

Lisle Interaction

WINTER ISSUE • 2002

My Fountain of Youth

By Darwin Holder

Walker's hair had been spiked using Elmer's glue, but it had sweated into an unappealing felted mass during the trip from Tacoma, Washington to Dexter, Oregon. It was the yellow pork pie cap that held in the heat and sweat to undo the do. It was early July of this year that I first saw Walker. Swallowing hard, I was determined to look beyond what I thought was the obvious. After all, we were at Lost Valley for a Lisle program, a program to help us understand and appreciate other cultures while we learned more about ourselves and our own culture. This did look like another culture.

Walker's black leather jacket was adorned with slogans from the World Trade Organization demonstrations in Seattle. Some were written on the jacket, others were on buttons attached scale-like to the lapels. It was warm; jacket and cap stayed on. Polyester plaid trousers in seventies hues, both knees, long worn away, showed tattered material that looked like thermal underwear on the right and tatters of an unrelated material showing on the left. Low quarter sneakers of the type I wore in gym class in the fifties looked in great shape for their apparent age. Under the bill of the yellow cap were serious

looking dark eyes peering out from a thin, handsome, sun browned face. Walker had the sincere, polite manner which grown ups of long ago expected from fifteen year olds. It felt like I was meeting a kid straight out of a Bowery Boys movie.

Walker took the "Walker, Texas Ranger" comments good-naturedly. He bantered back and forth in the getting acquainted manner of young people. Walker was quiet, but was quickly

accepted into the rapidly forming group of Lislers of all ages. There appeared to be no pretense in this unusual young man. He spoke matter-of-factly of being an oyster shucker and of enjoying work. He didn't talk about having or wanting a car. It was obvious that designer names on clothing held no magic for him. Over the next few days, he showed a willingness to do whatever needed to be done. No matter what he was doing, he maintained a friendly, open attitude.

Often there was wisdom showing through his teen-age dialogues. When I received word that my mother, long suffering with Alzheimer's, had passed away, Walker was one of the first to offer his condolences. He did this very sympathetically, and

(Cont'd next page)



*The Pacific NW Crew—ready to jump on the bus!
Do you recognize any of them?*

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The pause that refreshes—at the Youth Farm

offered to be available any time I wanted to talk. He said that at times like this, it sometimes helped to talk about it.

Joseph, one of the Lost Valley participants, had a video made by forty-two media people that had attended the WTO demonstrations. It presented an alternate view to that seen most often on the national news shows. Most of the Lisle participants accepted Joseph's invitation to view the film one evening after our scheduled events had been completed. After the tape had run, I asked Walker what his observations were about the film and the demonstrations, since the slogans on his jacket made it obvious that he was interested. Walker gave an informative, well organized, erudite analysis from his view of the demonstrations. Turns out he had been in Seattle from beginning to end. I'll try briefly to relate the gist of his response. Unfortunately, it loses the first hand charm of his delivery and wisdom of his philosophy. Walker told us he thought both sides had missed a wonderful opportunity to educate the public on the real issues behind the demonstrations. He thought both sides got caught up in demonstrating and lost view of the issues. Asked what he viewed the issue to be, he responded in the same wise philosopher's style and laid out the issues in clear, unemotional language. I think Walker was a better show than the film. I also think the nation would have benefited had he been the one in front of the cameras, narrating the demonstrations for the public.

I looked forward with high hopes of seeing a lot of growth in the young people that came to this new and exciting Lisle program. I'm not certain how much growth may have taken place in Walker, but my great surprise was how much good this young philosopher did for my growth. Though all the people in the program contributed to the total experience, it was having my "first impression" negative fantasies of Walker dispelled by his wisdom, intelligence, empathy, willingness to work, and outright charm that made me know I had a Lisle experience straight out of the vision of Uncle Si and Aunt Edna. The real fountain of youth is that set of circumstances that produces young people like Walker, capable, wise young people, moving up to lead us into the future.

Best of all, I was able to share this Lisle experience with Edward, thirteen, our grandson from Baltimore, and Rebecca, sixteen, our niece from San Antonio. A Lisle program is a wonderful way to share quality time with young relatives. Our service work in Oregon, in which we learned more about sustainable living in Earth's vulnerable environment, added interest and enrichment to the experience. Two weeks of travel to and from Oregon added to the experience for me, by giving me more time to soak up the energy and enthusiasm from Rebecca and Edward.

There were nineteen of us in the 2001 Lisle Northwest Program. We ranged in age from thirteen to my sixty-seven years. Our groups mix of ages, gender balance, and diversity would not have been possible without money for several scholarships. We would have missed the valuable contribution of diversity to the total result of the program had it not been for the participants coming under scholarship.

I urge Lislers to participate in this wonderful program. Best of all would be to come and bring a friend or relative, just come by yourself, or send someone. You could also participate by helping with the funding of scholarships so the diversity of the program can be assured, or by getting your church or civic group to sponsor one or more students to the program each year. Tell people about the program, it's great. 🌐



Deep discussion at Cob Cottage

Editor's Note: Upon being sent the above article and asked whether he was OK with it being used publicly, Walker sent this response:

"Dear Darwin, I would be honored if you put that article into the newsletter. While I don't know if all those things you say are accurate, I do know that they are very flattering and I have no objection to you writing them. Thank you. It is nice to hear from you. I often think fondly of you and everyone else on the trip, and I am even toying with the idea of going on the Costa Rica trip either this year or the following.

It was very nice to hear from you, keep in touch. Walker" 🌐



Pacific Northwest Program Report

By Leyla Welkin, Co-leader 2001 & 2002

A core of nineteen people of various ages and backgrounds attended the Lisle summer program in the Pacific Northwest. Some people were able to join us for the whole 19 days and some were there for 10 days or passed through briefly for specific events or activities.

Overall, a strong sense of community was built in the group. We explored a variety of views of sustainability and ways of building a positive future both in a social and in an ecological sense. Alternative housing was a theme throughout and we experienced several different building techniques and ideas: cob, a tepee, straw bale construction, recycled and ecologically sensitive materials and various forms of energy generation and conservation.

One of the disappointments this year was that many of our international participants were not able to join us at the last minute. Inability to arrange visas kept most of our Turkish participants away and a variety of personal events kept most of our other international and immigrant participants from coming. We did have one participant from Turkey, Cigdem (Ergan) and one from Canada, Wanaki (Bedard), so we had some international presence. Your contributions were used to support these participants.

In addition, we used your contributions to support the participation of several adults who help us to enrich our leadership and broaden the knowledge base of the activities offered. We were very pleased that Lane Winnett was able to join this Lisle program as a participant. First hand experience in a Lisle program will be a great benefit to her recruiting activities in the Texas office. Abigail DeYoung brought boundless enthusiasm and a fondness for tide pooling that was infectious and energizing. Joseph Schulz offered a strong knowledge base about sustainability and community building. Joseph, suffering from a painful back injury that kept him from being able to sit or stand, also honored us with his trust, allowing us to carry him on all our activities, even over rough terrain, so we began to understand inclusiveness in a whole new light. We are committed to opening participation in this program to all alter-abled people who would like to attend. With Joseph's cooperation, we

confirmed that we could make the program work for all. This group was very rich indeed.

We also had the good fortune of winning a grant from the Fannie Mae Foundation, which helped to support the participation of five young people who joined us but would not have been able to participate without scholarships. All the different contributions of time, money, energy and knowledge made this program a wonderful learning experience for all its many participants and the many people we encountered in our time together.

This coming August we plan once again to do the program. We will return to spend ten days at Lost Valley Educational Center in Dexter, Oregon to begin our group building and learning. Then we will travel north from Oregon and spend some time both along the coast and in Washington

State on Puget Sound. In the Puget Sound region we will explore local sustainability issues and do some work with Indian tribes involved in fisheries and ecological restoration projects. We invite you to join us as part of our group or to join us with your financial support once again for the coming year.

One of the key strengths of this Lisle program is that it includes participants from all different backgrounds without depending upon their ability to pay. This financial flexibility allows us to be much more inclusive and diverse than we would otherwise be able to be. Your participation in any form is welcome and deeply appreciated. We look forward to providing these programs both as an opportunity to bring a Lisle experience to people in the United States and as a way to cultivate leadership for Lisle programs over time.

The Lisle board has decided that this program can be one of the venues in which we develop and cultivate leadership for our programs as we work toward a sustainable future for ourselves, for Lisle and for the planet. Every contribution you make toward scholarships for participants in this program is an investment in leadership for the world community and for Lisle. Thanks for being a part of this exciting and powerful program. We look forward to having you continue to be a part as we grow and develop. 🌐



*Corn on the cob at the Oregon Coast.
Joseph is in the litter with the crutches.*



Pacific Northwest Participants' Quotes

Excerpted from the group's journal and their program evaluations

Joseph—Our group comes together and begins to form itself into the network of bonds and relationships that will shape and define the community we shall become over the next few weeks. I look into each bright set of eyes, and the wonderment and curiosity of things to come I see there... Many smiles and heartfelt stories are shared as we circle around in a name game... there is much commonness between us, we find... and also much that is so different: we've much to learn and to teach each other.

Abigail—It was a great experience in my life, one never to be forgotten. I met so many interesting, kind-hearted people. People of like mind to myself, all wanting to learn more about sustainable living as well as living with a group of strangers. This common goal brought us together, from different social and economic backgrounds we came to Lost Valley to learn, to grow, and to open our minds to ways other than our own. I really appreciate the hard work that went into bringing this priceless event into being. Thank you to all and let's do it again!

Lars—I felt that my entire idea and view towards engineering was changed due to the people I met and the ideas that the 3 week program brought me in contact with. I'm glad it existed and I'm very glad I went.

Elizabeth—Sitting here at the outdoor kitchen, with the packing activity swirling around, there is still such a feeling of peace. The tipi, tawny and authentic, with its prayer flags

flying, sits serenely in the center of the meadow. Yurts, greenhouses, the willow screened solar-heated outdoor shower, oaks with dripping mosses mingling the firs, ducks and dogs wandering through on their own business. Community members heading out to one task...with bike carts with tools in tow. Work and play flow from one to another without arbitrary breaks. This feels like home. Thank you Lost Valley and Lisle.



Lovely morning in the meadow



A cob wall with personality!

Rebeccah—I would love to come back and learn more; repeating the experience will give me the chance to pick up on some things that I missed before. I hope to see you soon, and share the summer with you once more.

Christina—Saturday we went tidepooling at Sunset Bay... We found a couple of rare creatures. It was cool. I like the ocean so much. It's beautiful. It was the lowest tide of the year and we just happened to be here. It was great!

Allan—A big part of the value of the trip for me was the open fact of group process even when no one felt like doing that. That had value for me at my age, but I think of people much younger than me being exposed to the same thing and maybe not having to get so old before discovering that way of being within a group. That's a different style of leadership than a person would run into in schools.



Keep on stomping! Mixing the straw and mud together to make cob.

Walker—The highlight of the day for me was the moment that I sat and looked at those flowers. Not looking at them as a symbol for anything. I was just able to look and think how amazing it is that they would all grow together like that. Haiku: "flowers together/unity in difference/all growing intertwined." 🌍




Community Contributions to Pacific NW Program

By Dianne Brause

The following people and places provided a variety of opportunities for the participants of the Lisle Pacific Northwest Program. We offer them our hearty thanks!

Lost Valley Educational Center, NEDCO (Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation), The Springfield Youth Farm, The Springfield/Eugene Habitat for Humanity, Rob Bolman, President of the Eugene Chapter of the NW Ecobuilding Guild, Bring Recycling, EPUD (Emerald People's Utility District), The Super Heroes, The Weyerhaeuser Recycling Plant, The Cascades Raptor Center, The Oregon Country Fair, Cob Cottage, The Cottage Restaurant, Aprovecho Research Center, The Boggs' Farm & Land Trust, Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area at Tugman State Park, Alpha-Bit Store, The Aerious Foundation at the YewWood Forest Retreat Centre, The Deadwood Fire Station & Community Center, John Baldwin, the Director of the Institute for a Sustainable Environment at the University of Oregon.

Visit the Lisle website for the details of the activities each of the above offered. <www.lisle.utoledo.edu> 



Teamwork and good communication are required when putting up the tipi poles! In the meadow at Lost Valley Center.

Bringing the World to Us


By Leyla Welkin

Our Pacific Northwest program provides a wonderful opportunity to bring eager, curious and interesting people of all ages together to create community with us right here in the United States. Our goal in the Pacific Northwest Program has been to build as diverse a program group as we are able, in order to enrich the community we create. For many international participants, the cost of travel to the United States by itself is as much as they are able to raise.

Most other nations do not share our level of affluence. Our program explicitly explores ways of creating a world in which resources are more wisely and equitably used. It is essential that we practice what we preach as an organization, and that we support the participation of people from different parts of the world and different levels of economic privilege. Much of the cost of the Northwest Program comes from gifts and grants from people and organizations that share our vision: the strongest and most sustainable communities are those rich in cultural and economic diversity.

We hope that vision lives in you, too, as a member or friend of Lisle. Please contribute to our scholarship fund for supporting the Pacific Northwest Program. We are particularly in need of contributions toward the costs of international and less youthful participants. Each participant requires \$1000-\$1400 for our 19-day program. Please consider becoming a sponsor or getting your group or organization to sponsor a participant. Contributions may be made directly to Lisle and earmarked for Northwest Program Scholarships.


In our past two programs, we successfully sponsored nine Turkish participants, two Canadians and a variety of economically disadvantaged Americans. We hope to make the diversity even greater and the numbers even higher this coming summer.

Please help us build a sustainable community for the future of us all! 

Gifts Appreciated—Thanks!

The Pacific Northwest Program was successful, in part due to the generosity of the following groups and individuals: Judy Brown's Quaker congregation, The Maxfields, Jordon Mann (in memory of his wife), The Ligons, Ana Maria De Jesus, Patricia Wold, Helen St. John, Roy and Maribel Deming, Ethel Ackley, and Joe Ault.

J.J. Smith, Allan Hesch, Kevin Hornbuckle, and Cindi Fischer offered in-kind donations.

We give a special thanks to the Fannie Mae Foundation for the \$5,000 in scholarship money they donated to Lisle for the Pacific Northwest program. 



President's Message

My fellow Board members join me in sending each of you our warmest wishes for a wonderful New Year! I hope that you see from this issue that we are moving ahead with Lisle's program plans over the course of these next months and years. We had a great year in 2001 and hope to have some excellent programs in 2002. But, needless to say, we are all living and coping with many new sets of realities which have had and will continue to have new consequences in our personal lives and in the life of our organization.

I'm writing this piece two months after the September 11 attacks in Washington, DC, New York City and the not-to-be-forgotten plane crash in Pennsylvania. I find myself still harboring complicated emotions and conflicting thoughts about the events and their meaning for our nation, for the world, and for myself. A Board member sent me a newsletter from a sister volunteer exchange organization which included a message to their volunteers. In part, the writer said, "...I have learned during the past two decades that the way to counteract intolerance and hate—the ingredients that create terrorism—is to learn about others through personal interaction and service. Terror can't survive in a world where friendship and respect prevail."

Anyone associated with Lisle will deeply believe that it is through service and personal interaction that we fight and actively counter intolerance and hatred in our communities, our schools, and even between peoples with sharply divergent religious or political beliefs. But, can we counter the terrorism of Al Qaeda simply through our personal or organizational efforts to promote friendship and respect?

News stories have pointed out that several of the terrorists who flew the planes on 9/11 had been in the United States for quite long periods of time, living quietly in communities and interacting with American citizens. And we now know that several were also living and studying in Germany for some time before they arrived in the U.S.

These men were not coming from impoverished and oppressive circumstances like the Palestinian suicide bombers who have blown themselves up along with Israeli citizens in the current Intifada. They knew about and took advantage of the liberties and freedoms afforded citizens in the West. They were educated. They had even made friends. They had a chance, it might be said, to change their thinking or perhaps to even question their beliefs—to reflect on their mission to murder innocent citizens.

What are we to make of the fact that, despite their time abroad, the 19 terrorists were not deterred? I'm not sure I know



*Marty Tillman
President*

how to answer my question. Can the terrorism we are facing in our world today survive a world "where friendship and respect prevail?" It did for these 19 men and it will likely in the future. It hurts me to speak this way. But, it is true that for a very long time as other nations in Europe and the Middle East were confronting terrorism, the United States was not. We were onlookers and could not imagine such acts would ever be committed on our soil. Many often felt this made Americans truly "innocents abroad." And in some ways I think that since September 11 we surely have lost that innocence and can no longer see the world the same way.

Having said this, I remain as committed as ever to what Lisle stands for in this horribly changed world. What other choice is there? The difference now is that we are facing a new reality—one which forces us to acknowledge the limits of our organization's work (assuming we had not done so before), and the limits of our ability to personally change the thinking of others who wish to do our nation and our citizens harm. 🌐

Marty

Editor's Note: Just imagine what the world might be different today if those 19 "terrorists" had come to a Lisle program and found the strength of love and the value of unity in diversity.



Executive & Program Director's Message

Washington DC, October 19-21, 2001

The time since May has been very eventful, what with my leading the Bali program during July and August and the tragic September 11th happenings. Other than that, the time has been spent in working behind the scenes on several projects involving the web page, health/travel and liability insurance and emergency procedures. The web page has had quite a few changes to it during that time. I have arranged with University of Toledo (UT) to forward a monthly report of the "hits" on our pages so that we can begin to understand how well it is being used. I have updated information for the new programs to Costa Rica, India, and Turkey, and will update the information for Bali and Pacific NW as soon as I receive them.

I have spent some time at UT working on getting Evonne Ellis registered so that they can transact the Americorps Voucher and thereby get paid. Given two difficult experiences so far in trying to use such Vouchers, I am deciding not to allow the use of these Vouchers in future programs. I am moving toward having new information to place on the web site relative to the 2002 programs.

I tried an experiment with the Bali program in that I took out travel/health insurance for Bill and myself. During the program one participant became sick enough to need a doctor's care. During that event, while I was checking my documentation for participants, etc., it became clear that one way to diminish the workload on leaders is to require all international participants to have the IVPA travel/health insurance. We can accomplish that by building the cost into the program fee. It amounts to \$45 per participant. By so doing, it removes a lot of concern from leaders in that they only need to know of one procedure for handling health emergencies and can be forthright with participants about how to handle payments, etc., for such care. In the final analysis, if the participant has his or her own coverage then that coverage can/may be contacted to pay for the coverage, but it will no longer be required.

In terms of liability insurance, I have been interested in paying attention to the fallout from the September 11 events as it pertains to study abroad. So far there are indications that it is causing many people to be concerned about traveling and particularly traveling abroad. It also increases awareness of the possibilities of attack while in country on our programs as well as on the planes going and coming. Given this state of affairs, I am pursuing the possibility of liability insurance for Lisle for



*Mark Kinney
Executive Director*

at least the next year or two. That having been said, the indications are that the cost of such insurance has gone up substantially because of these events. I am currently awaiting some indication of what those costs will be. I am working on drafting recommendations for an emergency procedure document for Lisle leaders.

In my role as Chair of the Executive Committee at IVPA, I have been hiring a new Executive Director and moving the office to New York City. That will be accomplished during October. We are close to achieving sustainability, and will know of our success within the next 6 months.

Recruitment remains a major hurdle for Lisle. I believe that we need to develop a task force to focus attention on recruitment issues. It is crucial that we find more effective ways to attract participants. In fact, over the past two years the number of contacts made to Lisle, both in the office and to me personally (primarily from older information, which was sent out and posted) have diminished, with some exception for the contacts we have received from Frommers' articles. We must turn this around!

I am continuing work on making sure that Lisle is represented at the NAFSA meeting in May, and that Lisle's name is present at activities such as the California Study Abroad Fairs. 🌐

Mark



Board Committees Defined

By Barbara Bratton

As reported in the last issue, the Board has decided to meet twice a year in order to reduce costs. This means that more of the committee work has to be done between meetings—generally by email or conference calling. We would be most grateful for alumni to volunteer to be on any of these committees—they will meet electronically two or three times between each Board Meeting. Please email or call the office if you are interested or want to know more about what each committee does.

Program Committees

Scholarship & Recruitment—to raise money, write grants, review publications and advertisement, oversee awards of financial assistance or scholarships.

Leadership—to concern itself with developing and training leadership for Lisle Programs and making sure Lisle supports its leaders before, during and after their programs.

Program Development—Active in instigating new programs and inter-acting with program leaders to fine tune existing programs.

Evaluation—read journals and evaluations from participants, work with leaders on evaluation of programs after they are completed, provide a report to the Board on what is good and what needs changing.

Governance Committees

Finance—oversee investments, bookkeeper and auditor.

Safety & Liability—work on policies to provide on-going safety in Lisle programs and to cover liability issues to protect the corporation. Put policies in place and monitor their function.

Board Development—find new board members, provide education for board members and present slate of officers annually.

Web Page—continually review and find updates for web page.

Interaction—write articles for twice yearly newsletter.

Board Meeting Places—help the office arrange to have a Board meeting in your city. 🌐

Thanks to Guest Speaker Hiram Ortiz

On behalf of the Lisle Board and our area alumni, many thanks for taking the time to speak with us in October. Your remarks provided everyone with an exceptional overview of the history leading up to the current crisis in Afghanistan.

Marty Tillman

Committee Assignments

By Barbara Bratton

Without changing the intent of the Bylaws, it was generally agreed that committees fall into two categories: Governance and Programs.

Marty, as President, and Barbara, as Office Manager, will generally take responsibility for making sure the Governance Committees function. These committees will meet between meetings via email and teleconferencing and bring prepared proposals to the Board meetings for discussion and voting on major issues. Time will, in general, not be allocated during Board meetings for these committee meetings. The Executive Committee, during monthly phone calls, will be charged with oversight and approval on these committees and the decision as to which items need to come to the full Board for vote.

Committee members are as follows. **Finance:** Barbara, Mark, Mary & Marty; **Safety & Liability:** Beth, Mark, Marty; **Board Development:** Marty; **Web Page:** Mark, Jon; **Interaction:** Dianne, Elise, Chris Coons; **Board Meeting places:** Lane 🌐

Financial Report

By Barbara Bratton, Treasurer

As you have no doubt heard, contributions to non-profits are way down this year because of the 9/11 tragedy and the slowing economy. From our first membership request we have noticed fewer contributions coming in, but those who have sent money have sent more than usual. Our thanks to all of you who have recognized that Lisle has a lot to say about what is happening in our country and our world right now.

If we could only get a whole lot more Lisle participants and more diversity, we could impact the hateful messages that are so prominent in the news. Our second request for membership was mailed out in January—we hope everyone will choose to participate in our message.

As of September 30, 2001:

Assets at Fair market value:

Unrestricted Funds	8,527
Endowment Funds	139,731
Scholarship Funds	33,431
New York Land	15,000
Office Equipment	934
Total Assets	\$197,623

Misc Liabilities	4,788
Unrealized loss on investment	(14,801)
Funds Equity Account	207,636
Total Liability & Equity	\$197,623



Walt & Betty Ligon Service Award

By Mary Tillman

At the Annual Meeting held last fall in Washington, DC, the Board voted to establish the Walt & Betty Ligon Service Award to recognize the tremendous contribution of the Lignons to Lisle and its mission. Along with her devotion to Lisle as a member of the Board, Betty was an exceptionally strong Board President for many years. Walt's commitment to Lisle has never wavered since he first came to Lisle in 1948! His service on the Board for a period of many decades is unparalleled. Walt and Betty have mentored new Board members and their steady leadership and clear vision has enabled Lisle to weather many storms and unsteady times.

The Walt and Betty Ligon Service Award will be given to individuals who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to Lisle's principles and mission. 🌐



Who want the first piece?

Walt & Betty cut their farewell cake at the Annual Meeting

Appeal for Complete Lisle Unit Participant Lists

By Lane Winnett, Lisle Office Secretary.

I try very hard to keep accurate records as to participants in the many Lisle units and programs. I sometimes receive conflicting information, so I am making an appeal to all Lislers. If you have a Unit List of Participants in which you took part, please mail a copy or the original list (all originals will be returned), or send a list by email (please indicate who the leaders were). The office address is 900 County Road 269, Leander, TX 78641. My email is <lisle@io.com>.

I wish to acknowledge all the help Edith Ballard has been in getting accurate information to the office.

I will appreciate any assistance! 🌐

Fond Farewell From The Lignons

I remain warm as well as humble from the beauty of your farewell to me as an official Board member. You are a wonderful group of people who are all doing good things. Being with you sort of renews my soul. And I like knowing that Lisle remains in competent, dedicated, and caring hands.

The pain of separation is eased by the realization that I need not feel guilty if the pile of paper I brought back with me remains unfiled for an indefinite period; I need not concern myself with executive committee calls; I need not give thought to committee reorganization and bylaws. But I can if I want to.

Both Walt and I are deeply touched by having a service award begun in our name. I always thought it would be interesting to have a building named after us. This will have to do and it does very well indeed!

Peace and love to all of you,

Betty and Walt

New Board Member Autobiography

By Betsy Bridwell

I have been interested in international education since I first studied overseas through the Semester at Sea program when I was in college. Working aboard that program after graduation clarified my interest in higher education student personnel work, which I have been doing ever since, in various roles in a variety of colleges. My current position at the Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington, is a perfect blend of my career interests and my passion for the international arena. Serving as a Lisle board member seems a natural extension of the things I am already involved in.

I discovered Lisle because I wanted to go to Bali and knew I didn't want to be just a "tourist." I had a wonderful experience there on Lisle's 1997 program and am now looking forward to playing a role in the organization, even though I am not quite certain yet what that will be! Since I missed the annual meeting in DC, I am particularly anticipating the New Orleans board meeting so that I can meet face-to-face those I will be working with on behalf of Lisle, and get a better feel for the workings of the organization. I plan to join another program soon — hopefully Turkey in May — to broaden my personal experience with Lisle programs. At the moment, my main goal as a new board member is to find ways to acquaint more people with Lisle and encourage them to become involved in this wonderful way of experiencing the world. 🌐



Program Committee Report

By Leyla Welkin

We have had four successful but small programs this year and plan five programs for the coming year. Here are the brief reports.

• India

The winter 2000–2001 India program was small (three participants plus Sharada as leader, Aditi as Indian Leader-In-Training, and Dianne Brause as prospective leader). Generally it was a good program with some very moving and meaningful experiences for each of the 6 women—although as a group they had very divergent interests and values. They visited three ashrams that followed Gandhian philosophies, but each with a distinct flavor (school for tribal children, sustainable community of 5000 lepers, disabled people and a small institute trying out methods of sustainability). Thus, they were given quite a unique glimpse into an India that most Westerners never see and were hosted by some amazing beings. It was a gift to be able to have such an entryway into another part of the world. It was perhaps a good test case of the kinds of custom travel opportunities that Sharada is proposing to offer to individual or small groups of Western visitors to India.

• Pacific Northwest

This intergenerational US-based Lisle program tackled numerous obstacles and ended up a success in terms of growth, knowledge and awareness of each participant. The original leadership shifted from inception to completion, with Leyla Welkin, Dianne Brause and several other adults, including Darwin Holder, playing a variety of leadership roles. Numbers of participants varied during the program but included between 15 and 19 people. A major focus was on sustainable lifestyles with an emphasis on alternative and natural building with Lost Valley Educational Center serving as home base. (Summer 2001 is highlighted in this issue, see pages 1–6. See also page 15 in the Program section for this summer's program description.)

• Bali

Mark and Bill Kinney led the Bali program in August. They had six female participants and felt the program was successful. They visited many of the same places that the group has visited in the past and suggest some new possibilities for next year. The leader for this summer's trip to Bali will be Bill Kinney. The economic changes in Indonesia and the world may have some significant effects on planning for this program in the coming year.

• Costa Rica

Leaders Kristin Currin and Liisa Korpela took off for Costa Rica with four participants in early January. Prior to their departure, she sent the following message.

"It looks like we are going to have one of the best itineraries ever, with a new stop at a biological station where we will do trail work and a visit to the Guaymi indigenous reservation, as well as stay at a sustainable agricultural project where we will get a tour and lecture. All of that interlaced with our normal site visits to cooperatives and communities. We also have two computers formatted in Spanish to donate to the communities. I just wish we had more people to enjoy it!"

Kristin generously offered to waive her half of the leader stipend—to pay for the Costa Rican participants. We look forward to publishing photos and stories of this trip in next issue of *Interaction*.

• Turkey

This spring we plan to do a program in Turkey focused on women. (See page 16 in the Program section for the description.)

• Scholarships

We gave one regular scholarship (outside of Pacific NW) last year and that was a Baldwin Scholarship to Dianne Brause for \$1,500 to go to India. We awarded the Marion Wright Edelmann Scholarship to Kimberly Suber for the Costa Rica Program in January 2002.

We received a \$5,000 grant from Fannie Mae Foundation for five scholarships to Pacific NW participants, Joseph Schultz, Avery Welkin, Abigail DeYoung, Lars Maxfield and Christina Byrd.

As part of a final report to the Fannie Mae Foundation, we have documented the progress of this program in this issue of *Interaction*, as well as on both the Lisle <www.lisle.utoledo.edu> and the Lost Valley website <www.lostvalley.org>. We also collected funds from alumni and awarded \$3,500 in scholarships for Pacific NW to other participants: Allen Hesch, Cigdem Ergen (Turkish), Lane Winnett, Wanaki Bedard (Canadian).

• Leadership Training

The committee is rethinking leadership training for the future.

• Insurance

Based on recommendations made by Mark, the committee will be working on the issue of insurance and emergency procedures over the coming year. 🌐



Lisle Office Perks Right Along!

Between Barbara Bratton, Lane Winnet, and occasionally Lori Bratton, Marty Tillman, and Mark Kinney, the Lisle office is humming with efficient activity.

Barbara's main responsibilities include, but are *not* limited to: spearhead the program advertising mailings, develop Board packets (typing, copying, etc.) with Lane's assistance, coordinate printing of all publications, handle all finances, including deposits, bills, keep track of values of investments, filing, and write up reports to the President and Executive Director.

Lane's primary responsibilities are (to name a few) answer phones (be nice to people!), maintain the database and membership/program lists, process incoming and outgoing mail, support the various programs (including recruitment, hand-holding, first aid kits, and compiling all the trip details into packets and reports!), host visiting alumni and send personal notes of condolence and congratulations, assist Barbara with Board/Annual meeting development and packets, and keep network news information flowing to Chris Coons.

Lori works with Lane to help maintain the Operating Manual and keep current Board members updated.

Marty works with Barbara to write the bi-annual membership fundraising letters.

Mark works with the office to make sure the website is up-to-date.

With such a great team effort, lots of work gets done for Lisle's operations. It is vibrant and sometimes complicated work that requires good business heads as well as warm hearts. Let's all take a quiet moment to thank these people for how they keep Lisle, Inc. a viable and professional organization. You can even take it a step further, and send them a note of appreciation! 🌐

Jack Brown Memorial Fund

By Barbara Bratton

A memorial account was set up to honor Jack Brown's memory. Jack was active with Lisle since 1950. He has been a participant, a leader and a member of the Board of Directors until the time of his death. We are pleased to have received \$1,125 for this memorial account and wish to remind others of this opportunity to give to Lisle in honor of Jack. Our thanks to Vickie Marie, Jeanne Lohmann, Dan Adams, Marga Koischwitz, Ralph & Polly, Victor, Barbara Bratton, Sharada Nayak and Anke Schey-Van der Dussen. 🌐

Lislers Reunite at Annual Meeting

By Marty Tillman

A new voice was heard at the fall Annual Reunion and Board meeting in Washington, DC. It was the wonderful sound of Arthur James (*Denmark '57*) who made the journey down from his home in Manhattan to see how Lisle was doing after an absence of many years. Arthur said he felt it was time to renew his ties to Lisle and everyone present was glad he ventured south! Arthur's career in the theatre was evident in his leadership of song and his presentation of a theatrical piece one evening.



Darwin, Jon, and Arthur James tell stories.

Sally Butler (*Bali, '93, '97, Leader Training '98 and Turkey '00*) traveled to Washington from her home in Lancaster, PA. Sally is an elementary school teacher who has obviously found Lisle to be a rich experience through her participation in several recent programs. Sally made a gracious commitment at the meeting to introduce Marty Tillman to a potential donor.



Patty Hill and daughter Faith.

Dinner Saturday evening was enjoyed at the America Restaurant, located in the Amtrak station. We Lislers took over the upper tier of tables and enjoyed our choice of regional foods from all over our country. The reuniting Lislers joined the usual bunch of us. Among them: Patti Hill and husband Carlos Aranaga with their babe-in-arms Faith; Alex Cox; Howard Binkley and his lovely wife, Lumi; my wife Gail and our daughter Zoe; Ana Maria de Jesus and husband Alfonso; Bill Kinney and Mary Beth Henning. 🌐

2002 Annual Board Meeting

New Orleans: March 21–24, 2002

By Dr. Alice Gail Bier

Mark your calendar and make those reservations now to meet up in New Orleans for the Lisle Board Meeting March 21–24, 2002. Board member Gail Bier will be the host for this meeting. The meeting will take place at the Dominican Conference Center (DCC) in the uptown area of New Orleans.

Transportation

New Orleans is accessible by air, bus, Amtrak and car. The DCC is accessible by airport shuttle (\$10 one-way) or public transportation. The public transportation system makes it easy for you to explore and enjoy New Orleans. If you plan to drive, there is street parking in the area.

Accommodations

The Dominican Conference Center has 26 double rooms. Each room has two single beds, and each pair of rooms shares a bathroom with shower. There will be plenty of space available for Lisle alumni and friends.

Costs

The cost for three nights, three breakfasts, three lunches and one dinner will be approximately \$155.00 per person. The DCC meal service provides home-cooked Louisiana cuisine. Vegetarian meals can be made available upon request. Shuttle or taxi service (to and from airport or train), train or airfare and Saturday evening dinner in a local restaurant will be each participant's monetary responsibility.

Booking Information

New Orleans is a popular conference city, and one shouldn't wait until the last minute to make reservations. So reserve your flights as soon as you can, and contact Lane Winnett to reserve your space at the DCC. See page 23 for the registration form for mailing in your reservation. You can also call (800) 477-1538 or email Lane at <lisle@io.com>. Be sure to let Lane know if you prefer a vegetarian meal plan.

Leisure Activities

You will find much to do and explore outside of our Lisle activities. The Dominican Conference Center is near the St. Charles street car line that runs down through the historic St. Charles Avenue to the French Quarter. You can walk through shady Audubon Park (which contains a two-mile walking track), or take a boat ride down the Mississippi. Within five blocks of the DCC are Tulane and Loyola Universities, Maple

Street and the River bend areas, which are full of restaurants.

New Orleans has a rich history reflected in its Hispanic-Gallic traditions, which have influenced its architecture, cuisine and cemeteries. It has the flavor of an old European capital

In the French Quarter, you will stroll by princely homes reminiscent of the 17th and 18th century Parisian homes. They are often surrounded or decorated by ornate cast-iron fencing and balconies. Ancient oak trees line St. Charles Avenue. The St. Charles Line, the only surviving historic streetcar system, is comprised of 35 electric cars. The sheer number of historic homes and buildings per square mile is astounding. Almost 82 percent of the buildings in Uptown (the city's largest historic district) were built before 1935!

The cuisine in New Orleans is famous the world over. Food is such an important part of New Orleans culture that directions are often given according to the well-known landmark cafes and restaurants. Because it is a city of immigrants the cuisine has been influenced by Africa, Croatia, Germany, Sicily, Italy, Spain, France, Ireland and the Caribbean, to name a few countries.

The unique cemeteries (Cities of the Dead) in New Orleans are fascinating to see. They are built above ground due to the high water table and below sea-level elevation. They have been the site of many unusual occurrences and are a source of fascination to visitors. The Metairie Cemetery is considered the most beautiful, as well as the most unique one in the world. The St. Louis Cemetery Number 2 was the fourth one to be created, with sections set aside for specific religious or ethnic groups. Tours can be arranged through the National Park Service.

Y'all come down and pass a good time! 🌐



2002 Annual Membership Meeting

San Francisco Bay Area: October 17 – 20, 2002

By Chris Coons

Mount Alverno Conference Center, 3910 Bret Harte Drive, Redwood City, CA will be the location for the Annual Membership Meeting, October 17 – 20, 2002. 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.

Leisure Activities

There is an Olympic-sized pool, as well as a tennis, volleyball or basketball court. There are many hiking paths located on the campus for the walkers and joggers, as well as a native California plant garden. There is easy access to recreational areas, theater, art, beaches, and historical landmarks.



The lawns, gardens and inner courtyard are carefully maintained and tranquil.

Venue Accommodations

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 two persons with private bath.

Weekend Packages and Rates

*Dorm: \$200.00; Shared: \$220.00; Private: \$240.00

(Includes three nights (Thurs., Fri., Sat.) three breakfasts, three lunches, two dinners).

*Dorm: \$130.00; Shared: \$220.00; Private: \$240.00.

(Includes two nights (Fri. & Sat.) two breakfasts, two lunches, two dinners).


*Dorm: \$130.00; Shared: \$220.00; Private: \$240.00.

(Includes one night (Sat.) Saturday lunch/dinner; and Sunday breakfast/lunch).

Commuters: Lunch: \$8.00 each; dinner: \$9.00 each

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. For reservations, questions and maps, please contact Lane at the Lisle Office: (800) 477-1538. 



Bali 2001: Culture and Volunteerism

By Mark Kinney

Bali went out of its way to provide very special celebrations and events for our program. The leadership team of Bill and Mark Kinney worked well together. We went to Bali a week in advance. Three of these days were crucial to laying out the relationships with the various locations which were to be visited. It allowed us to meet the local contact people, plan the special actions and events we wanted to participate in, see the facilities, negotiate the fees to be paid in advance, and in some places, to pay a deposit. By paying the deposits, it reduced the amount of cash which Bill and I carried. One point to make here is that it is very important we found to negotiate all fees in Rupiah, rather than dollars because the value of the dollar was dropping all the time we were in country.

We were also able to take a couple of days to ourselves to visit other parts of the island. We found this time very important to the quality of leadership which we provided during the program. We found several nice areas to visit (Ulu Watu and Lovina on the north coast) met more Balinese, which helped orient us to Balinese ways, and sorted out how the leadership teamwork would be done. This time also helped us in making recommendations for the further travel of several group members.

When the group arrived, there was a very productive balance in age and in understanding of cultural factors. Even though all six participants were female,

there was little difficulty in relating to the participants. The group came together amazingly well.

We decided to use Ubud as our orientation place for the first two nights in Bali. That was done last year as well. A new recommendation this year was to suggest that the participants look but not buy, since we were going to come back to Ubud at the end of the trip for one night, which would give people the



The participants and Balinese friends pose near a temple they visited near Budakeling.

opportunity to purchase anything they had not found already.

In Budakeling, we made a special effort to create a volunteer experience in two ways. We visited a local school and asked if we could come back and watch the teachers teach for a period of time, and then teach a lesson for one hour. We asked to do this for two days in a row. This idea was done specifically so that they could adapt to what we were capable of doing, and we could process the learning from the three contacts (i.e. the first uninvited visit, and the two planned

teaching events). We then divided up the group into three subgroups and taught lessons in three upper elementary classrooms. We divided the Lisle group so that there was a teacher in each group (we were lucky in that the leaders were skilled teachers and one of the participants was also). This was a tremendously powerful learning experience for all of the participants, leaders and students as well.

We joined in the regularly scheduled monthly trash pick up session of the Banjar. The time was only 30 minutes, and only half of our group participated because, as often happens in Bali, the actual time which was stated for the event was not the one which transpired, and half the group was off doing other things when the time came. In Kamasan we were less able to generate a service project, although we did pick up trash on a trail one day.

After these two small community experiences, we went to Canti Dasa as in the past and stayed at the Lotus Bungaloes, a very upscale hotel on the beach. Bill and I considered whether to spend the extra money for this, but realized that the group would need a place to unwind and relax. The hotel did provide us a wonderful respite, where we sat and visited in a quiet way. However, three of the participants became sick during this time, and that it might have been due to the availability of richer foods, as well as the chance to return to the western/US life style (overconsumption) and a bit of homesickness in thinking of going home. 🌐



INDIA

THE MILLENNIUM WOMAN
OCTOBER 13–NOVEMBER 2, 2002

This is a program for women of the world to listen and hear the echoes of their own voices. It will provide an opportunity to travel through India, meeting women in their diverse roles in different regions.

We will take a three-week journey through the north and south of India, by plane, bus and train. This journey will be a kaleidoscope that will give you changing views of the country and its people, highlighting the similarities and differences of women everywhere.

Our aim is to allow you an opportunity to see the common concerns in the midst of wide disparities. We will travel to meet women in the midst of diverse geographic settings meet their challenges. We will talk to village women who despite living on the fringes are realizing a new awareness of the changes that impact on their lives. We will meet educated women who have battled odds to succeed in their professions. We will hear from women activists who are fighting for legal rights on behalf of their sisters. We will discover ourselves through looking into the mirror of another woman's life.

Out tentative travel itinerary includes: Delhi—become oriented to women's issues through discussions with a cross section of people; Agra—tour the Taj Mahal; Jaipur—visit village development programs and rural women social workers; Ahmedabad—visit with Ela Bhatt, founder of SEWA (Self-Employed Women's Association), an initiative for women to take charge of their own economic destiny which is now a template for women's cooperatives and women's micro-credit banks in several countries; meet dancer Mrinalini Sarabhai and her daughter Mallika

Sarabhai, who have choreographed presentations on feminist themes; Mumbai (Bombay)—urban occupations and working women; collective action among slum dwellers; Bangalore—technology and its impact on women, meet a successful woman industrialist; Madras—women in traditional male jobs, women and theatre. We will return to Delhi before departure.

Cost : \$1850, excluding international travel, entrance fees to monuments and museums.

The cost includes accommodation double occupancy in twin bedded rooms, two meals a day, all local transportation for scheduled events. Single room supplement: \$300.

The last date for registration September 1st, 2002. 🌐

PACIFIC NORTHWEST, USA

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE
AUGUST 12–30, 2002

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

As one of the most diverse Lisle groups ever, we welcome people with disabilities, international students, inner city youth, suburbanites, environmentalists, Native Americans and any person who would like to participate in this unique learning community. This program is well suited to intergenerational family groupings or mentor/youth partners as well as single individuals.

Lost Valley Educational Center

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

We will travel north from Oregon and spend some time both along the Oregon coast and in Washington State on Puget Sound. In the Puget Sound region we will explore local sustainability issues and do some work with Indian tribes involved in fisheries and ecological restoration projects. Field trips to several innovative building sites in rural Lane County and in Eugene will provide the opportunity to learn through hands-on application of alternative building techniques and other sustainable living activities.

Each day there will be times set aside for reflection, journal writing, and discussion around personal learning, group dynamics, and shared experiences. Participants will work with skilled teachers to gain an understanding of what sustainable living entails. Several excursions will be planned to discover the beauty of old growth forests, free-flowing rivers and clean mountain air. In addition to having a lot of fun, this program provides youth and elders, alike with a unique opportunity to contemplate choices which will affect the future of the planet.

If You Have a Vision for a Better World, Join Us!

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



Leaders are Leyla Welkin and Barbara Bratton. As members of the Lisle Board of Directors, these individuals bring a diversity of life experiences to the leadership of the program in order to enrich and expand the participant's experience.

Those unable to attend the full 3 weeks may apply to leave early with a partial reduction in fees.

Costs: \$1,400 and (\$1,000 student or second family member). Program prices include room, board, and program-related travel. Transportation to/from the program is a separate cost and arranged by the participant. 🌐

TURKEY

ANCIENT IMAGES AND CONTEMPORARY LIVES

MAY 12 - 31, 2002

The western stereotyped image of Moslem women in the Middle East is of veiled, silent and subordinate women, living restricted and strictly private lives. Reality is, of course, very different and much more complex. This program will give the opportunity to explore the real context and experiences of women's lives in Turkey. We will spend time in places that, in ancient times, were organized around strong symbols of feminine power: Artemis in Ephesus and Ancient Goddess images in Catalhuyuk. We will consider what it might have meant to live in the constant presence of such images. We will also make a visit to Konya, city of Rumi's Mevlana school of Sufism. Sufism has taught the equality of men and women since the 12th century.

We will visit a variety of women living very different lives: village women, whose days are filled with the work of subsistence agriculture; city women, whose lives are not so different from middle class city dwellers' lives in this country; women who engage in work to

try to support the expansion of opportunity and justice for their sisters; and women who have not yet considered the possibility that their own daily concerns might be bound up with those of other women. With all of these women, we will try to engage in dialog and gain a more complete appreciation for the connections and differences in the patterns of our lives.

Participants will have a three-day homestay experience so that we can feel the rhythm of one woman's life. We will travel simply, using public transportation and simple accommodations whenever possible—trying to view ourselves more as guests than as tourists. We will engage with women from different parts of Turkish society trying to see the varied sweep of ethnicities, classes and concerns that shape the lives of women in Turkey today. One of the goals of this program is to offer participants an opportunity to reflect upon the ways that we can use the insights gained from comparing our experience with women in very different cultures. Ideally, participants will return home with new ideas and insights into how to strengthen, and make more effective, work for social justice and opportunity in their own communities.

Men will not be excluded from this program. They simply should be aware that there may be some events that will not be open to them. Alternative activities will be offered.

Leaders are Leyla Welkin and Filiz Yuksel. Leyla and Filiz have led two previous exchange programs in Turkey with Lisle, in 1998 and 2000. Leyla brings her skills as a facilitator of groups, an interculturalist and her life long connection with Turkey and the Turkish people. Filiz is an archeologist and art historian who was born in the Konya area and currently lives and teaches in

Cappadocia. The knowledge and the network of friends and family that these women bring to the program make this a unique opportunity

Participants must plan to depart in time to arrive on the program start date—keeping in mind significant time zone changes.

Cost: \$1,500 (\$1,300 student or second family member rate)

Program prices include room, board and program related in-country travel. Airfare is not included and is the responsibility of the participant. 🌐

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. 🌐



Future Program Plans

By Mark Kinney

Lisle strives to create programs that are educational, vibrant and globally-minded. In addition to the four upcoming programs described in the previous pages, Lisle members are putting on their thinking caps about new places to explore in the future. Below are several programs that are in the "Research and Development" phase of planning. If you are interested in assisting in some way, please contact Dr. Mark Kinney via E-mail at <mkinney@utnet.utoledo.edu>.

• **Holland**

Lisle Board member Judy Brown is leading an effort with a committee in Europe to design a European program to be held in Holland in the summer of 2003. Plans are being developed to focus the program on issues of immigration and social policies. A great deal of enthusiasm has been generated by this team.

• **Latin America**

Mark Kinney has begun discussions about a new program in Latin America. The plans, being developed with Conrad Borst (*CO '53, Denmark '54, Germany '58*) and others, is planned to focus on elementary education. Conrad Borst's wife is Peruvian and operates a primary school in the desert outside of Lima. Plans call for the majority of the time for the program to be spent assisting in the school.

• **Japan**

Work is progressing on a possible new program in Japan which will focus on the environmental efforts being made by the Japanese Government, businesses and non-profit groups to meet the Kyoto Protocol commitments. Emphasis may focus on the relationship between Japan, China and Korea as well.

Akiko Sugioka (*DC '66*) is assisting. Akiko recently retired from her position in Sapporo with the Sapporo International Communications Plaza. Her understanding of international relationships between Japan, and especially China and Korea, may very well provide a substantial focus for this program. 🌐

Wish List

At our last Board meeting, we discussed the ever-increasing cost of printing brochures, fundraising letters and the 1600 copies of *Interaction* that we usually print. Someone suggested that we might be able to find either a paper supplier and/or a printer who might be willing to donate their product or services.

Do any of you have ideas or leads that we might be able to follow up on around this idea? Also, if you know of other things that Lisle regularly uses that could be donated, please call the Lisle office at (800) 477-1538. 🌐

Hey Folks!

Did you know that you have the option of donating to Lisle using your Mastercard, Visa, or even foreign currencies? Yes, if it is more convenient for you to use these methods, Lisle will happily accept your gifts!

For any questions you might have regarding this, please call the Lisle office at (800) 447-1538. 🌐

Who's This Young Man?

It's Arthur James, who attended the Denmark Unit in 1957. In this photo, he and another Antioch student are being shown something in the bridge of the ship that was taking them to Denmark. In this photo he was a college student at Antioch College. Just last October Arthur reestablished his connection with Lisle life at the Annual Meeting, complete with his flair for the theatrical. We're happy to know you again!

Does anyone remember who the young woman is? Please contact Land at the Lisle office at (800) 477-1538. 🌐



A View of the Towers

By Marty Tillman

We made our annual Thanksgiving trip to New York City to visit family and close friends. I went into lower Manhattan and walked south as far as I could go, beyond the concrete barriers and closed stores to where the Twin Towers used to stand. I have walked the streets of New York City all my life and I felt easy doing this. But as I got closer to the accident scene the air changed, the mood shifted, and I realized that I was walking along with many other people silently—I knew we had the same intention and purpose. I felt afraid to see what there was to see. I also thought that it might be wrong to go to “look,” and yet I felt I wanted to be there. Many people shared these conflicting emotions. Gail and I talked with others who lived in the city; many did not want to view the carnage at all.

There were perhaps hundreds of us quietly gazing at the large hill of what was once the World Trade Center. What one sees—it’s just a small fraction of the 16 acres of devastation—is the mound of debris upon which rests the steel outline of a piece of the curved columns of one tower’s base foundation. It’s the sight you have all seen on TV or in magazines. In real time, I just could not believe that I was actually looking at all that was left of both 110 floors of steel towers. I wanted to look away, but I could not. I said a prayer and realized that I was standing before a huge

cemetery. There were people of all colors, ages and nationalities standing beside each other, gazing at the destruction.

The surreal part of the walk was leaving the site: passing by empty stores which obviously had been havens for workers in the buildings or perhaps the rescue crews. (The streets are now “clean” and there is no white ash on the sidewalk.) Suddenly, a few blocks north, the scenery changed as I walked past ordinary tableaux of people and families eating in restaurants while enjoying the warm weather. It was as though I had walked away from an entirely foreign world, and abruptly returned to the city with which I was familiar.

It’s hard to know what to say beyond depicting the scene. It’s harder to keep my mind on what I saw, now that I am back in DC. The entire picture is both unreal and too real.

Gail and I talked constantly as we walked together through Soho, which is about a 1/2 mile north of the financial district. We talked about how we used to see the Twin Towers at every street corner when we looked south between the rows of stores and apartment buildings—and now they are gone from sight.

How strange it is to have to try to remember what they looked like. 🌐

Reflections on DC

By Dianne Brause

Lisler held its meeting in DC a few weeks after the terrorist attack. We met and stayed at a Quaker guest house which was just 5 blocks down Capitol Street from where the first Anthrax letter had recently been discovered. Congress had abandoned the Capitol, as had most people in the area. I found DC strangely peaceful and almost antiseptically beautiful—like some kind of a movie set, with most of the actors gone on break! It was amazing to me to be in a city, presumably under siege (or at least actively involved in a “war”), where all the streets were immaculate, cute young servicemen in their newly-acquired uniforms stood at attention and policemen were stationed at every corner waiting to politely direct trucks and vans away from important government buildings. My friend took me on a night ride around the Pentagon, but it was hard to see more than a hole where there should have been

walls. One glorious hot fall afternoon, we went to the JFK & RFK graves and to the Vietnam Memorial Wall where clean-cut Americans of all sizes, shapes and inclinations politely smiled at one another. An emergency warning buzzer went off while I was in the upscale Pentagon City Mall and everyone just looked at one another, wondering whether a plane would drop through the glass roof. All the airports I went through were pretty much abandoned. It was all very surreal!

Somehow, even then, I didn’t think “our” side of the war looked like “theirs”. I imagined the Afghans to be hiding in bombed-out buildings and caves, suffering from the freezing long nights with little shelter, too little food and clothing, lost family members and no idea what they did this time to deserve one more onslaught from but another perpetrator of the ongoing violence and devastation in their lives.

(Cont’d next page, top)



(Reflections, cont'd)

I read that according to the UN and relief organizations that our choices to continue bombing might well doom some several million people to a painful death of starvation over the winter months! I asked myself, "Why are 'we' doing this? Is our bombing really the way to "end terrorism"? Or are we in retaliation mode? Or is genocide something that we in America believe is justified or necessary to secure our consumer society which currently is still completely dependent on the abundance of cheap oil?

What is going on here? What karma are we invoking upon ourselves this time and how many more millennia do we plan to play this sick and senseless game? Have we not learned that violence begets violence? Can we not see that those killed at the Trade Center and at the Pentagon were at least partially as a result of the killing that "we" have perpetrated or supported in the Middle East and throughout the globe over the last 50-500 years?

Today (as I edit this article) is Martin Luther King Day and I will go tonight to march in commemoration of a great man in our nation who knew that Love Is the Answer. May we all learn the lesson of his teachings—that all humans are our brothers and sisters with very similar needs, wants and aspirations. Those who are abused, abuse; those who are loved, love. *It is pretty simple!* 🌐

Note of Support

“Dear Friends, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We know that events in the last few months have not given much cause for cheer—tensions have increased and we seem to be caught in circle of fear, hatred and violence. However we hope and pray that the spirit of the season will reign supreme and the festival of Joy and good tidings will bring Peace and Harmony & Love to the world. We are all committed to that and must work for that.”

From Babu Lal Sharma and Vijay Sharma (Lisle friends in India), Gandhi Peace Foundation, 223, D.D.U Marg, New Delhi-110 002. Tel.91-11-323 3463 E-mail: <project_india@yahoo.com>

President's Note: Let us send them back our prayers and hopes that the situation between India and Pakistan will not escalate further, and that somehow the world's positive focus can help to bring some lasting peace between their countries! 🌐

A Perspective From India

An Indian Lisle responded to an inquiry as to how she believes Indian citizens view the events since 9/11. She wrote on October 2nd: "I am cynical and do not expect the U.S. to achieve anything [from the War on Terrorism]. I believe each one of us has to fight our own battles because Western powers are only interested in defending their positions of power and influence, and in any case they have no understanding of local/regional, cultural sensitivities and nuances. As my cleaning woman commented while mourning the September 11th tragedy: "We have lost more than 10,000 over the past few years and no one heeded us. Now when they [U.S.] lose their own, they shout with outrage."

The message of Islam—as interpreted in the literal sense from the book [Koran], which is the word of God—is a violent one. The only answer is a liberal education and an acceptance of religion as a personal belief and not one of hegemony and power. I fear we are in for a second series of Crusades, which Bush in all his naivety has announced.

The Muslims in India are anti-American, not necessarily pro-Bin Laden, but then they secretly admire him. Isn't it ironic that the one who is urging Muslims to fight is not poor, oppressed and starving? It only proves that money is power, wherever it comes from, and where there is money power, there is no place for God...Love as always, and Peace—SN" 🌐

A Young Lisle Takes Next Step

By Barbara Holder

Leilani Holder of Oklahoma, and granddaughter to Darwin and Barbara Holder) attended the Lisle unit in Oklahoma with her Grandpa Darwin in 1995, when she was 11 years old. The unit was studying the Native Americans. Orion Six and Nancy Kinney led the Unit, which accepted her as a special person in her own right.

Since then she has done some special things in her life, one of which is become a member of the Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE). As a member of TAFE for two years, Leilani has spent 4 hours a day, 5 days a week as an assistant teacher in the local school system. She has taught now in the first, fifth and sixth grades. She has received college credit for her efforts.

Leilani will be attending college this coming year to become an elementary teacher. 🌐



Jenni (Bassler) S. Ambamurthi (*India '79, '80*) She took her family to India for a 3 1/2 week visit. She was very impressed with programs at Navadarshanam, outside Bangalore, especially the practical aspects of sustainable agriculture and reforestation projects.

Mary Jane Bacile (*NY '41, CO '41*) She attended her 65th Reunion at Wheaton College, Norton, MA a highlight of her summer.

Edith J. Ballard (*CO '44, CA '52, DC '54, CR '99*) She has been an active Lisle advocate in the Friends network. She attended the October Annual Meeting in DC and renewed friendships; she had helped **Lisler Vaughn Smith**, of OK (who recently passed away—see page 22 for memoriam) write stories of his interracial efforts as a Methodist minister. You can email her at <edith@all-systems.com>.

Dr. Howard Binkley (*Leader CO '55, CA '56, Japan '56, DC '66, '67*) He is a retired professor from George Mason University's Institute for Living.

Suzanne Brooks (*CR '96*) She's been working on her dissertation "Racism and Sexism in Higher Education: Autoethnography of an Activist". She traveled to Hawaii in the spring. She is now a professional Hula Dancer. You can email her at: <suzanne@womenofcolorday.com>.

Juanita Salvador-Burris (*Pst. Bd. Mbr. and Friend*) She resigned as Executive Director of Community Development in Woodlawn. She is working with Lutheran General Children's Day Care Division. Her son, James, is a junior in college at Oberlin.

Muriel Carlson (*NY '39*) She's been learning to use the computer! She keeps active physically and mentally, and enjoys learning about Lislors and its on-going programs.

Reverend Richard Chartier (*Staff '84-'85*) He's active in local social service/justice issues. He is an adjunct professor at Dutchess Community College, as well as a semi-retired pastor for the American Baptist Churches, USA.

Chris and Dean Coons (*Pst. Bd. Mbr., CO '48, Family Camp '61, Bali '91, CR '96, and Leader Training '98*) had a delightful visit this fall with **Marisa de Leon** (*HI '95, CR '96*) at Marisa's Solvang Retirement residence in Eugene, OR. They are also the very grateful grandparents of their 9th grandchild, Ravi Elan. He is the first one born outside of California. They were present for the swift hospital birth, and when they left a week later, mother and baby were doing great.

Ana Maria (*Pst. Bd. Mbr.*) and **Alfonso de Jesus** (*Bali '88*) Last year they served as chairpersons of the Asia-Pacific Region in the first International Festival of the Shrine of St. Jude.

Mary Anne Hirsch (*CO '49, '50, Denmark '51*) She wishes other Lislors to know the address of Brynn Henry Washington, daughter of Lucy Washington (deceased), at 1823 Sandy Ridge Rd., Colfax, NC 27235.

Justin J. Hartman (*NY '40*) He and his wife Peggy live in a retirement community in Amherst, MA. He leads a monthly men's discussion group.

Frank B. Hood (*CA '50, Japan '55*) He met fellow Lislors, **Yukio Okino** (*Japan '55*) in Chicago in the early summer for great visit.

Arthur L. James (*Denmark '57*) Now retired, has re-discovered Lisle at the D.C. Annual Meeting (see pages 11 and 17 for photos) and is anxious to hear from Lislors who were with him in Denmark. He's active in the St. David Society (Welsh) and toured Wales in '96.

Mogens & Jean Jensen (*CO '46, Denmark '54, CA '56, '57, Germany '59, '62*) They wrote to tell us that they thought the Spring issue of *Interaction* was very well done! "We certainly knew what was happening with Lisle when we finished reading it—it was well-written and very informative." From January through April 2002 they can be reached in Florida: 4609 Marine Parkway, #105, New Port Richey, FL 34652.

Maude Martin Johns (*CO '45, Elder Hostel '89*) She lives in Kachina Point Retirement Village, Sedona, AZ.

Laurence (Larry) & Virginia (Ginny) Judd (*CO '41, '42, '44*) They have left Illinois for Fairhaven Retirement Community, 435 Starin Rd, Apt. 204 E, Whitewater, WI 53190-1125. They are proud of Lisle's current programs and happy to be near fellow Lislors, **Roy and Mirabel Deming** (*Leaders and participants of many units!*) and **Charles and Yoshi Varney** (*NY '47, '48, CT '50*).

Mark & Nancy Kinney have a new address (which is at their lovely new house in Northern Michigan), so do not send mail to their old Temperance address. The new address, where they can be found during most weekends is: P.O. Box 87, Presque Isle, MI 49777. E-mail addresses are <mkinney@utnet.utoledo.edu> and <nkinney@wccnet.org>. Nancy is teaching in Ann Arbor.

William P. Nelson (*NY '40*) He is retired, widowed and lives in a retirement community in Castro Valley, CA.

Elinor Nichols (*CO '47*) She is a social worker, and lives at 32 Lincoln Road, Lincoln, MA 01773. Her husband Roger, who was the director of Boston's Museum of Science, died in 1987 following 14 years of medical research.

Catherine Peters (*CO '49, '51, Bali '88*) She is retired now from teaching high school in New York City. Her summer reunion with Lislors in Frankfurt, Germany was a real



highlight. She also traveled to St. Petersburg, Russia and to Truro, England where her brother was made Mayor.

Orion Six (*Pst. Bd. Mbr., CA '50, MI '50, OK Leader '93, '94, '95*) Illness prevents him from many activities. He would love to hear from Lislers. You can write to him at: 1226 Salisbury, Norman, OK 73069.

Helen Baker St. John (*Pst. Bd. Mbr., Uganda '94, HI '95*) Her trip to Holland with Stacy included a great time with old friends and two weeks of bicycling with Elderhostel. A trip to Uzbekistan to work in a children's orphanage was delayed following 9/11.

Hans & Eleanor Spiegel (*CO '46, '47, NY '47, Germany '67, Bali '88*) They work on affordable housing, homelessness, immigrant rights, church, social justice issues. Ellie represented NAFSA at the UN. Hans is involved with the Association for World Education. Also Lisler **Aage R. Nielsen** (*CO '56, Denmark '69, '70*) is honorary president. Ellie and Hans give high marks to Marty Tillman's leadership.

Mary Anne G. Tiley (*NY '47*) She enjoys living in Algonac, MI on the St. Clair River and watches international ships go by. Mostly retired, she has many interests, but special ones are her family and five grandchildren. She would love to hear from others in the Watkins Glen Unit of 1947. You can write to her at: 95911 No. River Rd. Box 341, Algonac, MI 48001.

Barbara Braxton Wilks (*CA '50, CT '51*) She is enjoying retirement in Madeira Beach, FL, along with sailing, grandparenting, tennis and travel.

Charlotte Wunderlich (*CA '64*) Her recent activities have been with family, editorial work and volunteering for the Thyroid Cancer Survivors Association, Inc., of which she serves as corresponding secretary on the Board. She has great memories of Lisle and sends thanks and greetings to all.

Dennie Petty Wyatt (*CO '46, CA '54*) This is her seventh year living in Friend's House. The joy of her life is Kailen, grandson born 11/00, and his parents! She enjoyed visits last Fall with Marion Wright Edleman.

Robin Kwisera (*Uganda '94*) She is living in Galt, CA on a farm, working with disabled youngsters. She traveled to Taos and Santa Fe with the Stanford Study Tour on Indians and Art, and a Buddhist practice keeps her calm.

Joseph Schulz (*Pac NW '01*) underwent back surgery this fall, and went through a difficult time. After a second surgery he is doing somewhat better. He would love some words of support and understanding. His e-mail is: <peacepirate2000@yahoo.com>.

Eugene is a Hotbed of Lisle Activists

By Dianne Brause

Yesterday, I happened to stop by the Wellsprings Friend's School in Eugene, Oregon for a "Peace & Justice Festival". Within a few minutes' time as I looked around, I realized that I was surrounded by people connected to Lisle in a variety of ways.

First, I sat down next to **Hanna Still** (*Lisle friend*), who helped to start this very alternative, student-run school that is doing so much good for the youth of our community.

I looked at the program and saw that **Christina Byrd** (*Pac NW '01*) was one of the student organizers for this festival that brought together such topics as story-telling (by our own Super Hero, "Blazing Echidna", aka Ethan, from last summer's Pacific NW Program), war tax resistance, "Islam is Peace" and a Peace talk by the local Rabbi. Christina was one of our scholarship students in the Pacific NW program '01.

I also ran into **Portia Foster** (*NY '70, Mexico '91*), who attended the Mexico unit in the 1960s and now lives in Eugene. I talked with **Rebecca White**, who was one of the youth in the Lisle Leadership Training held at Lost Valley Educational Center in 1998. Since then she has been a participant in a "Little School Bus" that did educational tours in Mexico, and is in the process of starting a "Peace Education Charter School" in Eugene.

Several days earlier, I had the pleasure of visiting **Marisa de Leon**, who was on the Hawaii '95 and Costa Rica '96 units that I led. She now lives in Eugene and has a very busy life supporting Oregon's attempt to get a universal health care bill passed, as well as a variety of other social service efforts.

It seems like Eugene Lislers are really doing their part to bring peace to their part of the planet at this important time in history! 🌍

Deceased Lislers

We offer our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of the following Lislers who have passed away.

Charles Clarke (*NY '37*) passed away in April, 2001. While attending the Board meeting in Texarkana, TX in January 1998, Charles said that "Lisle changed his life". Due to this wonderful influence, Charles became a very successful educator.

Eleanor Finger Eckert (*NY '38*) passed away in August 2001.

Jerry Eisenman (*CO '49*) passed away in May 2001.

Haruko Kishimoto (*CO '54*) passed away in May 2001.

Helen Schnurbush (*CO '44*) passed away in August 2001.



We Have Lost a Great Lisle Friend

By Barbara Bratton

The long, long relationships with Lisle are a continuing source of wonder. Reverend Robertson Vaughn Smith was one of those “Lost Lislers” until 1995, when Edith Ballard (CO ‘44, CR ‘98) “found” him!

Edith saw his name in an old directory and remembered that he was originally from Oklahoma, although they became friends in California. Edith wrote a Lisle friend in the Oklahoma Methodist Conference and he wrote back with Vaughn’s address. After exchanging letters, Edith visited Vaughn in Edmond, OK and they have enjoyed a renewed friendship the last few years. Edith remembers that Vaughn recommended that Lisle get back to its roots and do more recruiting in churches, especially the Wesley Foundations where the Baldwins began.



Vaughn passed away in December 2001, after struggling with illness. Edith was visiting with Vaughn in Oklahoma at the time of his death.

We want to remember him here for his life’s work and his contributions to Lisle. He was a friend of the Baldwins in 1936 and attended his first Lisle meeting in Colorado, 1941. Vaughn secured numerous contributions for Lisle units, especially Oklahoma students. He raised money to help the Baldwins continue their Lisle programs, with the highlight being ten full scholarships from Oklahoma oilmen in the early 1950’s. He was often on hand to provide support for Lisle participants—helping with the Colorado 1944 Unit and raising funds for the California 1952 Unit.

He was a lifetime pastor in the Methodist Church in California and Oklahoma.

Vaughn—Lisle continues to impact lives around the world. Thank you for the part you played in this inspirational organization. May the Lislers of the future do justice to the Lislers of the past! 🌐

In Memoriam—H. Boardman “Bo” Drobish

Last issue we had a brief entry for “Bo” Drobish, who passed away in April 2001. His sister, Joy Drobish Palmerlee Apra, submitted a lovely summary of his life and relationship with Lisle. We decided it would be sweet to include it in this issue.

“This is to inform you that my brother, “Bo” Drobish (H. Boardman Drobish), died on April 20, 2001 at age 79. He and I were Lislers together in Golden, CO the summer of 1947.

He later took on more leadership, for instance a Lisle Unit in California (1950 and 1951) and perhaps another. We have a family ranch in northern California at Bangor in Butte County, called Far View Ranch)...Uncle Si and Aunt Edna were there then.

Bo was a graduate of UC Berkeley in 1947, after serving as a pilot and 1st Lieutenant in the US Air Force, dropping food over Italy. His specialty was agriculture and permaculture. He died naturally and suddenly in Kalispell, MT, where he lived near a son who was an organic farmer. Thank you. Sincerely—Joy Drobish Palmerlee Apra.”

Our thanks to Joy for sharing this view of her brother’s life with us. Also, our condolences to her and the rest of “Bo’s” family. 🌐

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Graphic Design & Layout

Elise Kimmons
Berkana Publications,
Eugene, OR

Printed by

Western Oregon Web Press,
Albany, OR

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

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



Board Meeting Registration Form, New Orleans
March 21-24, 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@utnet.utoledo.edu>

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 Method of Travel: Car Plane Bus Train
 Arrival Time: _____ Flight/train # _____ Date _____ Airport _____
 Departure Time: _____ Flight/train # _____ Date _____
 I plan to rent a car at the airport I would like to share driving with others
 I will need transportation during the weekend's events: Yes No
 I 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: _____

Lisle, Inc. Membership and Pledge Form

900 County Road 269
 Leander, TX 78641

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

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

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

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

Name _____ Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____ Phone _____
 E-mail _____ Website: _____

Notes about your activities:

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

Signature _____





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MEETINGS

Board Meeting	Mar. 21–24, 2002	New Orleans, LA
Annual Meeting	October 17–20, 2002	San Francisco, CA

PROGRAMS

Turkey	May 12–31, 2002
Bali	July 28–Aug. 18, 2002
Pacific NW/ Turkey Exch.	August 12–30, 2002
India	Oct. 13–Nov. 2, 2002
Costa Rica	January, 2003
Holland	Summer, 2002

