

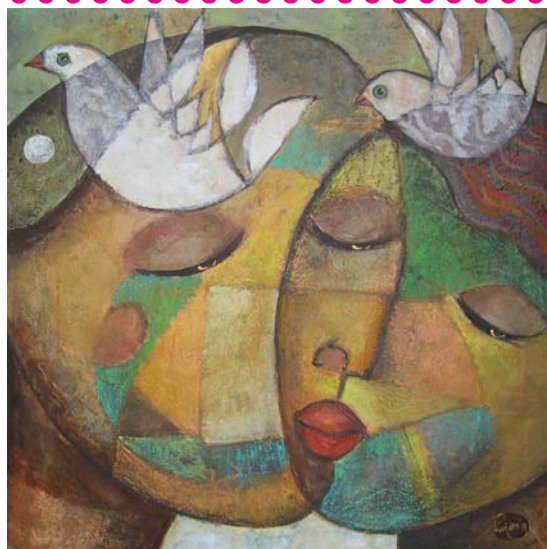
## Building Local (and Global) Friendships

I begin my new role as chapter president thankful for the opportunities my three children have had through CISV and grateful for the unbelievable experiences I have had as CISV Summer Camp and Village leader. Through CISV I have learned things "I never knew I never knew". I challenge all of you to get involved in the chapter and take advantage of all the opportunities we offer. Don't let the kids have all the fun!

For the 2007-2008 year I would like us to focus

on building friendships both within our chapter, with like minded organizations in Jacksonville and, of course, with our international friends. This fall we have several opportunities to build local friendships and expand our personal horizons. We will have a reflective practice retreat September 6-8. We will pair with UNF for international peace day with a booth, presentation and mural painting on September 21<sup>st</sup>. The Fall Membership meeting on September 23 will offer a great opportunity to see old friends and see what the kids have done this summer. Our

**s e c o n d** Peacemaker of the Year award will be presented at a



*Let's Think Peace, 2003*  
Huong, Mixed Media on Canvas, "30" x 30"

Huong will be displaying her peace mural and engaging in interactive workshops at UNF as part of UNF's Peace Awareness Week (September 30 - October 6, 2007) ([www.unf.edu/thefloridacenter/CTSymposium/peace\\_week](http://www.unf.edu/thefloridacenter/CTSymposium/peace_week)). Learn more about Huong at [www.huong.org](http://www.huong.org). In addition, our Junior Branch will again be making a 5-7 minute presentation at the luncheon. Individual tickets are \$25 or \$250 for a table of ten seats.

luncheon on October 4<sup>th</sup>. We will have our second annual Adult Leadership Training for non leaders on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Look for

information about these opportunities in this edition and upcoming mailings. I look forward to seeing all of you soon! Viky



*Above: Connor Austin tries his best at balancing, look inside to find out what other delegations were up to this Summer.*

## 2007-2008 Recruitment Launch

CISV recruiting experts agree the single best way to solicit new CISV families is through direct personal recruitment by a friend, neighbor or teacher. We are asking everyone to start thinking now about which families in their school, neighbor-

hood or church might be interested in the CISV mission. Approach those families, tell them about CISV and refer them to the website ([www.jax.cisvusa.org](http://www.jax.cisvusa.org)). If they express interest send their contact information to the recruitment committee and invite them to your delegation's Open House.

We seek at least 3 referrals from each family with current delegates. We are always interested in individu-

als or families who are sympathetic to our mission no matter what their age! As far as recruiting for traveling programs we are looking specifically for village age (11 year olds during the summer of 2008), 12-13 year olds for an interchange with Sweden, and 13-14 year olds for an interchange with Brazil. We'll find out about other opportunities at the National Board Meeting in

*continued on page 8*

# Junior Branch News

## A Note From the President

Hello everyone! I am very excited for an excellent year of Junior Branch in Jacksonville. First of all, let me just say that I am so lucky to be working as JB president with such a wonderful and talented JB Board. JB has always been very important to me as a means of staying involved in CISV and furthering its purposes on a local level. Over the past few years, our Junior Branch has grown and become more organized. We now have a very dedicated board, hold activities almost every month, and attend regional and national events. From a national standpoint, we are one of the most progressive and cutting edge Junior Branches. This is really cool! I hope to continue the good traditions set before me and to help our JB stay strong and become even more awesome.

All we need now is your participation: adults as chaperones, kids as participants and planners and loads of CISV spirit. The CISV JB Board meetings are open to everyone and we would love to have your input. We will publish the JB calendar in the near future, and make sure everyone has a copy.

Peace,  
Ben Blackshear

## Village Revisited

By Ben Blackshear

Ever since I was eleven and a villager in Norway, I have wanted to be a JC. This summer I finally got that opportunity in Schoten, Belgium. It was all that I had hoped for. I met tons of amazing people and forged many great friendships with people of all ages. JC really is the perfect position between the delegates and the leaders. I got to experience the silliness, joy and fun of the children, but also the respect and occasional seriousness of the adults (they like to have fun too). Some days were spent simply being a participant and hanging out with the kids throughout the activities. It was like being

a big brother, or 'Kuya' in Filipino. The sense of family and the connection with the children was wonderful.



*Ben Blackshear and other JC's, Belgium Village*

Other days were quite different, as I was faced with the duty of planning and facilitating activities for the whole camp with the help of the rest of my planning group. This may sound daunting but it was not so bad. It was incredibly fulfilling to watch

the delegates learn something from an activity that I had helped plan. This was actually the most important part of the camp to me, to be back at a village helping to change lives in the same situation where mine was changed six years ago. To be big where I was small. To teach where I learned. To be a leader where I was a follower. To be an adult where I was a child. To give back. To come



full circle. It was an amazing experience.

## Fall General Meeting CISV Jacksonville

Please join the Jacksonville Chapter of CISV for an important General Membership Meeting and Dinner.

Bring the entire family. Everyone is welcome. Come and see all Of your CISV friends! Enjoy the presentation of Delegates and Leaders 2007.

Sunday, September 23, 2007  
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Location: South Jacksonville Presbyterian Church Harvin Hall  
2137 Hendricks Avenue  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207

## Faces of Jacksonville 2007

Our theme for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Faces of Jacksonville village was “Pirates for Peace.” When the participants arrived at camp, they all signed the Pirate’s Oath – our sworn commitment to each other and the community that we created. As we go forward – back to school and work, we will continue to honor the Pirate’s Oath, written here for all to see:

I solemnly swear by the code of the Pirates for Peace  
 To respect my mates, and their loot.  
 And to stand by them through many moons, troubled seas  
 and calm waters.

I will know me shipmates and keep them close.  
 I will appreciate the local flavor of the seas in which I  
 journey.

I will not discriminate based on the flags my fellows fly.

I will chart my course on a map with no borders.

And I will seek the treasure of friendship as long as my ship does sail.



## Seminar Camp Hosted by CISV Jacksonville

By Virginia Jones

Montgomery in our case!) and live at a Conference Center was a camp for 3 weeks. perfect location for the + - Participating countries

Czech Republic, Canada, World Golf Village, The USA and the Netherlands. Landing, Saint Augustine, the



Boris Seminar camp. In a seminar camp, the participants come from many different countries (14 included Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Brazil, Greenland, Norway, Mexico, Spain, Portugal,

The participants are in charge of preparing all the meals and planning the activities. We covered a wide variety of discussion topics and



made friends from all over the world. When the participants weren’t deep in discussions they also got a chance to see some of Jacksonville. Trips to the

St. Johns Towncenter, and Dignity U Wear were highlights of the camp. Thank You to everyone who helped make it such a great success!!

## Hello From Step Up Village, Oslo, Norway

By Reed B .Divertie, leader

Our Village was at a wonderful school just outside Oslo, the capital of Norway. The Jax/USA delegation was among 12 others including France, Germany, Italy, Costa Rica, Mexico, Turkey, Jordan, India, Norway, Belgium and Russia. Some of our favorite games were Stratego and Chinese Masters. We learned a lot about Norway’s Trolls.

Roosevelt. Overall, we had a great time in Norway and came home with many new friends. We hope to keep in touch.

We also visited the Nobel Peace Prize Center where we learned about all the Nobel Peace Prize winners including one of our U.S. Presidents, Theodore

Right: The Norway and Denmark Village Delegations meet in Newark Airport with connecting flights!



## Leader's Report, Sweden IC

By Ann Marie Bhola

I have to say this has been an experience that will remain with me for a very long time.

Traveling with a great group of nine, five girls, and four boys, all under the age of fifteen for three weeks to Sweden has exposed me to some of the most challenging and soul searching moments in my life.

Now don't start jumping to conclusions, by thinking that the experience was not a good one.

Not at all, to the contrary, it was very positive.

As an adult leader with CISV it's very important to have some knowledge on

what's up with this age group, example: Music, Movies,

back in this position. Being a leader requires a lot of

oneself before giving answers to the same questions being asked and the amount of times it has been asked.

What I have learned about myself is that I am much more resilient than I had ever imagined. I also learned the limit to which I can avoid panic situations when things don't go as planned.

Being responsible for others at any time is a tremendous responsibility, but



Games, Fashions and Trends in order to communicate with them more effectively.

Don't be fooled into thinking that positive results can be attained by being laid

responsibility.

You are challenged with the intelligence of your delegates, their opinions and thoughts on a daily basis. One always has to check

accepting that responsibility for youths under your care in another country is no easy task, it is a challenge. I will always reflect on this experience and draw from it.

## Summer Camp in Vancouver

The base of Cypress Mountain, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, was the address of Jacksonville delegates Marie-Claire Levy, Angelica Kloskowski, Hunter Paulson-Smith and leader, Kathryn Seigler for three weeks in July for Summer Camp, CISV style. The Vancouver hosts outdid themselves with the

camp site. Everyday we looked out to the Strait of Georgia and the mountains on Vancouver Island, an awesome view.

The camp theme was "Ocean Commotion" and we set sail on the Global Friendship with an all Canadian Camp Staff and delegations from Brazil, Canada, Germany, Guatemala, Finland,

France, Peru and Sweden. It was truly amazing to watch how quickly the delegates and leaders and staff bonded. We referred to ourselves as a family. As a matter of fact, we all keep in touch via the internet, and I hear from someone in my new "family" every day!

It was interesting to see how the First Nation Tribes (the native peoples

of Canada) are celebrated throughout the city. Totem Poles and Indian Art Work are displayed in public areas as well as being included as part of the 2010 Winter Olympic insignia. The symbol is an "Inukshuk" which is a stone marker that was used as a sort of sign post among the First Nations.

By Kathryn Seigler, Hunter Paulson-Smith and Marie-Claire Levy

*To All CISV Families and Friends*

Announcing the First International Peace Day  
September 21, 2007 ■ 7 pm to 9:30 pm  
Location - TBA

# Peace Awareness Week

## Symposium On Conflict Transformation: Theory and Practice for Peace in Troubled Times

September 30 – October 6, 2007

University of North Florida



An extraordinary program culminating in a 3 day Symposium on Conflict Transformation addressing the challenge of peace development in our personal lives, our local community, our nation, and around the world.

### Featuring:

#### September 30 to October 6 - Art Exhibition

Peace Mural by Huong  
Illuminating Peace by Lamantia

**Sunday, 9/30**

***The Mountain of Peace***

Official Opening of Peace Awareness Week

**Monday, 10/1**

***The Earth Charter:***

***Global Ethic for Conflict Transformation***

**Tuesday, 10/2**

***The Way of Nonviolence:***

***A Celebration of Gandhi's Birthday***

**Wednesday, 10/3-4**

***Peace Festival on the Green***

An extravaganza of music, poetry, visual arts, speeches, food, exhibits, dialogue circles and interactive events

**Wednesday, 10/3**

**Thursday, 10/4**

***UNF Paints Peace***

Interactive workshops with Peace Mural artist, Huong

**Wednesday, 10/3**

**Thursday, 10/4**

***ECHO BOOM*** (Jacksonville Premier)

Surreal and provocative theatre exploring themes of violence and youth culture through the lens of Columbine, 9/11, and the contemporary political and religious landscape

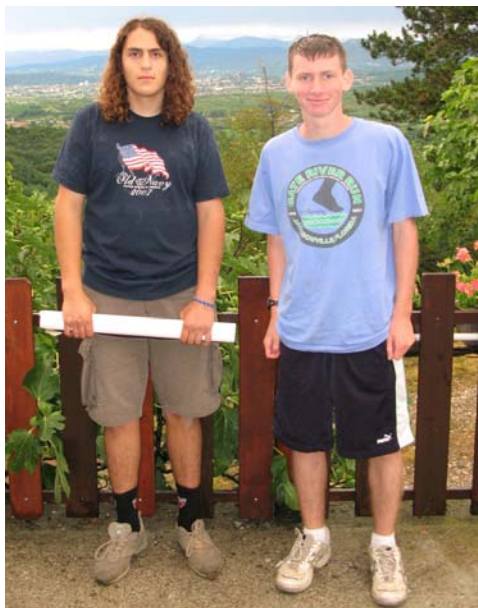
**Saturday, 10/6**

***Walking the Talk***

Downtown Community Peace Walk and Rally  
Time To Be Announced

For more information, times and locations of these events:  
[www.unf.edu/thefloridacenter/CTSymposium](http://www.unf.edu/thefloridacenter/CTSymposium)

## Slovenia 2007



Slovenian IC host, Jan and Tommy Lucas



Slovenia IC at the American Embassy

# Denmark Village *By Connor Austin*

How do you take a group of people from a would become a family over a month. It was slow at the faces singing *mon coo est mort* in perfect harmony.



Argentina, Mexico, Belgium, Spain, Norway, Denmark, Germany, U.S.A., Israel, Czech Republic and Italy and make them a family? Answer: The buddy building process. On July 8th in the rainy country of Denmark in an elementary school, 66 strangers met for the first time. To develop what

beginning but over time we all made friends with whom we laughed, shared and played. The difference in language had no bearing. Kids are kids, no matter what land.

Each day was special at our buddy building village. Whether it be a game, an event or an activity, there was always a group of smiling

meaning. As the days turned into weeks and became a month, we wept as we said our good-byes. For the camp that had awakened greater purpose in all of us turned out to be more than a camp. It was a family. A Buddy Building Village with Buddies that would last a lifetime.

Over the course of that month we also learned so much. About culture, about character and about so many different people being so alike. The days flew by as the buddy building process took effect and started to develop

**Please join us to celebrate**

## **The 2007 CISV Peace Builder Award Luncheon**

Keynote Speaker -  
Huong  
Arts and Peace Advocate  
"Let's Think Peace"

**Thursday, October 4, 2007**

Luncheon and Program - 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

at the Wyndham Jacksonville Riverwalk  
1515 Prudential Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32207

# Austrian Delegation Gets "King's" Treatment

*By Patricia Waltz*

Wow! How much fun can one group pack into a single month? It all started with fireworks filling the air as the Austrian Delegation arrived in Jacksonville on July 4th. Welcome parties were soon followed by an inter-coastal/river excursion on the Haskell boat to Fernandina. It was quite a thrill to see pods of dolphins gathering around shrimp boats as we ventured out into the Atlantic Ocean.

No American visit can be complete without a trip to



*Max Spadafora and his Austrian IC partner, Andy*

the ball park to see our very own Jacksonville Suns. A rumor was going around that

Elvis would make a special appearance, so several of the delegates got into the Elvis spirit. We enjoyed a mini camp at Camp Suwannee near Live Oak.

National Night was especially fun as the Austrian Delegation dressed in native clothes, shared a delicious apple compote, demonstrated dancing, singing and showed

a video of where the Jacksonville delegates will be staying next summer.

Our farewell party was hosted by the Stamms the night before the Austrians departed. It was hard to see our Austrian friends leave. The group had come so far, learning to respect and enjoy differences, sharing personal space and just having fun.

This was truly a great experience of a lifetime!

We Can't Wait Until Next Year!!

**2007 CISV PEACE BUILDER AWARD LUNCHEON**  
**October 4, 2007**  
**RESERVATION REQUEST**  
**(Reservations accepted through September 30, 2007)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Corporate Table(s)** \$250 (10 seats)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Individual Seat(s)** \$25

I am unable to attend but would like to make a tax deductible contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this card with your payment to:

CISV Jacksonville

2148 Mango Place, Jacksonville, FL 32207

(904) 306-0820

[www.jax.cisvusa.org](http://www.jax.cisvusa.org)

**Corporate Tables** are assigned priority seating upon receipt of paid reservations

## Summer Camp in Egypt

*By Rachel Donelan*

I spent twenty-seven days of my summer at seminar camp in Cairo, Egypt. I lived in a large house on the outskirts of the city which I shared with thirty-two other people.

The routine events of camp, meals, a swim at the pool or free time were filled with interactions with other

campers. I learned things I'll never forget. I made the most incredible friendships that I intend to keep for a life time. I've been active in CISV for many years but seminar camp in Cairo, Egypt was different than any other. One word captures the essence of this experience for me: amazing.

## Philly Delegation Report

*By Maghan Solomon*

Well it is August and the Philly delegation is home and fully rested. I never thought I would say that word again. However, the experience was completely worth it. Our delegation arrived in Philly on June 25th where we were warmly greeted by our host family. From the first day to the last the CISV spirit was in full swing. From name games and talent shows to intimate candle lit conversations our kids were in a reality that they had never experienced. Our own kids from Jacksonville had many learning and growing experiences. National Nights from around the world proved to be an excellent tool to show each country's culture. Different activities and games sparked some deep conversations about our own culture, government, and simply how

alike we really are to our new friends all across the world. Finally the CISV song had a great impact on our delegation, including the leader. ...*Stamp the present with an act, dare to make our DREAM a fact...* In common use we typically use the plural: "dreams". The word, *dreams*, ends with the letter "s", however *dreams* is really singular because in CISV we all have only one true dream and that is to work together as one to build global friendships. From our entire delegation I extend a huge THANK YOU to everyone in CISV Jacksonville for your support and effort in making it possible for each of us to have this awesome experience. Our lives were touched in an awesome way. Life long memories were made by one and all.



**Launch.....**

continued from page 1

October. To refer an interested individual or family please email Diane C o m e a u x : [gcomex1@aol.com](mailto:gcomex1@aol.com), or call Diane at 268-1634.

**Please join us to  
celebrate**

**The 2007 CISV  
Peace  
Builder Award  
Luncheon**

Thursday, October 4,  
2007

See page 7 for details

## Share Ramadan

We have been Invited to Share Ramadan on  
Saturday, September 15, 2007  
from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the Islamic Center  
(2333 St. John's Bluff Road, between Atlantic  
and Beach). Dinner is served at the end of the  
event. The keynote speaker this year is Pat Yack,  
Editor of the Florida Times Union.  
The goal of this event is to promote mutual  
understanding and dialogue.  
For more information call Sara Mojadidi at  
904-646-3462 or email: [sara@icnef.org](mailto:sara@icnef.org).

### Wanted!

Someone with the ability to do  
some minor remodeling at the  
office. Need community service?  
Need a boy scout project?  
There is a budget for supplies.  
You would need an adult to  
supervise your work. If you are  
able to help out call the office at  
306-0829



## Fall General Meeting CISV Jacksonville

Sunday, September 23, 2007  
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

See page 2 for details

CISV Jacksonville  
P.O. Box 16472  
Jacksonville, Florida 32245  
[jax.cisvusa.org](http://jax.cisvusa.org)

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 1756  
JACKSONVILLE