

SPLC REPORT



PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
TEACHING TOLERANCE · INTELLIGENCE PROJECT · LITIGATION

SEPTEMBER 1998
VOLUME 28, NUMBER 3

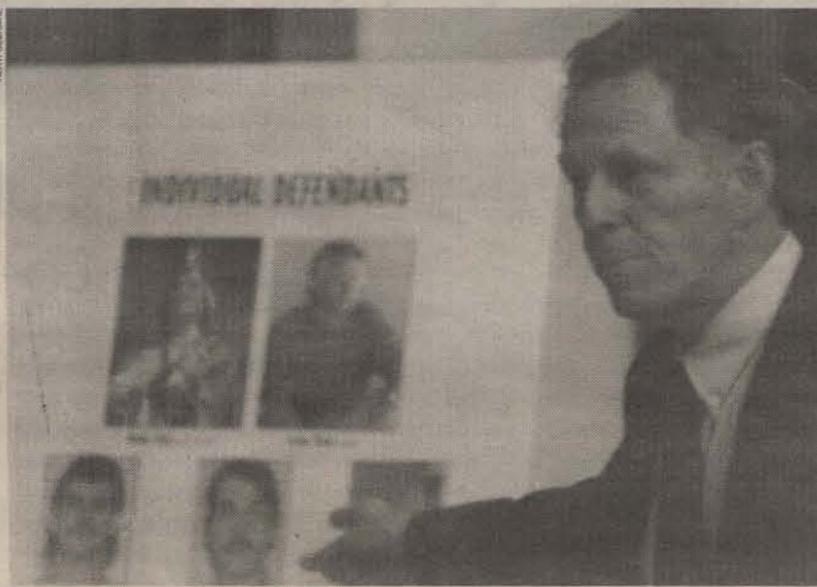
Jury hits Klan with \$37 million verdict

MANNING, S.C. — In the largest judgment ever awarded against a hate group, a jury here on July 24 ordered the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, its state leader and four other Klansmen to pay \$37.8 million for their roles in a conspiracy to burn a black church.

"That jury's decision was a day of reckoning for the Klan," said Morris Dees, the Southern Poverty Law Center's chief trial counsel and lead attorney for Macedonia Baptist Church, which was burned on June 21, 1995. "The verdict shows that there are still some things sacred in this country, still some lines that no one can cross."

After a five-day trial, the jury assessed punitive damages of \$15 million against the Klan's national organization, based in North Carolina; \$15 million against Horace King, the Grand Dragon of the group's South Carolina chapter; and \$7 million against the organization's South Carolina chapter. In addition, punitive damages were awarded against four Klansmen — \$100,000 against each of three men and \$200,000 against a fourth — who were earlier convicted of criminal charges in the case.

The jury also assessed \$300,000 in compensatory damages.



Center chief trial counsel Morris Dees tells the jury how Klansmen planned to burn Macedonia Baptist Church.

The Christian Knights and King don't have millions of dollars. But the verdict will likely put the Klan out of business — or severely diminish its influence — and deter others from hate-inspired actions. Center attorneys plan to initiate legal procedures to attach bank accounts, property and other assets belonging to the Christian Knights and the five men. Any money collected will go to Macedonia Baptist Church.

Testimony presented at the trial could spark criminal charges. Prosecutors who

followed it told reporters there was a possibility that new evidence disclosed at the civil trial could bring additional indictments.

Defense attorney Gary White painted King as a feeble old man merely exercising his right to free speech, saying King had not authorized the attack on the century-old church. But witnesses

told a different story, portraying King as a dynamic hater who specifically spoke of burning churches and protecting his men from the law. The jury saw videotapes collected by the Center's Intelligence Project that showed King in his green Grand Dragon garb — moving dramatically across a stage at a Klan rally as he proclaimed the evils of blacks.

"This is a white man's country and if the niggers don't like it, put them on a row-boat and send them

back to Africa to swing from coconut trees and eat one another," King shouted at a videotaped Klan rally two weeks before the Macedonia fire. Another tape showed King at a Klan march in Washington, D.C., yelling, "If we had this garbage in South Carolina, we would burn the bastards out..."

Testimony showed that King portrayed black churches as demonic. He told his followers that black churches were plotting against white America. Witnesses said that King and his followers were particularly infuriated after members of Macedonia's congregation complained to police about the Klan's nearby rallies. Racial epithets blasted over Klan loudspeakers could be heard during Macedonia's church services. After the complaints, police ordered the Klan to turn its loudspeakers down.

Other evidence showed King authorized attacks on black churches:

• Marion Frieson, a man who attended a Klan rally near Macedonia, said he overheard a conversation involving King and Ed Garvin, the Clarendon County Klan leader serving under King. "I heard Ed Garvin say, 'Hell, let's burn a church. There's one right down the road,'" Frieson told the jury. In response, he added, "Horace King said,

Please turn to p. 3 "Record Verdict..."

American educators take Teaching Tolerance to Africa

JOHANNESBURG — A delegation of American educators presented Teaching Tolerance materials to South African teachers during a first-of-its-kind exchange in April. The 16 American teachers, university professors, graduate



Gabrielle Lyon

students and school reform activists had a dual mission: to learn how South Africa is transforming its education system from one based on apartheid to one based on democracy and to lay the groundwork for an

ongoing educators' exchange of ideas and experiences. Part of the exchange was the introduction of Teaching Tolerance resources to South African educators.

Helping organize the event and serving as a delegate was Gabrielle Lyon, a Teaching Tolerance research fellow in 1995-96 who now is outreach coordinator for the Small Schools Workshop at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her specific focus

Please turn to p. 3 "American Educators..."

Center's expertise on hate benefits Texas lawmakers

HOUSTON — Four weeks after a black man was dragged to his death in Jasper, Texas, state legislators and city leaders met in an extraordinary session here to consider action aimed at preventing and punishing further racial tragedies. During the four-hour meeting, officials unanimously urged the state legislature to toughen hate-crime laws.

The special joint hearing, called by Houston Mayor Pro Tem Jew Don Boney and state Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, also was attended by the family of James Byrd Jr. Three white men, accused of chaining Byrd to a pickup truck and dragging

him down a local highway, have been charged with capital murder in the grotesque attack.

Officials say Byrd was killed solely because he was black.

Mark Potok, editor of the Center's quarterly *Intelligence Report*, traveled to Houston to brief the gathering on hate crimes, hate crime legislation and white supremacist groups in Texas and the nation. Much of his testimony centered on the debate over the usefulness of hate crime punishment enhancements, but the nature of racist hate groups — to which two of the Jasper suspects allegedly had ties — also came up in the wide-ranging discussion.

"Without the wealth of information and research and factual information the Southern Poverty Law Center brought, there would have been a tremendous void," said Boney, co-chair of the July 9 meeting. "We wanted to move beyond the emotions of the incident itself to factual matters, and the Center helped give us that perspective."

"We're clear now that hate crime is not just an issue of African-Americans, but of white people, gays and lesbians and others. This is a crime where all kinds of people are perpetrators and all are victims. It is an issue that draws together the entire community," Boney said.

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SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
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www.splcenter.org

The Southern Poverty Law Center is a non-profit organization that combats hate, intolerance, and discrimination through education and litigation. Its programs include Teaching Tolerance and the Intelligence Project, which incorporates Klanwatch and the Militia Task Force. The Center also sponsors the Civil Rights Memorial which celebrates the memory of 40 individuals who died during the Civil Rights Movement.

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MAILBOX

Texas murder prompts outrage and action

Many Center supporters expressed outrage and concern following the brutal dragging death of James Byrd in Jasper, Texas, in June. Newton Hightower, a Houston family therapist, also took action. He showed *Seeking Justice*, the video about the Center's work, to a group of 60 therapists at a workshop; he held a memorial service for Byrd after the monthly meeting of the Houston Association of Marriage and Family Therapy; and he solicited by mail the association's membership for contributions to the Center, raising \$780 to combat hate. Hightower also wrote a letter to the editors of several newspapers, which is excerpted below.

The murder of James Byrd Jr. in Jasper has left me feeling overwhelmed with sadness, outrage and disbelief. My grandfather was a member of the East Texas Klan. I have struggled my whole life



Newton Hightower

to come to terms with this legacy and now work as a marriage and family therapist helping men come to terms with their anger and rage. Here's what I, as a white male, have decided to do as a response to this hate crime.

First, it is important that I feel with compassion the pain of others — to let it in, even though it hurts. To heal it I have to feel it. I read the accounts in the paper and watched the TV specials. While I need not "stay stuck" in it, it is important to "let it in."

Second, the solution is not in my encouraging feelings of revenge, hatred and scapegoating. In fact, those are

the psychological responses carried to extreme that contribute to such shocking acts. Yes, I believe the murderers need to be brought to trial and justice done. But for my own healing and psy-

chological growth to happen, I need to look inside to heal the hatred in my heart without shaming myself that it is there.

Third, I need to get out of the problem and into the solution. The way I am taking a small step toward a solution is by sending a generous check to the Southern Poverty Law Center which provides "teaching tolerance" materials to school teachers across the country and effective legal approaches to containing Klan activities.

In summary: Let it in, look inside, and take positive action.

Thank you for the tremendous work you do! I read with great interest on the Internet just now about the verdict and punishment for the chapter of the ku klux klan (I have no intention of showing one shred of respect for them, so much so that I can't even use title case for their names, just like I can't for nazis, either!) which set the church in Manning afire. Thank goodness you are there to implement the penalties and show this group of miserable racist miscreants (and all like them) that they will not get away with it!

I'm sending a contribution to your Center in support and gratitude. I love the idea of the Teaching Tolerance program, and I think that's where it needs to start. Nobody is "born a bigot." They are taught bigotry and racial hatred from a very young age through what they see, hear and are told at home. If we can show them the truth through programs like Teaching Tolerance in the schools, surely we can undo some of the damage done before the age of six.

Know that we are out here, quietly supporting what you are doing at SPLC and giving what we can, when we can.

L. B.
Monterey, California

Thank you for the opportunity to review your video [*Seeking Justice*]. I appreciate the work that the Center is doing not only in fighting racism in the courts but also in giving educators a tool for developing understanding through the *Teaching Tolerance* magazine. I wonder where our country would be without the courage and dedication of individuals and organizations such as yours.

M. M.
Marysville, California

Congratulations on the July 24th KKK case! My heart is filled with hope for the first time in many years. Thank you so very much. To me, this is a pivotal case. I'm telling everyone who will listen to support the Center.

M. D.
Fairfax, California



Operation Understanding visits Center

High school students participating in Operation Understanding DC and Operation Understanding Charleston visited the Civil Rights Memorial on July 13. Operation Understanding brings together Jewish and black high school students for a program of educational workshops, cultural activities and travel designed to teach them about their own and each other's history, culture, race and religion. Many similar youth groups came to the Center this summer to learn history through the stories of the martyrs whose names are inscribed on the Memorial.

Court upholds judgment against neo-Nazi leader

A July 27 ruling by a federal appeals court upheld a judgment against William Pierce, author of the infamous race-war novel, *The Turner Diaries*, and leader of the National Alliance — one of the country's most notorious neo-Nazi organizations.

In May 1996, Center attorneys won an \$85,000 judgment for the family of Harold Mansfield against Pierce. He appealed that judgment, awarded by a North Carolina jury which found that Pierce was involved in a scheme to hide the assets of another hate group, the Church of the Creator (COTC). In 1991 in Florida, a COTC member killed Mansfield, a black sailor. The Center sued and won a \$1 million default judgment for the Mansfield family against the COTC, but COTC leaders had transferred ownership of its property to Pierce to prevent it from going to Mansfield's heirs. This past January, Center attorneys defended the jury's decision in *Mansfield v. Pierce* before a three-judge panel

of the U. S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit.

"The jury's verdict sent the message that the law will not allow hate groups to evade responsibility for the violent actions of their members," said Center legal director Richard Cohen after the 1996 trial. "Although Pierce was not involved in the Mansfield murder, he participated in the scheme to keep the COTC assets from the Mansfield family. The jurors told Pierce that he could not profit from the death of Harold Mansfield."

With 21 chapters in 13 states, the National Alliance is one of the largest and most influential neo-Nazi groups in the country. Pierce's long-range goal is to ignite a worldwide race war and establish an Aryan utopia in North America and Europe — a fascist society free of Jews, blacks and other racial minorities. Pierce set out his vision in *The Turner Diaries*, the book that inspired the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing.



Clarification

A cutline in the June issue of the *SPLC Report* described a new book on Viola Liuzzo as the first full-length book about her. In fact, Beatrice Siegel — a Center supporter — published *Murder on the Highway: The Viola Liuzzo Story* in 1993. It is a 125-page biography written for young adults.

Civil rights movement kit again available to teachers

Seven years after the Teaching Tolerance project of the Southern Poverty Law Center released its first curriculum package, *America's Civil Rights Movement*, the Center is making the popular video-and-text kit available again to schools nationwide. Distribution began in 1991, but the kit has been out of print for about two years. The material in the kit, which has been sent free to more than 55,000 schools, universities and community organizations, helps teachers transmit the ideals of democracy through the story of the civil rights struggle.



The video component, *A Time for Justice*, produced by Charles Guggenheim, received the 1995 Academy Award for Best Short Documentary. The kit also contains an award-winning text, *Free at Last: A History of the Civil Rights Movement and Those Who Died in the Struggle*, and a 32-page teacher's guide with detailed lesson plans.

Educators continue to praise the *America's Civil Rights Movement* materials, as evidenced by a recent letter from a teacher in Pflugerville, Texas:

It is very disturbing to me that although considerable progress

has been made, "hate crimes" are still on the increase. Fortunately, as an educator I feel I do have some impact in this area. This is why I'm so grateful for the excellent teaching tool you have provided. Your organization has done something that was sorely needed in our schools.

Jim Carnes, Teaching Tolerance director, supervised the kit's re-release, which included a new design and updated introduction for the teacher's guide. "Time has proven the worth of this important teaching tool," said Carnes. "We are pleased to be offering this package to an even wider audience free of charge."

The civil rights package was the first in a series of video-and-text kits offered by the Center that now includes *The Shadow of Hate* and *Starting Small*. A fourth kit, *A Place at the Table*, is currently being developed for release in the fall of 1999.

The *America's Civil Rights Movement* kit is available free to middle and upper schools, community organizations and colleges upon request. To order, a principal, organization director or department chair should sign a request for the kit on school or organization stationery and fax it to 334-264-7310.

American educators take Teaching Tolerance to Africa

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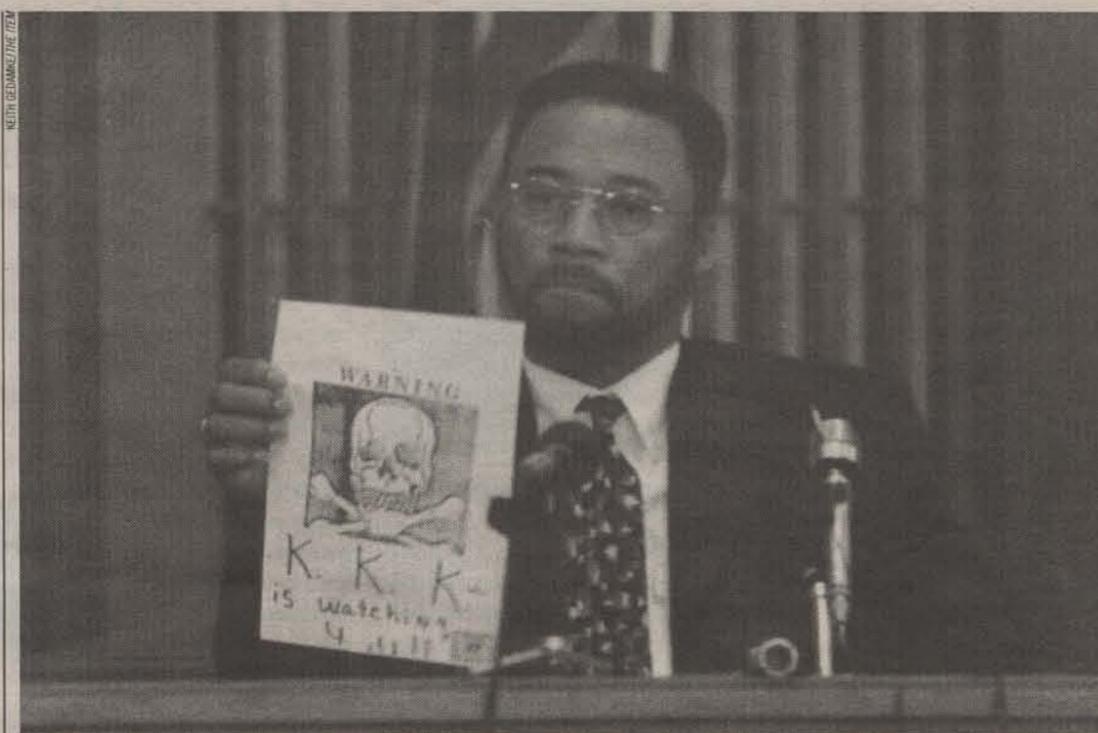
during the exchange was on how anti-bias and multicultural curricula can help the transition of the South African system. She visited the Center in early March to get a refresher course on current model practices in the United States and to arrange the donation of Teaching Tolerance's three video-and-text teaching kits and poster set to South African schools.

Materials eagerly received

The Teaching Tolerance materials were received "with incredible eagerness," reported Lyon. "The poster set in particular blew people away." The South Africans were also impressed with the teaching kits and *Teaching Tolerance* magazine, she said. "The kits are not just informative," Lyon said. "They are great models of how to convey ideas about history and classroom practice in a meaningful way."

Lyon arranged for Teaching Tolerance materials to be sent to three places where they will be most useful: a new teacher resource Center in Gauteng; the Kwazulu Natal Library Service in Durban, which is responsible for distributing materials to public libraries in this traditional home of the Zulu people; and the Unlazi College for Further Education, a teacher education center that attracts people from around the country for professional development.

"What an amazing place South Africa is!" Lyon wrote to Center staff after her return. "As we traveled through Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town, the delegation was constantly surprised by the parallel struggles being waged by educators in the United States and in South Africa. ... Thank you again for the generous donation — the Teaching Tolerance materials couldn't be going to a better place."



Jessie Young shows jurors a Klan warning that was stapled to the front doors of the Macedonia Baptist Church before it burned down. Young is chairman of the church's board of trustees.

Record verdict sends message to Klan

Continued from page 1

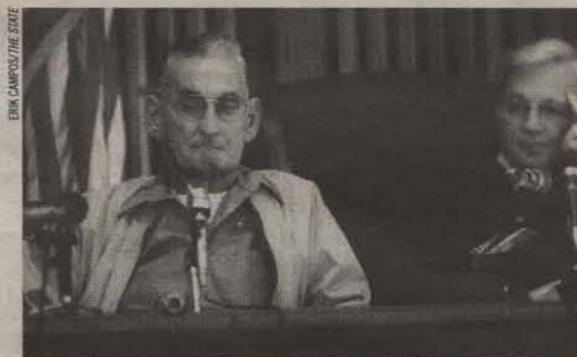
"There'll be protection for you fellows if you need it."

Gary Christopher Cox and Timothy Adron Welch, the two Klansmen convicted of actually setting the fires at Macedonia and another black church, said they spoke with King and other Klan officials about burning churches at a Klan rally a few weeks before the Macedonia attack. Cox testified that he was ready to burn a church that night but was told to wait to avoid bringing suspicion on the Klan. Both Welch and Cox testified that King promised them assistance should they be caught. The next month, he and Welch burned Mount Zion A.M.E. and Macedonia Baptist on succeeding nights.

Things did not go smoothly for the defense. At one point, a defense witness, Dean Williams, identified himself as a State Law Enforcement Department employee and said that King was peaceful and cooperative with police. But on cross-examination, Williams admitted that he was merely a paid informant and was a former member of the Klan group responsible for killing four girls in a 1963

served as local counsel and assisted Center attorneys at the trial.

The South Carolina verdict was the latest in a series of cases against hate groups brought by Center attorneys. In 1990, White Aryan Resistance and its members were ordered to pay \$12.5 million to the family of Mulugeta Seraw. In 1988, a jury assessed nearly \$1 million against a Klan group who attacked a group of interracial marchers in Forsyth County, Ga.



In his testimony, Klan Grand Dragon Horace King tried to portray himself as a peaceful man.

After arrests in the fires at Macedonia and another black church, local Klan official Arthur Haley said King told him, "Deny that you know them boys, and tear their [membership] cards up." Another witness said King called a special meeting to give similar instructions to other Clarendon County Klan members.

Thomas Smith, a former reporter for the Richland County weekly *The Star-Reporter*, said he infiltrated the Christian Knights after the fire. Smith testified that King told him that a "race war" was coming by the year 2000 and then spoke specifically of black churches, saying, "The only good nigger church is a burned nigger church."

In a related matter, Clayton "Eddy" Spires, facing charges in the 1996 drive-by shooting of a black nightclub in Pelion, S.C., said King ordered that attack. He said that King told him he had influence and could protect him from prosecution.

Birmingham, Ala., church bombing.

In addition to Dees, Center attorneys presenting the Macedonia case were litigation director Richard Cohen and Marcia Bull Staderker. Columbia lawyers Tom Turnipseed and Pete Tapley served as local counsel and provided invaluable assistance throughout the litigation. Senator John Land and his daughter Ricci Land Welch of Manning also

attend a race relations course taught by their victims. Nine Klansmen were later convicted of criminal charges.

In 1996, members of Macedonia Baptist Church rebuilt their church, located on a peaceful country road about 10 miles outside of Manning. They never let the hate that burned their church consume them. They have not forgotten the vision of their church in flames, but they have forgiven those who burned it.

"Hate is useless, it is just useless," said Macedonia pastor Jonathan Mouzon after the trial was over.



Center legal director Richard Cohen (right) and Intelligence Project director Roy congratulate the Rev. Mouzon after the record verdict was announced.

Lawsuit asks court to end brutality in Louisiana juvenile facility

TALLULAH, La. — Juveniles housed here in one of the nation's largest detention facilities are routinely subjected to malicious abuse and brutality while denied adequate education and counseling, claims a new class action filed in July by the Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana and the Southern Poverty Law Center. The lawsuit asks a federal court to change the way the for-profit Tallulah Correctional Center for Youth (TCCY) is operated.

Juvenile advocates say the facility — located in this economically depressed town of 8,500 about 180 miles north of New Orleans — is one of the worst in the country. It houses

620 boys and young men under age 20 in stifling barracks jammed with bunks.

"Those responsible for running TCCY have been deliberately indifferent to the constitutional and legal rights of these children," said David Utter, director of the Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana and lead attorney in the case. "From its beginning in 1994 as a private, for-profit facility, TCCY officials have consciously chosen to provide inadequate numbers of untrained staff. And they have made little or no effort to educate, train and treat TCCY's youth. The defendants in this case have consistently placed

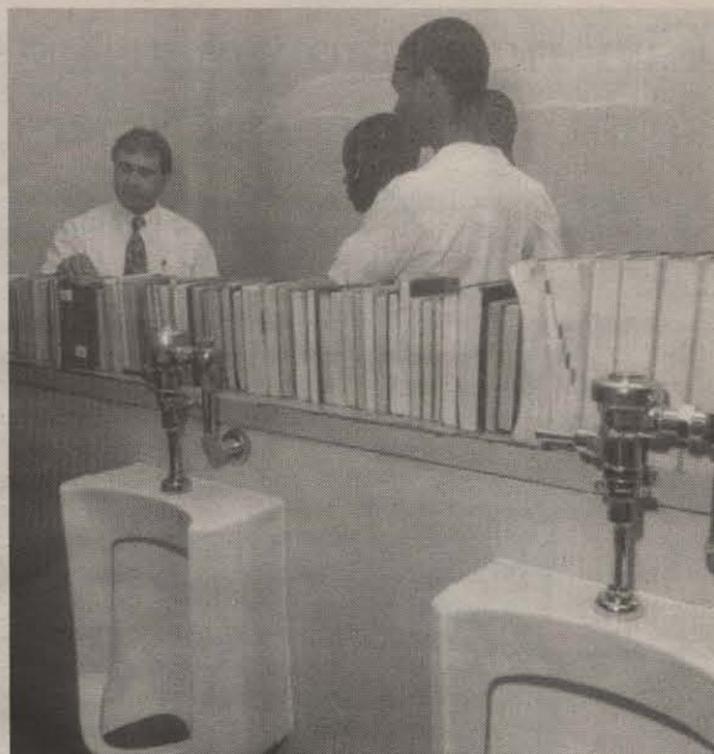
profit-making above juvenile rehabilitation and public safety."

In addition to their failure to provide adequate care and treatment for the youth, the lawsuit alleges that TCCY's staff routinely hit, slap, punch, kick and shove children in their care. Guards use mace and pepper spray to stop youth from banging on their cell doors and to expedite the movement of youth into or out of cells. Guards also fail to protect against youth-on-youth violence. One boy pleaded with an investigator not to return him to his dormitory, where he said an older youth had been sexually abusing him for weeks.

Mentally ill and retarded teens housed with the general population are particularly at risk for physical harm. Experts estimate that about 25 percent of the TCCY population fall into this category, but the detention facility does not properly screen new arrivals. Those on powerful anti-psychotic medications are not monitored, and medical charts often are missing.

TCCY's troubles are illustrated in the case of a slight 16-year-old who was sent there at age 14 for stealing a bicycle. The boy's nose and jaw were broken, and he needed stitches behind an ear after fights with guards and other juveniles. Sometimes guards hit him because his medication made him sleepy and he did not stand to attention when ordered. A judge finally ordered the boy released so he could get medical treatment.

The juveniles frequently fought over food or each other's clothes, said the boy, who was released last November. Guards,



New warden David Bonnette (left) found a place for books at Tallulah Correctional Center for Youth: behind the urinals.

he said, commonly beat them for breaking rules.

The allegations outlined in *Barry A., et al. v. Richard Stalder, et al.* mirror the findings of a U.S. Dept. of Justice report issued in June, which found that Tallulah has the highest injury rate among Louisiana's juvenile facilities.

Higher standards required for juveniles

A series of federal court decisions and state laws have long mandated a higher standard for juvenile prisons than for adult prisons. There is supposed to be more schooling, medical care and security because the young inmates have been adjudged delinquent, rather than convicted of crimes as adults are, and so are held for rehabilitation instead of punishment.

But TCCY, to earn a profit, has scrimped on Louisiana's already meager funds for education and mental health treatment.

"It's incredibly perverse," said Utter. "They have this place that creates all these injuries, and they have all these kids with mental disorders, and then they save money by not treating them."

Almost all of Tallulah's juveniles are from poor families, and 82 percent are black. Like juveniles in a number of other states, most received poor legal representation, said Utter. One mentally ill boy was sent to TCCY without a lawyer or even a trial.

Louisiana's prisons and parish jails have a history of subhuman conditions, poor medical care and overcrowding. A federal judge who oversaw the entire system for 25 years relinquished control of most facilities in April, saying conditions had improved. But he retained jurisdiction over the juvenile prisons because of their continuing problems.

New Center legal project seeks justice for juveniles

NEW ORLEANS — In an effort to give children caught up in the Louisiana criminal justice system a fighting chance to survive and become productive citizens, the Center helped establish the Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana (JJPL). The goal of the new project is to improve the state's badly broken juvenile justice system, often called the worst in the nation.

"Children — an overwhelming majority of whom are black and poor — are being arrested and detained before trial for months in unconstitutional detention facilities that do not provide educational, health and rehabilitation services," said David Utter, director of the new project. "These children are usually convicted without effective legal representation and sentenced to shockingly unconstitutional juvenile prisons."

Joint effort produced victory

The project's small staff — Utter, two other lawyers, a paralegal and an office manager — opened its doors here in January after the Center provided a grant of \$145,000. The JJPL collaborates with the Center's legal department on its litigation strategies. This cooperative effort produced a significant legal victory in March: The Louisiana Supreme Court ordered the state to stop transferring

juveniles to adult prisons once they turned 17.

"The decision was an important victory for social justice," Utter said. "The joint effort between our offices is one we hope to replicate many times." The JJPL and the Center are again working together on a class action attacking conditions at the worst of Louisiana's juvenile facilities.

Utter, a graduate of Emory University and the University of Florida law school, has been involved with indigent defense and prison issues for nearly 10 years. He served as lead counsel on prison-condition class actions affecting three states and specialized in capital defense work prior to joining the JJPL. "So many of my clients had passed through the juvenile system where there was no attempt to fix their lives," Utter said. "Children with emotional or mental illness didn't get the treatment they needed. This deeply saddened me."

The JJPL has three key objectives:

- ensuring that children receive effective representation;
- alleviating unconstitutional conditions of confinement for juveniles, both before and after they are adjudicated delinquent;
- and collaborating with other organizations to develop and expand rehabilitation efforts and alternatives to incarceration for juveniles.



David Utter

New assistant moves smoothly into job

The Center's new administrative assistant brings a wealth of experience to the job. Maria Moore was a legal secretary at the corporate headquarters of KinderCare Learning Centers Inc. for four years before joining the Center in May. In her previous position, she provided support to KinderCare's vice president and general counsel, reviewed contracts and handled telephone inquiries. She also assisted with board meetings and maintained corporate board minutes. Moore also worked for an insurance company for more than 10 years.

Moore's prior experience enabled her to smoothly assume her Center duties. She assists administrator JoAnn Chancellor in a variety of tasks, including handling maintenance requests

from all Center departments and organizing Center board materials. Moore also serves as a back-up to the Center's receptionist and switchboard operator. Four nights a week after work, she takes computer classes at a local technical school. She plans to finish an associate degree in computer information systems

in December.

"I love my work here," Moore said. "It's interesting, and I feel so proud to be working for an organization that's doing good service for people."

Originally from the Philippines, Moore moved to the United States in 1977 after marrying an American sailor. They have two daughters — one a high school junior and the other a student at Troy State University



Maria Moore

at Montgomery. In her spare time, Moore enjoys reading mystery novels.



Intelligence Project team

Maranda Henderson (left) was recently promoted from Intelligence Project information specialist to research analyst. She specializes in hate group activity and works as a team with information specialist Tafeni English (right). Together they monitor and document the words and actions of white supremacists, neo-Nazis, black separatists and other hatemongers.

Reunion renews Institute teachers' commitment to teaching tolerance

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — On Thursday, July 9, 18 teachers who attended the 1997 Teaching Tolerance Institute in Seattle arrived here for a two-day reunion. The stifling Alabama heat did not wilt the educators' enthusiasm as they became reacquainted at a welcome reception that evening. "Oh, wow! It's so good to see everyone again. I'm reminded what a great group this is!" exclaimed Jerry Lassos, an elementary school teacher from Lakewood, Colorado.

After touring the Center on Friday morning, the participants attended a keynote address by G. Pritchly Smith, professor of curriculum and instruction at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. A former high school English teacher, Dr. Smith is a founding member of the National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME) and the author of numerous articles on multicul-

tural issues. In his talk, entitled "Who Shall Have the Moral Courage to Heal Racism in America?" Dr. Smith challenged teachers to confront racism in their schools and communities.

The teachers spent Friday afternoon sharing highlights of how they implemented the



G. Pritchly Smith

lessons they learned from the Institute during the past school year. One of the most memorable experiences was that of Michelle Plexico, a first grade teacher from Morganton, North Carolina. Plexico reminded the group how, at the end of the

Institute last summer, she was desperate to leave her small town for a more diverse environment. But during the past year, she experienced a "personal revolution" that began when she welcomed several Hmong students into her class. Through her interactions with the students' parents, Plexico became actively involved with the growing Hmong community in her area and now volunteers to teach English and reading to Hmong adults in the evening.

Now she is reluctant to move away. "There is a dire need in my community for cross-cultural communication," she said. "If I leave, then there is one less person who cares to help facilitate such communication."

On Saturday, the last day of the reunion, the group traveled to Birmingham to tour the Civil Rights Institute. Several participants described this as the perfect event to cap off their new understanding of the continuing struggle for equal rights for all in this country.

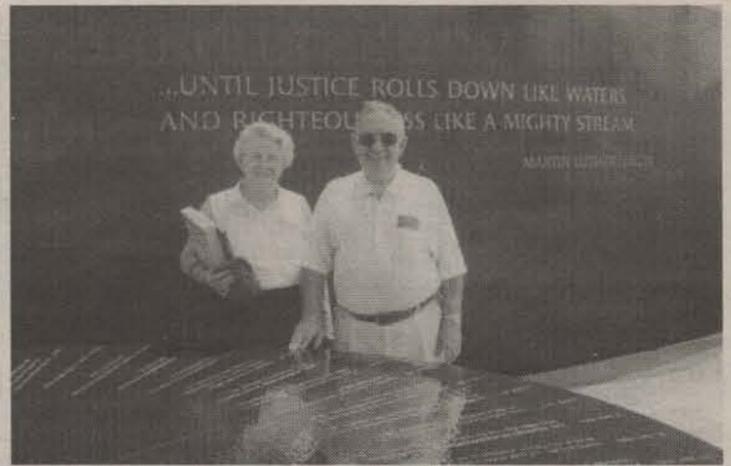
Throughout the weekend, the educators expressed gratitude to the Center for their Institute experience and for the opportunity to come together again. "The knowledge and materials that I acquired at the Institute gave me the confidence to teach tolerance-related lessons and to do a workshop for my fellow teachers," said Melody Mann of Wasilla, Alaska. "Before the Institute I would not have done that type of workshop. Now I want to do more!"

The teachers were joined at the reunion by Lauri Johnson, a research assistant from the Center for Multicultural Education at the University of Washington in Seattle. Johnson is evaluating the Institute experience as part of her doctoral dissertation.

Institute fulfilled its goal

"This event demonstrates to us that the 1997 Teaching Tolerance Institute fulfilled its goal of developing a corps of educators committed to teaching tolerance," said Glenda Valentine, who coordinated the Institute and the reunion. "The influence these individuals will have on their students and fellow teachers will have a significant impact."

The Institute reunion held particular significance for Valentine, who recently announced her resignation as Teaching Tolerance associate director. Valentine, who came to the Center in 1992, will be joining her husband, Lee, who works in Atlanta.



Veteran educator visits Center

Helen Bain, a veteran educator and longtime Center supporter, and her friend Al Payne visited the Center and its Civil Rights Memorial on August 6. Bain, a former president of the National Education Association, helped integrate teacher associations throughout the South in the 1960s.

Summer interns enrich Center's operations

Three students joined the Center for the summer months, both to learn from its staff and to offer their own contributions. Jocelyn Benson, a senior at Wellesley College in Massachusetts, and Agaarn Johnson, a junior at Pitzer College in California, did specialized research for the Intelligence Project. Kate Ponsoldt, who begins her third



Jocelyn Benson



Agaarn Johnson



Kate Ponsoldt

year of law school at the University of Georgia this fall, worked with the Center's legal department. Benson and Johnson developed and wrote profiles of leaders in the hate group movement. Their pieces on Virgil Griffin and Horace King, leaders of the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, were used by Center lawyers in preparation for the Macedonia Baptist Church

arson trial (see page 1). The Center has extensive files on hate groups and their activities, but the interns' project was the first time detailed portraits of hate group leaders were compiled.

"It was a vitally important project," said Mark Potok, director of publications for the Intelligence Project. "We have a lot of information scattered around about these people. Jocelyn and Agaarn's collecting this and putting it into one document was extremely valuable to us."

Most of Ponsoldt's 10 weeks at the Center was devoted to legal research in connection with the Macedonia Baptist Church arson case against the Klan, though she did some work on other legal issues. "It's been won-

derful here," she said. "The high point was observing the trial in South Carolina. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience." Listening to Klan members testify about their beliefs was "disheartening," she said. "While I saw how powerful legal tools can be and was very excited about the verdict, I realized there is an ongoing need for programs like Teaching Tolerance."

Ponsoldt, a graduate of Wesleyan University in Connecticut, complimented the relaxed and helpful attitude of the Center's legal staff. "Marcia [Stadker] was great," she said of the Center's staff attorney. "She gave me feedback on my memos and answered all my questions so that I could get a sense of the whole Macedonia case. In some internships, you just get a little piece of work to do."

Johnson grew up in California where his mother is a lawyer and his father a state appeals court judge. In 1997, he was a White House intern, and in 1994, he worked on Kathleen Brown's campaign for governor. Seeing the 1993 television documentary *Hate on Trial* prompted his interest in the Center's work.

A political science and African studies major, Benson will graduate from Wellesley in December. She grew up in Pittsburgh, but she became deeply involved in the Wellesley community; Benson is the first student elected to the Wellesley township council. Her campus work against racism helped earn her selection as one of *Glamour* magazine's top 10 college women for 1998.

Michigan teacher is new Teaching Tolerance fellow

In July, Teaching Tolerance welcomed Frank H. Crumell to its staff as the project's 1998-99 research fellow. A native of Kalamazoo, Michigan, Crumell has served six years as a language arts teacher at Portage West Middle School in Portage, Michigan. While there, he developed an 8th-grade-level cultural awareness course in which students explore



Frank Crumell

the rich ancestry and legacies of America's diverse peoples. He also served on the district's Cultural Diversity Committee, where he created and implemented several district-wide professional development programs for teachers, administrators and support staff.

Crumell earned his B.A. in English and secondary education from Western Michigan University and is in the process of completing an M.A. degree in educational leadership and African American history from the same institution. An alumni of the 1997 Teaching Tolerance Institute in Seattle, Crumell wel-

comes the opportunity to build an even deeper relationship with the Law Center.

"It is indeed an honor to be selected to work with such a professional and dedicated group of people," said Crumell. "The Southern Poverty Law Center is serious about proving that diversity is our nation's true strength, and it's great to be a part of that vision."

As a demonstration of his personal commitment to promoting the strengths of diversity, in 1996 Crumell trained as a facilitator with the Kalamazoo Valley Institute for Healing Racism and later conducted workshops on racism for teachers in his school district.

In his one-year fellowship with Teaching Tolerance, Crumell will provide writing and research support for the project's magazine, video-and-text kits and other educational materials. He replaces research fellow Claire King, who assumed a teaching position in Indiana.

Memorial and Honorary Gifts

Received by the Law Center from April to June 1998

In Memory Of

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The Law Center accepts gifts in memory of someone who has died or in honor of someone on a special occasion such as a birthday, anniversary, bar/bat mitzvah or graduation. Or you can give a gift just to say "Thank you." We'll send a card to the person honored or the family of the deceased. Just fill out this form and mail it with your contribution.

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Year end offers giving opportunities

The Center has accomplished many goals in 1998, thanks to its thousands of dedicated supporters. Center attorneys recently won an unprecedented \$37.8 million verdict against a Klan group, its leaders and four of its members for the burning of a black church in South Carolina. Teaching Tolerance embarked on the production of its fourth video-and-text kit, *A Place at the Table*. And the Intelligence Project expanded its work to uncover, gather and publish crucial information about white supremacist and extremist groups.

The Center's quest for justice and tolerance is far from over, and year end brings opportunities for both the Center and its supporters to

renew their dedication to the fight.

Honor family and friends

Gifts to the Center in honor of family and friends are one meaningful way supporters can fulfill holiday and philanthropic goals. As one Center supporter states: "My daughter makes an annual gift in honor of me every year. She knows that I am dedicated to the Center's struggle against hate violence. I am deeply satisfied knowing that my holiday present from her helps the Center bridge the racial divide that continues to separate our American family."

A student recently honored her teacher by making a gift to the Center. "Thank you. As my

teacher, you have made a difference in my life and have helped to shape me as a person," the student said. "To show my gratitude, I made a donation in your name to *Teaching Tolerance* magazine."

For every In Honor gift received, the Center sends an acknowledgment card to the honoree. In addition, the honoree's name is listed in the *SPLC Report* (see page 6) and in the Center's Book of Remembrance.

This unique gift opportunity allows supporters to share their devotion to the Center's work with those dear to them.

In Honor and most other gifts to the Center are made by check. Such gifts are the most convenient way to further the Center's immediate and future efforts. And the tax deductions for cash gifts can be used to offset up to 50 percent of a supporter's adjusted gross income in the year the charitable gift is made. Plus, any unused portion of the gift generally can be carried over for as many as five years.

Stock options

Donations of securities also provide supporters a popular way to participate in Center endeavors. Record highs in the stock market over the past several years have left many donors holding stocks, bonds and mutual funds that have greatly increased in value.

Those appreciated assets are deductible up to 30 percent of a supporter's adjusted gross income in the year of the gift, and again, excess gift amounts can be carried over for up to five future years. By donating assets that have been held for more than 12 months, supporters avoid the capital gains tax that otherwise would be due if the stocks were sold.

For example, Joe Carter purchased 50 shares of ABC stock in 1985. He paid \$1,000. As of September 1, 1998, his ABC stock was worth \$5,000. This appreciation of \$4,000 gives Carter the perfect opportunity to make a significant year-end gift to the Center and enjoy substantial tax savings.

By making an outright gift of stock to the Center, Carter bypasses capital gains taxes of \$800 [(\$5,000 - \$1,000) x 20 percent capital gains tax rate.] In addition, Carter saves income tax of \$1,980 for the charitable deduction (\$5,000 x 39.6 percent income tax bracket.) Thus, Carter's \$5,000 gift to further the Center's work actually costs him only \$2,220.

Before talking with a qualified financial advisor, Carter contem-

plated whether to make his year-end gift to the Center through an outright gift of cash, an outright gift of stock or by selling stock and using the proceeds. Which option is better for him?

Supporters' contributions are "pooled" and collectively invested to produce income that is shared by all of the fund's participants. Quarterly payments, based on the fund's earnings, are made to the donor and/or named beneficiaries. Capital gain taxes on gifts of

MAKE A GIFT THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU

	OUTRIGHT CASH GIFT	OUTRIGHT STOCK GIFT	STOCKS SOLD FOR CASH GIFT
GIFT VALUE	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
COST BASIS	N/A	\$1,000	\$1,000
TAX SAVINGS ON ORDINARY INCOME (39.6% tax bracket)	\$1,980	\$1,980	\$1,980
CAPITAL GAINS TAX (*20% tax bracket)	N/A	\$ 800 _{saved}	\$ 800 _{owed}
NET-TAX SAVINGS	\$1,980	\$2,780	\$1,180
AFTER-TAX COST OF GIFT	\$3,020	\$2,220	\$3,820

*20% rate applies to securities held more than 12 months.

The chart shows that an outright gift of appreciated stock is the best choice for Carter's current situation. Compared to a cash gift, his net-tax savings are 40 percent greater, and the after-tax cost of his stock gift is 36 percent lower. It is important, however, that each supporter consult his or her qualified financial advisor to ensure that the most beneficial gift type is chosen.

If Carter's stock investments decrease in value in the coming years, he still can benefit through a charitable gift to the Center. By selling the stock first and then making a cash donation to the Center, Carter can take a capital loss on his tax returns and generate a charitable deduction.

Gifts that give back

Many Center supporters use year-end contributions of cash or stock to establish life-income gifts. Such gifts help provide a financial safeguard for the Center's future work and furnish the donor and/or other named beneficiaries with payments for life. Life-income gifts can enable supporters holding low-yielding securities to enjoy a higher return and shelter a portion of that payment with a charitable tax deduction.

The Center offers three types of life-income gift opportunities:

Gift Annuities. To qualify for a charitable gift annuity with the Center, a supporter must be at least 60 years of age. The minimum gift amount is \$5,000. In return for establishing a charitable gift annuity, the donor and/or named beneficiaries receive fixed payments for life. Further, a portion of this income is tax-free.

The Pooled Income Fund. A supporter must be 50 years old or older and make a \$10,000 contribution to establish a pooled income fund gift with the Center.

appreciated securities do not apply to pooled income fund gifts. Also, estate and federal gift taxes are bypassed if the donor is the sole beneficiary or the other beneficiary is the donor's spouse.

Charitable Remainder Trusts. This life-income gift generally requires a \$100,000 contribution due to significant set-up and maintenance costs. Like charitable gift annuities and pooled income funds, charitable remainder trusts are irrevocable. Throughout a donor's lifetime, he or she will receive annual payments of either a fixed amount or an amount calculated based on an agreed-upon percentage of the trust assets' annual value. These trusts can offer supporters considerable tax advantages.

As the dawn of the next millennium approaches, new challenges of tolerance and justice arise daily. By including the Center in your holiday giving, you help the Center prepare to meet these crucial needs. In addition to the tax savings you can reap next spring, you and other supporters will enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

Whether you are interested in making a contribution in honor of someone, donating stock or establishing a life-income gift, the Center's Planned Giving Department will help. Our staff will provide detailed, easy-to-use information on how to make any type of gift to the Center. For life-income gifts, the Planned Giving staff will send you personalized benefits information with no obligation.

Call (334-264-0286) or write (Southern Poverty Law Center, Planned Giving Department, 400 Washington Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36104). Start your holiday list today and include the Center in your year-end giving.

Bequests

The Southern Poverty Law Center pays tribute to the memory of its deceased supporters listed below and gratefully acknowledges their including the Center in their wills and other planned gifts. This list includes bequests received from July 1, 1997, through July 31, 1997.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
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Stock or Mutual Fund Gifts, please contact Lynette Green, 334-264-0286, ext. 382
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Reunion brings reconciliation to divided Class of 1948

GASTONIA, N.C. — An essay on race relations in last March's *SPLC Report* was a wake-up call for Center supporter Richard Penegar. "Acknowledging and understanding white-skin privilege," wrote civil rights leader Julian Bond, "is the vital first step in any honest dialogue on race."

Penegar, a white native of this small, former textile-mill town located a few miles north of the South Carolina border, had been a civic leader for years. He worked with many of Gastonia's prominent black citizens, and in 1990, he was Gaston County manager for Harvey Gantt, Charlotte's first black mayor who unsuccessfully ran for the U.S. Senate that year. He considered his views on race relations progressive. But Bond's words stung him. And they inspired him to do more for racial harmony in his community.

At the time he read the essay, Penegar was organizing the 50th reunion of Gastonia High School's class of 1948. He had been class president, and this gathering was to be the latest of many he helped put together over the years —

without ever before thinking of his black counterparts from across town, the Highland High School class of 1948. Bond's essay provoked him; this year's reunion would be different.

So Penegar called Carrie Washington, a longtime Gastonia educator he had come to know in recent years through various community activities. She had been Highland's class of '48 president. Penegar invited her group to join the GHS reunion, and she graciously accepted his overture.

Segregated classmates meet

On a hot May morning, about 75 classmates — two-thirds from Gastonia High, one-third from Highland — came together at the First United Methodist Church's Family Life Center to share an old-fashioned Southern breakfast of biscuits, eggs and grits and to introduce themselves to one another.



Penegar and Washington continue the conversation they began at the joint Class of 1948 reunion breakfast.

"We extend a hand of friendship," said Penegar in welcoming the Highland graduates. "Our class of '48 is turning 50, and just like the time when we graduated, we hope we're looking forward to the future rather than back to the past. Maybe we can close this century and begin a new millennium with racial harmony."

"Today, a dream has come true for some dreamers in Gastonia," Washington responded. "This is a small step, but sometimes small steps are all that's possible."

In planning the event, Penegar contacted the Center for a speaker. Joseph Hawkins, a Maryland educator who was a 1992-93 Teaching Tolerance fellow, volunteered to drive down to talk about race relations with the classes of 1948 at their historic gathering. He described five principles necessary for building bridges across races:

- Commitment to work hard and to recognize that the work is emotional;
 - Commitment to a long struggle;
 - Honest discussion of the history of race relations;
 - Eventual movement to doing something more than talking — to community service; and
 - Taking risks.
- "This breakfast was a risk," Hawkins said. "Not all of your classmates were willing to come this morning."

The group gave him a standing ovation. The classmates expressed their gratitude to Hawkins' donation of his time by making a contribution to the Center in his honor.

And Penegar and Washington took his words to heart. "Carrie and I have dialogue every week," Penegar said recently. "I continue to heed Julian Bond's words about white-skin privilege."

He and Washington are leading efforts to establish a community development corporation for improving the black community, which is isolated from the more prosperous white part of town by a physical barrier — a former railroad track converted to a ditch with few bridges. Penegar is also trying to get a Habitat for Humanity project started in Gastonia.

Last May's joint reunion breakfast continues to have a ripple effect, Penegar said. Organizers of the Salisbury, N.C., High School class of 1948 reunion contacted him over the summer. The white classmates are holding their 50th reunion this month and have invited their black counterparts to join them.

Partners for the Future

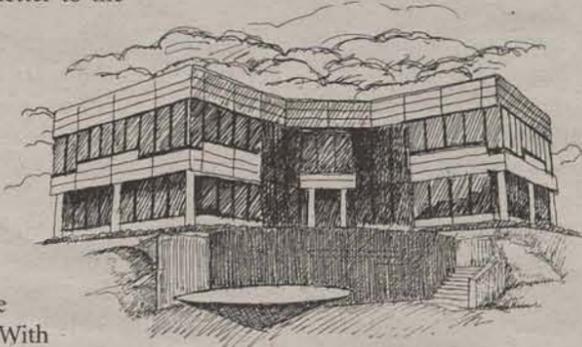
A Way to Help More Than You Thought You Could

The Southern Poverty Law Center has established a planned giving program called Partners for the Future. By participating in Partners for the Future through wills and other special gifts, Center donors can extend their support for equality and justice beyond their lifetimes.

If you plan to or have already remembered the Center in your will or estate plans, please help the Center update its records by sending a letter to the address below.

With the goal of eventually freeing itself from the uncertainties of fundraising, the Center established a permanent endowment in 1974. The Center's goal is to have an endowment large enough to sustain its current level of activities, to fund new projects and lawsuits as the need arises, and to protect the Center from inflation. The Endowment now stands at \$103 million. With your help through Partners for the Future, the Center will reach its goal of self-sufficiency.

The Endowment Fund is a "pact with future generations" that will help ensure resources for the Center's work well into the 21st century.



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IN MEMORIAM

Melvyn London (1925-1998)

Melvyn London, who contributed generously to the Center for 17 years, died this past spring of respiratory failure. Through his philanthropy, Mr. London touched the lives of many who were hurt by bigotry.

During World War II, Mr. London's saw firsthand the brutal effects of hate when his infantry division helped free prisoners from Austria's Mauthausen concentration camp. This life-changing experience instilled in him a passion for fighting intolerance.

Mr. London believed that bigotry is a learned behavior and difficult to change in the minds and hearts of adults. "Mel always felt that the key to correcting such inequities was by reaching out to youth through education and awareness. He was impressed by the Center's strong focus on children. Its Teaching Tolerance program was in line with his own vision," said Edith, his wife of 54 years.

Mr. London's resolve also guided his professional life. In 1957, with an 8th-grade education and a \$5,000 investment, he founded London Litho, which today is a leading distributor of supplies and equipment

for the printing industry. Earning his high school diploma later in life, Mr. London was a self-taught chemist and was proud of the significant technical expertise he achieved through the years. As a pressman, chemist, plate



manufacturer and supplier, he led his company through more than 40 years of industry challenges, including the digital revolution.

In 1997, Mr. London's career culminated in his receipt of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the North American Graphics Arts Suppliers Association. The award's inscription — "Care, Risk, Dream, Achieve, Excel" — aptly describes Mr. London's personal and professional successes. "At the core of my father's being was the belief that family comes first," said his son, Eric. "And, by his definition, family was often characterized by more than a genetic connection."

In addition to his wife, Edith, and son, Eric, Mr. London is survived by his daughter, Cathie, and four grandchildren. The Center pays tribute to Mr. London, a man who believed firmly in tolerance and justice.