

Lisle

Interaction

WINTER ISSUE • 2000

European Reunion for Lislors An Open Invitation

By Barbara Holder

You may have heard Lisle is planning a reunion of individuals from Europe who have been in Lisle Programs, and we heartily invite you all to join us! From May 3-6, 2001, with the helpful energy of Anne-Rose Heck (a Board member from Germany), we will gather at the Youth Hostel in Frankfurt, Germany for a program intended to draw you to come and reconnect with others you have known through Lisle. We are also inviting all the North American Lislors who have previously participated in European units. The Lisle Board will meet at the same time and place as the reconnecting former Lislors.

It has been over twenty years since our last Danish unit; the Lisle Board now hopes to revitalize our work in Europe, given the enormous changes which have taken place in this time period. For instance, there is a group of persons from Holland and Germany who hope to do the preliminary planning at this gathering for a Lisle program in June of 2003.

Frankfurt lies on the Main River, near where it joins the Rhine. It dates back to the first century and has played an important role in German history. Unfortunately, nearly all the city's historic buildings were destroyed during WW II, including the birthplace of the poet Goethe, and the Stadel Art Museum. Both have been rebuilt and are two of the city's two major tourist attractions. It was publishing center in the early days of printing: Johann Gutenberg is honored with a monu-

ment in the city square. It has become an international industrial and financial center. It also, believe it or not, is the birthplace of the frankfurter!

Here are some of the cultural highlights Frankfurt offers to those who are inclined:

The *Goethehaus* resembles what it looked like when Goethe lived there, with a few original items which somehow survived the war.

The *Stadel* is one of Europe's most comprehensive art galleries, with paintings ranging from German, Dutch and Italian primitives to the avant-garde.

There is a secularized Carmelite Monastery, the *Karmeliterkloster*, which now serves as a venue for exhibitions of contemporary art, contains powerful fresco cycles by the 16th Century painter-turned-revolutionary leader Jerg Ratgeb.

The popular *Zum Eichkatzerl*, is a tavern that specializes in Frankfurt's distinctive apple wine. It's located in the heart of the historic south bank quarter.

From the tower of the Gothic Cathedral of *St. Bartholomaeus*, which is the ancient venue for the election and coronation of the Holy Roman Emperors, one can gain a fabulous view over the city.

The *Liebieghaus* is Germany's premier museum of sculpture, with exhibits ranging from the ancient civilizations of

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*Germany 1956 unit includes, kneeling left to right:
Norgen Hall Paptheodaron, Kathe Osterloh, Anne Feryt,
Sigrid Gewinner Kern, Annemarie Biglmaier.
Standing: Uncle Si, Barbel Hofmann, Jeanne D. Chinn,
Ingrid Urschler, Eckart Wachholtz, Mary Radcliffe,
Peter Ehrenhaft, Leonore Schwan, Franz Biglmaier,
Lelia Schmal and Pasha Hussain.*

Sumeria, Egypt, Greece and Rome through to the colossal altarpieces of European Baroque.

Many of Frankfurt's liveliest restaurants, cafes and bars are in *Bockenheim*, a working-class district which has become the center of the city's alternative scene.

Anne-Rose has located an inexpensive venue for our group at the *Haus der Jugend* in Frankfurt. She is reserving a block of rooms, most dormitory style, some few singles, some few doubles, the latter two, of course, more expensive. All meals will be at the *Haus der Jugend* except the Saturday evening dinner. We estimate the cost for room and board and the one dinner at a restaurant will probably not exceed \$200.00 or 400DM per person for the three days.

If you have sleeping preferences, we suggest you communicate with Anne-Rose directly by E-mail or by snail-mail: <ARHeck@compuserve.com> or her home address: Caecilienstrasse 21, Bruhl 50321, Germany. Let her know which kind of room arrangement you hope for. She will also have information about nearby hotels if you prefer those accommodations.

If this gathering looks good to you, we hope you will respond, to both Anne-Rose (by E-mail or regular mail) and the Lisle office to let us know of your strong interest. The E-mail address to use for response is <lisle@utnet.utoledo.edu> or send regular mail to: Lane Winnett, Secretary, Lisle Inter-cultural Programs, 900 County Road 269, Leander, Texas 78641, U.S.A. (See registration form on page 23.)

It would also be helpful to E-mail your intentions to Judy/Jack Brown, who are the coordinators of the reunion, so please contact them regarding this portion of the program. You can E-mail Judy at <jubrown@KRL.org>. If you have access only to regular mail, Judy's address is: 14906 Sunrise Drive, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 U.S.A.

At the Annual Meeting in Texas, the following schedule was proposed:

Thursday, May 3, afternoon and evening: gathering and informal re-connection with those who are there.

Friday, May 4, morning: gathering to organize into small groups to go on day-long "deputations" in the old style in the Frankfurt area. Evening: a get-together for dinner and conversation with the Lisle Board facilitated by Mark Kinney, PhD, the Program and Executive Director of Lisle.

Saturday, May 5, daytime: brainstorming among our participants about what "World-Mindedness," in our present global society, changing events in Europe, and the development of a new European program mean. Evening: a dinner at which we hope to have a speaker address a European issue relevant to Lisle and its mission.

Sunday, May 6, morning and afternoon: further discussions, wrap-up, and departures.

We of the Lisle Board hope this event excites you as much as it does all of us. We look forward to hearing from you soon. Please let us know news of your family and career, even if you cannot be with us in Frankfurt. For those of you with access to the Internet, you might want to catch up with our current programs by looking at our Web page which you will find at <www.lisle.utoledo.edu>. 🌐



*The Denmark Unit, 1956.
Aren't these Lislors a fine bunch?
Unfortunately, we don't have these people's names.*



President's Message

Dear Friends: as I write this – at the end of October – unrest in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza has been raging for several weeks. Although we all thought there was a new prospect for a peaceful settlement after Prime Minister Barak and Chairman Arafat met at the Wye Estate in Maryland, not so far from where I live, violence has again erupted. Many commentators fear this is a setback of monumental proportions.

These past weeks, I have been drawn to remembering the time in 1977-78 when the Lisle Board began exploring prospects for a unit in Israel. An Israeli professor of peace studies (on leave from Haifa University) who I knew at the School for International Training in Vermont, Dr. Yossi Ben-Dak, turned out to be a Lisler! The Baldwins and the Board wanted to explore the idea of a unit focusing on prospects for peace. And so – 22 years ago – Lisle brought a diverse group of Board members and mostly American students to Israel. I've been wondering how that intense experience perhaps shapes the thinking these days for the members of that unit. Certainly, if that were the only time that someone had visited the Middle East, it would provide a basis for how they framed their view of recent events. Everything I know about the impact of experiential cross-cultural programs in general, and of Lisle's programs in particular tells me that members of that group are thinking differently today because of what they experienced in the summer of 1978.

The Board is engaged in thinking about the future and how we can develop programs which enable people to not merely "visit" another culture, but, to have a deep immersion experience within that culture. To not merely "see" differences, but explore them. To not just "experience" another culture from a comfortable distance, but to engage in dialogue with local citizens about issues and events which impact their communities and their lives. As you'll read in this issue, we are making plans for an important new U.S.-based program in Oregon next summer, a program we hope you will consider attending, or if not, perhaps you'll encourage a friend or relative to attend. And along with this innovative domestic program, we are holding our first international Board meeting next May in Frankfurt, Germany! We already have dozens of people expecting to be there, including many European Lislers. We could easily have 50-60 people in attendance. The Board hopes this reunion meeting will both reinvigorate trans-Atlantic friendships, but, also serve as a catalyst for a new program in Europe (and there are Dutch Lislers at work on such plans for 2003!!)

We need you to join with us to make a better future for Lisle. We need your creative ideas, your contacts to expand our program base here and abroad, and above all, we need your participation in our ongoing work, perhaps as a Board member or a program leader. I urge you to contact me to explore how

you can connect with Lisle and be a part of its future: 2400 41st Street

NW, Washington, DC 20007; email: <mjtillman47@aol.com>.

Warm regards!

Marty



*Marty Tillman
President*

Lisle's Officers

*Marty Tillman, President
Mary Newman, Vice-President
Phyllis Beck, Secretary
Barbara Bratton, Treasurer*

Board Members

*Ann Banchoff
Gail Bier
Dianne Brause
Judy & Jack Brown
Anne-Rose Heck
Darwin Holder
John Kachuba
Betty Ligon
Sharada Nayak
Leyla Welkin*



Executive Director's Report

Written and presented at the May Board Meeting

I keep asking myself if it could be true that the reason I am spending even more time on Lisle and don't seem to have the tangible outcomes relating to larger and more successful programs, could be due to not focusing on the tasks which will have the most impact on the situation. The answer I come up with as I ponder this question is that it is partially true, but not to a great degree.

At any rate, during this past year, I have made significant efforts to re-focus and improve the web site. These efforts have resulted in a more lively and interesting site that has a great deal more information on it. Less successful has been the effort to make the page even more noticed by the search engines of the WWW. Be assured that these efforts are continuing. (See page 5 for late-breaking news on this.)

On the program front, Lisle conducted two successful programs in India, as well as summer programs in Bali and Turkey. We still have two programs scheduled for the end of this year. We could still use a few more participants for those two programs. Programs tend to be marginally over the number necessary to go forward, rather than to be "full." Therefore, this year, there has been less return to the organization than we had hoped. On the other hand, evaluations and leader feedback has generally supported the life-changing impact which the programs have had on individual participants.

Recruitment still lags. The presentation which Marty Tillman, Nancy Kinney and I did at NAFSA was aimed at recruitment. Last week I represented Lisle at the International Voluntary Program Association (IVPA) annual meeting, and at three different California Study Abroad fairs. It is very useful to continue to have Lisle represented on college campuses as we expand our recruitment to include other age groups. This mature recruitment arena provides a rich tapestry of outlets for our materials and program information.

For next year we are focusing on a small number of programs, repeating our programs in Bali and India. We also are introducing a new program at Lost Valley Educational Center, which will involve ecology and community building. Young Turkish students from our Turkish program will be some of the youth who will be scholarship participants for this program. (See Scholarship note on page 21.)

During this past year we have stretched our budget by paying the Program Director a salary, investing in hardware at the Texas office, loaning money to the Texas office so they can expand their facility, and increasing the staff time focused on Lisle work. Also affecting our budgeting picture this year is the fact that the individual programs have not provided the return to Lisle which was budgeted from last year. As noted above,



Mark Kinney
Executive Director

this is primarily true because of small group size, but was also impacted because of increasing costs in several countries.

For this coming year, we will have to look long and hard at how to sustain the organization while not running a deficit.

The visioning process, which was begun by Leyla, Dianne and myself, has sparked a number of creative ideas, and sets us up to do some more in-depth thinking during the next few months. In this regard, I suggest that in the beginning of the board deliberative process, we need to be as honest and open with each other as possible while looking at the current state of affairs as directly and objectively as possible. To this end, let me mention a few items.

We are probably the most organizationally focused that we have ever been. We are doing quite a good job of keeping the alumni aspect of Lisle operating. We are doing an amazing job in creating an organization that has financial resources that support the efforts we are making. And, it is probably true that the quality of our programs is the best it has been in 20 years or more!

While this is all true, and there are probably other very positive markers we could and should mention also, there are some difficulties out there as well.

I think that whoever leads the board through the visioning session needs to preface the session with a reminder that there is a need to do some brainstorming kind of thinking. Thinking where wild ideas are needed and are not judged; that the visioning session is a time to do just that; that the benefit



for doing so is to explore more fully the implications of our actions prior to committing to a path.

I also think that it is crucial that we ask people to come to the time with a willingness to think beyond their current attachments. I think we all need to grow into understanding each other's ideas in the hope that something will gel that is somewhat different from our current understanding and bias.

I think that the session would be wise to start with a preface of where we stand right now:

1) It should relate us to the travel field and the increasing competition; increasing costs of offering programs; the increasing risk of litigation; the increasing difficulty in determining who of our participants needs extra support, etc.

2) It should include a review of how we are doing, including the following: our office is overwhelmed by the task; that while the core tasks are being done, some of them are not being done in a timely fashion; tasks concerned with getting materials out to organizations who refer participants to us are not getting done; coordination between Texas and Michigan is slow and incomplete; the Executive Director is not providing enough support for program development and leadership; there is little current agreement among the Board as to what assumptions we hold in terms of what level of return to our organization the pricing of programs should provide; and that current levels of recruitment are not increasing and, indeed, the level of contact to the office on the telephone has dropped this fall from the last few falls, etc.

3) Barbara Bratton and Mark are both getting burned-out by the size of the task to be accomplished and the small rate of return from their efforts, which can be measured in a number of ways: number of participants, low level of past participant continued activity with Lisle, high cost of Board meetings relative to the leverage which the meetings create, etc.

While these ideas are sobering, I believe they need to be addressed directly and with optimism. We have a fantastic legacy which we are sharing into the world. We have built slowly over the past 20 years the organizational capacity to do amazing things around the world. Now we need to reassess whether the efforts we are making are the best ways to accomplish the goals we hold.

This process should be a crucial and exciting one for Lisle, not a disappointing and depressing one. Let's all think hard, listen to other wise voices, not give in to the majority, and craft meaningful steps to becoming even more effective.

As an addendum, let me mention a few things I have done over the past few months. You know enough about the effort for seeking to solidify our programmatic fundraising efforts, conducted in Washington State in August, which has

led to the visioning push at this time. I also developed, with the help of Marty Tillman and Nancy Kinney, a poster presentation for the NAFSA conference in San Diego in May.

Since I also serve on the executive committee for IVPA, I attended a daylong committee meeting while at Stanford. IVPA is going to be able to help us with coordinating insurance needs, and help with recruitment as well. The organization gives us an umbrella organization which represents like-minded non-profit organizations. It was truly heart warming to be with such idealistic and committed organizational members—I have not found that in any other organization to which I belong except for Lisle.

Prior to those efforts, I assisted IVPA in submitting several proposals for sessions for the NAFSA annual meeting next May. These presentations will allow Lisle to share its methodologies and ideas to other professionals in the field.

I have worked to get Lisle program information out to organizations who publicize opportunities, on the net, E-mail groups, and in written form.

The Lisle archives at Univeristy of Toledo continue to be developed. I now have a listing of the holdings which were originally sent. I have given the University of Toledo a set of 16mm films, audiotapes and other materials.

Well, this is enough as a beginning to give you an idea of what I have been doing.

Mark

New Domain Name for Lisle!

<lisleinternational.org>

Well, it is accomplished! Lisle's domain name is now purchased and implemented at the University of Toledo. You can now access the page either at the original address or the new one: lisleinternational.org.

Today we also accomplished linking the page to the IVPA website. I'm excited about all this happening and hope that the effort will show dividends in the near future, when I start registering the name with the various search engines.

Special thanks goes to Jon Findley for being very patient teaching me of the possibility of purchasing a domain name and suggesting how to go about it. Also thanks to Phyllis Beck for all her support in upgrading the website. It was truly a community effort! 🌐



Financial Report

By Barb Bratton

Fiscal Year 1999/00 was a year of mixed results in the financial arena for Lisle. We were so blessed to receive significant memorial donations on behalf of Betty Mann, Lucy Washington and Bess Atwell. Lisle was named as a beneficiary of Frances Bigelow's will: this 10,500 has been set aside in her name for future scholarships. We also want to express our thanks to donors for various other special causes: Joe Ault, Dianne Koop, Mark Kinney, Dean Stout, Earl Downing, Edith Ballard and Aboul Mansuri.

Unfortunately, budgeted income was significantly below expectations and we used unrestricted funds to meet expenses in excess of income in the amount of \$11,184. Because of plans to upgrade staffing and advertising, in order to expand the number of participants in Lisle programs each year, another deficit spending year is planned for 2000/01 with an expected deficit of \$8,340. After this fiscal year, the Board will re-evaluate spending levels to determine how to continue supporting Lisle programming without further eroding our financial base. The books are being reviewed annually by an independent CPA firm.

As of 9/30/00, the end of the fiscal year, Lisle's financial report is as follows:

Unrestricted Cash	\$ 19,452.00
Restricted Funds/Scholarships	47,036.00
Endowment Funds/restricted for income to support office & staffing	156,993.00
Other assets including 50 acres in New York, and Office equipment	14,664.00
Total Assets	\$238,145.00
Current Liabilities, including a set-aside to cover Executive Director expenses	(7,105.00)
Total Net Worth	\$231,040.00

Budget details and year-end financial reports will be mailed upon request – just call the office at 1/800-477-1538. 🌐

Booth Space at NAFSA Conference

Lisle has committed \$500 for booth space at NAFSA, coordinating space between the three other organizations listed below. This will be in addition to a presentation at the poster session which was just accepted by NAFSA, and to being involved with the session, "The Impact of Education Abroad on Local Communities," which Mark put together from ideas of lots of people, including Marty, and others at IVPA. 🌐

Board Development Report

By Marty Tillman

At the Annual meeting in Houston, the Lisle Board both lost and gained members. We all thanked our outgoing and interim President, Barbara Holder, who had stepped up to lead the organization in the past year with quiet strength and wisdom. Barbara has served Lisle for almost a decade on the board and deserves our gratitude for her longstanding commitment to our programs and our mission. We also welcomed two new members: Ann Banchoff of San Francisco, California, and Judy Brown of Bainbridge Island, Washington.

Ann brings a wealth of international and professional experience to the Board. She has been involved in human rights issues, community work in the developing world, social work and public health and health education. Her husband is a physician who also has worked abroad and currently works with migrant workers in the California's Central Valley.

Judy, former member and wife of current member, Jack Brown, was welcomed back to the Board, and will immediately begin coordinating the reunion of European Lislers now underway in conjunction with the May Board Meeting in Frankfurt, Germany.

We also thanked Robin Kwizera for her work on the new program planned next summer at Lost Valley in Oregon. Robin will be taking a leave from her Board duties in the coming year.

The Board this year begins a new experimental cycle of holding just two meetings a year — the Annual Membership Meeting in October and a Spring Board Meeting. This will cut down on expenses and reflects an effort to streamline governance of the organization. The Executive Committee, along with other committees, has already been successful at conducting necessary business via the Internet and in regular conference calls.

We are very excited at the interest already generated in Europe for the Board meeting slated for Frankfurt next May. German Board member Anne-Rose Heck has been working hard and diligently to bring this all together. We hope this event will rejuvenate contacts in Europe and will lead to new Board contacts and also serve as a catalyst for a new European program in 2002 or 2003. Lisle's Officers for the coming year are: Marty Tillman, President; Mary Newman, Vice-President; Barbara Bratton, Treasurer; Phyllis Beck, Secretary. 🌐



Board Nominations Requested

By Betty Ligon

Do you know someone you think would make a good Lisle Board member? We would like to develop a pool of likely candidates from whom we could draw when we need to add to the Board. It is the membership that votes on Board members, so we turn now to the membership to help us find good people. (Of course all Lislers are good people!)

We ask a lot from our Board members: they are expected to attend meetings, of which there are at least two a year; and to cover their own expenses as they can. They work hard during those meetings, and between meetings there is frequent dialogue via the Internet and conference calls.

We would like some younger (under 50!) members. We'd love more diversity of all sorts. Members need not have had Lisle experience but should be comfortable with its philosophy. Expertise in such things as fund raising, law, community building, or study abroad would not come amiss.

If a name occurs to you, please send it to Betty Ligon (PO Box 476, Kingsland, TX 78639) or to the Lisle Office. Include basic information about career, experience, and education as well as a description of how this person could contribute to the Board. We will follow up by writing them, asking them if interested in being considered for the Lisle Board, to fill out a questionnaire. 🌐

Newsletter Schedule

By Dianne Brause, Editor

Since the Lisle Board voted to experiment with having only two Board Meetings (Spring and Fall) in 2001, we have decided to produce only two issues of *Interaction* as well (vs. the three that we have been used to doing). These will come to you between two and three months following the meetings so that you can get a sense of what was accomplished at the last meeting and what is coming up for the future meeting. All the usual items such as information about past and upcoming programs, network news, articles written by or about Lislers, etc. will continue to be included.

We also invite you to send in news, stories, pictures, artwork or anything else you think might be of interest to other Lislers. These should be sent to: Elise Kimmons, Berkana Publications, 5050 Fox Hollow Dr., Eugene, OR 97405, or to: eldkim@teleport.com. Thanks for your interest and support in continuing to make *Interaction* an exciting and informative newsletter. 🌐

Cybercafes:

<<http://www.cybercafe.com>>

Given how worldly-traveled our membership is, and how connected you have become to the world of computers, you all might enjoy checking out a web site that will give you locations of cybercafes around the planet. When you get to their opening page, you can either enter the country's name where you will be traveling, or click on the map and Presto! The information comes to your fingertips!

This is a great way to stay in touch with your world back home. Not only can you send mail, but you can receive mail too.

Marty Tillman, Board President remarked, "You can easily search out cybercafes anywhere on the planet. It works! I checked for any in Costa Rica, and it quickly delivered locales. This site can be very helpful to anyone wanting to know how to communicate with family and friends while abroad. Have fun!"

Below is a sample listing from Costa Rica:

NAME: *Coconut Cafe*

CITY: *Golfoito*

ADDRESS: *located 100 meters diagonal from the Gas Station or in front of the public dock*

PHONE: *506-775-0518*

EMAIL: *coconut@sol.racsa.co.cr*

HOURS: *6:30 A.M. - 5 P.M*

PRICES: *\$6.00 / hr*

FACILITIES: *2 computers available, printer,*

Best breakfast in town. Great variety of omlettes, pancakes, expresso, cappuchino, smoothies, home-made wheat breads, etc.!! Great information about the area, local meeting spot for travelers. Friendly atmosphere, English spoken.

Our fearless Editor, Dianne Brause, knows where this particular cybercafe is. She ate breakfast there in 1998, before the owners invested in the computers. "We were waiting to get our traveler's checks changed and embark on the little boat to DolfinQuest. It had the feeling of a hippie/American hang-out with fruit smoothies, scrambled eggs, good hashbrowns (all the kinds of food we weren't getting as our usual fare on the trip!), and lots of friendly banter." 🌐



Lisle Annual Meeting Notes

October 2000

By Barbara Holder, Outgoing President

This weekend is the end of a wonderful year for Lisle and for me. It has been too short. I have much more appreciation for those that have gone before me. After this year, I firmly believe that a single year is not long enough to be an effective President. It takes that long to just learn your way around and all that needs to be done. However, the experience has certainly been worth every minute that has been invested in it. But first, I want to thank Barbara Bratton for working out a plan and presenting it at the Annual Meeting last year in Loveland, Ohio, which has allowed me to serve this year as your President. If anyone has any doubts about taking on the position if offered, I would definitely recommend taking it. Now to a look at all that the Lisle Board has accomplished during this year.



The Annual Meeting Circle

For several years there has been talk about having a Board meeting where the Board members from outside of the United States would be able to be the hosts. We have enjoyed the advantages of having these people as Board members, but they have always had to be out the time and expense of traveling to the United States. This year we decided the time had come to stop imposing and start recognizing what these people had to offer in their own country. Board member Anne-Rose Heck offered to host the meeting in Germany next year. This was not the first time she had offered to do this. In fact, when we said, "Yes, we will come to you this time," she did not believe us at first. But going we are. Of course, we could not just have a meeting. That would not be prudent. So we started looking at having a reunion for all those who had attended units in Europe and all Lislers who now live in Europe. This sounds very grandiose, but we knew realistically that there would only be a limited number that would be able to attend. However, we started mailing letters. We sent letters asking about how interested people were in this meeting and requesting information from the board members about what would be necessary for them to attend the meeting. We told everyone to look at

their calendars and get ready for a wonderful Lisle Reunion/ Meeting in Frankfurt. We agonized over dates, costs, program, etc. There are some aspects of this that we are still agonizing over. But it is going to happen next May 3-6, 2001.

Another thing that we had talked about trying was having only two Board meetings a year. What a great time to try that out and see if it will work. This way the resources of the Board members and Lisle would only have to be divided two ways instead of three. So in 2001 we will have only two Lisle Board meetings, May in Frankfurt and October in the Wash-

ington, D.C., area. If the work of Lisle can be accomplished with only two meetings, it will be tried again in 2002. If not, they will return to the January, May, October time frame in 2002.

For several years there have been rumblings about "What has happened to the **original** Lisle Program plan?" The programs for young people. The programs held within the United States which would be less expensive. The programs where anyone that wanted to come would be able

to, regardless of their finances. Of course, we have always tried to accommodate someone that really wanted to go. We have had scholarships, grants, special pricing for students and families, and information on how they could raise funds and support themselves. But many people that could not afford even our low costs might not ever go beyond looking and wishing. So several people got together at Loveland and said "Let's do a really special program and make it go in 2001." And they have done that! In July of 2001 there will be a program at Lost Valley Education Center in Dexter, Oregon. The scope of the program will be explained further by the Program Chair (and others working on it) and they have taken it upon themselves to do what needs to be done to make this a success. A group of three met for a weekend to work on developing ways of getting funding for this and other programs. Letters went out from the office letting people know that such a program was being planned, and inviting them to have a part in it by attending or lending their financial support.

We also have had several successful programs this year, and they will be repeated in the coming year.

(Cont'd next page)



The Michigan office has built and rebuilt, improved and massaged, worked over and improved, and updated the Lisle Web Site until we have a class act to offer. This site brings into the Texas office inquiries on a daily basis. The Board has approved the funds for Mark to research and purchase a domain name for Lisle, which will allow even easier access to our Web Site. *(See page 5.)*



The Changing of the Guard. We elected our new President without even a debate, let alone "hanging chads!" Barbara Holder is passing the "magic pen" to Marty Tillman. John Kachuba and Mary Newman are in the chairs

Our wonderful Board member, Phyllis Beck, made contact with people at the Frommer's Travel, and they have mentioned us several times in their online newsletter under the heading "Cheap Tours". Phyllis showed them that we are an organization that they feel comfortable in recommending. This has been a great source of prospects. It has also given us some credibility to those that have a tendency to be skeptical in today's age of "question everything."

The Lisle Board has worked to build a financial base that is allowing us to try new ways to continue to offer a quality product to everyone. We have been blessed with several people remembering us with special gifts and donations, memorial gifts or in their wills. This has given some seed money that the Board has managed to build into funds, though still not enough to let us rest on our laurels. This has allowed us to be innovative, offer training for our program leaders and Board members, and consider new directions. The Finance Committee has been working this year to develop a plan where future gifts are used both in the spirit of the person giving them and

in a manner that best utilizes the gift. We are very conscious of not squandering any gift we receive. We have made this conscious commitment to both the givers and to the betterment of the Lisle organization and its members.

The Finance Committee is insuring that the financial operations of the organization remain sound.

The Publicity Committee is continuing to work to present Lisle to the world, and to present our programs in a manner to not only raise one's curiosity and interest in our programs, but to demonstrate that Lisle is the quality organization that we know it to be.

The Board Development Committee continues to build a diverse Board. The Development Committee has also increased its work in spreading out to both older Lislors and to more recent Lislors to draw them into a more active role in the operations of the Board. The committee has also monitored the training of the Board members to insure that each member has the tools necessary to perform at his/her highest.

The new roles developed in Loveland, Operations Manager and Program Director, are being reviewed.

The Executive Director continues to represent Lisle at conferences and on campuses "Study Abroad" fairs, disseminating information and answering questions. The office in Texas has relieved him of some of the day-to-day work, but he continues to monitor and review what is going on throughout the organization. 🌐



Lori Bratton (daughter of Barbara Bratton) seated on couch, spoke poignantly about her life-transforming experience while in India this past summer, and Costa Rica in 1998. Dianne Brause and Mark Kinney are pictured.



BALI

ARTS & COMMUNITY

JULY 29 – AUGUST 19, 2001

If you are an artist or art lover willing to expand your creativity in a place filled with inspiration and surprise, then join us on the tropical island of Bali, Indonesia, where the traditional Arts and culture are inseparable from the spirit of the community. Participants may choose to work with accomplished artists in a variety of areas including Gamelan music, dance, weaving, carving, making prayer offerings, and cooking.

We will begin with several days of orientation and development of supportive relationships with each other, since there is a wide diversity of ages, cultures and socio-economic backgrounds. The balance of the program will be spent in two small, remote artist villages – Budakeling and Kamasan. Generally, two group members will share a guestroom in a Balinese home, and enjoy their simple but gracious hospitality. We will commission dance and shadow puppet performances and invite the entire village. In turn, we may be invited to ceremonies like cremations and weddings filled with prayer, music, and brilliant ceremonial dress. Our creative work will be interspersed with trips to a cultural renewal and reforestation project in an ancient Tenganan village. If the group chooses, we can arrange snorkeling on a coral reef.

Between stays with artisan mentors, we will visit the stone temple of *Besakih*. We will continue on to Gianyar Province, known for its carvers and painters; sight-seeing and shopping will be available. Throughout our adventure, we will find time to discuss and reflect on our experiences. Through studying the arts, we'll be supporting Budakeling and Kamasan artists in their vision to create a cultural center. We will also

have a rare and intimate glimpse into the lives of people from a very inspiring place in the world.

Subject Areas: Art/Fine Arts, Culture, Art History, Asian Studies, Education, Interdisciplinary, Music, Theater, Drama, Performing Arts, Dance.

Program Cost: \$1000-\$1500; includes room, board & program related in-country travel. Airfare is a separate cost and is arranged by the participant. 🌐

INDIA

SEEKING WAYS TO EMPOWER

JULY 7 – JULY 28, 2001

If you are eager to share a profound experience with people of different ages and walks of life who share a passion for global understanding and a desire to make a difference, have the humor and flexibility to live in communities and experience their simple way of life (like working with their hands) and enjoy learning and cooperative problem solving, then this program is for you!

The three-week program includes visits to three locations to observe, understand and learn from the work of three different styles of *ashrams*. *Ashram* literally means a retreat or refuge, where the residents are dedicated to a life of service and self-discovery. Some are involved in physical work to improve the lives of the less fortunate, while others are concerned with holistic living, improving the environment and self-development. None of these three is run by a religious order.

After a brief orientation in Delhi, we will take a train to Abu Road, a small railway station in the western state of Gujarat. We will drive to Amirgadh, a ashram community and school developed by the *Shramil Vikas Kendra*. This group attempts to practice the Gandhian percept of *sarvodaya* (love and compassion), in order to create a just society through education and cooperation. It

is set amidst forested hills, and the population is largely tribal. We will live in the ashram, sharing in their lifestyle and partaking of their simple vegetarian fare.

After four days there, we will drive to Ahmedabad, the capital of the Gujarat, from where we will take a plane to Bangalore in the southern State of Karnataka. An hour's drive from Bangalore, set amidst rolling hills, is the community called *Navadarsanam* (translated as "a group of people concerned about the environment, holistic living, and self-discovery.") They have developed degraded land into a place where they grow their own food and plant trees and shrubs to restore nature's balance. After a brief period of community living and discussions, we will take a train to Nagpur. From Nagpur railway station we will drive to Anandwan.

Anandwan is a community founded by Baba Amte, a Gandhian social activist, who started a hospital and rehabilitation center for persons suffering from leprosy. The community is now 5000 strong and houses people with all manner of disabilities, although the hospital is still the focus of the work. There are extensive farms and orchards, and workshops where the disabled make a diverse array of products for sale. Here are some schools of the visually handicapped and hearing impaired, and also a college that the handicapped built for the people of Warora, the township near which Anandwan is located. After a long drive into the forests, we will arrive at Hemalkasa, which has a hospital and school amid teak forests, created by Baba Amte for the tribal people living in the area. Protection of the forests and wildlife is part of the work of the environmentally conscious communities. There is a refuge for orphaned and injured animals in Hemalkasa, where they are treated and looked after by Prakash



Amte, an ardent animal lover.

Both communities are run by Baba Amte's two sons and daughters-in-law, all of whom are doctors. We will be living ashram-style in simple rooms and sharing the food in the community kitchen. We will take an overnight train to Delhi for two days of evaluation, shopping and preparation for departure. This is a strenuous tour with considerable travel, but the weather will be pleasant and the experience unique.

There will be opportunities to meet and discuss developmental issues with NGO representatives and activists, and to learn about naturopathy and meditation.

Subject Areas: Asian Studies, Culture, Development Studies, Women's Studies, Anthropology, Education, Health Sciences, Interdisciplinary, Social Sciences

Program Cost: \$1000-\$1500; includes room, board and program related in-country travel. Airfare is a separate cost and is arranged by the participant. 🌐

USA, PACIFIC NORTHWEST

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE
JULY 8-28, 2001

This is an exciting intergenerational Lisle program that will bring participants from around the world, ranging in age from teens to octogenarians, to the Pacific Northwest of the USA. They will come together to learn about sustainable living, creating community, and stewarding an environment that will remain abundant for future generations.

As one of the most diverse Lisle groups ever, we welcome people with disabilities, international students (including six young people from Turkey), inner city youth, suburbanites, environmentalists and any person who would like to participate in this unique learning community. This program is well

sued to intergenerational groupings such as grandparents/grandchildren, parents/children, or mentor/youth partners as well as single individuals.

Lost Valley Educational Center will host the initial ten-day core program. Lost Valley is an intentional community of individuals who live and work together to model, demonstrate, and teach ways of living more simply on the land. Lost Valley residents grow much of their own food in organic gardens and steward their replanted forest and local watershed. They experiment with alternative building techniques, energy sources, composting and Permaculture. They practice living in harmony and cooperation with each other and the rest of the natural world.

Those individuals participating in the full three-week program will then venture on to Oregon Dunes State Park and its sweeping beaches. Park Rangers and wildlife biologists will help them learn about maintaining this natural wonder. The group will live in canvas yurts during this three-night stay on the coast.

The final week of the program will take place in Washington State. The group will explore this rich maritime environment with its particular natural resource issues while camping on an island in Puget Sound. Here, they will collaborate with some local Native Americans and explore ways that people have interacted with land and water in this bioregion for many generations.

A central element of the entire program will be daily times for reflection and discussions around the shared experiences. Lisle participants will work with skilled teachers to gain an understanding of what sustainable living entails. Hands-on service projects will be offered at each site to ground the learning in practical applications. In addition to having a lot of fun, this program

provides youth and elders alike a unique opportunity to contemplate choices that will affect the future of the planet.

Leadership will be jointly held by Dianne Brause, Darwin Holder, Robin Kwizera and Leyla Welkin—members of the Lisle Board of Directors. These individuals bring a diversity of life experiences to the leadership of the program in order to enrich and expand the participant's experience. (Dianne is a co-founder and 12-year resident of Lost Valley.)

Age Limitations: The minimum age for participation is 13. A responsible adult must accompany youth under 16.

Cost: \$1125-1400 for adults; \$725-1000 for students or second family member. Travel to and from Lost Valley is a separate cost and is arranged by the participant. 🌐

COSTA RICA

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM & COOPERATIVE LIVING AMONG THE TICOS
DEC. 29, 2001 — JANUARY 19, 2002

Students, families, elders and a diversity of others are invited to join in a quest to develop mutually supportive relationships among group participants and host communities in the lush and colorful countryside of Costa Rica. During the span of the trip we will travel by bus to several cooperatively owned and operated communities.

We will meet and learn from people in these communities who are striving to make a living while protecting their land, forest, and waters; by creating viable "ecotourism" projects. In each of these co-ops we will live, eat, sleep, work and learn together while sharing our dreams and visions, and exploring the process of creating community among ourselves and with our new Tico friends. We will take time to assess our individual and group learning before we journey home. Post-trip pos-

(Cont'd next page)



sibilities to other Central American countries may be created if interest is high. Inquire with Lisle.

As the journey begins, participants will walk through misty rainforests with host friends who can share their rich knowledge of Costa Rica's unique flora and fauna. Next we will see dry savannas, tall volcanoes and humid coastal areas. We will come to understand not only the biological diversity of the country, but also the ethnic diversity as we meet Ticos, both of Spanish and other European origins, Afro-Caribbeans, and indigenous Central Americans. Several Ticos from our host communities will accompany us on visits to their counterparts in other co-ops.

Together we will be traveling sustainably in a unique and diverse environment, rich enough to satiate almost all interests and exploratory spirits. The travel may be rough at times, but the benefits will be great, the vistas grand, and the friendships deep. No matter what your personal experience is, this trip will be a momentous one.

Subject Areas: Ecology, Environmental Management, Environmental Studies.

Program Cost: \$1000-\$1500; Includes room & board, and program related in-country travel. (Student price: \$1,190 + airfare). Airfare is a separate cost and is arranged by the participant. 🌐



Top Ten Ways to Stay Involved with Lisle ...After Your Return Home!

By Dianne Brause

1. Write an article about your program experience for your hometown or campus newspaper, or *Interaction*, Lisle's alumni newsletter
2. Speak about your program experience before civic or religious groups
3. Contribute a quote about Lisle for inclusion on our web site
4. Attend a Board of Director's meeting or the Annual Membership Meeting, held each October
5. Participate in Lisle's Leadership Training workshop, usually conducted at the Annual Meeting. Develop your skills for the opportunity to lead a program in the future
6. Give a slide presentation about your program to your campus international club
7. Assist next year's program leader with program plans and recruitment
8. Share your program experience with Lisle alumni near you and learn about their involvement in Lisle
9. Become active in the "Adopt-A-Campus" project: assist Lisle in posting information and leaving program flyers in the "Study Abroad" office at a local campus
10. Give a friend information about next year's Lisle programs 🌐

New Program Model For India

By Marty Tillman

Current Board member, Sharada Nayak (CA '54) has proposed an innovative new approach to broaden Lisle's programming efforts throughout India. Sharada has asked the Board to review an alternative to sponsoring one or two programs organized by Lisle in the United States. The idea is for Lisle to support a modest Lisle office based in New Delhi and supervised by Sharada. Through this in-country office, Lisle would facilitate and organize "customized" intercultural programs for individuals, organizations, and academic institutions for a fee.

Lisle, Inc. would continue its usual winter and summer programs; however, this new venture would allow Lisle to impact a wider and more diverse group of citizens on a year-round basis, and not just largely focused on the immersion of Americans in Indian society. Board member Dianne Brause is co-leading the current winter India group to explore this idea on behalf of the Board. Her findings will be reviewed at the spring meeting in Frankfurt, Germany. 🌐



My Great Escape—India

Field Notes from Summer 2000

By Christina Mora, Marion Wright Edelman Scholarship Award Winner

I am originally from northeast Los Angeles. My parents raised my brothers and I up on humble, textile factory worker salaries. My childhood streets and schools were disease ridden with violence, alcoholism, drug dependency, desolate youths seeking security and emotional outlets in gang activity, and blatant racial profiling. And ever since I can remember, I have always wanted to unshackle myself from this desperateness.



*India 2000 Group
Christina Mora is in the one with the 200-watt smile
in the front row, center, kneeling.*

My family did not understand why I wanted to go to India, and at the time, I did not either. All I knew was that a foundation believed in me so much that they were willing to sponsor a trip that would take me half way around the world. A trip that eventually became my great escape.

It was amazing. As soon as I stepped off the plane, the intense humidity welcomed all my senses to India, land of ancient cultures and traditions. The bright city lights and mogul ruins, the sweet mangoes and sour jamun berries, the smell of fresh monsoon rain, and the voices, oh so many city dwelling voices whispering, shouting, and even singing a language I could only wish to comprehend, enveloped me and characterized my first week in Delhi. It was all-new, it was all-exciting, and it was only the beginning.

Anandwan, the forest of joy, was a true test to my tough, never-let-them-see-you-down exterior. As soon as we entered

the Sunshine Home for the deaf and the blind, and I saw an older blind child holding hands with and leading a younger blind student, my exterior self melted. It melted when they sang *B-I-N-G-O* for us, as well as when they sang songs of equality and brother/sisterhood. I remember climbing the huge water tower at night with other Lislors and contemplating where my life fit in with these children, the leprosy patients, and the outcast world in general. It was here, so far from LA that I felt closest to my own community and became resolute to go back home and teach others about the zestful human spirit these children possessed.

Hemalkasa was a natural wonder. So far removed from city lights, this family-run hospital and boarding school never ceased to amaze me. Prakash and his family worked altruistically year round to provide much needed services to those most marginalized by society, the tribal peoples. We used to gather around Prakash and his with every night amidst the cricket chirps and occasional lion roars, and discuss Indian and global political/social issues. These were my favorite nights. The other Lislors and I listened sincerely to one another's views about these issues, and I know I never went to bed without learning something new.

Naverdaashanam was where it all came together. Every morning I took a hike to elephant rock, thinking about the topic we had discussed in our group session the day before, and ask myself once again where I fit in. How did I want to lead my life, who did I want to serve. And as I looked out onto the enormous valley, I knew I would always live to serve the less fortunate, in my community and wherever else I would be called to serve.

My great escape brought me back home. It cemented my desire to "reach beyond the margins" and serve my community. It did not change me, rather it allowed me to grow and realize things about myself and about how I wanted to live, and to further develop my being. For this I am profoundly thankful to Lisle, Sharada, Bill, Lindsey, Casey, Cathy, Lori, and Kim. Thank you all for growing with me, thank you for easing my homesickness, for withstanding my spontaneous bursts of "Lion King" and for being my companions. Thank you for bringing me back home. 🌍



The Magic of Bali

Field Notes from Summer 2000

By Barbara Bratton

A group of serious students participated in this year's Bali Program and it was a big success, thanks to the hard work and efforts of leaders Mas and Wati Mastriyana. The focus of the Bali program has been to study the ancient and fascinating art traditions of this small Indonesian island. To this end, we spent two weeks in the small village of Budakaling and four days in an artist community of Kamesan. Each of the participants chose a primary interest art form and spent many hours with their teachers. We were also able to "touch" on different lessons in which we had a secondary interest.

Tonya Ridgely and Suraya Keating, young women from California, are dancers by profession and worked with Ida Ayu Ketut Sasih, a retired professional dancer in Budakaling to learn the intricate, stylized dance of Bali. Wati also expanded her dance studies from her childhood lessons.

Roy Fulmer, a retired professional drummer from New Jersey, and Sara Martin, a Master's student at California State, were primarily interested in the Balinese music. A Gamelon is a group of musical instruments – perhaps equated to a band or orchestra in the United States. There are a variety of instruments included in the Gamelon that they studied – including the gerantang and gender - bamboo and metal-keyed instruments, respectively, similar to a small xylophone. Their teacher in Budakaling was Pak Wayan Jagra

Everyone tried their hand at wood-relief carving using pounded chisels. Komang Udut was one of the most popular teachers as he completed everyone's projects, beautifully, when they tired of the specialized and physically difficult craft. Barbara Bratton, the leader-in-training from Texas, and Roy spent a lot of time learning wood carving and purchasing tools, with the intention of continuing to practice back home.

Irene Thomas, a newly retired nurse from Cincinnati, and Karen Simpkins, a Professor of Anthropology from Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia, chose to study basket weaving and the variety of religious offerings made from folded bamboo leaves, flowers, and scents.

Don't think it was all work and no play. We did lots of sightseeing, visiting the town of Ubud, the center of art and the Mother Temple at Besakih, at the foot of the huge volcano of Mt. Agung We celebrated several Hindu temple ceremonies

there. We had two days on the beach with snorkeling, sunbathing, massage & shopping. Of the many Balinese who enriched our lives, we enjoyed visiting and learning from Nyonan Sadra at the ancient city of Tenganan and Eda Nyoman Swagata Dalang, the Master Shadow Puppeteer.

Each year, the Lisle trip leaves funds for community service. In 1999, they were able to donate \$400 to the village of Budakaling.

The "Magic of Bali" was with us the whole trip—it is a beautiful and very exotic place to visit. We hope more of our alumni or their families can join us for the next trip: July 29 – August 19, 2001! 🌐



Dayuyu Ketut Patmawati, one of our Budakaling hostesses, is distributing one of 40 packages of rice, beans and spice to a Budakaling villager during the "hard times," which were caused by the fall of the Indonesian government and high inflation.



So much of Bali is beyond words...existing in the simplicity of each moment...expressed so simply in a smile. Being here to learn about culture and community through art is ideal, transcending the barriers of language, reaching deep into our hearts, revealing the gleaming purity of treasures often kept hidden inside. ... Everything about this island world is sublime. — G. Bali 1997



Lisle participants receive a dance lesson from Ida Ayu Ketut Sasih, professional dancer.



Lesson in making offerings of bamboo leaves



Wood-carving lesson with Komang Udut



Bali participants, except Suraya, in traditional dress at the Mother Temple at Besakih. Mas' mother carried our offerings to the Gods.



Turkey 2000

Field Notes from Summer 2000

By Avery Welkin, age 12

Turkey is a place with a rich history and a fascinating culture, and these are two of the many reasons why I liked the Turkey 2000 trip. People there were friendly and welcoming and it did not matter who you were. We visited many people who were complete strangers to me, yet they acted as if we had known each other for years.



During the heat wave, participants spent time at the pool. Pictured from left to right: Evan Welkin, Ali Kemal Yaman, Selin Goktekin, Nesrin Gumus, Kenan Arun, Ozlem Kerkez, Nida Secintiand, Avery Welkin

As we traveled from place to place, I noticed the pride people had in their culture. And when we went to the archeological sites I knew why: these people have been in this part of the world for thousands of years; the oldest buildings in the United States hadn't been built when these people were already one of the strongest empires in the world.

The countryside was amazing. Arid, desert-like plains and mountains alternate with fertile fields of grain and grapes. But the rocks were the coolest things. Sharp points rise up out of valleys with centuries-old houses carved into them. Perched precariously on a needle of rock, stones balance on top of one another looking as if they could fall any minute, but somehow they stay fast.

I also saw that Turkey is a changing country. Inflation is very high and climbing every day. When I went there in 1998 there were already 250,000 Turkish lira to the dollar. This year the rate had grown to 600,000 and it rose 20,000 just in the

time we were there. When you buy something in Turkey, you are mostly dealing in millions. The economy is struggling to keep up. Many people are moving to large cities like Istanbul from the small villages and towns to get a job and help support their families. I thought it was sad to see people working at tourist hotels and resorts that are wrecking the natural scenery and choking out small neighboring houses. It is hard to see a once mighty nation selling its values to survive.

Yet these people persevere and keep on going. Technology there is, in some areas, more advanced than in the United States. Cell phones are more common and much more advanced. They are also much more reliable than the public phone service. Turks are excellent business people, as we soon found out. Sometimes I wouldn't even know that I was bargaining until a shopkeeper would go off into a series of gestures and exclamations and give me a lower price.

Turkey is a great place to get a haircut and was definitely worth visiting twice!

Editor's Note: Avery is one of the sons of Leyla and Ray Welkin, of Olympia, Washington. He will be graduating from the Olympia Waldorf School Eighth Grade next June. He has visited Turkey on Lisle trips twice now, and we really appreciate this perceptive youth's sharing of his experience! 🌐



Breakfast in a village home with the Goktekin family and the Lisle group. Pictured from left to right: Deb Marois, Ozlem Kerkez, Mrs. Goktekin, Abla Goktekin, Selin Goktekin, and Avery Welkin (with others)



... Then There Was Light!

Field Notes from Ongoing Participation in Costa Rica

By Ben Watkins

How many times during the past 10 days have I struggled up this muddy trail to the small village above? It was steep and sloppy from daily rains but surprisingly after traveling this trail many times daily I hadn't fallen even once. I had borrowed boots from the cooperative so I was able to save my shoes from destruction by the penetrating mud. But this time the trip was special. Ricardo was waiting as I emerged from the jungle with a broad grin on his face. After all these years we had finally done it! But I'm getting ahead of myself.



Ben holding Ronald's daughter in the community kitchen

It all started one evening when I was surfing the Internet looking for a trip to Costa Rica. My wife, Mary, and I had been talking about going for many years but had never made any serious plans. Late one evening, I found a small item about a trip to Costa Rica by Lisle, Inc. We both were excited and felt it might be too good to be true. We called the trip leader, Dianne Brause, and after grilling her with many questions we decided to go. We would be joining an eclectic group of people of divergent ages; we would avoid the normal tourist haunts by visiting with the natives in their own communities. It looked like it would be a wonderful trip. As it turned out, the people

of Costa Rica touched our hearts in a special way that we will never forget.

Once we took the trip we were hooked! We eventually returned an additional three times, and in the process got involved with Jardin Gaia, a Wildlife Rescue Center in Quepos where we spent two months managing the Center while the owners were away. We formed and operate a non-profit corporation in the US called Friends of Jardin Gaia. We ship donated medical supplies with volunteers traveling to donate time at the Center. We also formed and operate a non-profit corporation for a new spay and neuter program called The McKee Project in San Jose where we also ship medical supplies to spay and neuter and care for street animals. But these are other stories.



Ben making one of the numerous river crossings traveling from La Palma to Coopeunioro

During this first trip one of the places where we visited was a small cooperative called CoopeUnioro on the Rincon River on the Osa Peninsula. Originally a cooperative of gold miners, they converted to ecotourism in order to save the river from the destructive gold mining practices. They were hoping to make a living from the many tourists that visited Costa Rica. However, attracting tourists was hard, since they are located 12 kilometers up the Rincon River with no public transportation. Walking, horseback, or 4-wheel drive vehicles during the dry season are the only ways to visit CoopeUnioro. They had a small lodge, which we immediately filled with our group of 20, and a small dining area for community meals.

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We fell in love with the wonderful people and peacefulness of CoopeUnioro deep in the Costa Rican jungle. We met Ricardo, the main organizing force behind the cooperative, immediately upon our arrival to La Palma our jumping off point for our adventure up the Rincon River by 4-wheel drive vehicles. He had organized the transportation and made our stay so enjoyable.

After a couple of days of enjoying the people, jungle, and river around CoopeUnioro, Ricardo pulled me aside and asked what I did for a living. I told him I was a retired electrical engineer: when he found this out he asked if I would be interested in returning to help him build a hydroelectric generating facility for his cooperative. He had very modest requirements, but lacked the technical expertise to complete the project. I was taken aback by his suggestion since I hadn't even thought of returning to Costa Rica at this point in my



Franklin making final adjustments to the Pelton wheel assembly.

trip, let alone making a commitment to help design and build a hydroelectric facility a world away from my home in Arizona! But I must have been thinking of returning, for prior to our return home the group stayed at a small resort called Dolphin Quest outside Golfito. Immediately upon our arrival I discovered that the neighboring resort had a nice sized hydroelectric plant which I visited at my next opportunity. It was the first hydroelectric facility I had ever seen, but I immediately understood the basic concept and equipment required with the expert description provided by the owners. They gave me a complete tour, and showed me a design book on hydroelec-

tric systems. I noted the name, author, and ISBN number, but had a difficult time purchasing a copy, since it wasn't distributed in the United States. Finally I was able to obtain a copy of it, along with other helpful books on hydroelectricity.



From left to right: Ricardo, Ronald, and Franklin making final adjustments for the location of the Pelton wheel.

Once Mary and I finished this first two-week trip with Lisle we were hooked on Costa Rica. We had a wonderful time and fell in love with the people and the country. The next year Dianne Brause decided, with my encouragement and commitment to help, to lead another trip to Costa Rica. During this trip we would spend more time at CoopeUnioro and help them with their organic, medicinal garden and tree-planting, along with performing a survey of Ricardo's water source to determine what his needs were in preparation for the design of a hydroelectric facility.

Since I didn't know much about hydroelectric power generation, I had a wonderful time studying the subject during the following year prior to my return trip to CoopeUnioro. I read all kinds of books and studied equipment catalogs. Our return trip the next year was equally as wonderful as our first trip.

At CoopeUnioro we measured the water flow of the stream Ricardo wanted to use, and with equipment I brought we determined the distance and vertical height from the water source to the planned location of the hydroelectric plant. Our next challenge was to find a source of funds: as it turned out my wife and I financed the complete project one step at a time. Before our return home we purchased the electrical cable and

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tubing necessary to wire each house in the small village. We also later purchased the pipe necessary to bring the water from the source to the location of the planned hydroelectric plant.

On our third trip, we arrived with some of the equipment required to complete the project. I had a design in mind and thoroughly explained the concept and design to Ricardo and a neighbor Franklin, who had experience with mechanical and electrical devices and would help with the project. However, due to a lack of funds and other complications, Ricardo was not able to complete the concrete platform and shelter that would house the hydroelectric plant at that time. A return visit was planned for the following June, but due to exceptional rains the Rincon River (which is the normal avenue into the Cooperative) was not passable, and as a result the platform and shelter were not completed.



Ronald and his family

My return was delayed until July, when I traveled alone with the sole purpose of completing the installation of the hydroelectric plant at CoopeUnioro. I had two weeks in Costa Rica with about 10 days at CoopeUnioro. A lot of work awaited me for the short time I had. I carried the balance of needed equipment in my baggage. Ricardo brought the four deep-cycle batteries we had purchased in San Jose two at a time by horseback from La Palma with a special frame he had built.

The final fabrication and assembly of the equipment was truly a joint effort with Ricardo and others in the village finishing the shelter, installing the electrical cable from the village to the hydroelectric plant, and completing the pipe from the water source. Franklin and I did all of the mechanical and electrical assembly of the electronics and Pelton wheel, the device that looks like a miniature water wheel turning a

generator that converts the force of the water to electrical energy. Parts that weren't available in the village of La Palma were modified from parts removed from the rusting equipment formerly used to mine gold in the Rincon River. Franklin was essential to the success of the project. The housing he made for the Pelton wheel worked perfectly and saved the expense of a special housing. He walked one and one-half hours each way up the Rincon River from his home to volunteer his assistance with the project every day. He said he wanted to help because it was a learning experience for him.

When everything was finished we turned on the water and adjusted the equipment to maximize the available power into the batteries. After checking the system to make sure everything was working properly and making final adjustments, we connected the wiring from the village to the power from the Pelton. Ricardo was waiting at the village as I made the connection.

What a special feeling it was for me to see the lights at CoopeUnioro all aglow without the sound or smell of the generator and to see the broad smile on Ricardo's face as I emerged from the jungle after turning on the switch at the newly installed hydroelectric plant. After two and a half years and four visits we had finally achieved Ricardo's vision.



Ben and the completed Pelton wheel installation

"It was very satisfying for me to be able to help with this great goal. Isn't it amazing how one little item on the Internet lead (me) to a special organization called Lisle Inc.? And one of their special tours made it possible for all this to happen!" 🌐



Lislers from far and wide welcome receiving the Interaction. The following news items came with new and renewed memberships. We rejoice in the good news, retirements, celebrations and anniversaries. We express condolences to those who lost a loved one or well-remembered friend.

Olive McWilliams Leonard, Satellite Beach FL, has fond memories of founders, Si and Edna Baldwin; attributes her brief stay in NY unit in the '40's to long involvement in cultural exchange programs.

Ole Schelde, Denmark, is trying to locate other Lislers from Denmark '54 unit, as he recalls fantastic positive experiences — mind-opening and wonderful in many ways! Ole's Fax #: 0045 45 81 28 20.

Joseph and Jacqueline Ault, Virginia, MN (CO '51, CT '52) Elderhostel in '90, report the February '99 death of Fredericke (Kiki) Franz (CT '52).

Lolisa Waddell Moores Franklin, Murphy, TX (CO '54 & '55) is actively involved as Curator at Heritage Farmstead Museum in Plano, TX.

Dave Wolfgram (CA '64) retired from teaching Grand Blanc, MI High School — 33 years!

Kendall and Della Cowing, Charlotte, NC (Bali '91, '92) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary September 6, 2000. Congratulations!

Barbara Goss, Underhill, VT (CO '47) is retired after 30 years of teaching first grade. She enjoys playing tennis, traveling to dog shows and visiting her grandchildren.

Charlotte Schlonga Rivell, Ormond Beach, FL (CO '49) sends her thanks for the article on Ervin's. Fond memories abound with Jean and Don and the Baldwins. She keeps her mind and body active in AAUW and by square dancing.

Raymond and Anja Miller, Brisbane, CA (DK '55, '69, CO '56, CA '57) are honoring Lisle as "matchmaker" and celebrating their 40th anniversary!

Gladys Gray, Medford, NJ (NY '36, CO '42) she and husband Robert are happily retired and live in a Quaker community. She asks if there any other '36 Lislers out there? She'd like to hear from you! Telephone: (609) 953-9458.

Ruth Ingeborg Fuss, Venice, FL (CA '54, Germany '55 & '65) keeps active on board of Volunteers of America in Venice.

Eva Reich, Hancock, ME (CO '41) lives and works her Maine farm to provide an organic and sustainable lifestyle; she worked in 30 countries (between 1973 and 1992) as a physician, lecturer and teacher.

Mary Jane Bacile, Trenton, NJ (NY '41, CO '41) lives alone; Jim is in Winston-Salem.

Irving and Saleta W. Smith, Enid, OK (CO '42) met in the Lisle Unit and have been married ever since! Irving travels in 14 states, Mexico and Cuba portraying Bible characters.

Catherine Peters, New York, NY (CO '49) retired in 1998 from teaching high school; she is looking forward to the Lisle reunion in Germany in May 2001.

Eleanor Kirby Lewallen, Denver, CO, is proud that Lisle touched her life in the 1940's, and that its vision and work is still changing our world.

Katherine Lazarus, Brooklyn, NY (CO '43) shared that Lisle was a turning point in her life, as evidenced by her active participation in Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and weekly volunteering for SERVAS and Global Exchange.

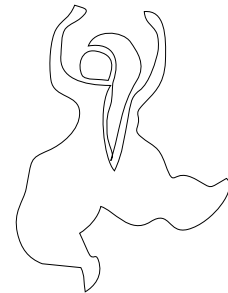
Patty Hill and Carlos Aranaga, Derwood, MD (India '86, SD '89) Patty works as a consultant for non-profit organizations.

Dr. Alice Ladas, New York, NY (NY '40) author of many books in various languages; bronze medal winner, winner in singles tennis; looking for producer for her musical called *Run for Your Life!*

Karen Metzler, Ohio (Cuba '80) wrote an article entitled *Cultural Diversity, Bioethics and The Healthcare of Persons with Disabilities*, that was accepted by the Nobel Karolinska Institute. It will be published in a book. She also was invited to attend a conference in November that was co-sponsored by the Nobel Committee on Medicine.

Marisa de Leon, Eugene, OR (HI '95, CR '96) at the age of 89 decided to move from the SF Bay area to a Senior Retirement home in Eugene—before she got too old to do it herself! Although she is new to the area, she is quickly filling her time by investigating and contributing to social causes, especially related to a person's right to die with dignity.

Editor's Note: We had hoped that Marisa might grace us with her Elder wisdom and lifetime of stories during our upcoming Lisle USA/NW Inter-generational unit this summer at Lost Valley, but unfortunately, she has already signed up to go on a trip to Cuba during that time!



Editor's Note: Many thanks to Chris Coons, who has graciously assumed the responsibility (and fun!) of compiling all the bits and pieces of news that comes into the office.



*Lisler Publishes
Book*

Judith Brown, a Lisle Board member known to us as Judy, has a new book coming out in early November, 2000.

A Glove On My Heart, Encounters With The Mentally Ill is a collection of portraits of fourteen mentally ill people with whom Judy worked in a year of volunteering at a transitional residence where they lived. The individuals turned out to be ambivalent, funny, and quirky: in short, very individual. The book brings them to life.

Perry Wien, a professor in the University of Washington's School of Social work has said, "This book is a testimony to the very special and creative process of forming relationships with people with severe mental illnesses." The book is available on the Internet from amazon.com. The book's ISBN number is: 0-9705664-0-9. 🌐

Scholarships Sought

Please consider making a special donation for a deserving young person from America, Turkey or another country to join us in this year's pilot U.S. program in the Pacific NW.

You can make a considerable difference in the lifetime of a young person who will get the chance to learn more about themselves, about creating a sustainable world and about the true meaning of World-Mindedness!

Many of you have been asking for a revival of the US Lisle units. This is an attempt to do so, but we need your support at this time! Please contact Mark Kinney or the Lisle office for more details on how you can help. Thank you for keeping the Lisle tradition alive! 🌐

In Memoriam — Kevin Carpenter

Kevin Carpenter, Madeira Beach, FL (Colombia '67) died unexpectedly February 18, 2000, at the age of 53. His wife, Valerie, proudly shares her memories of Kevin's participation in the Colombia unit; he taught children basic literacy skills and worked with women incarcerated in Cali. He spent an outstanding, and far too short a career, that was greatly influenced by his Lisle participation.

His experiences included working with Cuban refugees in Florida, (1974–1978), a fellow of the Organization of American States in Ecuador (1969–1973), investigator for Civil Rights–US Department of Education, teacher and department head of Latin American History and Foreign Languages in Massachusetts and Florida private schools. Kevin lived his life and career grounded in his Lisle experiences.

His caring ways, his ability to teach others to come together in spite of differences in thinking or in cultural backgrounds was far-reaching and touched all who knew him.

We published an article of Kevin's about his Lisle experience in Colombia, South America, in 1967. It appeared as *Recuerdos de Colombia* in the Summer 1998, Volume 62, No. 1 issue of *Interaction*. If you still have it, read it again, and touch a bit of his spirit! 🌐

In Memoriam — Rita Crossman

Lisle received the following letter from George Crossman, husband to Rita Crossman, about her death.

"I'm sorry to have to report that we lost Rita (Crossman) yesterday. Her long and courageous fight is finally over. But she was able to do it the way she wanted, peacefully, without pain, in her own home, surrounded by family and friends. For that miracle we are all profoundly grateful.

The hospice nurse confirmed yesterday morning what we had suspected, that it was coming to an end rather soon. I was able to call all three daughters, and we stood watch by the bed as the breathing slowly faded. It was a very intense and meaningful moment for all of us.

Her interment will be a small private affair, but there will be a memorial service for everyone who is able to come at Wellspring United Church of Christ in Centreville, VA, at 5:00PM on Sunday, November 5 (the first date we could find that worked).

To all those who have called or written to express their support over these past four years, my profound thanks. It has been a difficult time, but there have been moments of great joy and love. We will all treasure those in the future.

Love to you all.

George (Crossman)"

Editor's Note:

If you would like to contact George to convey your condolences or share fond memories, you may email him at: gcrossm@cais.com. 🌐



Lisle and Politics

By Walt Ligon, written on 11/17/00

Dianne made a half-humorous suggestion that I write something on politics from the land of George W. Bush. This would be easy for me to do from a political perspective, not so easy from what I think of as a Lisle perspective. Nonetheless I'll give it a try.

When I first went to Lisle in 1948 I did so with certain political leanings that in that day were called liberal. This was particularly true in the state I came from, which was Texas. These leanings included: a certain attitude toward race relations (against segregation), a favorable attitude toward the United Nations, a belief that our nation as well as all people should be working toward world peace, an openness toward other religions than my own (Christianity), and a feeling that whatever economic justice was about — we ought to be working toward that as well.

Early in our six weeks together we made the decision to try and reach consensus rather than to vote on any decision that faced us as a group. This made for some long and what were for me boring meetings. We stuck to that decision throughout the six weeks of the unit, but this didn't mean politics were not at work in our group. When no vote is to be taken one tries all the harder to persuade others of the rightness of one's view, or at least for them to go along with it.

One of the things we were presented with on several occasions was what was variously called Creative Love or the Lisle Method. It was the thing that made Lisle units click, if they did, that helped deputation teams to have a team experience, that made evaluation work, and that caused us at the end of our time together to feel that we were a community. At the theoretical level this was an injunction to reach out to a person with whom you disagreed or with whom you felt uncomfortable to try and find out the source of your disagreement or discomfort. As Aunt Edna so forcefully put it, "I will not let you go until you make me understand why you believe the way you do!" At the feeling level it could be said to be love with a question mark.

If this is the fundamental Lisle lesson, I am still trying to learn it. Power is being given to individuals through an electoral process that is often at odds with the Lisle Method. As I write this (11/17/00) we do not know yet who the President of the United States will be, but we do know the decision will be a long way from a consensus. We hope the democratic process has not been violated but most of us are not in a position to know very much about that. I am looking forward to a family Thanksgiving dinner fraught with strong and opposite political opinions. If we (Betty and I) can remember the Lisle Method and make it work, perhaps we will come out of it stronger as a family than when we went in. 🌐

Lisle Publications

These items have been reprinted and are immediately available for mailing. Call the office 1(800) 477-1538 or email: <lisle@utnet.utoledo.edu> to order.

- *Tiger By The Tail: The Story of The Lisle Fellowship*, by Uncle Si, **(\$15.00)**
- *Aunt Edna: 50 Years of Memories*, by Nancy Pearson Kinney. **(\$5.00)**
- *Lisle Directory of Alumni & Friends, 1936-2000*, Up-to-date revision. **(\$15.00)**
- *Directory of Lisle Bed & Breakfast Hosts*, revised November 2000. **(\$3.00)**
- *Providing a Lasting Memorial*, a brochure about gifts and wills. **(No Charge)**

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

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





Annual Meeting Registration Form, Frankfurt, Germany

May 3-6, 2001

Please detach and send to: Lisle, Inc
900 County Rd. 269 • Leander, TX 78641
800-477-1538 • FAX: 512-259-0392

E-mail requests to both: <lisle@utnet.utoledo.edu> **AND** <ARHeck@compuserve.com>

Name(s) _____ Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (h) _____ (w) _____ Best time to call: _____ E-mail: _____

Method of Travel: Car Plane Bus Train I plan to come early stay late

Arrival Time: _____ Flight/train # _____ Date _____ Airport _____

Departure Time: _____ Flight/train # _____ Date _____

I plan to rent a car at the airport I would like to share driving with others

I will need transportation during the weekend's events: Yes No

I would like to reserve a bed space in the Hostel: dormitory single double room, for ____# of nights,
from (date) _____ to _____. I would like to room with: _____

I need information on other lodging options: hotel private home

Dietary needs: regular vegetarian vegan

I would like to join others for: further travel local sightseeing

Any special needs for getting around? Please explain: _____



Lisle, Inc. Membership and Pledge Form

900 County Road 269
Leander, TX 78641

I want to become a member of Lisle, Inc., and make an annual commitment as checked below.

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

Would you like information about: including Lisle in your estate? making a memorial donation?
 nominating a Lisle Saint?

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

Name _____ Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

Notes about your activities: _____

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

Signature _____





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MEETINGS

Board Meeting	May 3–6, 2001	Frankfurt, Germany
Annual Meeting	Mid-October, 2001	Washington, DC
Board Meeting	Spring, 2002	New Orleans, LA
Annual Meeting	October, 2002	No. California

PROGRAMS

India	July 7 – 28, 2001
Pacific NW/Turkey Exchange	July 8 – 28, 2001
Bali	July 29 – Aug. 19, 2001
Costa Rica	Dec. 2001 – Jan. 2002

Contact the Lisle Office for all trip information: 1-800-477-1538

