

THE LAFF SOCIETY

For the men and women engaged in Life After the Ford Foundation

WINTER 2002

NO. 29

The LAFing Parade

Marcia Bikales (Education, Knowledge and Religion, Media Arts & Culture) retired in September after 39 years. "Not a record," she writes, but enough."

Newsletter readers: Is it a record?



Time and Place

Reuben Frodin reports that in 2000, this photo marked his age and address. "For 200," he writes, "I need a nearby Interstate 89 sign, and maybe Interstate 91 across the Connecticut River in the future." The note was written on the eve of a trip to Paris and Bilbao.

William Diaz of the University of Minnesota has received the Premio Herencia Award, which honors "an individual whose long-standing leadership and vision have advanced philanthropic commitment to diversity and responsiveness to Latino communities." The award was presented at the annual conference of Hispanics in Philanthropy, in Minneapolis, by Fer Perez of the St. Paul Foundation. Some 200 women and men attended, including a delegation from the Ford Foundation.

Bob Greene (Indonesia 1969-1972) helped draft an agreement between the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Government of India, to explore the creation of the Media Laboratory Asia. The Indian government has committed \$12 million toward the one-year program. Additional funds will be raised from private-sector and other non-governmental sources. A 10-year project is envisioned. MIT plans to develop ways to bring the benefits of sophisticated emerging technologies to the daily problems of India's poorest and least educated people. Green worked on Media Labor Europe (Dublin, Ireland) in 2000.

Anthony Meacham reports that since retiring from the World Bank in 1999 he had had consulting assignments with the Bank in Bangladesh and other cities in South Asia, and Africa. He has also been teaching at Tulane and George Washington.

(cont. on p. 4)

Response to September 11

Foundation alumni and the Foundation itself have responded vigorously to the terrorist attacks on New York. Former president **Franklin A. Thomas** was named chairman of the Sept. 11 Fund, one of the largest private funds set up to serve victims of the attacks. The fund, jointly created by the United Way of New York and the New York Community Trust, has received pledges of more than 320 million. Chairman Thomas will preside over a 22-member board, which includes directors of both funding organizations and representatives of the entertainment industry. One major challenge was to coordinate the distribution of grants, he said. To that end, he gave his limited support to the idea of creating a database of recipients, a proposal by State Attorney General Eliot L. Spitzer.

Even if some agencies could not contribute to such a database, he said, its creation would be "an almost elegant way" of letting those agencies know "what the rest of us are doing." Early recipients of the Sept. 11 fund included emergency cash to victims' families, through Safe Horizon regional United Way agencies, loans to the New York State Crime Victims Board's funds, the New York Fire Department, and the Arab-American Family Support Center.

A \$2.1 million grant, along with a \$1 million Ford grant, was made to Seedco, a Manhattan community development that is providing funds to help retail stores affected by the attack

(cont. on p. 5)

The LAFF Society

c/o Mary Camper-Titsingh
531 Main Street, Apt. #1110
New York, NY 10044

President, Siobhan Oppenheimer Nicolau
Vice President, Emmett Carson
Secretary-Treasurer, Mary Camper-Titsingh

Coordinating Committee

Patrick Corrigan
Lloyd Garrison
Sheila Gordon
Nathalie Kravchenko
Anthony Meacham
Francis X Sutton
Henry Saltzman

Editor, Richard Magat
Graphic Designer, Ruth Neumann

Drought Warning!

NEWSLETTER COPY SPARSE

The last issue of the LAFF newsletter was held up for lack of copy. This issue fared a bit better, but the shortage continues to plague us.

So readers are implored to send reports of their current activities, reminiscences of their service at the FF, thoughts about issues that concern them "anything from a few brief sentences to 750 words. Some readers have contributed to the "How I Got to the Foundation" feature. Also, please call attention to new books that deal with the Foundation's work, e.g. the two books noted on page 3, and Frank Sutton's review in the last issue of *America and the Intellectual Cold Wars in Europe/ Shepard Stone between Philanthropy, Academy and Diplomacy*. Also, things recently written by alumni.

Send your material to Robert Tolles, 91 Bickford Lane, New Canaan CT 06840.

Crafting the "Genius" Awards

For six years beginning in 1978, **F. Champion Ward** (Vice President Education & Research) served "as a kind of midwife in helping the new MacArthur Foundation incubate, then hatch [its] unusually ambitious program of five-year, no-questions-asked awards to persons of exceptional talent, dedication and capacity for self-direction, in almost all walks of life," the so-called "genius awards." Ward recounts the experience in a revealing article in *Foundation News & Commentary*, September/October 2001.



Roderick MacArthur, the donor's son, and William T. Kirby, a trustee, sought the Ford Foundation's advice on the course the new foundation should take, and after a meeting that included **McGeroge Bundy, Harold Howe II,** and Ward, Roderick asked Ward to help plan the program.

Ward visited the Swedes who managed the Nobel Prize program, and the Guggenheim, Sloan, and Johnson foundations. The reception "was distinctly positive," he writes, "though one skeptic, a hard nosed 'philanthropoid' in charge of a single-subject fellowship program, was derisive, likening the proposed fellowship to one of those lavish and unexpected prizes award on television, with the recipients shrieking."

Ward supported a system of nominators in many regions and fields of endeavor, reflecting "my respect for major league baseball's scouting system, which seemed adaptable to identifying artists, scientists, and other creative persons as well as shortstops." He interviewed several winners, though the foundation was determined not to micromanage their lives or their work. He found "no fellows eating of the lotus. They were exceptionally dedicated and self-directed." The most serious criticism was that the selections were random, and therefore unfair. This risk was reduced, says Ward, by the rotation of nominators and selectors: "Both feared cultivation by would-be nominees if their identities were known." The most reassuring aspect, he says, "was the unfashionable readiness of the selectors to make difficult qualitative judgments without employing those quantitative formulas to which so many selection committees now resort for fear of being thought capricious."

The Foundation decided against evaluation of the program. For consolation for this lack, Ward quotes from a memo from one of the first recipients: "Don't try to 'evaluate the program'. An uncontrolled social experiment has effects that can't be measured. Trust your instincts. By all means retain the folkloric, mysterious, ambiguous quality that [the program] has now. Don't define the purposes too clearly. Everyone will have more fun that way."

Among the lessons Ward derives from his experience:

—In some fields, e.g., physics, researchers are in most cases well provided for from other sources and helped only marginally by a MacArthur fellowship. In other fields, the value of a fellowship is usually greater.

—"On the whole 'academics' benefit less than do self-employed writers (especially poets), artists, composers, translators, independent filmmakers, and social innovators."

—"The original assumptions that, presumably under rocks, there are numer-

ous 'mute, inglorious Miltons' waiting to be discovered, turned out to have been mistaken. . . However this doesn't mean that there are no young persons of exceptional but unrealized 'potential' in the country's urban and rural slums."

Ward regrets that he did not recommend lifetime awards (as Roderick MacArthur had favored) instead of five-year fellowships. "I diluted the bolder scheme by applying 'the habitual prudence of philanthropy.'" He also muses that the program, though thought to be radical, perhaps is not radical enough: "may be that the active presence of a number of endowed mavericks would have been more valuable to our national life than the more numerous but also more conventional and circumspect fellows can be expected to be. If this be so, *mea culpa*."

Booked Up

Two new books deal in part with the Foundation. Not surprisingly, *American Foundations: An Investigative History*, by Mark Dowie (MIT Press) pays considerable attention to the Foundation. Dowie comments on Ford's role in education, the environment, agriculture, and the arts. Although he admires many philanthropic contributions, he is also critical and sometimes sarcastic, witness his coinage, "philanthrocrats." Brilliant as some of the work of foundations has been," he says, "much of it has also been fruitless, uninspired, and designed to do little more than perpetuate the economic and social systems that allow foundations to exist."

Dowie sees hope for better philanthropic contributions to social progress in a new generation of foundation leaders, people like George

Soros, Irene Diamond, Ted Turner, and Tracy Gary.

The book describes Henry Ford II's letter of resignation from the Foundation board (suggesting to the trustees and staff that the system that makes the foundation possible is probably worth saving.) Of the Foundation's engagement with public education, Dowie says "it remains to be decided by historians whether Ford initiated a trend in educational reform or merely responded to a growing American tendency to rely on their schools as cures for every conceivable ill."

The book deals extensively with the role of the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations in the Green Revolution, which he calls "a techno-political fix for a potential communist revolution." Although massive investments in agriculture improved crop yields, Dowie charges that it led to the widening of the gulf between rich and poor farmers, and criticizes its environmental and genetic effects.. Dowie credits Ford with awakening to the crisis of inequitable distribution by involving social scientists along with plant breeders and other technical specialists.

Ford's work in the arts wins high praise, particularly its guidance by **W. McNeil Lowry**, who "knew how to work an audience, most importantly the audience in the boardroom of the Ford Foundation." Dowie cites the Foundation's grants not only to promising talent but also to debt retirement, endowments, building construction, and the creation of new dance and theater companies. "Perhaps the most imaginative of all [Lowry's] initiatives was his attempt to direct the bulk of its artistic philanthropy away from New

York City and toward other areas of the nation where, he knew from his own travels, a wellspring of creative genius was languishing."

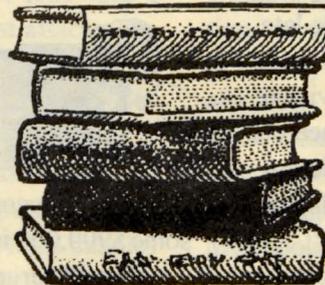
The book claims that Ford's funding of civil rights was lobbied by a former staff member, **David Hunter**, by then head of the Stern Family Fund. The Foundation's grants to the civil rights movement "provoked a

massive right-wing assault," Dowie writes. He says that Ford and other civil rights philanthropists "defend their patronage as a force that strengthens democratic institutions by giving voice to the disenfranchised."

Dowie's book is not free of errors. He has Paul Hoffman as president "in the late 1970s," misspells Susan Berresford's name, and in a major chapter on energy omits any mention of the Foundation's work in that field..

The Ungovernable City: John Lindsay and His Struggle to Save New York, by Vincent Cannato (Basic Books) devotes two long chapters to the struggle over school decentralization of the city's public schools. The Foundation played two roles. First, president **McGeorge Bundy** was appointed by Mayor Lindsay to chair a committee charged with drawing up a plan for decentralization. The state legislature had mandated decentralization. Second, the Foundation made grants of nearly \$1 million for three experimental school districts that would have a measure of community control. The plan aroused bitter controversy, and one of the experimental districts (in the Ocean-Hill Brownsville section of Brooklyn) led to crippling teacher strikes in 1968.

Lindsay saw education reform as a way of making the city more responsive to the long-neglected needs of



New York's minorities. The black community was disillusioned by the slow pace of the Board of Education's integration efforts, and, says Cannato, "left-wing activists created the intellectual underpinnings for an attack on the school bureaucracy."

The Bundy panel included the late **Mitchell Sviridoff**, head of the city's new Human Resources Administration, later vice president of the Foundation. The study director was the late **Mario Fantini**, a program officer in the Foundation's Education Division. The teachers union, which turned out to be a decisive player in the decentralization debate, declined a place on the panel.

The panel released its plan in November 1967. Dividing the 1.1 million student school system city into 32 quasi-autonomous districts, *The New York Times*, said it sought to remake the schools along the lines of more successful suburban school systems. The plan was denounced by the teachers union as Balkanization

“ . . . a deep crisis appeared in the city's schools ”

and threatening to teacher tenure and security. The mayor himself was cautious and, the book claims, did not build public support for the plan, nor political support in the state legislature, which had the final word.

In the meantime, Cannato says, Fantini was using Ford money to subsidize a more radical version of education reform: "complete community control of ghetto school districts by minority parents." Tensions already ran high. Militants were ready to abandon integration in favor of com-

munity control of the schools. Embittered parents carried out a week-long boycott of the new Intermediate School 201 in Harlem. Attacks on some teachers and principals led to a two-week teacher strike in 1967.

As the Bundy panel was beginning its work, the Board of Education authorized three experimental school districts. Run by elected local boards, they were empowered to hire an administrator to run schools in the district. The Foundation agreed to provide funds beyond the regular budgets, some \$900,000 in all.



Trouble erupted in the Ocean-Hill Brownsville district with the community board sought to reassign teachers. Many teachers were Jewish, and militants stirred up anti-Semitism. The union objected to the transfers as violations of due process. The union blamed the mayor and the Foundation, and three teacher strikes ensued., and *The New York Times* called the experimental districts a "twilight zone operation that encourages a contest of pressures by rival interests without a legal or professional framework." The book cites a range of opinion on whether decentralization improved educational performance. Cannato's own conclusion is that "Lindsay's tendency to rely on elite outside consultants, like the Ford Foundation, backfired . . . a deep crisis appeared in the city's schools." The Foundation's own verdict was that the essence of the crisis was "the all-around failure of leadership. The Board of Education moved too cautiously; the machinery either vacillated or opted for business as usual. The mayor did not assume the active role that his earlier statements had led the communities to expect."

A Copenhagen Secret

The play "Copenhagen" dramatized a mystery plaguing historians for more than half a century: What really happened when the distinguished German physicist Werner Heisenberg visited his old mentor Neils Bohr in Nazi-occupied Denmark in 1941. Was Heisenberg trying to pump Bohr for information about the Allied bomb program? Or did he want to assure Bohr that he would stop the Nazi bomb program if Allied scientists agreed not to build one either? Bohr fled Denmark in 1942 and joined the Manhattan Project in the United States.

Recently the Bohr family agreed to release what is said to be an angry letter wrote to Heisenberg after the war but never sent. The letter came to light at a conference on the play at the City University of New York in 2000. Dr. Gerald Holton, emeritus professor of physics and of the history of science at Harvard, revealed that the Bohr family showed him and two others the letter in the 1980s and asked their advice on dealing with it. One of the others was **McGeorge Bundy**, late president of the Foundation. The family was urged to preserve the letter for history. Holton speculates that the usually soft-spoken Bohr decided not to send the letter because of its stiff language. (*New York Times*, Oct. 20, 2001)

The LAFFing Parade

(cont. from p. 1)

Sharon Rowser (Education) is vice president of Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation (MDRC) regional office, 475 14th St., Oakland CA 94612-1900. e-mail, Sharon.rowser@mdrc.org

Andrea L. Taylor (Communications) has been named president of the Benton Foundation in Washington. Founded in 1981, the Foundation has assets of \$12 million, a budget of \$6million, and a staff of 33. Its aim is "to realize the social benefits made possible by the public interest use of communications. In addition to its own funds, Benton receives funds from several other foundations, including Ford. After leaving the Ford Foundation, Ms. Taylor was managing founder and partner of Davis Creek Capital, in New York. 950 18th St. N.W., Washington, D.C.20006. (202)638-5770, e-mail Benton@benton.org.

Voicing Opinions

LAFF members express their opinions in the press from time to time.

Adrienne Germain, president, International Health Coalition, writing under the headline "Abortion Clouds a U.N. Conference," in *The New York Times* (Aug. 29, 2001) criticizes the Bush administration's demand that the term "reproductive health" be deleted from the planned United Nations conference on children's rights. Existing U.N. agreements mandate adolescents' access to comprehensive sexuality education and reproductive health services.

Richard Magat (Communications), discusses another U.N. Conference (on Racism) in an op-ed article in the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*, November 1, 2001). Although leading American foundations and civil-rights groups deemed the conference a success because of forthright declarations on the rights of several oppressed minorities, he says, "Those of us who knew the conference only from media

accounts, regarded it as another international comity because of disruptions by forces that condemned Israel and sought to equate Zionism with racism."

Basil Whiting (NationalAffairs) and his wife, Eunice, wrote poignantly (*The New York Times*, October 28, 2001) of the welcome given them by residents of Pocomoke City on Maryland's Eastern Shore following the September 11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington. The Whitings were driving home to Brooklyn early from their vacation retreat on Cape Hatteras. "The owners and several patrons we recognized," they wrote, "pressed small tabletop candles in highball glasses into our hands." The restaurant's patrons moved outside, "a ragged band of local people and passers-through holding candles high, cheering, and pumping our fists at the cars and trucks. The response came in the honking of horns and the flashing of headlights." After 10 minutes, most of the group remained outside and sang "God Bless America."

Response to Sept. 11

(cont. from p. 1)

with loans and wage subsidies to help retailers retain workers making less than \$12 an hour. Seedco's president, **William J. Grinker** (National Affairs), said that to receive aid, a business has to show "that it's a viable business that can get back on its feet with those resources." Seedco's loans were available more quickly and on more favorable terms than loans from the Federal Small Business Administration.

"Response to the Lower Manhattan Small Business and Workforce Retention Project," said Grinker, "has

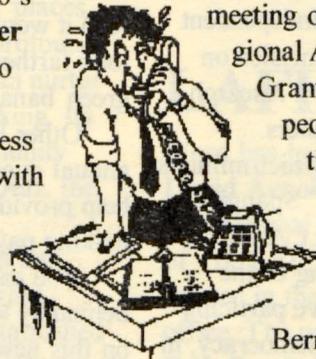
brought home just how much is needed by the more than 2,800 small businesses affected by the attacks. While government funds are the main source of help for these businesses, they often aren't available in time or with the flexibility necessary to meet immediate needs."

Seedco helped develop and publish a comprehensive Resource Referral Guide to help individuals and organizations providing disaster relief services to identify the specific options that are available. The Guide was released a week after the disaster and since then over 2,500 copies have been distributed to agencies throughout the Metropolitan area.

Grinker added, "We have also developed a comprehensive referral guide for small businesses in Lower Manhattan that details available services, eligibility requirements and the steps to access help."

The Foundation itself approved a \$10 million special appropriation for relief and recovery after the Sept. 11 events. Also, four Foundation staff members were released for three months to work at the Sept. 11 Fund on the flood of proposals it has received. They are to return to the Foundation one afternoon a week for a few weeks to recount their experiences. The Foundation hosted a meeting of the New York Regional Association of Grantmakers at which 250 people exchanged information about priorities and grantmaking.

At a board meeting on Sept. 24, president Susan Berresford reported, Paul Allaire, chair of the board and Chair of the Xerox Corporation, thanked the staff for working so hard in this very difficult time. He described



Ford as an organization "in which everybody instinctively knows the right thing to do in a terrible moment, and does it." Trustee Yolanda Kakabadse, head of the Fundacion Futuro Latinamericano in Ecuador recalled another act of terrorism on September 11 28 years ago at the time of the military coup in Chile and the death of President Allende. Trustee Wilma Mankiller, former principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, noted that Native people had drawn strength in times of crisis from a Mohawk saying, "You cannot see the future with tears in your eyes," suggesting that despite grieving, people need to move forward without negative thoughts.

Promoting Adult Literacy

An independent new national voice for adult literacy has been founded by **Gail Spangenberg** (Education). Called the Council for Advancement of Adult Literacy (CAAL), it is the outcome of a year-long project to assess the status and lingering problems of adult literacy. With grants from Carnegie Corporation and the Ford Foundation, Spangenberg, former head of the Business Council for Effective Literacy, also explored the feasibility of creating an independent blue-ribbon national commission on adult literacy, developing a research agenda and slate of members.

"Solid literacy skills, which millions of adult Americans lack," Spangenberg noted in announcing CAAL, "are essential for the well-being of the nation and for the effective participation of individuals in our democracy, in the workplace, and in community and family life." President of the new organization, she added, "We look forward to working with others both in

and out of government dedicated to the cause of moving adult literacy 'from the margins to the mainstream' of American education."

Start-up funding for CAAL has been provided by Harold W. McGraw Jr. Offices will be in the McGraw -Hill headquarters building. The organization will conduct studies, disseminate information, and undertake other activities to promote effective policy development and program improvement in adult basic skills and literacy. It will foster better understanding and communication about adult literacy.

CAAL will draw on advice from a team of two dozen professional advisors, many of whom were involved in the explorations leading to the organization's formation.

The initial board will include influential leaders from the public and private sectors, e.g., former U.S. Commissioner of Education **Harold Howe II**, human resource specialist **Forrest Chisman**, former president of the Southport Institute for Policy Analysis, **Thomas Sticht**, an international researcher, and policy analyst **Garrett Murphy**.

Green Bananas

With a check representing an advance of four years on LAFF Society dues, **Louis Winnick** writes: "At my age (81) it would be nettling the gods to look farther ahead. I don't even buy green bananas anymore."

Other FF alumni are reminded that annual dues are \$7.50. Some members help provide an extra cushion by making payments a year in advance. You can tell if you are running behind by looking on the mailing label on this newsletter. The number after your name is the last year you paid.

Please send your dues to **Mary Camper-Titsingh**, 531 Main Street, Apt. #1110, New York,, NY 10044.

No Joke

Digs at the Ford Foundation know no end. The latest comes from Prof. W. Scott Thompson, director of the Southeast Asia studies program at Tufts University. He was asked by the *Wall Street Journal* to comment on 500 young Indonesian men who had gone to Afghanistan to train with Taliban fighters and returned to Indonesia but could not be accounted for. There were worries that they had joined up with Indonesia's most militant Islamic group. But Thompson is quoted by the Journal (*October 26, p. A16*) as playing down the concern: "It's not as if 500 missing men have gone and hidden on a mountain. [It's] probably more like 50 we need to worry about, while the rest went and got jobs with the Ford Foundation."

For the record, the staff in the Ford Foundation's Jakarta office numbers nine.

Editor's note: In a more serious vein, the Foundation's efforts to support pluralistic views in Indonesia is the subject of a major story in the Chronicle of Philanthropy [Dec. 13], subtitled, "Ford Foundation's Support Attracts New Scrutiny." It will be summarized in the next issue of the LAFF newsletter.

New LAFF Directory!!

The new LAFF Society Directory, listing all LAFF members and their current addresses, is now available. Though not all LAFF member addresses were available, the Directory lists 562, a record. Also, more e-mail addresses are included.

The price is \$3.50 per copy. Order yours from **Mary Camper-Titsingh**, LAFF Secretary-Treasurer, 531 Main Street, Apartment No. 1110, New York, NY 10044.

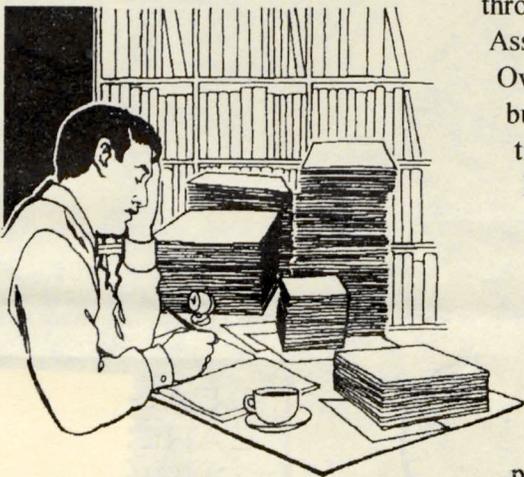
Homer C. Wadsworth: Belatedly

(Neither the New York press nor, even more egregiously, The LAFF Society newsletter, marked the 1994 death, at age 81, of Homer C. Wadsworth in Cleveland. **Louis Winnick**, recalling his close and valued association with the Foundation for more than 30 years, has written the following memoir).

Wadsworth was a ranking figure in philanthropy's pantheon. He gained his laurels mainly by birthing community foundations. Long obituaries in the Cleveland press honored him.

An educator by training (e.g., dean at the New School in the late 1940s), he began a lifelong career in urban philanthropy as founder of the Kansas City Association of Foundations and Trusts.

Over the next 25 years his reputation burgeoned as a spark plug of innovative reforms in public education, health care, and the arts. To effect transforming change, Wadsworth created an operating think tank, Community Research Associates, which served as a model in other big cities. Among Wadsworth's particular talents was the ability to mobilize local wealth and political power to advance institutional



change. Enlisting local money and power in the cause of local reform was of course the heart and soul of Ford's (read **Paul Ylvisaker's**) still-formative Gray Area program.

Wadsworth was invited to the Foundation to share his wisdom and experience with a Gray Areas staff striving for solid footing and concrete content to lofty but less than transparent ideals. Ford called on Wadsworth again in 1984 to assist in the rollout of a national network of community collaboratives to foster local economic development. Such collaboratives were spawned in 21 places, often with local community foundations as prime movers. Ford had a profound faith in the efficacy of community foundations, and Ylvisaker had begun nurturing three models as early as 1960. The case of Puerto Rico proved vexing. Its mix of poverty and corporate wealth notwithstanding, it lacked a community foundation and even a pervading culture of private philanthropy. **Bill Diaz**, the program officer, dispatched Wadsworth to San Juan.

Wadsworth opened the minds and purses of Puerto Rican financial and corporate institutions, eager to respond to a \$2 million Ford incentive grant, matched two to one. Leading pharmaceutical companies and banks established the Puerto Rico Community Foundation, which has flourished and forged a network of collaboratives and community development corporations. As he had in America's heartland, Homer bequeathed upon an American outpost an enduring legacy.

Lost and Found

FOUND:

Ulric S. Haynes, Jr., Dean School of Business, Hofstra University, Hempstead, N.Y. 11550,
Kathleen McCarthy, History Dept., City University of New York Graduate Center, 465 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10016.

NEW ADDRESSES:

Mary Jane Ballou, 530 NE 8th Ave., Gainseville, FL 32601-4393.
William K. Gamble, 111 E. Kellogg Blvd. #1801, St. Paul, MN 55101-1216
Bryant George, 3050 Military Rd., #603, Washington, D.C. 20015
Oleg Lobonov, 12 Ayr St SW, Leesbusrg, VA 20175-2623
Elizabeth Paschal, 555 Glenwood Ave. #A302, Menlo Park, CA 94025-3166.

LOST:

Lincoln Chen (Boston)
Mrs. **Robert L. Clark** (Venice FL)
Karen McGuiness (Ithaca, N.Y.)
Jen Stelle (Baton Rouge, LA)
Sharon Laist (Orange, CT)

Persons who know addresses for the "lost," please send to Dorothy Nixon, 201 Adelaid St., Belleville, NJ 07109, e-mail:nixodo@umdnj.edu

LAFF India

Word has been received, through **David Arnold** of the Institute of International Education, that a branch of The LAFF Society has been formed in the Foundation's New Delhi office. The principals are said to be **F.C. Bambri** and **A.N. Natarajan**.

No details "membership, activities, etc." are available at this writing. Readers with more information should

send it to Robert Tolles, 91 Bickford Lane, New Canaan, CT 06840.

In Memoriam

Wilma Pascoe, IR specialist, 1967-1982, died February 21, 2001.

Paul T. Renza died in the fall at age 84. He began at the Foundation in 1953 as an accountant in the Office

of the Comptroller and retired in 1982 as assistant to the Comptroller. He came to the Foundation as chief accountant at the DeNobile Cigar Co. in Long Island City.

Paul and a colleague, **Larry Cantwell**, were sometime called Mutt and Jeff. "Paul was 5 feet, 2 inches and about 150 lbs.; Larry was 6 feet, 3 inches and weighed about 230 pounds. Together they established the

accounting system (double entry) that is still used by the Foundation. Larry was in charge of Budgets & Payroll, Paul in charge of overseas accounts, individual and grant accounting, general accounting and disbursements. They complemented each other professionally and, reports another colleague, **Pat Corrigan**, "hung out together and often took a walk after lunch."

THE LAFF SOCIETY

c/o Mary Camper-Titsingh
531 Main Street, Apt. #1110
New York, NY 10044



Ford Foundation Archive-LAFF File
c/o Alan Divack
320 East 43rd Street
New York NY 10017

