacachi's Diverse Women's Organizations. Its goal is to strengthen individual changemakers, their organizations, and civil society. Cotacachi is known for its history of citizen participation processes and strong civic life and is home to many civil society organizations such as Coordinadora Cantonal de Mujer. It is a place for representatives to come together from the three largest women's organizations representing (1) rural indigenous women, (2) urban mestiza women, and (3) mestiza and afro-descendant rural women.

This project has not provided a final report because the health care system is completely overwhelmed and, in cities where the virus was not contained early enough, there is a high death toll.

In January, the project director reported that the project had been put on hold because of the pandemic. She indicated that she met with some of the indigenous women who will be participating in the project and told them when they feel comfortable attending in-person workshops again to please let her know so the project can continue. Ecuador is currently dealing with a surge of Covid cases.



-Crossing Borders Education-

Cross-Community Dialogue for Multiracial Collaboration

Organization: Tosa Together

Location: Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

Tosa Together, in partnership with UW-Milwaukee graduate students and faculty, planned to conduct three community dialogue circles, 50-60 participants in each, with discussion breakout circles of 5-8 people plus facilitators. Particular effort would be made to have a diverse group. Attendees would be informed of the recently established city Equity and Inclusion Commission and the School Equity Plan, their purposes and activities. A member of Tosa Together would briefly

-Tosa continued on page 10-

Leadership Report



-Anne Hayner, President-



-Mark Kinney, Executive Director-

Leadership Report

By Mark Kinney and Anne Hayner

This earthshaking pandemic year has provided unexpected challenges and opportunities for Lisle. It inspired both soul-searching and reassessment, and new energy and initiatives. Last spring, the disruptions to all our routines caused the board to consider whether we could continue soliciting and selecting projects for the Global Seed Grant program. Could we ask applicants to have contingency plans for completing their project even under shutdowns or other restrictions? Did we as a board have the energy and insight to manage the unique demands of the process this year? With all the stresses, we wondered if there was the will to go on. But surprisingly, almost every board member and friend of Lisle said something like, "Lisle is more needed today than any time in the recent past. We must keep on!" And so we did, with openness to creative new possibilities. In the face of COVID-19, we had to adapt our plans for an annual meeting from Austin, Texas to a virtual format. Wow, did that work well! It was a joy to see so many past Lislors and friends spanning 80+ years of Lisle history, including Bud Baldwin and Andy Nahmias, to catch up with them and to virtually "meet" the leaders of some of our inspiring seed grant projects. Now that we know what fun it is, we don't want to wait another year for the next virtual Lisle meeting! One final milestone for Lisle which is particularly exciting to the Board: We have sold the Lisle land in New York State! Lisle is freed from paying the taxes and we now have a tidy little sum to spend on more seed grant projects. So, in the end, this year has been a productive one for Lisle, fostered by the good work of our board of directors and the support of our loyal members.

-Tosa from page 8-

discuss the organization's work and some basic statistics/history about Wauwatosa and struggles with racial diversity and understanding. Then participants would break into small groups and engage in facilitated dialogue with the help of students from the UWM program in sustainable peacebuilding.

An interim report in September indicated that they were active and had received recognition in an ABC report on black violence in Wauwatosa. They have asked for an extension in order to complete the project in 2021. \$



-Centre of Dialogue on Human Settlement and Poverty Alleviation-

Building Resilient Neighborhoods through the Promotion of Ethno-Cultural Understanding and Cooperation.

Organization: Centre of Dialogue on Human Settlement and Poverty Alleviation (CODOHSAPA)

Location: Sierra Leone

This project called for the organization of 20 inclusive youth dialogue circles of 10 participants each to discuss challenges affecting their communities, and to visualize initiatives for community cohesion. It was planned that a local, youth-led audiovisual facility would capture issue-based messages, personal experiences and case studies. These would be

-Sierra Leone continued on page 35-

Tosa Talks - Dialogue Events

TALK ABOUT CRITICAL COMMUNITY ISSUES

Virtual in April
** sign up via Eventbrite**

April 15, 2021 7pm
Creative Solutions for School Equity

-Tosa Together-

Anne Hayner receives the 2020 Walt and Betty Ligon Service Award!



-Anne Hayner-

It was with great joy that the Walt & Betty Ligon Service Award was given to President Anne Hayner at the Annual Meeting.

Anne joined the Board in 2008 when recruited by Marty Tillman. Her connection with Lisle came as a child when her parents, Norm and Margaret Hayner, were friends with Uncle Si and Aunt Edna Baldwin and she became active in Lisle through that connection. Norm attended Colorado '46 and Denmark '52. She remembers having the Lisle Founders at her home often for meals and sharing. Anne was elected Secretary to the Board and then President in 2018.

Anne is director of Alumni Relations at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame. She has worked at the Kroc Institute since 1987. As director of alumni relations, she works with students and

alumni from over 100 countries. This connection has provided Lisle with access to a plethora of exciting, involved citizens of the world. Through Anne's connections, we have invited a wealth of new members to the Board:

- Lindora Howard-Diawara
- Milena Petrova
- Christian "Cito" Cirhigiri
- Shaban Varajab
- Dania Straughan Valenzuela
- Karana Olivier
- Lindsay Opiyo

This connection has recharged the Board of Directors and opened up new horizons for our seed grants:

- 2014 Laura Taylor brought us the Youth Lead project
- 2014 Lindsay Opiyo brought us Music for Peace
- 2015 Jessica Shewan was funded for Encountering Our Neighbors
- 2016 Bukavu Youth Action Centre mentored by Cito Cirhigiri
- 2017 Leslie MacColman, another Kroc Alumni, referred the STEM Youth Boot Camp in Tanzania
- 2018 Shaban Varajab and Cito Cirhigiri were mentors in 2018 for the 42 Change Makers and Peace Building and Stream Restoration project in Colombia, respectively.
- 2019 Lindora Howard-Diawara, through

-Ligon continued on page 14-

Making Connections

Lisle's Electronic Communication

Lisle has added to the ways it communicates with the world. Up until last year, we have mailed out letters three times a year, updating Lisler's about what we are doing and requesting they help us do that. We also have published Interaction. In the past couple of years we have limited the number of issues of Interaction from twice a year to once a year because of the increasing cost of printing and disseminating it. As a result we have been looking at a way to begin sending other communications electronically.

We now have that process and have begun sending out occasional e-newsletters. These will allow us to send out more information to you and to fill in the time gaps between our other communications. We hope these communications provide something in addition to what we can provide in print. If you have suggestions

If you have not received the E-news, and wish to do so, you can add your email to our list at the Lisle website.

of how we might maximize the effectiveness of the e-newsletter, please contact us at office@lisleinternational.org.

If we have your e-mail address, you should have received a couple of these so far. If you have not, then it probably means we do not have your e-mail address or the

e-mail is arriving in your junk e-mail box. If you have not received the e-news, and wish to do so, please send us your e-mail address. §

Want to Meet Interesting People? Join the Lisle Board

Please consider becoming a member of the Lisle Board of Directors. Some organizations' board meetings are boring, and work. Lisle Board meetings are a joy (and work). Our current members include people from all over the United States and include the retired, persons between jobs, a school teacher, an accountant, a university administrator, a global peacemaker, a non profit administrator, among others.

We are united by our commitment to making a better world through intercultural learning, and sharing in the work of budgets, grant selection and planning. Call any of the current Lisle board members if you want to know more about time commitment and personal rewards. The rewards are huge, the time investment shared.

If you have a son or daughter, or niece or nephew, who is involved in cross cultural and/or peace building activities, please encourage them to attend a board meeting to see how consensus decision-making works and to then consider joining the Board. We'd love to hear from you. Please contact us at: office@lisleinternational.org or 512-259-4404. §

Making Connections

Gifts and Bequests to Lisle

Do you have fond memories of your Lisle times and experiences? Keep those memories alive in your hearts and help others to spread the Lisle mission in our world. In the recent past our Seed Grant program has greatly expanded. One source of resources that has allowed Lisle to award additional grants has been through generous bequests and donations. Lisle operates due to the generous donations that you and others make to the organization. Many Lislers have made plans to help support Lisle into the future by naming Lisle in their will or by planning to donate to Lisle as a part of legacy estate planning. Think about the Lisle relationships that you have enjoyed and the joy that you felt working with groups from around the world. Allow others to take part in similar experiences by continuing to support Lisle. Please consider a bequest to Lisle so that we can continue to promote and develop relationships with youth from around the world. Please contact us: office@lisleinternational.org.§

Suggest Organizations for Lisle Grants to fund!

Know of an organization whose work furthers the mission and goals of Lisle — improving intercultural understanding by bringing people of diverse backgrounds together to share, work together, and learn from one another? Encourage them to apply for a Lisle seed grant! Lisle awards "seed grants" of up to \$5,000 to innovative projects which match our goals. Help us find organizations that are doing "Lisle-type" work, and to encourage them to apply. Send suggestions, ideas and questions to office@lisleinternational.org. Can you help "mentor" a grant? We need Lisle "mentors" to work with grant applicants to ensure that the project they propose is aligned with Lisle's values. The mentor is a Lisle member who is interested in the grant process and willing to help an applicant edit and focus their proposed project so that it is a good fit for Lisle. If you already know of an organization you feel would be a good fit for a Seed Grant, you can be the mentor for that applicant. If you don't know an organization personally, but are still interested in being part of the process, please let us know. Each year we receive many inquiries from organizations that do not have a Lisle mentor. If we feel the project is worth considering, we try to find them a mentor. If you could review an application and help the applicant to fit their project to Lisle's goals, you would be a great asset. §

(*Ligon from page 11*) her B4P non-profit, was the awardee for the Young Women, Peace & Development Dialogues program

2020 Aref Dostyar and Lynne Woehrle, brought us the Afghans for Positive Thinking and the Tosa Together Cross Community Dialogue for Multiracial Collaboration programs.

Just consider the impact, and expansion, of Lisle ideals through our sponsorship and interaction with all of these exciting projects and their sponsors.

As though that weren't enough, the Board enjoyed meetings over two years in Anne's family vacation cabin on Lopez Island, in the Puget Sound, and enjoyed a banquet in Seattle presented by Anne's brother John and sister-in-law Lisa.

Lisle has always attempted to run its board meetings under consensus rules. The difficulty with this is that most new Board members have not come in with the familiarity of how consensus decision making takes place. Anne presented a thoroughly inclusive presentation around consensus decision making at our Philadelphia meeting in 2011 and continues to update us on the process as she runs the board meetings in this way. It has been an education.

As you can see, the addition of Anne to the Lisle Board has been a huge boost to the future of Lisle. We owe her a great vote of thanks and, in honor, have awarded the Walt and Betty Ligon Service Award. Thanks, Anne, and congratulations! §

If you know of a project whose work promotes intercultural understanding, why not invite them to apply for a seed grant and be their mentor? Or, if you don't have a project in mind but would like to be a mentor, let us know at office@lisleinternational.org and we'll assign you to one of the many wonderful programs that apply for Lisle Seed Grants every year! §

-DCS from page 1-

group of American girls, as well as girls from India and Afghanistan. By providing the girls from the College Monfant in Togo with books for discussion, the project provides them with a platform to stretch their minds, discover the importance of their ideas, and use their voice within a sisterhood of support. In partnership with College Monfant, DCS will host six empowering, virtual discussions around a select series of books/genres.

Over the course of the school year DCS will use the books supplied to host a total of six discussions among three different groups of international girls: Two each with American, Indian and Afghan girls.

DCS uses a private Facebook group where girls can work asynchronously to discuss each book over the course of a three-week period. Through a private Facebook group, each week DCS will post a new topic/discussion thread for the girls

-continued next page-

in both countries to read, reflect, and make comments. The reply/comment feature will allow girls to go into greater depth of discussion during the three-week period. DCS will also post photos, short videos, do Internet searches for images and information, as well as use digital art apps so everyone can create their own artwork to enhance the discussion. At the end of each book club, a 40-minute ZOOM meeting will enable the girls to see and speak with one another. For more information about the organization go to: <https://www.facebook.com/Dynamic-Champions-of-Sisterhood-108433863825713>. §

-FCDE from page 1-

of rural, Ugandan non-profits through collaborative, grassroots internships. Through cross-cultural engagement with Ugandan students from Makerere University, the project also aims to expand positive African narratives among Americans. Cultural Connections will engage Black/African American and Ugandan university students in service-learning internships with rural Ugandan nonprofits working to address the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. This pilot project will create an opportunity for students to advance cross-cultural understanding, enhance intercultural and global competencies, strengthen workforce readiness, as well as support locally led community development. Ten students from HBCU Fayetteville

State University and Uganda's Makerere University will participate in ten weeks of virtual cross-cultural community-building that includes 6-week internships with FCDE's grassroots partners in Uganda's Western Region. Participating remotely from the U.S. and in person by Ugandans, the interns will provide valuable pro bono support to local nonprofits, which will foster dialogue on social issues at the heart of sustainable community development. For more information on the organization: <https://fcde-dev.org> §

-Bridging Cultures from page 7-

The project directors write that, despite the pandemic, they have managed to have a highly successful effort in launching the Fandangos Across Borders project, and have stretched the Lisle and partner organization funds into a two-year effort to foster longstanding connections between musicians and musical communities in Mexico and the United States. §

Annual Meeting - ZOOM!



Lisle's First Annual Meeting on Zoom!

By Betsy Bridwell and Barbara Bratton

The Board was disappointed to be forced by the pandemic to cancel our plans for an in-person fall meeting in Austin, TX in 2020. One of the highlights of the Annual Meeting is visiting with each other outside the business meetings. However, we discovered a hidden gem in having our first Annual Meeting on Zoom and inviting Lislors to join us.

It is getting harder for many people to travel to an annual meeting, so we rarely see more than one or two people in addition to the Board members, sometimes none at all. So, we were delighted this year to have ten past Lislors join in. We took time at the beginning for introductions and sharing our connections to Lisle and it was wonderful to hear the stories and how Lisle continues to be meaningful to so many people.

We had folks representing units/programs going back as far as 1946 in Colorado, the 50s and 60s in California, and international programs in India, Denmark, Germany and the USSR. The one who took the prize was Bud Baldwin, son of founders Uncle Si and Aunt Edna, now in his late 90s, and who attended the very first Lisle unit in 1939 when he was 14 years old!

Those in attendance were the current members of the Board and special visitors Nancy Kinney, Andy Nahmias, Cherry Wunderlich, Ann Hardt, Mary Vezie, Kate Hayner, Bud Baldwin, Julia Forbes, Karen Swam and Barbara Walker.

Also attending the meeting were grant recipients from 2020 and new awardees for the 2021 grant year. To hear directly how our Lisle money is working in the world was fabulous! The enthusiasm and novel ideas of the recipients were equally met by enthusiasm and novel ideas from long-term Lislors. Connections were made – read more about it in the next article.

The work of the Annual Meeting is to vote on new or renewing Board Members. This year Anne Hayner, Gail Bier and Mark Kinney were elected for another three-year term. The grants to be awarded were announced and the Walt and Betty Ligon Service Award was presented to President Anne Hayner.

Our experiment with a Zoom meeting

was met with great enthusiasm and much interest in doing it again. A couple of comments: "...wonderful meeting, and great to hear and see so many people. I felt like I had been on a trip far away, hearing from Lislors in several states... and from India and Africa." "Amazing people, and really enjoyed the impressive presentations from the two grant recipient groups."

It is likely that we will repeat this Zoom Annual meeting in November 2021 and we will be anxious to pull in as many Lislors as possible. Please contact office@lisleinternational.org with an up-to-date email address if you would like to be invited to this meeting.



Exciting Interaction with Young Grant Recipients at annual meeting

By Betsy Bridwell and Barbara Bratton

We were joined during the Annual Zoom Meeting by two organizations that received

Lisle Seed Grants, both of which focus on empowering young people. Dynamic Champions of Sisterhood (DCS), based in Minnesota, just received their first grant this year. Daisy, Sunny, and Coco Leonard are adopted sisters from China, India and Ethiopia who live in Minnesota. Their project seeks to empower girls to change the world by changing the way they see themselves. It started when they raised funds to sponsor three girls their age in Togo to attend school. They connected with them via video calls to get to know the girls as friends and not be seen just for their charity. They noticed a power dynamic that seemed to make the girls feel less important than the sisters, and they wanted to change that. They decided to form a book club to read and discuss books that give insight into different cultures and issues. As they discussed these books, the sisters noticed a change in dynamic as the girls developed more confidence in expressing their thoughts and ideas. They then expanded and read *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* with a group from the U.S., India and Afghanistan. In 2021, with the sponsorship of Lisle, they will be working with girls from Guatemala, Iraq, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The exchange of ideas between these dynamic young women and the long-time Lisle participants was fantastic and exhilarating. Connections are

being made to support their work, including Associate Board Members Sharada Nayak in India and Lindora Diawala with her organization in Africa. The Mountain Children's Foundation (MCF), based in India, received one of our very first grants back in 2004; then received a grant last year for a new program to bridge the generation divide in remote Himalayan villages. Aditi Kaur, president of the MCF, said that first Lisle grant played a crucial role in enabling the organization to launch its innovative model, which brings young people together to address problems in their community. These collaborations connect children from different villages, religions, and castes through the shared purpose of improving the health and wellbeing of children and their families, preserving the environment, improving their communities, preparing for disaster, and much more. She said development efforts often dismiss young people as "just children," thereby losing out on their tremendous energy and ability to change the thinking of adults around them. In 2020, MCF requested and received another Lisle grant to focus on bridging the generation divide because, in these mountain communities, children and their elders seemed to live in two different worlds. By connecting seniors and their grandchildren in a shared quest to resurrect old songs, stories and traditions, the program seeks to build bonds of empathy and understanding between the two generations. What a joy to hear directly how Lisle grants are being

received and utilized. As we expand our outreach through Annual Zoom meetings, we hope to generate more interaction between Lisle Alumni and Grantees. A very exciting process, so please join us!



Looking back at 'Tiger by the Tail'

By Mark Kinney

In 1986, Lisle founder Dewitt (Uncle Si) Baldwin with support of the board, and much assistance from several editors, most specifically Patricia Hill, completed the history of the Lisle fellowship to that time, [A Tiger by the Tail: The story of the Lisle Fellowship](#).

I remember what a tremendous effort it took to pull together the information which was gathered from so many locations and ways of storing records at a time when electronic storage was in its infancy.

Uncle Si's focus in working on this week after week, late in his life was amazing.

Now a few decades removed from this compilation, and with much additional history which has been and is being written, we wanted to revisit some of the ideas from Tiger.

The book lays out a chronology of the life of Lisle from the founders' perspective, and offers many insights, which can be accessed online through the Lisle Archives: <https://utdr.utoledo.edu/islandora/object/utoledo%3A7889>.

From the very beginning, the book outlines what is fundamental to the Lisle "method."

"The Lisle Fellowship was one of the first educational groups to recognize that change was becoming the characteristic of the century. Lisle was also on the ground floor of conceiving education as a growth process. The discovery of the Lisle educational process introduced college students to lifelong education."

"The pattern of each six-week program forms a laboratory process. With the arrival of a participant, the process of intercultural education begins. As fully as possible, experiential education situations are brought into play from which each individual begins to internalize the learnings appropriate to his/

her stage of development. One might describe this process as a laboratory experience in human relations. The many contacts of the students on deputation teams with the variety of people in the community they serve, increase many-fold the broadening cultural experiences of the participant. Intercultural contacts with people from different parts of the world add to students' understanding of the cultures and peoples around them. Scholars and resource people visiting the unit provide the educational information which may be assimilated through the best educational evaluation techniques known. Lisle has been on the growing edge of using all of the psychological values of group dynamics."

Uncle Si's writings also remind us that Lisle's work and what we stand for are needed now more than ever.

In the preface, he writes: "In the mid 1980's, despite scientific advances and greatly improved communication facilities, we see more than ever a world shaken by the fear of nuclear catastrophe and at the same time torn apart by divisive hate and fear-fostering idolatries of race, creed, culture and nationality. Implementing a devotion to the contrasting values of justice and love needs 'hands and feet.' It needs specific goals and clear guidelines for the facilitation of world-mindedness and of qualitative

-Tiger By The Tail continued page 35-



A Small World Turns Back to Lisle

By Dania Stroughan Valenzuela

Dorothy Bowie and Raimundo Valenzuela Arms met the summer of 1937, at the second Lisle unit in New York state.

Dottie, a native of Rochester, belonged to one of the first local families to own an automobile. Her mother traced her lineage back to some of the earliest English colonists. In many ways Dottie was the black sheep. Her gaze was set beyond that city, and she found her calling in service to others.

Raymond, meanwhile, was raised in both Chile and the US, following his father's Methodist ministry. The US Depression loomed large for Raymond, with memories of not having enough to eat haunting him in later years. Christian ministry lay deep his bones, and he too sought a life of service.

A mutual friend, Bill Merwin, had invited both to join the six weeks of Lisle "World Mindedness." Dottie noticed Raymond's broad smile on the opening day, she reminisced on her 80th birthday in 1997. Raymond, ever the focused intellectual, only perked up on the closing day when Uncle Si commented that Dottie had made the largest contribution to the group experience. She invited Raymond to her Mt. Holyoake College dance the next year; he asked her to a Drew Theological Seminary dance in '39, and the rest is history.

Dottie and Raymond were both deeply moved by their Lisle experience, and remained close to the Baldwins. In 1941 they served as assistant directors of the Lisle 1941 unit. In their contribution to Aunt Edna: 50 Years of Memories (1991), they wrote:

"In the quiet seclusion of our woodland condo home, we received your letter of Edna's passage to the Larger Life. Floods of memories returned, hidden treasures of important days in our lives, lived close to Edna and you. Truly they were decisive moments in our formation as persons and as a couple. Never again would we view ourselves provincially, but as world citizens. The basics of the "Fellowship Method" became internalized in such a way that it formed the foundation of our interpersonal relationships and went a longer way to shaping our philosophical and theological view of reality" (p. 24-25). In marrying Raymond, Dottie chose a life

far from Rochester, NY. Raymond would take on the mantle as the fourth generation of Methodist pastor, first in Brooklyn while they both completed theological graduate studies, and later back in Chile, where they would continue to live out the Baldwin's message of human fellowship and understanding.

In a letter, Dottie reflected that they did their small part to advance the Lisle cause that had been so formative for both of them. Through their works and children, they were, she writes, "slowly growing from seeds to flowers."

They planted seeds in their nurturing of multiple Methodist-founded schools known for their excellence, in their collaborative resistance of dictatorship, in their fostering of the daughter of Dottie's heart, who later became the next generation of Methodist pastor.

Dottie developed a locally-adapted and accessible children's Sunday school curriculum, "New Life in Christ," and started an Eriksonian psychology hub to better serve the community. Raymond guided the church through transitional years as bishop.

And throughout, young and bright students mingled with international visitors around their table, deeply engaged with the global politics of the era.

That brings us to the present day.

I am, in many ways, a descendent of Lisle,

though I did not know about Lisle growing up.

The daughter of Dottie and Raymond's youngest child, my time with them was short, but their presence and life commitments shaped me profoundly. Like my other uncles and aunts, my mother held the cause of international human fellowship close to her heart. I grew up as a foreign service dependent in Latin America, steeped in stories about my maternal grandparents.

As a young adult, my attention turned first to the study of intercultural communication and soon broadened to Peace Studies. I met Anne Hayner, currently Lisle's president, as a Master's student at the University of Notre Dame. Anne invited me to support Lisle's efforts, and I accepted, unaware of Lisle's role in my own history.

Last year, I asked another aunt, who has committed herself to beautiful work in bilingual early childhood development, how my Abuelitos met.

"The Lisle Fellowship," she told me.

Sure enough, more than 80 years later, I found myself supporting the same organization that had indelibly marked my grandparents as they started their journey as adults into the world. §



A peek into Hans Spiegel's memoirs

By Barbara Bratton

Hans' memoirs "proceed as the way opens" through a rich and fulfilling life with his wife Ellie. Both remained active in Lisle and were awarded the Walt and Betty Ligon Service Award in 2011. Thanks to Hans for allowing us to share this dip into Lisle memories.

Part Two: Formative Years: Stumbling onto a Career Path; A Summer with the Lisle Fellowship.

"By the time my Lisle Fellowship experience was ready to begin, my father and mother had temporarily returned to Kreuzlingen, Switzerland and Ellie had left for Europe.

I was on my own. First, I made my way to

Watkins Glen in the Finger Lakes region of central New York State where I attended the last three weeks of a Lisle Fellowship group that was assembled there. Then, utilizing an experienced thumb, I hitchhiked across most of the country and landed on Lookout Mountain, near Denver, Colorado for the full six-week Lisle Fellowship camp.

For the camp, Lisle traditionally brought together a diverse and international group of forty mostly undergraduate students in their early twenties for six weeks of seminars and field experiences. Subtitled as an 'International Institute of Human Relations,' it consisted of a loosely-structured program of discussions, field visitations in small groups, and heavy emphasis on community self-management.

It all sounded pleasant enough to me, though more than a little vague in aims and curriculum. But the Lisle participants themselves, the community professionals we met on deputations, and the guest speakers we heard gave evidence of people with the requisite development skills. They dealt in exciting contexts – on the edges of deliberate community change.

As it turned out, Lisle helped to clarify a number of things for me. One of them dealt with a vocational choice – I found myself a year before graduating from college with both feet solidly planted in mid-air. I was still not sure what I should become and how I would earn a living. I

didn't know which way to jump. My college courses qualified me for a double major in economics and education. This gave me the option of having some general credentials for entering the business world and following in the footsteps of the family (my father's hope), continuing in the path of adult and labor education or organizing or teaching or perhaps diplomacy. I really hadn't made a choice yet.

Positively speaking my summer at Lisle camp started me thinking about community and group development as a viable vocational goal. I realized that motivated people could actually make a living as neighborhood organizers, or as professionals that deal with community tensions or as specialists that dealt with 'the human side of development.'... I saw myself increasingly as a part of such cadres of workers...

Back at Antioch at the end of the summer and Lisle Fellowship camp, I began my senior year still undecided about a clear career path. But I did know one thing – the summer in New York and Colorado with the Lisle Fellowship taught me, first of all, that the life of a businessman was not for me. I found the courage to share this thought with my parents, and also added something about my budding relationship with this nifty American gal (Ellie) that seemed serious ...

So, while Ellie was working, hitchhiking, and 'adventuring' in Europe, I was

assigned to work with Lisle during my last Antioch field experience. I traveled to many American campuses to talk about the Lisle Fellowship, speaking with interested students, and recruiting them for the summer Lisle units.

In taking on this assignment I wanted to soft-pedal my role as just a 'salesman' for Lisle. In my presentations, I stressed the importance of students being exposed to new and different experiences 'out there' no matter where or exactly how obtained. I talked to them about investing in their summer and having the opportunity to critically evaluate these experiences...

But, right up to my final semester at Antioch, I was still trying to make a vocational choice...I was really undecided about it all... But my experiences with Lisle contributed mightily to my being able to live with vocational uncertainty. I had enough confidence in myself not to be very disturbed by the fact that I couldn't commit myself yet to any definite plan. I didn't want to rush myself in trying to crystallize the choice of a field into which I might sink my teeth. And I recalled a Quaker saying that one should 'proceed as the way opens.'

Excerpt from My Story by Hans B. C. Spiegel; Copyright @2020 by Hans B. C. Spiegel; with permission of the author. §

In Memoriam

Clarence Bushnell ("Bush") and Levona Sarah Williams Olmstead, NY '46, NY '48, Family Camps '56, '61

Bush, born November 26, 1926, was from Buffalo and graduated from Yale and U-Mich, with graduate degrees in Social Work from Michigan and Western Reserve University.

Levona, born November 15, 1926, grew up in rural Oklahoma and graduated from the University of Oklahoma's medical school in 1951.

And, what did they have in common? Oh, so much! Both were born in November 1926 and as their obituaries say, "[They met] on a volunteer project of the Lisle Fellowship, an organization committed to a more just social order in which persons of all cultures, social classes, religious affiliations, nationalities and political persuasions are full participants." And they continued to be active in Lisle projects long after their units were over.

Bush and Levona married in 1952; they lived and raised five children in the Cleveland-area racially-integrated community of Ludlow, Ohio, in the Shaker Heights School District. Bush worked many years in many capacities for the Welfare Federation of Cleveland and its successor, the United Way, and Levona practiced oncology at the VA and University Hospitals in Cleveland.

They volunteered and worked tirelessly in the areas of social justice and community empowerment. Many of their volunteer

hours were spent at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and their charitable gifts went to supporting efforts of that institution. Their fifteen grandchildren and ten great grandchildren were the joy of their lives. When Bush and Levona showed up at Lisle events, everyone could count on a spirited discussion! Levona died February 4, 2018 and Bush died May 1, 2019.

Hugh Stewart Barbour, NY '43, CA '58

Hugh Stewart Barbour of Sleepy Hollow, New York was born in Beijing, China on August 7, 1921 and was the son of George Brown Barbour and Dorothy Dickinson, who were teaching in China at the time. As a Lisler, he was in NY '43 and later in CA '58 with his wife Sirkka Talikka.

He graduated from Harvard University in 1942, and received a Ph.D. from Yale University in 1944. While at Yale, he worked as a Congregational Minister in Coventry, Connecticut. He was a professor of religion at Syracuse University and Wellesley College before his tenured professorship at Earlham College from 1953 until his retirement in 1991, "a legendary and much-loved Earlham prof." With his wife Sirkka, he served as co-director of Beacon Hill Friends House. He was a well-known scholar of Quaker history and theology, authoring such books as *The Quakers in Puritan England* and *Reading and Understanding the Old Testament*. He was active with the Quaker Theological Discussion Group, the Association of Asian Studies and the American Society of Church Historians. A former student characterized him as "kind

In Memoriam

and brilliant in one human being."

Hugh died peacefully at age 99 on January 8, 2021 and is survived by his wife of over 60 years, Sirkka, and his daughters Elisa, Celia and Maida as well as three grandchildren.

Dorothy Jean Furnish, CO '44

"Dot" Furnish was born into a Methodist parsonage in Plano, Illinois on August 25, 1921. She graduated from Parker High School in Chicago in 1939 and received her B.A. in 1943 from Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa. She then enrolled at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois where she received her M.A. in religion with emphasis in Christian education in 1945. In 1944, she went to Colorado to that summer's Lisle Unit. Dot's reaction to Aunt Edna was, "She was able to take whatever was happening and somehow wrap it up and put it into a conceptual form that you were able to hang onto."

Dot's life work was divided into two closely connected chapters-twenty years as the director of Christian education in local congregations (in Hutchinson, Kansas and Lincoln, Nebraska) and twenty years as a faculty member at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois where she had received her Ph.D. in 1968. Her primary foci throughout her ministry included empowering children to know and love the Bible and strengthening the profession of Christian education. She authored four books focused on the Bible for children and their church school teachers, conducting training workshops for them. Her development of a Master of Christian

Education program while "in ministry" has allowed Christian educators to obtain degrees while employed long before virtual education was popular. Dot died January 3, 2011 in Louisville, Colorado.

J. Dean Stout CO '47, SD '89

Joel Dean Stout was born June 13, 1926, to Rev. J. D. and Annie May Stout in Hammon, OK. He died April 4, 2011, in Chelan, WA. As a youth, Dean worked in cotton and wheat fields and fed the church furnace. After graduation from Calumet High School, he went into naval officer training; then, after the War, he opted out to go into ministry. He took part in Lisle's CO '47 unit and later wrote that "Lisle was one of the important things that make me the kind of pastor I am." At Southern Methodist University, he earned his Master of Divinity degree and served several churches in the Oklahoma conference of the Methodist Church. Following his dad and uncle, he went to the Northwest in 1957. He served many rural and small-town churches, including Oroville (1965-1968), Grand Coulee-Hartline and Nespelem (1979-1983), and Manson (1983-1986).

Before Dean officially retired in 1992, he went to South Dakota to one of Lisle's programs on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation in 1989. After 1992 he returned to Manson to build houses for Habitat for Humanity, tutor at the Manson Grade School, work with Hospice, and repair what broke at home and at church. Dean was an active member of Kiwanis in Manson. He was survived by his wife of 57 years, Betty Stout of Man-

-continued on next page-

In Memoriam

son, children, Roland, Jo Dene, and Richard Stout and Jo Dene's four children and their families.

Ezra F. Vogel, NY '48, '49, CT '49, CO '49
Ezra Feivel Vogel, son of Jewish immigrants to America, was born in Delaware, Ohio in 1930. He graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1950, where he studied sociology and anthropology. While he was a student, he discovered Lisle and Uncle Si and in 1948 and 1949 he spent much of his summers with Lislers such as the Varneys, George Levinger, Walt Ligon, the Demings, George Cole, and Hazel Leher. In 1949 he was accompanied in New York and Connecticut by his wife, Lisler Suzanne Hall Vogel.

After serving two years in the Army, Vogel graduated with a Ph.D. in sociology from Harvard in 1958. He was appointed as a lecturer at Harvard in 1964, studied Chinese and Japanese language, lived in Japan for some years and later became a tenured professor, eventually retiring and assuming the position of "Henry Ford II Professor of the Social Sciences, Emeritus."

The Vogels traveled to Japan in 1958 to conduct immersive ethnographic research for his first book, *Japan's New Middle Class*, which was published in 1963. Ezra was the author of many subsequent books: two of the most important were the recent *Deng Xiaoping and the Transformation of China* and *Japan as Number One*. His last book from 2019 was *China and Japan: Facing History*. His books sold well in China and Japan, as well as the U.S., and he was in the process of preparing a paper with Harvard political scientist Graham Allison, containing recommendations for the new presi-

dential administration on how to improve Sino-U.S. relations.

Ezra called the Kinneys just before the 2020 Lisle annual meeting in November to find out if anyone else in his former units had contacted Lisle recently, so that he could catch up with them.

He spoke of some upcoming medical needs, and we just recently found out that he died on December 20 of complications from cancer surgery. He leaves his son Steven, a professor at UC Berkeley, and hundreds, maybe thousands of former students, colleagues and friends who loved him and whose careers he monitored for many years.

Joy Drobish Apra, CO '47

Margaret Joy (Drobish) Palmerlee Apra was born October 18, 1923, in Oroville, California; her older brother was "Bo" (short for Boardman, also a Lisler from CO'47). When she was very young, her family bought a 1,200-acre parcel near Oroville. During the eight summers before World War II, her parents began Far View Ranch Camp as a "life on the farm" experience for children. Over the course of 80 years, four successive generations operated the camp.

While attending UC Berkeley, Joy was involved with the local YWCA, and served as Student Cabinet President in the year 1946-47. She and her husband Chuck Palmerlee were both involved in "Y" activities throughout their lives. They co-directed the Gold Lake Y Camp for several years, and ran Far View Ranch Camp for 29 summers once their 3 children were born. At its peak, the camp hosted 70 campers every 2 weeks for 10 weeks. Joy used her people skills to train

In Memoriam

and support the camp leaders and was in charge of the arts and crafts program. She received her Master's Degree in Counseling at the University of Oregon, and was a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist for many years. Joy often painted in oils and sketched scenes while traveling. She sang, played the organ, enjoyed acting and volunteered for many organizations.

Her husband Chuck died in 1990 after a long struggle with cancer. In 1995 Joy married Dan Apra. In her last decade, she lived in Oakland, and in Chico near her daughter. Joy passed away January 28, 2016.

George Klaus Levinger, NY '49, CA '50, '51.

Ann Cotton Levinger CA '50

George Klaus Levinger was born Feb. 5, 1927, in Berlin, Germany. In 1935, his family fled to Switzerland, then to London, entering the U.S. in 1941. He enrolled at Columbia and was drafted in 1945 to serve in the Army Counterintelligence Corps in Japan. After the war, he studied clinical psychology at Columbia and Berkeley, earning a master's degree. He completed a doctorate in social psychology at U-Mich in 1955. George taught at Bryn Mawr College and Western Reserve University. In 1965, he joined UMass Amherst, retiring in 1992. His pioneering research on interpersonal attraction and close relationships led to publishing dozens of scholarly articles and co-editing or co-authoring three influential books. He also edited *The Journal of Social Issues* from 1984 to 1987.

Ann Cotton was born Jan. 21, 1931, in Laurel, Mississippi. She received a dual bachelor's degree in psychology and education from U-Mich in 1952. In the 1970s,

Ann returned to graduate school, earning a doctorate in counseling from the U-Mass College of Education in 1982, a clinical psychology license, and working for 12 years as a school psychologist at Swift River Elementary School in New Salem. She lectured in the U-Mass College of Education from 1989-96.

From their obituary we learn that "Ann and George met in California in 1950 at the Lisle Fellowship, a program that promoted international understanding among young adults from around the world. They found common spiritual ground between their Jewish and Presbyterian traditions in the Quaker meeting at Ann Arbor, Michigan, and they married in 1952." The Levingers strongly believed in and practiced nonviolence in civil rights and opposition to the Vietnam War. They were active in the Quaker Alternatives to Violence Project, teaching conflict resolution skills to prison inmates in Massachusetts and Connecticut as members of the Mount Toby Friends Meeting in Leverett MA for 52 years. Among their many post-retirement adventures, they spent several months teaching English to schoolchildren in China and Vietnam. George died July 3, 2017, 12 days after Ann's passing. They are survived by their four sons and their spouses, Ann's two sisters and George's brother.

Emanuel Parzen, CA '50

Born April 21, 1929 in New York City, "Manny" was the youngest of eight children of Rabbi Samuel Parzen and his wife Sarah. He married Carol Tenowitz in 1959. They had two children and 6 grandchildren.

-continued on next page-

In Memoriam

Manny graduated from the Bronx High School of Science, earned a Bachelor's degree in math from Harvard in 1949, a Masters in Math from Berkeley in 1951 and a Ph.D. in Math and Statistics from Berkeley in 1953. His teaching and research career included Columbia, Stanford, SUNY Buffalo, and Texas A&M at College Station for three decades beginning in 1978. In the midst of his academic pursuits, Manny participated in CA '50 along with 44 others, many of whom, such as the Levingers, who also went on to distinguished careers.

He played a central role in the development of the theory of stochastic processes in statistics and was a pioneer in the fields of time series and spectral analyses in addition to making important contributions in the area of nonparametric statistics. Manny was held in high esteem by his colleagues and members of organizations to which he belonged, such as the American Statistical Association, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. A colleague wrote, "On a personal level, Manny was extremely engaging and always anxious to discuss new approaches toward statistical inference. The Department of statistics — and the statistical community in general — has lost one of its giants." In 2015 he retired and moved to Boca Raton FL where he died in 2016. Surviving him are his wife, his children and grandchildren.

Doris Reed Rumman, Friend of Lisle 1944-64

One of Aunt Edna and Uncle Si's good friends in Ann Arbor was Doris Rumman. She was born July 7, 1919 in Riga Town-

ship Michigan. She graduated from U-Mich in 1942 and taught in Monroe and Willow Run. As her obituary says, "Doris had an intense interest in the world outside, which led to her life work, passion and advocacy for achieving peace, justice and world understanding. She served as the Associate Director at the Wesley Foundation (First United Methodist Church) from 1947-49 where, following WWII, she supported a determined group of GIs and undergrads eager to make the world a better place.

Later, she worked as a Counselor for the Protestant Foundation for International Students (Lane Hall, where Uncle Si worked), 1949-1957." During those years she met Wadi Rumman, who was working towards his PhD while teaching in the Civil Engineering department at U-Mich. They were married in 1955.

Doris was genuinely interested in learning about everyone she met. An avid listener, she valued people's stories, and amazingly remembered the details from one encounter to the next. Doris wrote about Aunt Edna, "Memories keep crowding in — stories of Burma, the sewing basket that mildewed... adding oatmeal to the mulligatawny soup when too many guests showed up for Sunday supper of Lane Hall with the packing and leaving Ann Arbor..." She supported Lisle almost unconsciously with every project she undertook and gave the Baldwins the kind of community help that no one could have hired her to do. She died October 11, 2017 in Ann Arbor and is survived by her husband, her two daughters and three grandchildren, her sister, and

In Memoriam

many nieces and nephews.

Shirley Seaman Lake, CT '52, Germany '54
Shirley was born April 6, 1932 in Oberlin, Ohio to William and Frances Seaman. After she finished high school in 1948, the 1950's were an eventful time for her. She graduated from Oberlin College in 1952 and participated in the Connecticut Lisle Unit that same year. She wrote that her outstanding memory was of Aunt Edna rescuing leftovers or mending things in order to save them! In 1954 she went to Germany with another Lisle program. Shirley earned a master's degree in social work from Case Western Reserve in 1958.

She and Jim married in August of 1959, and they soon thereafter moved to Madison, Wisconsin. Shirley's training and early employment in social work strongly influenced her years of civic responsibility and engagement. She later managed the first campaign for State Representative Rebecca Young in 1984 and subsequently served as an office manager and legislative aide in Young's office. Shirley served two terms as president of the Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association where she helped preserve the Dudgeon School building for non-profit use. On behalf of Lisle, she served on the Board of Directors.

Shirley's diverse interests included politics, genealogy research, music, nature, hiking, biking and world travel. She enjoyed summers in Maine and time on Lake Superior. The Lakes traveled throughout much of Europe and South East Asia. She died on June 22, 2018 and is survived by her husband

James, her son, nephews and many close friends.

Samuel Hower Beamesderfer, CO '46

Samuel Hower Beamesderfer was born to James and Gladys Beamesderfer in Lebanon, PA March 19, 1922. By 1937 he was pictured in Lebanon High School's yearbook with the Junior Class. In 1940 Sam was a student at Pennsylvania Institute for the Blind. He graduated from Lebanon Valley College with a major in History in 1945. Jack Glasse who was chief organizer for Lisle in 1946 met with him at the Broadway Tabernacle in New York City and signed him up for CO '46. Ann Hardt remembers him as someone "who contributed quite a bit." He labeled CO'46 as "a summer of intellectual stimulation with the lectures and practical experiences" and made several descriptive comments on his fellow participants!

Sam earned a B.D. from Yale Divinity in 1947. In 1948 he was the Assistant Pastor at Fort Schuyler in New York City. Sam married Elizabeth Hart in Groton SD in 1950. She was a University of S.D. grad & worked as a lab tech before marrying. As a pastor's wife, she had many skills, including cabinetry, music and assisting Sam in his ministry. By the mid 1950's he was serving a church in Billings, Montana and was active in reviewing books and articles on religion. He served as Pastor at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Chicago for many years. Sam retired in 1987. He was designated a parish associate at Highland Presbyterian in Lancaster PA [Presbytery of Donegal] on

-continued on next page-

In Memoriam

June 23, 1998. Sam passed away on May 20, 2018 in Evanston IL and Ann died June 4, 2018, fifteen days after Sam. They are survived by two sons, two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Anne Kennett Galt Aschan, CO '46

Anne Kennett Galt Aschan was born March 20, 1926 St. Louis MO, the daughter of Charles and Anna Galt. She grew up in St. Louis and graduated from John Burroughs School in 1944. In 1945 she enrolled at Mount Holyoke College. The following summer she went to Golden, Colorado to participate in Lisle's CO'46 unit. Sam Beamesderfer wrote later that she was "the serious girl named Galt." That was a fitting label, as she went on to graduate from Mount Holyoke in 1949 and then studied for a certificate in education from Tufts University Nursery Training School.

While she was studying at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, she met Per-Johan Aschan, a chemical engineer from Finland and they were married in 1953. Shortly thereafter they moved to Helsinki, Finland where they raised three children. She was active as a kindergarten and adult education teacher and an artist there. She died May 8, 2014 and is survived by her children and grandchildren.

Rachel Shields Scott, CO '46

Rachel was born February 17, 1926 in South Haven, MI, the only daughter of Lewis and Grace Green Shields. She graduated with honors from high school in 1944 and the U-Mich School of Nursing in 1949. During the Michigan years, she spent 6 weeks at CO '46

where Sam Beamesderfer found her to be, "Ah yes, also the attractive and outgoing Rachel Shields." She earned both a master's in counseling from the University of North Dakota in 1978 and a master's in nursing from the University of Minnesota in 1982. Rachel became certified as a nurse practitioner in 1980-1990.

She married Rev. Walter R. Scott in South Haven in 1949; henceforth, ministering as a United Church of Christ pastoral team for a total of 31 years in the Midwest. They retired to a year of volunteer work in Chicago, then moved to Bemidji, MN, in 1990. At the time of her death, she was a member of the All Nations Indian UCC Church in Minneapolis, and an affiliate member of the Bemidji United Methodist Church.

Rachel worked in a variety of nursing fields, concentrating in geriatric nursing from 1967 till her retirement in 1990; she was a member of the nursing faculty of the College of Nursing, University of North Dakota, 1972-1990, retiring as Associate Professor Emeritus. During this time, she also taught nursing and provided leadership in many state and local organizations. She was active with her husband in ecumenical peace and justice work throughout her adult life. Rachel died in Bemidji on September 4, 2009. She was survived by her husband, three daughters, seven grandchildren, one great-grandchild and two brothers.

Judd K. Jones, Germany '62

Judd Jones was born June 23, 1941 in Detroit. His family soon moved back east and he attended Catholic schools in Connecticut and New York City on full scholarships.

In Memoriam

For college, he won another scholarship to LeMoyne College in Syracuse NY. There he helped found Track and Cross Country teams along with earning honors in his classes. In 1962 Judd registered for a Lisle unit in Denmark. That year numbers were few, so the leaders, Mogens and Jean Jensen, decided to take their group to Germany. There he met Susan Prindle who had planned all along to go to Kaufbueren and the rest is history! They returned for their senior years in the fall of 1962, Sue to Pennsylvania and Judd to New York. Then they both went to grad school, Sue to the University of Minnesota and Judd to California and finally in 1966 they got married in Massachusetts. Their one son, Scott, was born in 1968.

Judd tried teaching at Washington State College in Maine and found it not to his liking. On a search for pewter buttons in Frederickton, NB, he and Sue encountered William Herrett "Bill" Crowell who convinced them to apprentice at pewtersmithing. Bill is believed to be the first pewtersmith in Canada and trained people in Canada and the U. S. in this art. For the next 30 years that was Judd and Sue's craft and their living in Maine. Judd even exhibited one of his pieces at the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian in 1983. He incorporated wood in his art and eventually that became his primary medium. He even experimented with making bowls from alabaster. During the last year his health began to fail and cancer was finally discovered. Judd died October 5, 2020 at home. He is survived by his wife, son, and granddaughter.

Jeanne Ruth Ackley Lohman, CO '43, NY '49

Jeanne Lohmann, died September 26, 2016 at her home in Olympia, Washington. She was born in Arcanum, Ohio, on May 9, 1923. Jeanne attended Otterbein College for a year on a scholarship in French, and graduated from Ohio State University in 1945 with a degree in the social sciences. Her summers afforded opportunities for service with the American Friends Service Committee, the Lisle Fellowship, and work at Stuyvesant Neighborhood House in New York City. After graduating from college, she held a year's Danforth Graduate Fellowship at the University of Kansas, and then moved to Chicago to work for three years as the Executive Director of the University YMCA.

She married Henry Lohmann in 1947, and their strong and loving partnership continued until his death in 1985. In 1948, they went to postwar Germany with the National Student YMCA-YWCA, helping to clear rubble in Bremen, and for service work in a local hospital and kindergarten. Their four children, all of whom survive their mother along with their children and grandchildren, were born in Denver. During their 10 years there, they helped found Mountain View Friends Meeting, directed an Interns-in-Agriculture project for the American Friends Service Committee, and provided leadership for units of the Lisle Fellowship. Later, Jeanne continued their mutual commitment to service, and to their love for the arts, camping and travel with a Quaker study, tours and conferences. They had moved to San Francisco in 1960, and Jeanne and Hank earned master's degrees from San Francisco State University in 1979. Jeanne's work in creative writing nourished

-continued on next page-

her lifelong love of literature, and encouraged her to develop her skills in a vocation as poet, editor, mentor and workshop leader, a path she followed after moving to Olympia, where her home served as a gathering place for poets and writers. Jeanne's published work includes ten collections of poetry and several prose volumes.

Jacqueline Laing Ault, CO '51, CT '51/'52, Elderhostel '90

Jacquie Ault was born in 1926 in Ann Arbor MI to John and Gertrude Laing. Her family moved to New Hampshire in 1934. She graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1947 and worked as an executive secretary. In the early '50's she discovered Lisle and participated in three Lisle units. Later she met and married Joe Ault (CA' 50) in Cleveland in 1957. They moved to Iowa and then to Minnesota where she worked part-time and raised a son, Steven and a daughter, Sue. She was active in the Presbyterian Church and in the Virginia, Minnesota community.

In 1990, she and Joe re-discovered Lisle by participating for the first time together in an Elderhostel Lisle program at the University of Toledo. Jacquie died September 28, 2020 and is survived by her children and grandchildren and missed by her many friends and community members.

George Robert Crossman, CO '46, '55, '58, led CA '51/'52, '53 and Germany '54,55

George Crossman was born in 1926 and passed in 2020. We are still trying to get more information about his life and will in-

clude a more complete writeup in the next issue of Interaction. If you knew George and have information to share, please contact us at office@lisleinternational.org

Friends of Lisle:

Born 25 March 1925, **Aboul Mansuri**, one of Lisle's good friends, died January 4, 2021 in northern Virginia where he lived and grew roses in a retirement community with his companion, Nann Harding. His first connection to Lisle was because of his wife, Jean Jones Mansuri (NY'48). Aboul and Jean lived in the Washington DC and northern Virginia area and provided support to Lisle units in Washington DC in the 1960's. In retirement Aboul started a Shaklee business and offered to provide 10% of the cost of items purchased from his business to Lisle in memory of Jean after she died in 1992. He is survived by his daughter, Victoria who lives in Vermont.

Robert C. Rubendunst, 90, of Sun City West, Arizona, passed away on October 15, 2020. He was a retired banker and an active fisherman. Bob was the spouse of Margit Harris Jordan Rubendunst, Denmark '54. Bob and Margit enjoyed traveling and made frequent trips with their friends. They also played tennis and hiked. Bob is survived by Margit, three children, four grandchildren and two stepdaughters. §

Vijay Alsi (DC '67) was 27 years old, a brand-new visitor to the U.S., and remembers his first moments of a cordial welcome by Lislors who had gathered at the summer "Lisle House" in Sandy Spring MD, near the nation's capital. He was perhaps the oldest of participants but felt inexperienced, awkward and naive. "By the end of six weeks of communal living, I felt that the spirit of American life was entering into my soul. I was to return to India after the Lisle unit was over, but a serendipitous offer of a job during the unit changed my mind. I stayed a little longer -- for 54 years." He and his wife Vasanti, live in Vienna, VA. They have three children and four grandchildren.

Sonja Bjork (India '86) "Still volunteering with Soccer Without Borders-Oakland"

Carolyn Black (DC '62, '65) "Lisle opened my heart and mind to people different from me. I came out of a box into a wide world. I taught ESL at Maryville College for six years and then I started my business for 15 years. I am a volunteer in many places now."

Judy Cochran (CO '58) would love to hear from fellow attendees. Retired psychotherapist and community college Student Counselor. Active with League of Women voters.

Johnnie Miller (CO '46, CT '48, '49) "Just turned 95! Hope to keep going in

this crisis time! Keep going Lisle – you were a great part of my life. Hello to all."

Ray (CO '56, CA '57, Denmark '55, '69) and Anja (CO '56, Denmark '69) Miller

"Kudos for good work in areas where really needed!"

Jacquie Smith Quine (Denmark '64) "No new big news. Think I already told you my husband and I are both retired, facing new challenges with joy and determination. We live in the snowbelt of NE Ohio and now (12/2) have about 16" of snow and have just lost our electricity. Would love to hear from or about any Lislors from my group including the Nielsons (our hosts). Thanks for keeping me in the loop."

Margit Rubendunst (Denmark '54) "My dear husband passed away October 15, 2020. Miss him so. Still try to play tennis and golf. Enjoy reading about Lisle and all the activity."

Jon Selzer (India 1977) "Social worker – 16 years, Financial Advisor 30+ years. Married to a Social Scientist (Thelie) Oglala Lakota, 2 daughters, 3 grandchildren. Politically active, social justice activist. Passionate about the Arts."

Steve Spiegel, son of Hans & Ellie (CO '46 '47, NY '47, Germany '58, Bali '88) writes that Lisle was a very important part

-continued on page 36-

-Doula from page 5-

hospital. During the pandemic, the organization held weekly Skype meetings focusing on hygiene and health as well as parenting and homeschooling. After the training, the participants started to function as “community doulas.” Their service is offered free of charge for the mothers.

The project is helping change the dynamics at the maternity unit of the County Hospital, and made the medical staff more aware of the rights and the needs of birthing Roma women (and girls). The new mothers experienced less vulnerability and more control over their own situation during childbirth. The project also increased the voice of Roma women in the media and public fora. The project also was able to establish a local community doula service in the town of Alsózsolca. Due to the pandemic, the project was suspended for lack of information technology infrastructure. The project leaders, however, decided to implement ad hoc activities, related directly to the COVID-19 crisis. They organized aid drives and provided information and materials to make face masks to protect themselves and others from the virus.

The most spectacular success of the project was that the maternity unit’s medical staff (in the County Hospital, Miskolc) showed openness to cooperation with the community doulas. A most energizing moment was when – shortly after

the end of the training – one of the new doulas sent an early morning message to the project team that she had accompanied a birthing mother in the County Hospital, and that everything went smoothly – despite the inconveniences of the COVID-related measures, and despite the difficult personal circumstances of the mother (a trauma survivor). The maternity ward medical team appreciated her supporting presence in the labor room.

One challenge has been the difficulty for Doulas of getting to the hospital quickly, especially if the call came at night, because women in this community usually do not drive. In response, the project organizers made an agreement with a taxi company in Miskolc to provide flat-rate fare services for the doulas on call.

Lisle’s seed grant has given this program a base on which to build and they were able to raise funds locally based on their work for this project. With additional media coverage as well, chances for a successful crowdsourcing initiative will be even better, enabling the organization to support more women. §

-MCF from page 6-

among the children.

Pandemic-related lockdowns prevented MCF from carrying out larger gatherings, but the project continued with children and their elders connecting in smaller groups. This interaction has been even

more important during the isolation of the lockdowns. In addition, while working in the communities, the MCF team has been able to identify families at risk of hunger and help them obtain food and other resources.

The stories and songs will be shared with communities throughout the mountain state of Uttarakhand through the MCF’s monthly magazine, PABAM, posted on a widely-read Indian literary website, and printed in a small booklet so that people in other regions can gain appreciation for the culture of these mountain communities. §

-Sierra Leone from page 10-

formatted into audiovisual clips and short movies.

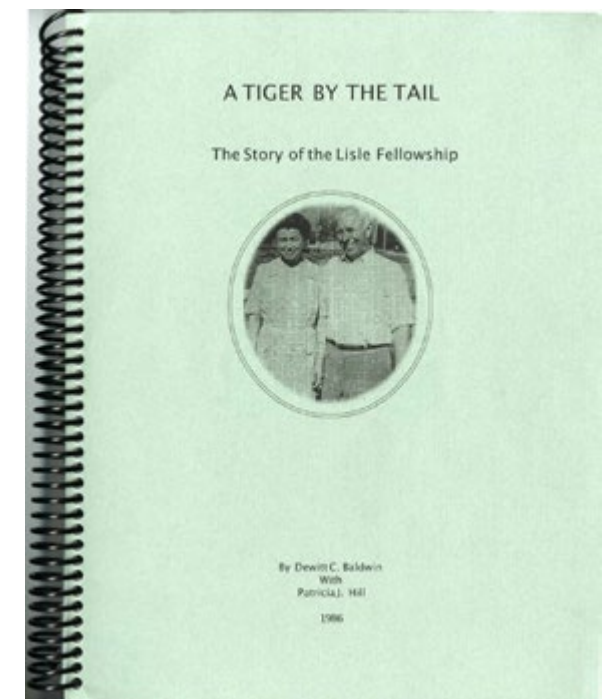
Just recently, initial meetings were convened in the project communities Kroo Bay and Dwazark. Ten peace champions and two ambassadors were selected to provide oversight through the coordination of activities, supervision, and advising community level peace champions. Community ownership of the process is expected to make it easier for community members to confidently express themselves and find ways of addressing and resolving tribal conflict within their communities.

Chief Pessima, of the Dworzack community, asserted: “This project that seeks to address the issues of ethnic violence within this community is a good one and I hope it can also be implemented in other communities and nation-wide.”

A Coronavirus outbreak led Sierra Leone to declare a 12-month State of Emergency. This has posed major challenges to the implementation of planned activities. The funded organization is working through the issues so it can carry out the tasks of: 1) Life skills training, 2) organizing community dialogue circles, 3) data collection and gathering community and personal stories, 4) analyzing data and document information, 5) organizing community dialogue sessions, and 6) organizing the media engagement (social media, radio & TV talk shows). §

-Tiger by the Tail from page 19-

personal relationships among diverse people.” How even more true is this today than in the mid 1980s! §

*-Tiger By The Tail 1st Edition :-)*

-Friends from page 29-

of his parents' lives, and pivotal for others as well. Good family friends George and Ann Levinger (who passed away three years ago) wrote "Without your recommendation in 1949, I would never have attended the Lisle Fellowship that summer and thus would never have met Ann Cotton in July 1950. She enriched my following 67 years amazingly, 65 of them after we were married 6/14/52!"

Barbara Thomas (Japan '54) "I retired as an administrator of Special Education for Fresno County Office of Education. I then served on the FCOE school board for 16 years."

Leyla Welkin (Associate board member, Uganda '94, Turkey '97, '98, '99, 2000, '02, PNW 2001, '02) was married to Mosen Haksar in December. She continues her private practice with clients, now all on telehealth, working from home. Her international work has been curtailed by the virus, but she hopes to travel again soon, especially to see her grandchildren in Italy!

Alice Wiedrich (CO '46) "I hope you have survived the year in good shape! Best wishes for a better year ahead!"

Barbara Wilks (CA '50, CT '51) "I want to keep connected via Interaction. Well done! Keep up the good works!"

Nancy Jo Zinner (studied Lisle pro-

grams for her master's thesis and remains a friend and supporter) "Hello, Lislers! I sure do miss working with international students. I'm a caregiver and administrative assistant for my father (a telehealth med. provider). Healthy best wishes to you all." §

-Mentor from page 3-

work to get them to understand the basic goals and values embedded within the Lisle philosophy.

As a mentor, you have the responsibility to guide them in these directions, but not to assure their success. It is their process and they need to know that you are doing your best, but you do not have "a say" in whether they are chosen or not!

As a mentor, you will be supported by the Lisle Board and staff in answering any of the questions you or your mentee may have in relation to the granting process in terms of timing, categories of things that Lisle tends to support, and any other issues that may come up. It may feel scary at first, but your work will be greatly appreciated by all.

More information about Lisle's seed grant process can be found here: <https://lisleinternational.org/lisle-grants> §

"The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled."

Plutarch

FINANCE REPORT

By Barbara Bratton, CPA, Financial Coordinator
A. Gail Bier, Treasurer

The stock market continues to be good to Lisle — our assets increased in value from \$306,970 at the end of Sept. 2019 to \$331,002 on by the end of Sept. 2020.

This increase is after granting \$21,000 to our 7 recipients this last year. We also received a second \$20,000 bequest from the Ammirati (CA '50) estate. (See previous Interaction for further information about the Ammiratis and their generous gift.)

Contributions from 33 members totaled about \$6,000. We continue to look for ways to expand "membership" in Lisle since we no longer have programs in which people can participate. We are eternally grateful to our loyal members who contribute to the program every year, and we are in discussion as to the process, or the necessity, of raising additional funds.

Anyone involved in the Board during the last 40 years has been aware of the ongoing issue of the 50 acres in Upstate New York that was gifted to Lisle. Every new Board member asks about the "land" and the other Board members internally groan as the story is retold and the discussion is held as to what is to be done about the land. With great delight, we can report that we have sold the land for its property tax value of \$30,000, less \$1,200 of legal expense! The completed sale will increase our liquid assets by \$28,800. Mark Kinney, in his role as Executive Director, has had to jump through many hoops with nonprofit rules and the State of New York to get permission to sell this bequest. The Covid 19 virus slowed things down but we are delighted to have the land sold as of Dec. 4, 2020.

Twenty years ago (seems impossible), the Board voted to have the books of the company "audited" every 10 years. A "review" has been done in 2000, 2013 and now in 2020. The books are not "audited" in the full legal definition of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. A full audit includes an in-depth study of all bills, paid invoices, contributions and Board decisions and is very expensive. An alternative is to have Lisle books "reviewed" by accounting professionals. This review looks at the alignment of Lisle Board directions and bookkeeping processes to keep Lisle records accurate. This review is less intrusive and less expensive.

Barbara Bratton, also a CPA, continues to process the contributions, pay bills and keep books while Treasurer, A. Gail Bier, with the Finance Committee, continues to review and advise on the investments.

Our thanks to all of you who continue to help keep Lisle viable after all these years. §

ZOOM ANNUAL MEETINGS

- Participate in future Lisle decisions
- Share your Lisle history with Lisle Grantees and new Board Members
- Get energized by hearing from our grantees about their wonderful projects
- Hear from other Lislors from past deputations
- Please share an up-to-date Email address with us via the Annual membership form attached in this publication
- Email with "I'm interested" in the subject line, to Office@LisleInternational.org

We invite you to join the next Annual Meeting in November. Meeting details are on page 40. We had eleven Lislors join us last year in a stimulating meeting where new information and old memories were exchanged to the benefit of all. (And it's FUN AND EASY!)

-Human Rights Pakistan from page 3-

greater in women of all communities (Muslims and non-Muslims) of Pakistan than men. Women do not have exposure through home visits, personal contact and community gatherings to cultural practices of the other community, and they cannot interact with each other in Pakistan's patriarchal society without permission of their men. The proposed project engages Pakistan's young women school teachers from different religious, sectarian, and cultural background through dialogue on an experimental basis. The women include non-Muslim religious minorities (Christians, Hindus, Sikhs, Jews) and Muslims sects (Shias, Barelvis, Deobandi and

Salafi). The project seeks to initiate interreligious dialogue in women and explores their perceptions (e.g., negative stereotypes) and attitudes (e.g., religion-based prejudice) towards each other. From the workshop discussion and end project evaluation, a guide will be developed that will explain shared cultural values. For more information on this organization: <https://www.facebook.com/uhropk>. §

**DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS
KEEP LISLE'S SEED GRANT FUND ACTIVE
AND PRODUCTIVE IN COMMUNITIES ALL
OVER THE WORLD. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
SUPPORT :
OFFICE@LISLEINTERNATIONAL.ORG**

Support Lisle — Change the World!

www.lisleinternational.org

(512) 259-4404

E-mail: <office@lisleinternational.org>

You can now donate or purchase items from our website using Paypal!

I want to become/stay a member of Lisle for 2021

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Street: _____ City/State/Zip _____
 E-mail: _____
 Country _____

I attended the following Lisle programs/events:

I would like to make a donation:

- Basic Donor\$35
- Contributing Donor\$75
- Supporting Donor\$200
- Sustaining Donor\$500
- Benefactor\$1,000
- Other.....\$ _____

- I would like to receive **Providing a Lasting Memorial**, a brochure about Wills & Bequests.
- I would like to receive **Global Seed Fund Mentor** information.

Notes about your life & community involvement for the newsletter, Interaction

Items for Sale (price includes domestic S & H)

- Oral Histories from 70th Anniversary DVD Qty____ (\$10 ea.) _____
- Lisle History DVD Qty____ (\$15 ea.) _____
- Tiger by the Tail*, the history of Lisle Qty____ (\$25 ea.) _____
- Aunt Edna: 50 Years of Memories* Qty____ (\$ 8 ea.) _____
(a memoir of Edna Baldwin)

Total enclosed _____

If you prefer to use this form, mail your check, made out to Lisle, to:

PO Box 1932
Leander, TX 78646

For office use only: DB ACK NAME DATE
 _____ / ____ / ____

Clip & mail with payment.



LISLE, INCORPORATED

PO Box 1932

Leander, TX 78646

(512) 259-4404

Website: <www.lisleinternational.org>

E-mail: <office@lisleinternational.org>

Change Service Requested

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

Upcoming Meetings

Fall Annual Meeting - November 5-7, 2021

The meeting will be held in Austin, Texas if conditions allow for an in-person gathering, and/or via Zoom video conferencing.

Check lisleinternational.org for the latest information.

If you would like to join us, virtually or in person, email office@lisleinternational.org for details of schedule and format.