

Lisle Interaction

SUMMER ISSUE • 2002

Paint The Tigers—Community Action Project New Orleans, March 2002

By Jon Findley, Ruth Bader Gilson, with the help of many others

Painting tigers became a part of the Lisle Board of Directors meeting in spring 2002. There was a concerted effort to incorporate a hands-on experience into the routine activities usually associated with board meetings. Much of the credit goes to Gail Bier, who was our host in New Orleans. The event was listed as a Lisle Community Action Project and was intended to involve Lisle Board members coming together with volunteers from other organizations. Some of the other groups involved were the Tulane Alumni Association, CACTUS (a volunteer student group from Tulane), and an alumni group from the University of New Orleans.

Our goal was to support the initiative of Carter G. Woodson Middle School that is working to improve the learning environment for its student body. Students from Woodson Middle School are almost entirely from low-income families that live in several housing projects. They called the project “Paint the Tigers” after the school mascot. The Lisle team was one of many groups that had volunteered to help fix up this

school that clearly was in dire need of help. Exposed pipes, dangling electrical wires, doors to bathrooms unhinged—these repairs were well beyond our capability to change in a single day. What we could do was to bring some color and light into the hallways and walkways of this school with paint brushes, rollers, stencils, ladders, and a lot of sweat equity. If you ever have the chance, ask Judy Brown how she ended up being the one painting at the top of the ladder!

We left our regular Board meeting midmorning on Saturday. The schedule said we would: 1) go to the school; 2) discuss with the principal and project leaders the purposes and goals of

our actions; 3) work in teams to help paint parts of school; and 4) eat lunch together with other participants and reflect on program goals and issues in semi-directed discussion. What the schedule did not state was the fun, laughter, and informal one-on-one discussions that would occur throughout the day while we worked to accomplish our mission. We should have known that this would occur—after all, we were Lislers!

(Cont'd next page)



The Work Crew after a morning of “Painting the Tiger”

IN THIS ISSUE

Paint The Tigers!	1	Leadership Training	10
President’s Message	3	Membership and Donation Request	10
Executive Director’s Report	4	Association of International Educators	11
“Tiger By The Tail”	5	Scholarship Funding Requested	11
Learning/Serving in New Orleans	6	Travels with Strong Women: Turkey	12
2002 Annual Meeting	7	Zest for Life! —Costa Rica 2002	14
Fall Annual Meeting	7	Political Upheaval in Holland	17
2003 Spring Board Meeting	8	Deceased Lislers	19
New Lisle Donor—Thanks!	8	Peace Corps & Lisle: A long-term Connection	20
Dominican Republic Youth Scholarships	8	50th Wedding Anniversary	20
Lisle History Archives	9	Seeking Connections: Understanding Influences	21
Lisle in India	9	Poetry	22
Uncle Si & The Dept. of Peace	9	Registration & Membership Forms	23

Probably the best way to describe this experience is to share some of the quotes from the Board members who participated in the event...

“My recollections of the New Orleans service project on that sunny morning are of all of us coming together with a group of strangers to help make a small difference in the life of kids we would never get to meet. We were a diverse collection of youth and adults. We largely worked in small clusters and we worked hard. I think we wanted to get the work done knowing we all had a limited time to really make a dent in painting the school. I recall how easily we all worked beside one another. I remember feeling really good about how much we accomplished and that the school principal was so happy about our effort.” (Marty Tillman)

“My experience in New Orleans was memorable...I was painting an inside hall a light mauve color. The guy who was supervising the five of us was a gentle black young man who had brought his nine-year old son with him to participate. What I enjoyed most was being able to observe the way he instructed his son. He was gentle, careful, and thorough so that the son happily did the parts of the painting that he was capable of, off the ladders, and not the fine work, but still had a sense that he was important to the whole project. Later when I asked this man what he did, he explained to me that he had his own business which had something to do with contracts to inspect products like paint, etc. for the government for quality control. We didn't quite finish painting the hall before I had to leave to go back to the Board Meeting with everyone, but I left with a sense that I'd been as high as the ladder I painted from, and had worked with several superior human beings. Work is a great mixer!” (Judy Brown)

“I was painting with a group of hard working folks, some from Lisle and others from the local area. Being part of a work project to spruce up an elementary school, shoulder to shoulder with so many community minded folks was a high point of the New Orleans meeting. The results of what we were doing were



Jon Findley, Dianne Brause, and Dorothy Powell-Smith at the Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

immediately visible and very rewarding. Meeting so many interesting people was truly an added bonus. One extraordinarily beautiful young lady was working with three children ranging in age from about eight to twelve. I assumed she was mother of the three children, who were probably students at the school we were working on. We exchanged pleasantries, but had little opportunity to talk during the rather hectic pace set to complete as much work as possible before returning to the Board Meeting. As we were cleaning brushes and getting ready to leave, there was more time to visit with the patient lady who had stayed busy painting and guiding the efforts of three young children. It turned out she was not their mother, but rather their aunt, and the children went to a private school, not the school we were working so hard to refurbish. Erania Ebron is Senior Trial Attorney at the U.S. EEOC-New Orleans District Office, and such an interesting person! The following is an extract from an email received from this bright, personable young lady: [Thanks for your service in our area—it reinforces the notion that we are all connected, regardless as to locale, nationality, religion, age, etc. Those divisions are just illusions! Much peace...Erانيا]” (Darwin Holder)

I think we all returned to our routine Board work that day with the feeling that we had done something very “Lisle-like” in getting involved in the community. Lisle has always strived to overcome the stereotype of outsiders coming to observe, doing a project, and then leaving. This was a good example of really getting involved, if only for a short time, with a worthy project affecting the lives of many in the local community. We really did “Paint the Tiger!”

During the afternoon, Mark Kinney, along with several others, was interviewed by a local TV station. We hope this also helped spread the word to the greater New Orleans community about the need for community involvement in their area.

Thanks to all who participated. Uncle Si and Aunt Edna would have been pleased to see that their original philosophy still survives in the 21st century. (See more about the New Orleans meeting: “Learning and Serving” on page 6.) 🌐



Who are these masked marauders?



President's Message

I'd like to focus this report on Lisle's need for new leadership: on the Board of Directors and in terms of future program development and leadership in the U.S. and overseas. As indicated elsewhere in this issue, the current Board is extremely diverse and represents virtually all regions of the U.S. For several years, we also had Board members from India and Germany (Sharada Nayak and Anne-Rose Heck). Currently, Mas and Wati Mastriyana, past leaders from Bali, have been on the Board for a year until their return to Indonesia.

In recent years, numerous programs—in India, Turkey and Costa Rica—have been actively developed and led by Board members. Of course, in typical Lisle fashion, we have always cultivated ongoing links in the communities where programs are held so we have significant local host national citizen support in the setup of our programs. Frequently, there are host national co-leaders. Because Lisle takes such pains to cultivate in-country relationships, and also to sustain these ties over the course of many years, we have successfully cultivated community relationships wherever we conduct our programs. This is now true with our Pacific Northwest summer program and is the case for our new venture next year in The Netherlands.

Service on the Board is an opportunity to apply your professional skills, demonstrate your ongoing commitment to Lisle's future, and be engaged in international education and cross-cultural learning. Board meetings and our Internet dialogue throughout the year provide an opportunity to discuss current international events and conflicts. And whenever possible, we are always interested in seeking out ways in which Lisle's methods of intercultural dialogue and group dynamics can make a difference—whether exploring women's voices in India, sustainable development in the Pacific NW or the current state of affairs in the European Union. I think being a part of the Board is as challenging and rewarding an experience as you can find in any nonprofit organization.

We are actively interested in reaching out to racial and ethnic minorities to insure that our discussions and actions represent the diversity of American and global society.

Lisle needs new leadership to keep itself fresh and on the cutting edge of contemporary social, educational, political,



*Marty Tillman
President*

religious and economic events in the U.S. and around the world. We need the knowledge which Lislers—and their friends—bring to bear in their working lives and in retirement. We welcome new ideas for programs, and new contacts in business, government, religious institutions and academia who might find our work of interest.

Several new prospects are considering an invitation to become part of the new slate of Board members to be voted upon at the Fall Annual Meeting in San Francisco. The Board now has 14 active members from across the country (Virginia, Louisiana, Texas, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Ohio, Michigan, West Virginia, and Washington, DC).

Lisle has what in the nonprofit business is called a “working” Board. We all

take a very hands-on role in governing the organization. Members develop and lead programs, oversee our finances, fundraise, and together with Mark Kinney's leadership, generally review all the usual activities which paid program staff might manage. Of course, we are grateful for the commitment of Lane Winnett in the Leander, TX office who dutifully handles all of the necessary day-to-day administrative functions of Lisle.

We always need to identify prospective new members and I would urge every Lisler who has never done so, to consider a term of service on the Board. Also, if you think someone new to Lisle would be interested in serving on the Board, please send me their name and I will be happy to visit with him/her; while past Lisle experience is indeed useful, it is not an absolute requirement. The Lisle Board is an exceptionally dynamic body: highly opinionated, independent, caring, world-minded and well traveled. Sound like fun? Come and join us!

I urge you to consider giving time to Lisle in the coming year. Help us reach out to prospective participants, develop a new program idea, lead a program, or share a contact for mailing Lisle program information. Yes, we certainly need you to continue donating money to meet our modest annual budget. But I am more interested in your taking an active part in shaping Lisle's future on the Board or in a program! 🌐

Marty



Executive & Program Director's Report

Here is an update about what I have been doing in my role as Program Director. I have been collecting ideas about how to reply to the emergency concerns which encompass both the September 11 fallout and our concerns prior to then. I have also made efforts to develop programs in Japan and Peru.

Peru. I have collected good ideas from Patty and Carlos Aranaga about concerns they have in regard to safety and elevation in doing a program in Peru. They suggest that it would be best to keep the program at a narrow band of elevation to avoid altitude sickness. They also suggest that it would be best to be supported by an in-country group and to stay away from urban areas. Carlos was stationed in Bolivia several years ago as a diplomat. He suggested that perhaps a program would bridge the two countries. He further offered that if things turned out, that he might be willing to co-lead such an effort.

The original idea for the program developed in Germany during conversations with Conrad Borst. Conrad is interested in helping, but acknowledges that as a 70-year old, he is not able to do as much as he might. In a nutshell, the idea is that his wife who lives in Peru and runs a primary school 30 miles outside of Lima in the desert might be the host for the program. The focus of the program might be teaching in her school there. However, the violence which is occurring in Peru may make such a program difficult to happen just now.

Japan. I have contacted a Lisler friend, Akiko Sugioka (DC '66), in Sapporo. She recently retired as the founder of the Sapporo International Communications Plaza which supports foreigners visiting Sapporo. The idea I was building on was to focus a program around environmental efforts being made by Japanese government and business leaders to move aggressively to meet the environmental requirements of the Kyoto Protocol and similar agreements. She has been very helpful in suggesting several governmental and university leaders who might be willing to assist. Akiko suggested that I come to Japan to talk with them.

Akiko suggested that costs in Japan are really high and that we would probably need to seek funding from some outside source. She also said that her contacts would like to broaden the scope of the program to include connections which exist between Japan and China and Korea. We would also need to find some ways to create legitimacy for our being a group which knows enough about the issues to be offering such a program. Recruitment will be a key to further development.

The Netherlands. Judy Brown has been working with several people in Holland on the program there for 2003: Coen



*Mark Kinney
Executive Director*

and Tineke van der Wal and Yolande Houben-Nijst, along with the help of Anke Schey van der Dussen and Joop Syatauw. The proposal for this program was presented and approved at the spring Board meeting.

It would be wise to be working on other program offerings which could be developed over the next few years. So, if any of our readers have ideas about new programs, please email me! Also, we are open to hearing any steps to take that could augment our recruitment efforts overall.

I've working hard to get more visibility for our website. Information is updated on a regular basis, a fairly major overhaul to the site is being planned. Jon Findley has helped me to understand some of the technical difficulties I have been having. I have also completed a web design course. I have added foreign language titles to the pages, and am hoping to find Lislers who can translate into German, Spanish, Turkish, Dutch, French, etc. Please let me know if you have translation skills!

I have also been working hard to place additional information on the website, and I have been discussing the possibility of purchasing three months of assistance in posting our website information to the web to increase search engine visibility. Finally I have been working to update our information on related sites which refer clients to us. 🌐

Mark



Selections from “Tiger By The Tail”

Selected by Patty Hill-Aranaga

Below are several excerpts from the book written by Dr. DeWitt C. Baldwin with Patricia J. Hill. Think about how his philosophy, which Lisle was founded upon in 1936, is still pertinent in this new millennium.

“World-mindedness — it is a word which creates the conception of a quality of mind which is ever active, linking the issues of life to their ultimate world relationships. As different from world understanding and even a global point of view, world-mindedness indicates an active mind, an aware mind, a mind whose references are always extending toward the universal...

“In striving for this goal of world-mindedness, the concept of fellowship quickly develops as a desirable if not concomitant.... We realized that people everywhere find it difficult to talk to each other in meaningful ways. Because of this, our first task in designing the Lisle program was to create a satisfactory group experience for individuals which would provide a modicum of comfort, an opportunity for sharing and cooperative living, and the challenge of an experience of honesty and intellectual frankness. We had in mind affecting the world of persons, rather than a primary emphasis on current politics or economic goals...

“When individuals begin to perceive and live out these two values of world-mindedness and qualitative relationships, an evident difference occurs in their lives. Instead of being dominated by the confusions and the uncertain issues facing them, they assume a new inner confidence. As they continue to put into practice their world thinking and their facility for more effective interpersonal communication, there comes what might be defined as an empowerment in them to meet the conditions of life with the inner assurance of their ability to act. This third, more subtle value of Lisle is then not so much a goal of the Lisle process, but rather an implicit effect of the other two purposes in the Lisle Fellowship.”

“‘We the People of the World’—Such an inclusive concept offers a basis for a few thoughts about [our] nature and needs.

1) We are at present in the throes of growing beyond the provincial limitations of the segmented earth of past generations. Immediate communications have produced the necessity for total cooperative relationships.

2) Freedom and equality are demanded as the right of all people. The implications here call for reasonable living conditions for all—food, medical care, employment, education, international regulations allowing for self determination of states, the recognition of the worth of each individual.

3) We seek opportunities to live peaceably. The biblical phrase, ‘The Lion shall lie down with the Lamb’ must be realized in the relations of nation with nation to quiet the paralyzing fear

which now exists. Selfish national, political and economic ambitions must yield to human cooperation and trust. Our needs have been stated by Allan Nevins, ‘What the world most needs today is the creation of new battlefields of common endeavor and the rise of new heroes in the struggle to advance all mankind morally and spiritually as well as materially.’ In simple terms, the individual basis is the practice by each of kindness, of fairness and concern for others, or organizations, economic and political, committed to working out peaceably their differences, is the inclusive principle which recognizes the needs and concerns of all peoples of the world.

“The study of Religion is central to the understanding of the various cultures and geographic centers of the earth. The Bible mentions at one point, ‘The lord hath not left himself without a prophet in any people.’ If Lisle is to achieve its full purpose and prepare the whole person for total growth to cooperate fully with Mother Earth as well as a supreme power or being, it is necessary for each person to grow in an appreciation of his or her relationships not only with human kind and Nature but also with the mystery and spirit of the Divine. In taking in aspects of the different beliefs of the world and accepting those which one experiences to be true, one then reaches even closer towards the universal.

“It is the [human] experience to start life with the limitation of local surroundings; through the unfolding human relations and involvement in wider environments, the human being rises to the glory of wholeness as well as a sense of feeling at home in the universe. We all have grown out of parochial surroundings, beyond sectional thinking in our world, toward insights into wider world perspectives.

“Yet even with all our advantages of improved technology, we still, as a society, fail to appreciate our brothers and sisters in another culture or to recognize the factual reality of arranging even the basics of life for everybody. A most glaring example of our present day blindness is our failure to even provide food for parts of our family who live in the drought areas of Africa, Asia and other parts of the world. Just the question of distribution boggles the minds of our economists. The economic problem of how to use our storehouses of wheat and grains to provide for the millions in need and to account for such large amounts of aid to others through outright giving, is far from being solved. We have barely begun to struggle to work out a fair system of production and distribution of the world’s goods.

“These are disparate needs of the world today. We would like to believe that to differing degrees, the Lisle Fellowship provides hope for each one.” 🌐



Learning and Serving in New Orleans

By Nancy Kinney

March 23, 2002, the Lisle Board met in New Orleans. You ask, "Isn't that a little late for Mardi Gras?" The answer is, "Yes, but that's not why we went there!" "Then, why?" you ask? The answer is to conduct the business of Lisle, *and* there was another reason.

The organizer of the meeting, Board member Gail Bier is the International Studies Director at Tulane University in New Orleans and because of that connection, she knows the Service Learning staff at Tulane. For Lislers serving and learning is old stuff, but for people new to the area, "service learning" is the terminology for performing community service and learning something about an academic discipline at the same time. Students most often receive course credit for service learning activities.

Our introduction to Hamilton Simons-Jones was the beginning. He arrived at the Dominican Conference Center on Friday after dinner in the gentle whirlwind that seems to follow engaged and excited people. He began to tell us about his various projects, and within a short time a living example of his success arrived—in the form of Mike Pollitt and his daughter, Amanda! Mike's life is very special success story. He was born with several disabilities and never learned to read and write. Now in his forties, he recently learned to read and write, due to the help from Hamilton and the Service Learning volunteers who worked with him! He spoke with appreciation and fondness his new mentors. He also read us some of his own writings. (*See photo and samples of his poetry on page 22.*) Hamilton reminded us that he would see us again the next day, when we were to show up at Carter Woodson Learning Academy (Middle School) for a "painting party."



Hamilton Simons-Jones speaks about his job: Coordinator of Service Learning at Tulane.

The next morning the Tulane Service Learning, Kristen, the director of Service Learning, picked us up at the Conference Center and took us from the "Uptown" section (with its fine mansions and universities) to a part of New Orleans that we wouldn't have otherwise visited. The Woodsen School and its students live in a neighborhood where there are many small houses and a soon-to-be-raised public housing project.

Our project was to help paint some doors and posts and metal fences that lined walkways connecting three courtyards of the building. Our partners in the project were Service Learning students and staff from Tulane, the University of New Orleans, Loyola University, in addition to Tulane alumni and Americorps volunteers. The principal and several teachers were also on hand. We were warmly welcomed and put to work. The white enamel flowed quickly, and we met among our coworkers an amazing array of interesting people. Some of the people I found were the dedicated teachers who stopped by to borrow a bucket, and the Associate Director of Service Learning, Vincent Ilustre, my painting critic, who had attended a conference at Eastern Michigan University, about a mile away from my office just the month before. Darwin Holder found a lawyer and her two kids. At lunch we were treated to "Po' Boys," (New Orleans-style sub sandwiches) and we got to meet more Tulane supporters who had showed up by that time.

When it came time to clean up and leave, it seemed that we had just started. While service is not new to Lisle, each experience is wonderful and unique, and never fails to teach us important new perspectives on living.

We were privileged to see a part of New Orleans that most visitors never seek out. And we, enjoyed a little time on Bourbon Street as well! 🌐



Leyla Welkin painting posts during the Board's service project.



2002 Annual Membership Meeting

San Francisco Bay Area: October 17 – 20, 2002

By Chris Coons

Lisle welcomes you to their Annual Meeting in San Francisco! We're excited to be seeing many of you again, and know that our accommodations will sweeten our time together. Mount Alverno Conference Center, 3910 Bret Harte Drive, Redwood City, CA is the location for the Annual Membership Meeting, October 17 – 20, 2002.

The theme for this meeting is "Living with Diversity," and will provide attendees a great opportunity to experience San Francisco Bay Area's multicultural mosaic. Organizers Chris and Dean Coons have scheduled activities that will explore the theme. Special events have been scheduled for Friday and Saturday evenings. Then, on Saturday afternoon, attendees will be able to choose to do one of several off-site experiences: interact in an ethnic community, participate in a Lisle-focused social action, explore the multicultural opportunities in the Bay Area, or reunite with other Lislors. Everyone will return to their daily lives with new insights to integrate into their world.

Be sure to check out the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce's website to access their resource guide for visitors. You'll find a diverse number of attractions to do while in S.F. <www.sfchamber.com>.

Mount Alverno is a retreat and conference center sponsored by the Sisters of Saint Francis. Mount Alverno is nestled within San Francisco Bay Area's Emerald Hills. Mount Alverno's 26 acres of wooded surroundings provide a panoramic view and picturesque setting. "The Mount" is centrally located between San Francisco and San Jose. About 20 minutes from either airport, 30 minutes from the beaches and 40 minutes from the sights and sounds of the cities downtown areas.



There is easy access to recreational areas, theater, art, beaches, and historical landmarks. The lawns, gardens and inner courtyard are carefully maintained and tranquil.

There is an Olympic-sized pool, as well as a tennis, volleyball or basketball court. There are hiking paths located on the campus for the walkers and joggers, as well as a native California plant garden.

We will have comfortable rooms with linens and towels included, three meals a day served buffet style in a spacious dining room and a conference room for our meeting.

There are three types of rooms available. They are: (1) Dorm-type room with four single beds with a bathroom nearby; (2) Shared room for two persons with shared bathroom; (3) Private Suite for one person with private bath.

Dorm: \$205.00; Shared is \$225.00; Private is: \$245.00 (Includes three nights—Thurs., Fri., Sat.—three breakfasts, three lunches, two dinners).


Dorm: \$135.00; Shared is: \$150.00; Private is: \$165.00. (Includes two nights—Fri. & Sat.—two breakfasts, two lunches, two dinners).

Dorm: \$75.00; Shared is: \$80.00; Private is: \$85.00. (Includes one night—Sat.—Saturday lunch/dinner; and Sunday breakfast/lunch).

Commuter's Day use fee: \$19.00 plus meals. Lunch is \$8.00; dinner is \$9.00.

As their brochure states: "Business can be Beautiful! Productivity can be Panoramic. Meditating can be Motivating. Retreats can be Restful. Support can be Successful. Conferences can be Peaceful." So, we encourage all of you to attend this annual meeting. It is a great opportunity to reunite with friends from the past and make new friends. We have had quite a few participants from the West Coast in our recent programs and they will be our special guests. It will be interesting for all of you to share your "Lisle Experiences" with each other.

Chris and Dean Coons, who located this wonderful facility, will be our hosts for this meeting. You are welcome to contact them via email at <chriscoons@aol.com> or <dmcoons@aol.com>.

We need to notify the conference center by Sept. 15 as number of rooms we need to reserve. If you are planning on attending, please notify Lane at the Lisle Office at 1/800-477-1538 or by E-mail: <lisle@io.com>. 



2003 Spring Board Meeting Announced

Chicago, Illinois March 20–24, 2003

The International Conference Center, 4750 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL will be the location for the 2003 Spring Board Meeting, March 20–24. The center is a not-for-profit conference and retreat center of The Ecumenical Institute and the Institute of Cultural Affairs. Within sight of Lake Michigan, it is conveniently located on Chicago's north side. Public transportation brings visitors to the front door. Located two blocks from Lake Shore Drive (US 41) makes driving easy.

The Conference Center is set in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood in an historic terra cotta limestone building dedicated to community service. Uptown is a special place. It stands as a true urban human mosaic while boasting of a number of landmark buildings and historic homes. This neighborhood is richly diverse (83 languages are spoken in our school district), and it is just two blocks from the Lake Michigan shore with its jogging and walking trails. Other agencies in the building serve multiple constituencies, so that at any moment of the day our lobby is filled with faces and languages from around the world.

The Center offers comfortable rooms with linens and towels included, three meals a day served buffet style and a conference room for our meeting. Saturday's evening meal will be a neighborhood restaurant. The package rate for the weekend: three nights: three breakfasts, two lunches, and one dinner: \$140.00 per person.

We encourage all of you to attend this board meeting. It will provide a great opportunity to reunite with friends from the past and make new friends.

Thanks to Maggie Ennis (CO '53 & '54, CA '55), who referred us to this convenient facility.

More details about this meeting will be sent with the membership package that is mailed out each fall. Final details will appear in the winter *Interaction*. Please contact Lane at the Lisle Office for reservations, questions and maps at (800) 477-1538. 🌐

New Lisle Donor— Thanks!

By Marty Tillman

Thanks to the efforts of Lisle Sally Butler (Bali '93, '97, Leader training '98, Turkey '00) who joined us at the Fall 2001 Annual Meeting in DC, we have received a gift of \$2500 from a generous new friend in Pennsylvania.

This donor, who asked to remain anonymous, has agreed to support an individual with a full scholarship to a program this year. It's likely that the donor will make this same amount available for a scholarship annually for the foreseeable future.

I had the pleasure of meeting this benefactor last fall after he learned about Lisle from Sally. You never know what might come from sharing your Lisle experience with a friend! Kudos to Sally.

Update: Yolande Houben, who will be a co-leader in the new 2003 program in The Netherlands, will be awarded this scholarship to come to the Pacific Northwest Program this summer. She will gain new leadership skills, and meet with the American co-leader for The Netherlands program, Judy Brown.

In her reply to the Board's scholarship, Yolande wrote:

"My experience in the Lisle unit in Washington in 1966 has been very re-

warding, so I'm very curious to see if anything has been changed in the Lisle approach.

"Our unit in the Netherlands next year will be very important since the murder on Pim Fortuyn and the rise of the rightist movement and the gain of 26 seats (of the 150) in Parliament for the complete new party of Pim Fortuyn. One of the main issues they campaigned for is the stop to asylum seekers. We are lucky, though, to have a strong Christian Democrat party (the biggest party with 43 seats) to compensate and take the lead in forming the government.

"I am very much looking forward to the Oregon Unit and thank you very much for this opportunity!"

Cordially, Yolande Houben" 🌐

Dominican Republic Youths Receive Scholarship

Special thanks goes to Jim Good and his partner for their generous donation in supplying the funds for two plane tickets from the Dominican Republic to Seattle in order to bring two Dominican youth, Alfredo Valdez and Luisa Nunez, to the Pacific Northwest Program.

Also, thanks to Oscar A. Canizares, who runs a wonderful program called "Camping Tours" for Dominican youth. He has been our Dominican contact in selecting two of his budding youth leaders for our program and supporting them in getting visas, etc. Oscar is also enthusiastic about a potential collaboration in creating a Lisle program in the Dominican Republic. Visit his website at: campingtours@internet.net.do.

It has been a pleasure in working with all of you! 🌐



Lisle History Archives Finally Complete

The Lisle Archives are now safely catalogued at the University of Toledo. After so many years of care and work by such a large group of Lislers, and such concern and effort by Uncle Si, it is wonderful to have them safely in repository.

The only concern is that I have been informed that two of the films are of nitrate backing and the University will not keep them because of the fire hazard. If someone knows how we might get these converted to another format so that the record does not get lost, I would greatly appreciate the assistance.

The materials comprise almost 73 feet of space recording the history from 1936 through 1996. Within the archives are records of individual units, pictures, tapes and films of various kinds, unit lists, financial statements, etc. Copies of earlier Directories, *Tiger by the Tail*, and *Edna*, and other publications are present as well, including quite a collection of yearly brochures. I will be posting the index for the materials on the Lisle Website. If you cannot find it, please contact me at (989) 595-3667 or mark.kinney@utoledo.edu. 🌐

Lisle' Supports a Year-round Presence in India

Sharada Nayak (CA '54; Turkey, '97, long-time Board member, and India program leader) has agreed to represent Lisle in India and begin developing year-round opportunities for cross-cultural experiential education to individual educators, students and nonprofit groups. This new "office" has already been consulted by the Director of the Tulane University School of Social Work regarding the School's first-ever program in India next fall.

The Director met the Lisle Board (at the suggestion of Board Member, Gail Bier, Director of International Education at Tulane) during the Annual Meeting last fall in New Orleans. India is an incredibly rich nation for experiential learning whether with Lisle or in the context of some other educational program. We believe that Sharada, with her immense array of contacts throughout India and her deep understanding of U.S. society, has the capacity to offer invaluable assistance to educators and travelers as Lisle's representative in New Delhi! (See the description of the exciting new theme for the fall 2002 program in India on page 15.) 🌐

Uncle Si & The Department of Peace

By Marty Tillman

Uncle Si was a very key player for several years leading up to the eventual legislation which resulted in establishing the US Institute of Peace based here in DC. There was a lot of lobbying and public education for years about the need for a National Peace Academy—which actually was the forerunner of what eventually became the Institute.

There is also, not to confuse things, an International Peace Academy based in New York City which does train UN international civil servants. The UN University, based in Tokyo, is the UN's academic arm for research. And the UN University of Peace is located in Costa Rica.

P.S. Some of us are excited by the potential for the creation of a US Department of Peace that is being championed by Dennis Kucinich, a Representative from Ohio. Dennis is also rumored to be running in the Democratic Presidential Primary. If you want to visit his web site it is: <http://www.house.gov/kucinich/info>. 🌐

Job Well Done!

By Lane Winnett

The Lisle office has received the following comments from Lislers, and wishes to share their thoughts with all of you.

"We both want you to know that we thought your Spring 2000 issue of *Interaction* was very well written and very informative...we're glad Lisle is still strong and healthy, with good leadership."—Mogens and Jean Jensen (CO '46, Denmark '54, Family Camp '56, CA '57, Germany '59 & '62)

"Congratulations on the wonderful programs you are offering. Warm regards to Mark Kinney, Marty Tillman and

Walt & Betty Ligon and other friends with whom I served on the Board in the 80's."—Chris Klug (CO '46, Denmark '54, Family Camp '56, CA '57, Germany '59 & '62)

"Great Issue of Lisle's *Interaction* (2002 Winter). Thank You!"—Carol Jean Stifler (CO '42)

"I wish to thank Dianne Brause, Editor and Elise Kimmons, Graphic Design and Layout, for all their inspired and diligent work in getting our newsletter produced twice a year for all of us to enjoy!"—Lane Winnett, Office Secretary 🌐



Lisle Plans Leadership Training

By Leyla Welkin

Once again Lisle plans to offer a leadership training in conjunction with a fall Board meeting on October 17-18 while the Board gathers in northern California, Lisle will be conducting a day and a half long leadership training experience for past, present and potential Lisle program leaders. Lisle program leaders will have the opportunity to compare notes on their experiences, discuss and improve their leadership skills, and meet with the Board to discuss ways Lisle programs reflect and further Lisle's organizational mission.

The last leadership training event in Lisle was held in October, 1998. Our goal now is to offer not only information and practice opportunities but also to draw out the knowledge of our current and experienced program leaders.

Leaders for Lisle programs are volunteers, and they give a tremendous amount of time and effort into developing and leading their programs. Lisle has traditionally drawn on wonderful, dedicated individuals who are chosen for both their philosophical alignment with Lisle's values and for their skills in managing diverse groups. Given Lisle's shoestring budgets, it has often been difficult to cultivate and support Lisle program leaders the way that we might ideally like to. It also has not always been clear what is the best way to cultivate the leadership that we, as an organization, would like to have.

This training will start by asking leaders the fundamental question: *As Lisle leaders, what do you need in order to help provide high quality programs?* Lisle has always cultivated participatory leadership within its groups. Program groups try to involve all members in program decision making and the reflective process, which makes Lisle experiences distinctive. This kind of program requires special leadership skills and can be very challenging to lead. The board believes that more support and training for leaders will help Lisle programs to maintain their distinctive characteristics and high quality. And the Board also wants to show its appreciation and valuing of program leaders.

If you have led a Lisle program in the last five years or plan to lead in a Lisle program in the near future please join us for this training. A letter of invitation will be sent to all the recent and potential leaders the board can locate. Let us know if you would like to participate in this training.

And if you have suggestions, ideas, or input regarding the training or the leadership in general, Leyla can be contacted at Lwelkin@earthlink.net or by phone at 206-780-1197. We hope to see you on October 17th in the San Francisco Bay Area! 🌐

Membership and Donation Request

By Marty Tillman

Greetings! We had a very productive Board of Directors meeting in New Orleans and our 2002 programs are moving forward. In particular, we're very pleased that the new U.S. unit, based in rural Oregon, is ready to go again this summer. And we are looking ahead to our first unit in Europe, in The Netherlands in June/July 2003. This will be Lisle's first European program since we ended our Danish program several decades ago. This is a direct outgrowth of our successful Board meeting in Frankfurt last Spring.

Did you know that Lisle operates its five programs and maintains a small office in Texas on an annual budget of just \$30,000? We have a strong national Board, which rotates its meeting locations twice a year. Interaction has grown into a highly creative publication sent across the United States and around the world. Our annual income comes from program fees, interest on investments and foundation support, like the \$5,000 grant we received last year from the Fannie Mae Foundation. Program alumni and friends like you also generously offer financial help! Your membership contribution really does make a difference! And so does the recent gift from a new friend of Lisle who has pledged \$2,500 for scholarship support each year for an indeterminate number of years.

Think of your membership gift to Lisle as a show of support for what we have done for over 65 years, and what we continue to do, to broaden the thinking and widen the world views of young people and older adults. Although Lisle's programs today are different, I believe our strength as an organization lies in our willingness to change and experiment while remaining true to our core educational principles.

I know this has been a difficult year. As a nation, we have had to cope with unspeakable violence perpetrated against our country and we are again seeing hatred boil over in the Middle East and India. Pushing against the tide of bigotry and intolerance, in its unique way, Lisle offers a ray of hope to participants throughout the world. Please consider making a donation to help us continue to shine a small light in the darkness. (See form on page 23 for donations and pledges.) 🌐



Association of International Educators

By Marty Tillman

As a founding member of NAFSA (formerly the National Association of Foreign Student Advisors), Lisle has especially strong roots within the association. Remember your Lisle history? When Lisle began in 1936, we were one of a few educational programs in the U.S. to include foreign students attending U.S. colleges and universities, so they could gain an off-campus learning experience with American students. I have remained a NAFSA member since the first conference I attended for Lisle in New Orleans in 1977 and my wife is NAFSA's Senior Director for Development. Mark and Nancy Kinney have also remained active representing Lisle at the national meetings.

We met together again this Spring in San Antonio to represent Lisle at a poster session sponsored by the International Volunteer Program Association (of which Lisle is a member). Barbara Bratton drove from her home and the Lisle office in Leander, TX (about three hours away) to be with us. Lisle remains active in raising issues relating to off-campus cross-cultural experiential learning within the Association and we always meet educators at the national conference who know of our work or who are interested to learn more about our history and philosophy. Heads up: The 2003 conference will be held in Salt Lake City, UT. 🌐

Information about Scholarships

By Mark Kinney

Over the years, various funds for scholarships have been created. Often, old Lislers and potential recipients have been confused about the criteria for the use of these funds. The following is a synopsis of the funds and their specified use.

The *Marion Wright Edelman Scholarship* is funded with proceeds from assets so designated. It is to be awarded on the basis of demonstrated commitment to social justice, and of a demonstrated minority (definition of minority is left unspecified.) It is available to both US residents, and those from other countries.

The *Baldwin Scholarship* is funded by proceeds of assets so designated. It is to be awarded as the Board designates. Often, special consideration will be given to assist Board members to experience a Lisle program.

The *Bagoes Oka Scholarship* is funded by designated assets (can include the use of the principal). It is to be awarded to a person wanting to attend the Bali program.

Other funds possibly available for scholarship use include the *Jack Brown Memorial Fund*, with Judy Brown and the Board making decisions on where the funds are distributed, and the *Francis Bigelow Bequest*, which is allocated by the Board.

A new source of scholarship funds, as yet unnamed, has been offered. The recipient is to be designated by the donor and the Board. (See "New Lisle Donor" on page 8 for details.) 🌐

Scholarship Funding Requested

By Dianne Brause

The great news this year is that we have had lots of interest and applications from international folks who wanted to join the Pacific Northwest program. These include not only, Yolande Houben, who will be one of the leaders in Holland next year, but also two young people from the Dominican Republic, two from Africa, two from Turkey, and others from other areas, including Yolanda Arguedas from Costa Rica. It seems to be extremely difficult for foreigners to get visas at present, but some have managed and are attending the Pacific Northwest program on scholarship—even though it is not clear that Lisle will break even on the program. Since we have been seeking more diversity in Lisle program participation for years, we believe that it is important to give as many scholarships as we are able.

We are also wanting to invite a number of low-income youth from the USA to join the program. We have written an initial grant inquiry letter to the Fannie Mae Foundation requesting \$10,000 for scholarship aid for low-income and at-risk American youth. Last year, we also requested \$10,000 and received \$5,000—which greatly helped our final budgeting for the 2001 program. This year's FMF grants will be awarded after the program has ended, so we are currently acting on faith in this matter.

So, if any of you feel moved to donate specifically for scholarship aid, it would be greatly appreciated by the recipients, the leaders, and the Lisle Board. The rewards for this kind of donation seem to multiply manifold over the years as young people spread the spirit of Lisle's Global-mindedness around the world. Clearly, this is our gift on the planet at this time in history! 🌐



Travels with Strong Women: Turkey

By Leyla Welkin

The Lisle Turkey program began May 12 in Selcuk on the Aegean coast and ended in Istanbul on May 30. In between we covered a vast number of kilometers, visited innumerable historic and contemporary sites of interest and had daily conversations with a wide variety of Turkish people. Our theme was exploring the lives of women and we visited with a tremendous range of women. Conversations with men and women alike gave our group unexpected insights and views of culture in Asia Minor currently and historically. More than anything else our group came away understanding that the U.S. popular media's images of the Middle East are narrow, stereotyped and do not begin to convey the actual complexity of politics, religion, traditions and aspirations of people in Turkey.



Our group dining in Konya on an outdoor terrace overlooking the Mevlana Museum and Mosque

The traveling group included eight participants and two leaders during our first eight days and then a smaller group of four participants traveled with the co-leaders for the remaining ten days of the program. Our first eight days involved the most intensive traveling. We started with an exploration of Ephesus on the Aegean coast. This city is one of the most visited archeological sites in Turkey and is a prime tourist location. We traveled by van from the coast inland with a brief stop at a natural geological wonder called *Pamukkale*, or the Cotton Castle. Our long drive tested everyone's patience by the time we arrived in Konya in the early morning hours. That night many of our group were already beginning to feel the effects of a stomach virus that hung around the group for the next several days.

Konya is the site of Rumi's Mevlana Sufi center. A religious school founded in the 11th and 12th century, now a museum displaying the elaborate decorative and spiritual art of this famous Sufi order. Outside Konya the group visited both a world famous Neolithic archeological site, Catalhuyuk, and the

homes of several villagers nearby. This view of village life was one of our first visits with ordinary Turkish people in their homes. Conversation with women in this village was an eye opener for our group members. Village life is simple and has not changed much in hundreds or even thousands of years. Yet village life may now be entering a phase of rapid change. Young people are increasingly leaving the villages for cities leaving older people struggling to maintain their age old agricultural lifestyle.

From Konya we drove on to Cappadocia where we spent a full week. This area is crammed with archeological and artistic sites of interest in its unique volcanic landscape. The group also spent time in homestays with families in this area. One vignette from this time comes from a conversation the group had with a local night club owner. The group lounged on colorful embroidered cushions around a replica of a nomad's tent. Kudsi Bey shared his views of Turkish culture, women and current politics, as we sipped tea from delicate tulip glasses. He lamented how little Americans understand of Turkey and the degree to which Turkey has been a loyal military ally of the United States. Turkey is still struggling to recover from the economic disaster that followed our war in the Persian Gulf. He asked, "How many stars are there on the American flag?"

Puzzled, I answered "Fifty."

He looked at me with a little grin and said "No fifty-two." And then paused for effect. Even more puzzled now I looked at him quizzically.

"Do you want me to tell you who the other two are? Israel and Turkey." He nodded for emphasis.

Of course Turkey has also been the recipient of tremendous amounts of military aid from the U.S. But Americans' ignorance of Turkey's history and obvious misunderstanding of Muslim countries and traditions is a constant source of discouragement and hurt pride for Turks. Turks want Westerners to appreciate the degree to which they have emulated European and American customs but at the same time they want to maintain their own proud historic traditions from Ottoman times and earlier. They are very conscious that not long ago Turkey was the seat of one of the greatest of the world's empires, the Ottoman Empire. American power and arrogance carries the sting of short memory for these fiercely history conscious people.

Three of our U.S. group members left us at this point, as did a Turkish woman who lives in Cappadocia. We traveled next to Ankara, Turkey's capital and were provided an opportunity to experience some of the broad contrasts of Turkish life. One day



Lisle Program Highlights



*Taking a rest at the public toilets in Ephesus.
L-R: Ann, Janice, Betsy, Sherrie, Heather*

our group went to visit a family living in a *gecekondu* or squatters' neighborhood. We had expected a much more primitive living situation than we found. This family lived in an earth and cement house that they had built nearly twenty years before on public land, but now has both water and electricity. We sat with a group of nearly twenty women, mostly neighbors and relatives of our hosts. They were shy to talk with us but warmed up with the friendly questions of the Lisle group.

We discussed their strong belief in the importance of education that, however, is matched by their discouragement with the schools and opportunities available to them. Only one of the young girls we spoke with planned to continue her education and hoped to be a nurse. Nearly all the young women, like their mothers, had had limited education and believed it would be little use to them in their chosen lives as mothers and homemakers. Most of the women older than twenty who had come from villages were illiterate and were not sure that they could or would ever learn to read and write. They felt their lives in the city were much less pleasant than they had been in the village. The city was dirty and cramped with no gardens. But they had come to Ankara for jobs. Their husbands worked primarily as construction laborers in the city. Often one breadwinner supported eleven family members with occasional jobs. And yet this neighborhood had pooled their resources to serve our group a huge meal of many courses. The lunch of meat dishes, vegetable dishes, rice, salad and bread was served, as is traditional, on a tray on the living room floor. They were insulted that we had come bringing tea and cookies not wanting to impose upon their resources. It was a point of pride for them to be able to feed our group a meal.

From this visit we went on to meet with a women's organization doing voluntary work to help victims of domestic violence and abuse. Their work is difficult and receives little public support in this culture based upon the sacredness of family ties and authority. Our meeting with this group was too brief as we rushed on to the next event, a civil wedding ceremony.

A *nikah* or civil wedding celebration is a kind of combined civil ceremony and reception. We had an opportunity in this event to see the opposite side of the Turkish social spectrum. The man being married was a member of Parliament with the *Mili Hareket Partisi*, the right wing nationalist party. The guests included many of the top officials and members of this party. The party while supportive of Turkey's secular state is committed to Islam and so no alcohol was served. But as is ordinary in Turkey, women generally wore European style dress with no headscarves and the wedding had no religious aspect. A contract was signed as the crowd pressed in close around a front row of media photographers and camera people. Most of the event consisted of serving an elaborate many-course meal buffet-style to all the guests.

Our connection to the event was tenuous. Our Turkish co-leader is a friend of the sister of the bride. And we were dressed conspicuously and informally in comparison to the other guests who were formally dressed upper class Turks. However with typical Turkish hospitality and graciousness we were fed and entertained along with the rest of the crowd without question. The evening's entertainment consisted of very loudly amplified folk music from a man singing and playing the traditional Turkish folk instrument a *saz*. The music was occasionally interspersed with short political polemics about how this was the party of traditional family values and this wedding demonstrated a commitment to the family and the traditions of Turkish culture.

The whole event took place in a grand hotel on the outskirts of Ankara. As we came and went we were amazed at the enormous display of flowers sent by innumerable well wishers that lined the driveway and entrance hall of the hotel. We had an urge to join the children who at the evening's end were darting in and out of the displays, picking flowers and taking away big colorful bouquets. The walk to the bus stop was a little long. Chauffeur driven cars whisked past us along the dark road under a broad and starry sky.

We spent a short time in the region of Turkey where a catastrophic earthquake struck two years ago. A Chechen immigrant family took us to their village home and told us about their experiences both as survivors of the earthquake and as immigrants at the beginning of the twentieth century fleeing from the Bolsheviks. From the Izmit area we had only a short way to go back to Istanbul where we spent only a day rounding out our trip with a visit to Hagia Sofia the most famous church of Byzantine times and the heart of old Istanbul.

More than anything else this program was remarkable for the wonderful quality and quantity of conversation between our group and a wide variety of Turks. 🌐



Zest for Life! —Costa Rica 2002

By Bethany Currin and Sarah Nicole Ruddy

In January of 2002, the two of us joined my sister, Kristin Currin, and Liisa Korpel as they led our small expedition of eight into the rainforests of Costa Rica. The purpose of the trip was to learn about agriculture, eco-tourism and to visit different farming cooperatives throughout the country. The experience began in San Jose, Costa Rica's capitol, and we had time to explore the city and develop a feel for this Central American country.



Our happy group arrives at Dolphin Quest

The contrast between San Jose and the rest of the country was remarkable. Banana, pineapple, coffee and yucca plantations are as much a part of the scenery as corn fields in the central US.

We visited Coope San Juan, a farming cooperative outside of Aguas Zarcas, where the members were very friendly and eager to explain the different farming procedures, and how the cooperative worked. The group assisted in planting yucca crops, a fun and reasonably easy procedure, which involved getting one's feet very, very dirty.



Kristin at the educational trailhead of Longo Mai.

One of the best things about Costa Rica is the appreciation of life inherent in the people. Ticos have a saying, "Pura Vida", which in Spanish means pure life. They believe in this with all of their hearts. After working in the fields, planting yucca, harvesting pineapple, picking coffee, a Tico is ready to relax, joke, sing, or especially dance. The zest

for life is thoroughly contagious. Parties were held in the Lisle group's honor, and all were encouraged to have a wonderful time. It can safely be said they did.

Other highlights of our trip were visiting the cooperative village of Longo Mai, where participants engaged in home stays with Costa Rican families and learned to cook a delicacy called "papas", as well as a visit to the biological pre-

serve of San Gerardo, where the group participated in some grueling rainforest trail maintenance. This is, of course, aside from simply being in one of the most beautiful countries in the world, surrounded by the breathtaking rainforest, waking up to howler monkeys and scarlet macaws, or having a sunrise swim with dolphins. Through visits to five different cooperatives, the group learned about the ecology of Costa Rica and were charmed, not only by its beauty, but also by the appeal of the "pura vida."

Lisa Korpela adds: Lisle's work is more important than ever right now, and with each trip I lead I gain a deeper understanding of Lisle's philosophy and mission. This deeper insight then affects the role I play within this organization, and with the world at large.

I really grew within myself, learning to stretch better into uncomfortable places. I gained an understanding of all the different folks out there and what our individual contributions are to this planet.

I am glad more than ever that the trip occurred during these unrestful times. It's good for Americans to meet people from abroad and for them to hear us speaking from our hearts. 🌐



Our "chofer" Javier proudly holds his new baby, with his family.



Juan (Longo Mai member) prepares sugar cane for our group to taste. His brothers are in the background.



INDIA

WOMEN'S VOICES.

OCTOBER 20 TO NOVEMBER 9, 2002

As the world media has informed people about the troubled state of affairs in this part of the world, we were for a while unsure about planning on this program. The US Government still has in place a travel warning to Americans who wish to come to this part of the world. However, everyday life in India, and travel in particular, is mostly unaffected by the shadow of war and violence.

Gujarat, the state we had planned to visit, was particularly badly affected by sectarian violence which has pained us all immensely. While reports indicate that life is normal in Ahmedabad, it is also likely that state elections will be held in October. So we have changed our itinerary and the dates slightly.

Come, meet women activists and professionals in another part of the world. Listen to their voices. Share their silences. Discover yourself through looking into the mirror of another woman's life. Take this opportunity to travel through India meeting women in their diverse roles and regions, in homes and at the workplace. Our aim is to allow you an opportunity to see the common concerns in the midst of wide disparities.

The itinerary includes cities such as Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai.

Sharada Nayak, an international educator and longtime Indian advocate for equal opportunity for women and minorities, will lead the group, sharing her insights and enthusiasm. A seasoned study-abroad professional, she directed the Fulbright Program in India for over ten years. Ms. Nayak, an actively involved Lisle alumna since the early 1950's, also led the 1998-2001 Lisle India Programs.

Cost: \$1,850. Includes double occupancy accommodations in twin bedded rooms, two meals a day and all local transportation for scheduled events. Single room supplement is \$300.

Not included: entrance fees to monuments and museums.

Register by September 1st. 🌐

COSTA RICA

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM & COOPERATIVE LIVING AMONG THE TICOS
JANUARY 1-19, 2003

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

Through visiting a network of agricultural, eco-tourist cooperatives, we will learn from different host communities and their environments. Through journeying with local guides into biological preserves, we will understand their perspective on the nature that surrounds us. Through noting and observing negative environmental impacts in Costa Rica and by meeting the people that are working to create sustainable solutions, we will gain knowledge of environmental concerns that have become global issues. While walking beneath canopy of jungle and cloud forest, and along enticing expanses of coastline, we will see and feel the magic of tropical nature. But mostly, by being conscious, interactive travelers we will learn more about ourselves as individuals, ecotourists and global citizens. Lisle

programs focus on group dynamics, discussions, consensus decision making, intercultural exchange, and the mission of becoming global citizens. Lisle helps to facilitate a group experience where all are considered leaders and equals in the community. Lisle believes in learning through experience and communicating with each other to gain appreciation of the world and lives that we all share.

All ages and abilities are welcome. Though some activities may require a certain degree of physical activity, we will attempt to accommodate all participants' interests and abilities. We hope that you can join us for an incredible journey into the land and communities of Costa Rica.

Leaders: Kristin Currin has lived and studied extensively in both Central America and India. She has explored many aspects of ecological communities abroad, both in her own journeys and with Lisle. Liisa Korpela is a certified herbalist and active naturalist living in Oregon. Liisa has participated in several Lisle programs.

Cost: \$1600, plus airfare (student price: \$1,350 + airfare). Includes room & board, and program related in-country travel. The remainder is due Oct. 1, 2002. 🌐

THE NETHERLANDS

THE MULTICULTURAL FACE OF EUROPE: A DUTCH PERSPECTIVE
JULY 16-AUG. 4, 2003

The idea was born in Germany. Lisle had it's spring 2001 Board Meeting in Frankfurt, Germany in hopes we could gather former Lislers from Europe. We did. We hope to gather more and some new folks at the first European program in many years.


Lislers at Frankfurt felt that immigration and integration of immigrants into Europe was an important topic,
(Cont'd next page)



and the Dutch committee planning the program reflected that theme in the plans they have made. The title of the program is "The Multi-cultural Face of Europe: A Dutch Perspective." The Dutch leaders, Coen and Tineke van der Wal and Yolande Houben-Nijst with the help of Anke Schey van der Dussen and Joop Syatauw are putting the program together. Judy Brown, from Washington state, will also be co-leading. They hope to make use of resource leaders and field trips to help participants understand some of the difficulties and successes that have come about in Europe because European prosperity has attracted a number of different ethnic and national groups to settle there.

If some of those who have expressed interest in coming do come, the program should resonate not only with accumulated knowledge, but also with lively singing. Judy Brown, will facilitate group reflection. Lisle always hopes its participants will learn about themselves as well as the milieu of the program, and for those three weeks in 2003 we're hoping participants will give a lot and gain a lot.

Cost: Figured in Euros, 1500 for those three weeks (about 1350 US dollars). This figure is as low as it is because the group will be living in a large and comfortable house and doing their own cooking. Because there are East Indians, Kenyans, Turks, and Germans, as well as Dutch, who have already expressed their interest in coming, we should have a diverse sprinkling of ethnic food and of ideas. There will also be three days of homestays.

There are still some openings available for joining the group whose numbers are limited to 18. Priority will be given to those applicants who commit to spending the entire period with the program, so if you're interested it's time to act by contacting Lane Winnet at lisle@io.com 

BALI

JULY 28–AUGUST 14, 2003

Are you an artist or art lover willing to expand your creativity in a place filled with inspiration and surprise?

Join us in the tropical island of Bali, Indonesia, where the traditional arts and culture are inseparable from the spirit of the community.

We will begin with several days of orientation and development of supportive relationships with each other. All Lisle groups include a 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. Participants may choose to work with accomplished artists in a variety of areas including gamelan music, dance, weaving, carving, making prayer offerings, and cooking. 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, with luck, we will be invited to ceremonies like weddings and cremations 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, and have a visit for sight-seeing and shopping at Ubud. During our entire Bali 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.


Trip Leaders: Bill Kinney was a Peace Corps volunteer in Mali and is now an elementary school teacher in Pennsylvania. He has co-led two Bali programs, most recently the 2001 group. He participated in the Lisle 2000 India Program and has traveled to Ireland, Spain, Bermuda and the Caribbean as well. He has a wealth of travel experience which he easily provides to the participants of his programs. He is proficient on the drums.

Costs: \$1,500 (\$1,350 student or second family member, \$1,250 third family member). Airfare is a separate cost and arranged by the participant. Program prices include room, board, health and travel insurance & program related in-country travel. 

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

SUMMER 2003

An exciting intergenerational Lisle program brings participants from around the world, ranging in age from teens to elders, to the Pacific Northwest of the USA. They will come together to learn more about sustainable lifestyles, creating community, becoming leaders, and stewarding an environment that will remain abundant for future generations.

See the Winter 2003 issue of *Interaction* for specific details. 

The Bali 2002 program was cancelled due to the small number of people who had registered. We are hopeful that next year's program will be more successfully filled.



Political Upheaval in Holland Increases Relevance of Lisle Program

Excerpted from a letter from Joop Syatauw,
co-developer for Holland 2003, to Marty Tillman

Perhaps it is after all not such a bad thing that these remarkable political developments in Western Europe have now come into the open and that you and the Lisle Board have seen the actual situation at this time. It means that the participants in the Dutch Lisle Unit of next year will be confronted with a "Changing Face of Europe" that does not look as nice as they might expect. For it does not show a pretty continental picture of several interesting cultures living in close harmony, and slowly but surely moving towards an integrated Europe, maybe even into something of a US-type federation. Rather they will see a Europe of separate states jealously guarding their sovereignty, while at the same time desperately looking for some kind of cooperation that will ultimately lead to the achievement of some major common goals, like peace, prosperity and democracy, and not to forget, Power.

By the time the Dutch Lisle unit has started, most participants [will] have become well aware of the difficult situation they will find in Holland. It certainly will be useful if they have all read your *Washington Post* article. I would like to add a few comments here though.

First of all, it was surprising that the American newspapers were so shocked by these recent developments in Europe as if these were entirely new and unexpected events. Why have their correspondents in Europe not seen that the situation has been building up to this climax for quite a while. I recall that already in 2000 I wrote in my report to Lisle about the Lisle Board meeting in Frankfurt in May 2000 with regard to the possible theme of the Unit.

Secondly, one should not exaggerate the xenophobic nature of the new rightist movements in Europe, certainly not of the LPF Party in Holland. The LPF leaders have just agreed to try forming a coalition government with the Christian-democratic party (CDA) and the liberal party (VVD). Moreover, the LPF, often called abroad the anti-immigration party, has included in its list of possible MP's, a few foreign immigrants.

Hopefully this broader approach will open up new and better ways towards a comprehensive European solution. With the world media giving so much attention to these problems I am sure that the Lisle participants in the Dutch Unit will be well-prepared to look into the European political situation. I am also equally convinced that the Dutch Lisle project of 2003 will now become an even more interesting and intriguing project which is worth all the energy that Lisle is now putting into its European Initiative. 🌐

General Program Business

The international aspect of Lisle programs introduces numerous areas where plans change because of economic, political and natural disruptions. Updated brochures are available upon request and might reflect changes to schedules and prices. These updates will supersede information enclosed herein.

Deposit/Payment—A \$250 deposit is required with the application. This deposit is refundable based on terms provided with your letter of acceptance to the program. The remainder of the program fee is due ten weeks prior to the starting date.

Academic Credit—The University of Toledo offers up to six semester hours credit for students who take part in a Lisle program; it waives the out-of-state tuition surcharge. To take advantage of academic credit, be sure to discuss the situation with your college advisor. For more information about this, contact Dr. Mark Kinney, at mkinney@utnet.utoledo.edu.

Financial Assistance—Lisle has limited funds available to partially assist a participant to attend a Lisle program. The numbers of participants receiving funds, as well as the amounts allocated, is variable. 🌐

LISLE IS: *Study abroad • Adventure • Cross cultural • Intercultural • Global-minded • Learning • Personal growth • Citizenship Service Earn college credit • Volunteering • Global understanding • Education • Learning Volunteerism • Cultural immersion • Experiential learning • Experiential education • Community Reflection • Diversity • Cultural perspective Communication • International • Person-centered learning • Self reflection • Creating global mindedness • Cooperative group learning • Cooperative group living • Wider world view • Meeting heart to heart across borders • Participatory leadership Participatory learning • Consensus decision making • Deeper understanding of self • Lisle—it will change you • Finding community through common values • Finding community through common experiences*



Mrs. Ethelyn J. Maxwell (NY '40) wrote: "Marty's (membership drive) letter sent me on a wonderful nostalgic trip to Lisle (New York) 1940! I got out my old photo album and spent several hours trying to recall names, and relived some very special occasions, from KP in the kitchen to Vespers on the hillside! What an exceptional group of people from many parts of the world! I still consider those few weeks the finest educational experience of my 83 years!"

Sophia L. (Holly) Ellis (Ger '55, '56, USSR '56) Truly enjoys her contacts with Lislors from the '50's, and must hold the record for teaching German in Detroit area: 52 years at M.L. King High School. Congratulations, Sophia—that's terrific!

Robert and Elvira (Kitui) Ransom (Turkey '97) Bob writes that after 3 1/2 years in Ethiopia, he is back with Kitui in France, and works at the ILO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. New address: 191 Chemin des Hutins, Veraz, 01170 Chevry, France Tel.: 33450424816 E-Mail: ransom@hotmail.com.

Ingrid (Johansson) Slawson (CA '50) Congratulation to Ingrid and Raleigh, on their 50th Wedding Anniversary last December. Their four sons and a daughter arranged a celebration dinner. More than 70 guests were in attendance, followed by a trip to Hawaii that included a World War II Reunion.

Carol Jean Stifler (CO '42) She's almost 85 years young! She's convinced the best thing that ever happened in her life was the Lisle unit she participated in!

Karen Swam (Board '95-'98) In December Karen began work at the Connecticut Policy & Economic Council, a small, nonprofit located in Hartford, CT. Karen would love to hear from Lislors she knew while serving on the Board; she has moved to a small house in Manchester. She has room for guests and lots of garden potential. Her address and telephone are: 63 Bolton Street, Manchester, CT 06040. (860) 646-5337 E-mail: swamy22@aol.com.

Dennie (Denoya) Petty Wyatt (CO '46) wrote in March: "I've read the winter issue of Lisle *Interaction* with much interest and pleasure... The news about me and Robin Kwisera got the last lines mixed, I believe. I traveled to Taos and Santa Fe, and have a Buddhist practice—and maybe *Robin* enjoyed a visit last fall with Marion Wright Edelman, though I don't know. (Robin lives near my grandson and his parents, so I have been to her house and had a nice visit with her last year!) I have newsletter experience from years ago, so I admire your efforts! Keep it up!"

Editor's Note: Thanks for your note! Sorry about the mix-up between you and Robin. And, we will keep on working hard on the Lisle Interaction!

Walt and Betty Ligon are no longer "half-time Texans" but call Pentwater, Michigan "home" now. They enjoy following the opera circuit of Betty's niece, Jane Gilbert, and it took them back to Denver, CO (Central City Opera House) after 50 years! She appears in *Ariadne auf Naxos* in San Francisco in September. They promise to make it to the Annual Meeting in October.

Nat and Marina Firestone (CO '48, Family '63) are at Martha's Vineyard for the summer, and are seriously considering leaving Texas for residence on the East Coast to be near family.

Darwin and Barbara Holder called **James J. Smith** (CA '63) while in Houston. He asked about the New Orleans Board meeting. Being a native of New Orleans, he had planned to attend that meeting. Unfortunately, he was just coming off a long battle with a staph infection in his knee, months of intravenous antibiotics, and he didn't get to be with Lisle. He does plan to be at the fall meeting in San Francisco. Darwin is nominating J.J. to the Lisle Board.

Mark and Nancy Kinney are looking forward to the Annual Meeting in October. During the first week of July, 37 Kinney family members gathered together at Presque Isle, Michigan for a wonderful reunion. When all had left, daughter Kathy and three children joined Mark and Nancy for nine days of sailing—wonderful weather and great winds provided a fantastic time! The Kinneys are planning to live in Ann Arbor this fall, then are scheduled to teach in Hungary at the University Szeged from February through mid-June in 2003. Board Member **Judy Brown**, of Bainbridge Island, WA, gathered ten grandchildren and seven family adults together in Newcastle, Australia recently to honor what would have been the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Jack and Judy. Hosting everyone was their son Ross and family, who kept everyone busy snorkeling and on their toes with volleyball games.

Pasha Hussein, Sacramento, CA, (Ger '54, '56, CA '57) regrets he will be not be at the Annual Meeting, but sends his best regards and wishes to all. Pascha's e-mail: khussain@cal.web.com.

Ray & Anja Miller (Denmark '55, CO '56, CA '57, Denmark '69) just returned from a five-week trip to Germany, Belgium, Finland and Sweden. In Brugges, Belgium, they attended the International Studies Conference, where Ray chaired a panel. For the past 12 years, Anja has been an active volunteer with the Finlandia Foundation, and for five years a delegate to the Finnish Expatriate Parliament, where she chairs the Citizenship Committee. This committee's goal is to bring about dual citizenship for Finns, so that this fall, the Parliament of Finland will make that a reality. Good work, and good luck!



Jim Henshaw (CR '02) our participant from England, just came through town and stayed a week each with Liisa Korpela and Kristin Currin (leaders) and Kristin's sister and her housemate Sara (both of whom were on the trip). They all had a good chance to catch up and look at photos together.

Erin O'Brien (Leader, Uganda '93) works for Amnesty International as a Country Specialist in Uganda, among many other things. An in-depth biography on Erin can be found on the Internet, associated with a movie called *Soldier Child*. Lisle, Inc. is mentioned in it! Is any one still in touch with Erin? Check out her bio at www.soldierchild.org/biographies.html.

Sharada Nayack, Board Member, India Program leader and Lisle representative in India, won't be attending the Annual Meeting in San Francisco this fall. Instead, she'll be celebrating her 70th birthday by enjoying a cruise to the Andaman Islands! (FYI, the Andaman Islands are in the middle of the Bay of Bengal to the east of India. It is known as the "Emerald Isle", and is home to two distinct native cultures, as well as an aboriginal group that still is considered a "hunter/gatherer" culture.) We will miss your astute and warm presence at the Annual Meeting, but do wish you a very happy birthday. (Is there room on the cruise for a stowaway?—Editor)

Suzanne Brooks (CR '95) resides in Sacramento, and is a Lisle with an ongoing commitment to diversity. She is finishing her dissertation "Racism and Sexism in Higher Education—The Autoethnography of an Activist" for the Fielding Institute. She is active doing community service, publishing and presentations. She did a presentation at the 4th Annual Women of Color Day in Sacramento, which also attracted fellow Lislers **Chris Coons** ("News" compiler), **Jane Brown** (Bolivia '63, Colombia '66, Puerto Rico '67), and **Brenda Hepler** (Bali '01).

Sandy Chan (India '98) and **Sara Tucker** (India '98) live in Oakland CA. Sandy is studying diligently for her Licensed Clinical Social Worker exam, and is studying also to become a Buddhist. Sara is currently training for a marathon for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Good luck to you hard-working and activist Lislers! 🌐

Deceased "Friends" of Lisle

Anne Kennedy, of Nashville, TN, died in June 2001.
Leonard J. Kramer, of Albuquerque, NM, died in 2001.
Virginia Lewis, of Huntington, WV, died in July 2001.

Deceased Lislers

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families of Lislers listed below.

Gloria Gaston-Shapiro (CO '48) Board member, from Washington, DC. She died July 11, 2002. She was given a Memorial Tribute in the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA) newsletter. Gloria attended parts of the Board and Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. in October. Gloria was a retired foreign service officer and former Human Rights Officer on the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in Geneva. Many Lislers are saddened to learn of her death, especially those who remember her from the unit in Colorado.

Barb and Grey Austin wrote: "We remember Gloria as quiet, warm, caring and working well with the rest of us in the community." Betty and Walt Ligon remember Gloria as a gentle person and a loyal Lisle Board member whose contributions were always thoughtful and to the point. Chris Coons and Marina Firestone have fond memories of her at a Board Meeting in Washington DC in 1991, followed by a wonderful social gathering in the home of fellow Lisle, Tom Devries (CA '50) now deceased. Gloria was perceptive, sincere and a very gracious individual.

Mary Wykes reported her husband, **Arthur A. Wykes** (NY '44), died on March 17, 2001. He was always proud of his Lisle Fellowship opportunity years ago and spoke of it often.

Hans Sebald (Jamaica '61), died February 2, 2002 in his home in Gold Canyon, AZ. A professor emeritus, Hans held college degrees from Manchester College in Indiana, Ohio State and Arizona State University. He taught at ASU for 29 years. He was a prolific writer, publishing numerous articles and academic books. He wrote many articles after retirement, and an historical novel about witch persecutions in the 17th century Germany. He is survived by his wife Karen, and her three sons, as well as family in Germany.

Saleta (Wentworth) Smith (CO '42) from Enid, OK, died September 21, 2001, the day after their 59th wedding anniversary. They were engaged at Lisle, with Larry Eisenberg presiding, and six weeks later were married in Louisiana. Irving wrote: "I not only met the woman I loved at Lisle, but I also met and learned to appreciate the whole human race! We were always grateful to Uncle Si and Aunt Edna Baldwin for what they taught and demonstrated."

Carolyn (Jones) Stocking (CO '49) The date of her death is unknown to us. Eleanor Wrenn (NY '37) who lived in Providence, RI, died November 1999.

David Yamakawa (USSR '58) who lived in Richmond, CA, died March 2001. 🌐



Peace Corps & Lisle: A long-term Connection

By Dianne Brause

In addition to playing a part in the inception of the US Institute of Peace, Uncle Si also is said to have been invited into some of the early meetings during the time when the Peace Corps was being envisioned and designed. Since then, Lisle and Peace Corps have continued to hold similar visions in and for the world.

Dianne Brause, who had been a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Dominican Republic in 1967-1969, attended the 40th Anniversary of Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic in February of this year. There she reconnected with lots of old friends, including Lou Ferrand, who had been a PCV in the DR in 1966-68. He had also been a Lisle in Jamaica in 1962. (see letter below).

Marty Tillman had the idea of asking Lislers who have also served in the Peace Corps to identify themselves along with their Lisle Units and Peace Corps years and countries of service. So please make yourselves known—along with any stories of how Lisle and Peace Corps are connected in your minds! So far we know about Mark & Nancy Kinney, Bill Kinney, Dianne Brause, Lou Ferrand (Jamaica '62) and Vijay Alsi's (DC '67) daughter, Prateeksha. See excerpted letters from Vijay Alsi and Lou Ferrand below.

"When I came to the states as a participant in the Washington Lisle Unit of 1967, I could not have worked for Peace Corps. However, subsequently, I decided to live here and I am pleased to inform you that my daughter Prateeksha is a Peace Corps volunteer now working in Latin America. Her departure was delayed by 9-11 but now she is well settled and will work for two years, at the very least. I always believed that altruism is contagious and Lislers—or their children—are not immune from contracting it. —*Best wishes, Vijay Alsi*"

"I served as a PCV in 1966-68 in the Dominican Republic followed by a stint as a Peace Corps trainer for a group of Peace Corps Volunteer trainees in 1968.

"Something which may be of interest is the fact that in 1962 when I was with a Lisle unit in Jamaica, I met my first Peace Corps Volunteers (a husband and wife team who were stationed at the Jamaica School of Agriculture where my Lisle unit was trained and housed). It was from them that I first became interested in and got concrete ideas about joining the Peace Corps.

"About 15 years ago, several of us who had been PCV's or PC staff in the Dominican Republic ("D.R.") set up a group (which I later incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corpora-

tion named Fondo Quisqueya Foundation), to give small grants and scholarships to low-income Dominicans for study and training in the D.R. Last year, we gave out a record total of 73 grants and scholarships, and we hope to do as well this year. In February 2002, we celebrated 40 years of Peace Corps in the D.R. with a 3-day conference/reunion in Santo Domingo, and we have several activities planned, in conjunction with the RPCV group, "Friends of the Dominican Republic" during Peace Corps' 40th Anniversary Celebration here in D.C. — *Regards, Lou Ferrand.*" 🌐



Lisle friends pose for the camera...in India!

Lisle Couple Celebrates 50th Wedding Anniversary

Ed and Mona Key (CA '51) sent an announcement of their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 9, 2002 to their family and friends, including Lislers. It is excerpted it below. "We'd love a card from you, but no gift please. However, should you want an option, consider this. We met (in California) in '51 at a program of international education called Lisle, Inc. For six weeks, we lived and learned with 35 other students from nine nations and five major religions; it was a life-changing experience! You may be interested to know that Richard Millard, retired Episcopal Suffragan Bishop of California, and Marian Wright Edelman of The Children's Defense Fund are both Lisle alumni. A gift to Lisle's very modest budget is a gift to us and an investment in peace and understanding.

Editor's Note: We appreciate their very kind suggestion to make gifts to Lisle in honor of their special occasion. If you would like to send a congratulatory card to the Keys, their address is 64130 Harris Way, Bend, OR 97701. 🌐



Seeking Connections: Understanding Influences

By Patty Hill-Aranaga

Some families are chosen, some families are created, and some families have existed all along. I have spent the first part of my life seeking and creating these connections of family.

As a child, I was very much connected with my immediate family, though I did not appreciate it at the time. As a teenager, the connection seemed more distant, and so I sought out close friends who became my family.

During college, I began to work for a man named DeWitt Baldwin, whose life had been about bringing people together across boundaries of culture, religion, race and country—as early as the 1930s. He spoke of the values of worldmindedness and deepening interpersonal relationships, in a way that made me long to connect with a very real, global human family. So when my work with him was completed, I set off on my own to South and Southeast Asia in search of brothers and sisters living across the world. And I found them. Or they found me. Everywhere I went.

Like the woman sitting alone weaving palm leaves on the steps of her home in the midst of rice fields of Bali. When I smiled at her, she motioned for me to come over. So I sat down and wove palm leaves with her. She didn't speak English, my Indonesian was very limited, but she told me about her family and I told her about mine. We talked for over 3 hours. By the time I was getting ready to go, she was trying to marry me off to her seventeen year old son—an intriguing possibility but just a bit too young for me.

On the train to Calcutta, it was the man next to me, telling me about his daughter who was my age. He wanted to know about where I had been, and what I had seen, and he was somewhat horrified that I was alone. When he departed at his station, he gave me clear instructions as to what to do upon arrival and how to get where I was going. Finally he begged me to “please, take care of yourself!”

And there was the Nepalese hotel owner who quietly grumbled about having to display a picture of the King and Queen in his lobby; the family that shared their dinner and whiskey with me on the boat in Burma; the serious-looking air force officer on the bus in Java who taught me a few more words of Indonesian and sang “My Bonnie Lies O'er the Ocean” to me; the development workers I lived with in Bangladesh who tried to describe what it was like to fight and win a war of independence; the young IBM colleague of my mother's who introduced me to the dance scene in Singapore.

There were many more. Those who stuck most clearly in my mind, though, were a small group of village women who sat and

talked with me outside their mud and straw homes in northern Bangladesh. Their astute questions and comments provided me with the challenge of a lifetime and a call to action—questions like “What do people in your country think of us?” Their generosity went beyond what they could afford to give, and they asked of me only this: “Tell your people back home about us.”

In seeking out brothers and sisters on the other side of the world, I did indeed connect with my human family, and was touched profoundly by it.

And I found another connection that changed my life entirely. It was when I returned to Bangladesh to work there that I met an American diplomat serving as the press attache there. Three years later, in formalizing this connection, Carlos and I spoke our wedding vows, accepting the joy and responsibility for caring for each other and for starting a new family.

That was then. I have now been married for seven years, and have given birth to three daughters, creating a family that I cherish beyond description. I have rediscovered the joy of connecting with my own brother and sister and their families. And I have discovered my own parents to be two of the most admirable people I've known—they are my role models, my close friends AND our number one babysitters.

I still struggle with what I discovered on the other side of the world. I struggle to define what it is that connects us all. I do know that each of us, whether we recognize it or not, have a deep and personal connection to every human being on this planet. And though we often do not sense that bond, it becomes painfully obvious when it is severed. The resulting isolation profoundly wounds our soul. September 11th is a clear example of that.

Which leads me to my most recent understanding about family—whether it be a family created, a family chosen, or the human family as a whole. I have learned that being a family means more than making the connections. It means trying to understand the influence or the impact we have on each other. And it means acting responsibly based on that understanding—acting with love and commitment.

So I will leave you with questions that will probably be the focus for the next part of my life: As a mother, how do I influence my family without seeking to control? And as a member of the global human family, how do I have an impact, how do we influence, without seeking to dominate? I would welcome some answers. 🌐



We've Moved!

By Barbara & Darwin Holder

Well, after eleven years in Texarkana, the Holders are on the move again. Yes, when we were in Lubbock for granddaughter Leilani's graduation, we looked at houses for sale. We found a nice townhouse and we bought it. Lo and behold, we are now in the process of sorting, sifting and packing. The townhouse is a three bedroom, two bath, one large flower bed and no other yard. What would be the backyard is a nice deck with 4 nice size trees. Our kind of yard. There is a common swimming pool and party house—the best kind with no upkeep!

We never thought that we would be moving back to the Lubbock area. And, it is not the Lubbock we grew up in. There are now lakes, more trees, more restaurants, entertainment, museums, etc. Texas Tech has a lot of events to take advantage of, too. There are symposiums, lectures and special exhibits. At the museum right now is an exhibit of frescos from the Vatican—it will be there until the middle of September. We are looking forward to being close to daughter and her husband, granddaughter and her mother, brother and sister-in-law, niece and lots of other relatives and friends.

If you are going to be any place near either Texarkana (our primary residence until it sells) or Lubbock, be certain to let us know. We can always make arrangements to meet you there, barring some unusual event. 🌐



Michael Pollitt (pictured, right) was delighted to share several of the poems he has written since he recently learned to read and write. Here are two we especially liked!

Rainbow of Life

*It's the sunrise in the morning.
It's the smell of fresh-cut grass
and sitting on the porch
drinking a cup of coffee.*

*It's thoughts of the past.
It's thoughts of the future.
It's being sure of yourself.
It's the rainbow of life.*

*It's a pretty blue sky of clouds
and a soft ray of warm sunshine.
It's the coolness in the air.
It's the feeling of being in love.*

*It's knowing that God is always there
and forever loving you.*

Iron Box

*The feelings I have locked inside are
screaming to come out like wild horses
stampeding.*

*Not knowing how to read and write
is like being locked in a dark iron box,
cold and drafty,*

*and suddenly someone unlocking the
lock, the clanging of the chains hitting
the ground and the lid slowly opens up.*

*The sunlight shining in brighter and
brighter.*

*The hinges squeaking like fingernails on
a chalkboard.*

The lid opens.

The darkness is gone and life begins.

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

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

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**Annual Meeting Registration Form, San Francisco
October 17-20, 2002**

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: <lisle@io.com>

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 I am driving and will offer rides during weekend
 I'd like to connect with a driver coming to meeting To/from _____
 I need information on other lodging options: hotel private home
 Dietary needs: regular vegetarian vegan other restrictions _____
 I would like to join others for: further travel local sightseeing
 Any special needs for getting around? Please explain: _____

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900 County Road 269
Leander, TX 78641

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

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

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Notes about your activities:

I wish to pay by: Check VISA Mastercard
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Signature _____





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MEETINGS

Annual Meeting	Oct. 17–20, 2002	San Francisco, CA
Board Meeting	March 20–24, 2003	Chicago, IL

PROGRAMS

India	Oct. 20–Nov. 9, 2002
Costa Rica	Jan. 1–19, 2003
The Netherlands	June 16–July 4, 2003
Bali	July 28–Aug. 14, 2003
Pacific Northwest	Summer 2003

