

SPLC REPORT



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

SEPTEMBER 1999
VOLUME 29, NUMBER 3



The Center's Teaching Tolerance video and text on the Civil Rights Movement had a profound effect in first-year teacher Lisa Sassano's classroom.

New teacher discovers power of Center video

BY LISA SASSANO

As a first-year teacher, I was given some Teaching Tolerance literature by my mother, who has taught in Camden, New Jersey, for the past 10 years. Last September, I began my first year as a 7th grade reading and English teacher at Phifer Middle School in Pennsauken, New Jersey. I did not know how or when I would incorporate the materials, but I knew it had to be done. In February, I was preparing to teach the novel, *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, and as an introduction I decided to use the Center's video, *A Time for Justice*.

The video exposed my 7th graders to a world and a time unknown to them. The fear and pain and anger in their eyes as they watched it was unexpected. I had mistakenly assumed that these 12-year-olds knew something about the Civil Rights Movement, but I was wrong. And they wanted to learn more. They were as curious about it as they were disgusted by the events that took place in the 1960s.

Students became movement martyrs

Using the text, *Free at Last*, that accompanies the video, I gave each student a copy of a biography of someone who died during the Movement. Their assignment was to read the article and then impersonate the person. They had to present themselves to the class as Virgil Lamar Ware or Corporal Duckworth and explain who they were, what they

did in the Movement, and how they died. The interesting thing to watch was the reaction of the other students to each presenter.

Assignment made students think

I was awed by the way my students responded to this assignment. It really made them think twice when hearing racial remarks in the hallways. Upon completion of this project, each student made a silhouette and wrote the name of their person and date and cause of death. We made a bulletin board memorial to those who died. This was a very racially diverse class, and if it were not for the people who fought and died, these kids would not be sitting in class with each other.

This project led to deep discussions about prejudice and how it directly affected these students. We listened to "Strange Fruit," Billie Holiday's haunting song about lynching. We talked about where the kids sit in the lunchroom and on the school bus. They became aware of how much they should respect everyone else, regardless of race.

As an introduction to a wonderful novel, the Teaching Tolerance material opened up lines of communication between my students and myself and my students and their classmates. It also helped to open minds. We all are grateful for that.

Lisa Sassano completed her first year as a junior high teacher this spring.

Center's file photo linked L.A. shooter to Aryan Nations

A Center file photo of Buford A. O'Neal Furrow, picturing him in his Aryan Nations security uniform, was the first link connecting the man who confessed to opening fire at a Jewish community center in Los Angeles to the notorious neo-Nazi organization. In a television interview the morning after the shootings, Center co-founder Morris Dees revealed that Furrow and his Aryan Nations' association had been in the Intelligence Project files since 1995. The photo was provided to law enforcement authorities in California that same day.

After the news about the Center photo broke, the Center was flooded with calls seeking information.

The August 10 attack killed a Filipino American postal worker and left three children, a teenager and a 68-year-old woman wounded. Initially, little was known about Furrow, who was identified as the suspect late on the day of the shootings. The next day, Center spokesmen told reporters that at the time the photo was taken, Furrow was a "first lieutenant" in the security force, in effect a mid-ranking official of the Idaho hate group.

The Intelligence Project regularly collects photographs from numerous sources. The one of Furrow was shot on July 21, 1995, by *The (Spokane, Wash.) Spokesman-Review*, but the people in it were not named when it was published. After obtaining a copy of the picture, the Center's intelligence sources identified the individuals — including Furrow — and the information was stored in the Intelligence Project's database.

The photo, taken at an annual Aryan Nations World Congress,

Please turn to p. 5, "Center's file photo..."



The Center's Intelligence Project file photo shows Furrow (right), charged with the Los Angeles shootings, in an Aryan Nations security guard uniform.

Expanded guidebook helps fight hate

America's headlines remind us too often that hate is a dreadful, daily constant. One hate crime occurs every hour. Every day, eight blacks, three whites, three gays, three Jews and one Latino become hate crime victims.

The good news is, all over the country, people are fighting hate, standing up to hatemongers and promoting tolerance and inclusion. More often than not, when hate flares up, good erupts, too.

The Center's newest publication, *Ten Ways to Fight Hate*, col-

lects dozens of inspiring stories of people who acted, often alone at first, to push hate out of their communities. The 32-page guide sets out 10 principles for fighting hate, gathered from interviews with human rights experts and ordinary citizens who have dealt with a hate crime or hate groups.

More than 650,000 copies of the guide will be distributed free, beginning in September, to activists, law enforcement

Please turn to p. 2, "New guidebook..."

TEN WAYS TO FIGHT HATE



A COMMUNITY RESPONSE GUIDE

SPLC REPORT



VOLUME 29, NUMBER 3

PUBLISHED BY THE
SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
SEPTEMBER 1999
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.

SPLC REPORT EDITOR
Penny Weaver

Southern Poverty Law Center
PRESIDENT &
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
Joseph J. Levin, Jr.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Patricia Clark
Frances M. Green
Judge Rufus Huffman
Howard Mandell
James McElroy

CHAIRMAN,
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Morris Dees

SECRETARY
JoAnn Chancellor

VICE PRESIDENT
FOR OPERATIONS
& TREASURER
Edward Ashworth

VICE PRESIDENT
FOR PROGRAMS
& LEGAL DIRECTOR
J. Richard Cohen

INTELLIGENCE PROJECT
DIRECTOR
Joseph Roy, Sr.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT
EDITOR
Mark Potok

TEACHING TOLERANCE
DIRECTOR
Jim Carnes

MAIL OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
Mamie Jackson

PLANNED GIVING DIRECTOR
Alison Collman

DIRECT MAIL MANAGER
Robert McQueen

ADMINISTRATION
& FINANCE DIRECTOR
Teenie Hutchison

We welcome letters from all Southern Poverty Law Center supporters. Send your comments and suggestions to: Editor, *SPLC Report*, 400 Washington Avenue, Montgomery AL 36104 or fax to (334) 264-8891. All letters are assumed to be intended for publication unless otherwise noted.

© 1999 Southern Poverty Law Center, Inc. No part of this publication may be transmitted or reproduced by any means without express written permission. All rights reserved. Printed on recycled paper in the USA.

All photos by Penny Weaver unless otherwise noted.

MAILBOX

Shootings at Jewish Center prompt outpouring of grief

The August 10 shootings of three children, a teenager and a 68-year-old woman at a Jewish community center in Los Angeles impelled record numbers of visitors to the Center's Web site. Many came seeking information about hate groups and the motivations that drove a man to such a vicious attack on the innocent. Some used the site's comment form to express their grief and outrage. Their commentary is included below.

I write to you with tears in my eyes. As the mother of two beautiful daughters — one of whom is an adopted Asian — my heart nearly breaks when I see events such as the shootings in L.A. at the Jewish community center.

We live in a small midwestern town which has a 98-percent Caucasian population. It has been difficult for my youngest daughter at times due to the ignorance and intolerance of other youth in our community.

I would like to thank you for all the good work that you do and to let you know that, although at times we are unable to explain ignorance and cruelty, we must never give up.

N. P.
Davison, Michigan

I am so impressed with your organization, particularly with your innovative lawsuits against these hatemongers. You seem to be able to do what our laws cannot — make them pay. I thought when Morris Dees bankrupted the Klan, and our own notorious resident, [Tom] Metzger, that it was the beginning of the end for their kind. Naïve, wouldn't you say?

I don't understand why these people hate the way they do, but thank God for organizations like yours. If we can't reach their minds, then reach their bank accounts and take away the money to buy their ammunition and their recruits. Stay safe, and if there is anything I can do to help you, please let me know.

From what I have seen, it looks like your organization is our best hope to stop them before they do more damage.

M. H.
San Diego, California

Thank God for your work. I grew up in Granada Hills and attended the North Valley Jewish Center for youth groups. I was also a camp counselor there for nursery school children. It was absolutely bone-chilling to watch the rampage on T.V., so close to home.

Since it seems clear that no amount of carnage and bloodshed, no matter how egregious, how shocking, how thoroughly mortifying to the American people, will shake Congress into passing reasonable gun control laws, we must fight back in any way we can. I will be sending a contribution and will be encouraging friends and family to do the same.

Please continue the work you are doing. You can't know how much it means to ordinary citizens like me, that there are good people out there working against the nuts and the fringe elements who have been able to wreak so much carnage. Thank you.

L. C.
Valencia, California

Recently, in the Sacramento area, many of our synagogues were set ablaze. Very recently, in Los Angeles, Jewish children were shot down. Your Web site has been extremely useful for its information on Nazism in this country.

Please count on me as a new member and call on me for any support I can offer to fight this horrendous scourge in my state and in this country.

K. M.
Davis, California

I just wanted to thank all of you who dedicate your work and life to fighting the virulent hate that we are all facing. I have long been an admirer of the work of the Center, but in light of yesterday's barbarities [the August 10 shootings in Los Angeles], I felt that it was important to thank you for the crucial work you do to fight the spread of white supremacy and fascism.

I am a Legal Services attorney who believes in the need for a multi-faceted approach to building a better society. The ongoing work of the Intelligence Project and the Law Center is a critical component of that work. Thank you again.

M. S.
Los Angeles, California

As the intelligence officer for the California Highway Patrol, I wish to commend your publication [*Intelligence Report*] for its invaluable information. It is cutting edge with my organization in its efforts to keep up with latest information in regards to the various disruptive groups within the country. Please accept my thanks for your diligence.

R. S.
Sacramento, California

I am inspired by the courage of your Center staff as you work to combat the hate and intolerance that results in injury, death and terrorism. I'm honored to be able to contribute on a regular basis to your good works.

M. D.
Salt Lake City, Utah



Judge Frank M. Johnson

The Center pays tribute to the memory of U.S. District Court Judge Frank M. Johnson, who died July 23 at age 80. In 1955, he was appointed to the bench, becoming, at age 37, the youngest member of the federal judiciary. Over the next three decades, his rulings helped move the nation out of the dark ages of racial discrimination. Many of his important decisions came in cases brought by the Center. Though Judge Johnson had been George Wallace's law school classmate and friend, he marched not to the beat of public opinion, but to the power and glory of the U.S. Constitution. "For him, the Constitution was man's attempt to translate God's unerring mercy to all of God's children, here and now, amid the turmoil and conflict of hostile human situations," wrote Andrew Young after Judge Johnson's death.

New Center guidebook distributed in September

Continued from page 1

personnel, public officials and citizens engaged in the fight for tolerance. *Ten Ways to Fight Hate* will also be mailed to each Center donor.

According to Jim Carrier, the guide's author, the single most important step is to act: "Do something. Pick up the phone. Form a group. Support the victims. Speak out. We've learned from



Jim Carrier

the face of hate, silence and apathy will be interpreted as acceptance by both the haters and victims. Decency must be exercised."

Carrier, a veteran journalist with eight books and 33 years of radio, wire service and newspaper experience, was living on his 35-foot sailboat in Key West when James Byrd Jr. was dragged to death in Jasper, Texas, in 1998. Motivated to do something, Carrier sailed his boat across the Gulf of Mexico and 350 miles up the Alabama River to Montgomery to volunteer three months at the Center, updating and expanding *Ten Ways to Fight Hate*, first published in 1994 as a 12-page pamphlet.

"Two things surprised me," Carrier said. "The first was the amount of hate crime and harassment in the U.S. The second was the amount of goodness being demonstrated by ordinary citizens. Unfortunately, their stories rarely made headlines."

The urge to help in the wake of hate is widespread in America, he said. "Not a day goes by that the Center doesn't get a letter or call from someone asking: 'What can I do?' This guide answers that question."

Ten Ways to Fight Hate begins with simple tasks — signing a petition, picking up a paint brush — and walks readers into more complicated and long-range tasks better handled by coalitions. As a final step, it urges people to look at deeper issues such as institutional racism and personal prejudices.

"Tolerance, fundamentally, is a personal decision," Carrier said, "It comes from an attitude that is learnable and embraceable — that every other person on earth is a treasure."

City seeks Center advice as it struggles against hate

EAST PEORIA, Ill. — Within hours of Benjamin Smith's hate rampage through Indiana and Illinois over Independence Day weekend, East Peoria found itself labeled as the new hate capital of America. Smith, who committed suicide after killing two people and wounding nine, was connected to the World Church of the Creator (see story below), a white supremacist organization operated from this small town by Matt Hale.

Within days, the city attorney here, Dennis Triggs, called Center co-founder Morris Dees for advice. Dees sent Triggs an advance manuscript of the Center's newly expanded *Ten Ways to Fight Hate*, a community guide to dealing with hate crimes and groups (see story on page 1). Triggs was also briefed by the guide's author, Jim Carrier.

Leaders should speak out

The Center made two key recommendations to Triggs: City leaders should issue a strong statement against hate, and they should form a broad-based coalition on race issues in the mostly white suburb. Too often, Carrier said, hatemongers exercise their First Amendment right while good people remain silent.



The Rev. David Ostendorf leads a prayer vigil in front of the home of white supremacist Matt Hale in East Peoria on July 22. Hale watches from his front porch.

Triggs also was put in touch with the Center for New Community, a human rights organization based in Oak Park, Illinois, and headed by the Rev. David Ostendorf. Several city officials immediately attended a New Community workshop.

East Peoria, a suburb with fewer than 50 minority residents, hosted a unity parade and rally on July 22. In one of the strongest anti-hate statements by an American public official in recent history, Mayor Charles Dobbelaire called Hale's organization "despicable" and vowed

"that from this tragedy will come something positive." After the rally he led a group to Hale's home and church base and prayed for tolerance. He also announced the formation of the city's first Human Relations Commission.

"There are those who believe we should not attract attention to the hatemongers," Dobbelaire said. "I ask you this — if we do not speak out, loud and clear, when the hate messages spewing forth from this so-called church lead to death, then when do we speak out?"

Media focuses on 'church' after Chicago-area killings

EAST PEORIA, Ill. — For one week this summer, Matt Hale's dream became reality — he was the center of attention for the national media. That the spotlight came at the cost of the life of a close Hale friend — and those of two others — was a minor detail. For Hale, July was a great month.

The reporters all wanted to know one thing: Hale's reaction to the two-state shooting spree by one of his closest buddies. Benjamin Nathaniel Smith, for more than a year a key leader of Hale's World Church of the Creator (WCOTC), spent the Fourth of July weekend murdering a black man and an Asian man and attacking other members of minority groups.

Hale said he was sorry — sorry that Smith shot himself as police closed in. Smith, in Hale's view, was a "martyr for free speech." As to the real victims — a former Northwestern University basketball coach and a Korean

doctoral student, along with nine wounded individuals — Hale wasted little breath. WCOTC's compassion, he said, was "reserved for our own race."

For Hale and his followers, race — the white race — is their religion. Hale acknowledges that he hates Jews and blacks and would deport them if he could. "Hitler's program," he has written, "is similar to what we are proposing." His "church" is also anti-Christian.

Although Hale boasted that WCOTC had up to 30,000 followers, in reality there are fewer than 150 dues-paying members. His "world headquarters" is a spare room at his dad's house, decorated with an Israeli flag doormat. He doesn't have a job.

Hale has shown some organizing skills, to some extent revitalizing a once-moribund group. He has taken advantage of the Internet to bring his message of hate to thousands of Americans. He managed to set up chapters

in 22 states, though some are little more than a lone member with a post office box. And he has projected a coat-and-tie image rather than one of a brown-shirted thug.

Over the years, Hale has had a number of legal entanglements. But these have been over petty incidents compared with those of the WCOTC underlings and Church of the Creator (COTC) predecessors. Under the leadership of COTC founder Ben Klassen, COTC members killed a black man in Florida, shot up an occupied car in North Carolina, brawled with anti-racists in Milwaukee, robbed banks in Ohio and blew up an NAACP office in Washington state. Under Hale, Florida members have robbed, beaten and intimidated minorities.

Still, until Ben Smith opened fire, WCOTC was little known to the public, and the latest publicity clearly pleased Hale. "This just increases the interest in our church, our religion and the *White Man's Bible*," he told a group of anti-racist protesters.



Matt Hale

Intelligence Briefs

TRACKING EXTREMIST ACTIVITY

Whale death unleashes anti-Indian furor

SEATTLE, WASH. — HOPING TO restore "discipline and pride" in their youth through the revival of an ancient cultural tradition, members of the Makah Indian tribe of Washington state this spring resumed a practice they had abandoned 70 years ago: the whale hunt.

But after a group of Makah fishermen killed a gray whale, an anti-Indian furor erupted. Sympathy for the whale quickly turned into hatred of the Makahs in particular and Native Americans in general.

Makahs were inundated with death threats, their schools evacuated due to bomb scares and their reservation placed on "war-time" alert. Protesters have paraded with signs proclaiming "Save a whale, harpoon a Makah," written into local newspapers inquiring about "where to apply for a license to kill an Indian," and even set up a Web page mocking the Makah tribe. Makahs have been labeled "drunkards," "savages" and "laggards."

In fact, the Makahs apparently were completely within their rights. An 1855 treaty, upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court, guarantees their right to hunt gray whales.

for his role in the plot. Kirby Kehoe, 50, of Montana pleaded guilty to a racketeering charge in federal court Feb. 8, three weeks before the beginning of a trial in which his son Chevie and another man were convicted of murdering an Arkansas family, along with conspiracy and racketeering.

A federal judge imposed a sentence of 44½ months and said he regretted that he couldn't have sentenced the elder Kehoe to more. Chevie Kehoe was sentenced to life in prison, and a jury recommended a death sentence for codefendant Danny Lee. Kirby Kehoe faced 58 months, but prosecutors recommended that the time be cut, saying he contributed greatly to the prosecution of Chevie Kehoe and Lee.

Nichols could get new trial



AP PHOTO/JOHN WAGNER

BOULDER, COLO. — TO THE surprise of many court observers, the no-nonsense federal judge who oversaw both Oklahoma City bombing trials granted convicted conspirator Terry Nichols a hearing this summer to determine if he should be given a new trial.

During the two-hour July hearing, U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch pointedly questioned federal prosecutors about documents withheld from Nichols' defense team. In the end, Matsch said he would review trial transcripts before ruling.

Nichols' attorney, Michael Tigar, contends that in deciding which leads to pursue while investigating the bombing that killed 168 people, the government dismissed tips that didn't fit into its theory that Nichols and McVeigh acted alone. Tigar pointed to 43,000 documents, some of them tips related to supposed sightings of "John Doe No. 2" (who looked like neither Nichols nor McVeigh), which the defense was never shown. Prosecutors countered that the government had turned over the 12,000 pertinent FBI files. They said the other documents, mainly about McVeigh associates, were irrelevant to Nichols.

Flyers target Asian Americans

SAN FRANCISCO — NOT SINCE swastikas appeared on the windows of businesses in the Sunset District two years ago have Asian Americans here been subjected to such hateful attacks. In mid-July, businesses in the area — popular with Asian American home buyers for decades — were targeted again, this time with virulently anti-Chinese flyers urging white people to "Rip them off. Spit on them. Flip them off, anything."

Community groups held a press conference to call attention to the incident in an effort to determine how widespread the problem is and to let people know San Francisco is not as hate-free as some might think. Although distributing flyers with hate-filled speech is protected by the First Amendment, community advocates worry that such intimidation could lead to actual violence.

Kirby Kehoe sentenced

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. — THE FATHER of a white supremacist convicted of murder and racketeering in efforts to set up a whites-only nation was sentenced to nearly four years in prison August 24

Center grant enables teacher to provide lesson in tolerance

SHREVEPORT, La. — This bustling town brims with families representing all ethnic, racial and socioeconomic backgrounds. Although such richness in diversity can bring personal and economic growth to individuals and communities willing to embrace its offerings, it can also be the taproot of conflict in a multicultural classroom.

Karen Eason, a 2nd grade teacher in an ethnically diverse elementary school, recognized that dilemma. Noticing the self-imposed divisions separating her students by race, gender and ethnicity, and determined to promote tolerance education in her curriculum, Eason created a

yearlong reading incentive program aptly named "Let's Become Friends."

Parents, students read together

Designed to help parents and students develop the habit of reading together, the program also promoted the acceptance of cultural diversity through its use of multicultural children's literature. "I wanted the students to realize how much they had in common," Eason said. "I knew that by the very process of identifying differences in the literature, the children would actually discover just the opposite. That is, similarities and commonalities far exceed identified differences."

Since her school provided little in the way of age-appropriate literature that reflected various cultures, Eason applied for a Teaching Tolerance grant to purchase the needed resources. "Many of my students did not have access to quality children's books," Eason said. "The Center's Teaching Tolerance grant provided the opportunity to enhance literacy development and cultural awareness by giving parents and children the chance to share multicultural literature in their homes."

To kick off "Let's Become Friends," Eason held a parent workshop. After the event, parents took home a carefully assembled Family Support Notebook, which served as the basis for parent-child discussions, many of which focused on cultural awareness and diversity.

In the classroom, the books served as springboards for lessons on fostering friendships and handling conflict appropriately. "In observing the students during recess, I saw them using many of the skills they had learned in the books to solve their own problems in an acceptable manner," Eason said.

Since its inception in January 1997, the Teaching Tolerance Grants Program has provided more than 275 educators the opportunity to successfully implement tolerance-related programs in their schools and communities.



Elton John urges tolerance

Pop singer Elton John appealed for more understanding and tolerance during a benefit concert June 1 in Laramie, Wyoming, the college town where gay student Matthew Shepard was beaten, tied to a fence and left to die last October. John chose the Center's Teaching Tolerance program and five other anti-hate groups to benefit from the concert's ticket sales. He dedicated the event to Shepard and other victims of hate crimes, including the students at Columbine High School.

Center welcomes new employees

Three new employees recently brought their talents to the Center's fight against bigotry and hatred. Pauline Novak came on board as receptionist, and Cindy Blankenship and Brenda Pringle joined the Center's fundraising department.

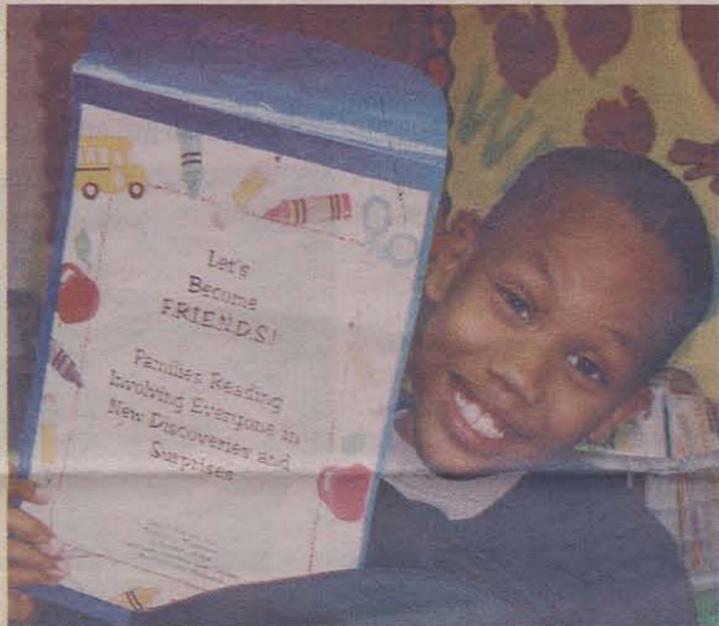
Novak, born and reared in London, has a crisp British accent that greets callers to the Center. Her eight years as a receptionist for a major department store chain provided her with a professional polish, important in her role as the Center's first contact with the public. Working at the Center is "a lot more interesting" than her previous job, Novak said. "I've spoken with people I never dreamed I'd talk to — media stars and prominent lawyers like Johnnie Cochran," she said. "And when the BBC calls, I like to chat with them about what's happening in London — if I'm not busy."

Novak settled permanently in the United States in 1989 after living here off and on in between her husband's overseas Air Force assignments, which included stints in Germany and Turkey. She and her family took advantage of the foreign postings and traveled extensively throughout Europe. She said she feels honored to work for Morris Dees and the Center. "The work here is wonderful, and it is world-known," she said.

Blankenship is a design assistant on the Center's fundraising team. A native of Alexander City, Alabama, she worked her way through college, graduating from Jacksonville State University in 1997 with a bachelor of art degree. She has wide-ranging experience as a graphic designer and photographer. Blankenship was eager to move to Montgomery and work with the Center. She is excited to be involved with an organization that has a profound mission. "I am glad to know that so many people care enough to try to rid this world of hate and bigotry by supporting the Center," she said.

Pringle is the other new face in fundraising. Her nine years' experience as a legal secretary provides skills vital to the fundraising secretary position. "Growing up in a small town, I have seen my share of segregation and prejudice," said Pringle, who has lived all her life in rural Lowndes County, Alabama.

"My cousins witnessed Jonathan Daniels' murder in Hayneville [Shot down in 1965, the young Episcopal seminarian is included among the 40 martyrs listed on the Civil Rights Memorial], and I remember my parents' telling us not to talk about it because of their fear that we would be hurt or killed," she said. "It is a dream come true to be a part of an organization that fights for the underdog."



Reginald Cockeram prepares to take his F.R.I.E.N.D.S. packet home. The 2nd grader participated in a Teaching Tolerance-funded reading program.

Sept. 1999

Help build a home in Selma

SELMA, Ala. — Led by black and white churches, residents here will put aside decades of "Sunday morning segregation" to work together one week in September on "Building Beyond the Bridge," a 20-house "blitz-build" which is part of Habitat for Humanity's Building on Faith week. The week is set aside to highlight Habitat's Christian origins and how churches help elevate poverty housing as a moral and religious challenge.

Nearly 35 years after the pivotal clash between civil rights marchers and Alabama state troopers on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in March 1965, this interracial house-building effort will dramatically illustrate the city's efforts to move past that tragedy into an era of reconciliation, cooperation and service.

"Building Beyond the Bridge" will gather volunteers from across the country to help build the Habitat for Humanity homes; however, the core volun-

teer force will come from the pews of Selma's faith community.

"This project is a tremendous happening," said Millard Fuller, founder and president of Habitat for Humanity International. "Not

Habitat for Humanity seeks aid from Center supporters

long ago, Selma was a symbol of division. Now, it stands as a beacon of hope, opportunity and reconciliation. Habitat for Humanity could not be more pleased to be part of this transformation."

Fuller and Center co-founder Morris Dees were business and law partners in the 1960s. The two eventually sold their publishing company, and Fuller went to Georgia where he began Habitat for Humanity. Dees remained in Alabama and, with fellow Montgomery lawyer Joe

Levin, created the Center in 1971. Over the years, Center employees have volunteered on Habitat projects and served on the local chapter's board of directors. "I am proud of the work that Habitat does to make America a better place to live for all," Dees said.

Like all Habitat homes, the homes in the Selma project are sold to those in need at no profit, through no-interest loans. Habitat for Humanity has built more than 75,000 houses, providing shelter for more than 375,000 worldwide. It has affiliates in every state of the United States and in 63 countries around the world.

To make a donation to help provide materials, supplies and resources needed for the "Building Beyond the Bridge" blitz-build in Selma, call 1(800)HABITAT, visit Habitat's Web site at www.habitat.org, or send a check to Habitat for Humanity International, 121 Habitat Street, Americus, Georgia 31709.

Idaho court dismisses Aryan Nations leader's lawsuit against Center

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho — A state court cleared the way for the Center's civil action against Richard Butler and the Aryan Nations to proceed when it dismissed a lawsuit filed last spring by Butler against the Center and its legal team. Butler filed his suit in retaliation for the case the Center brought against him on behalf of a mother and son who were terrorized by an Aryan Nations security force. Kootenai County District Court Judge Charles W. Hosack ruled on July 26 that Butler's complaint was "frivolous" and ordered him to pay attorney fees and costs.

The Center filed its lawsuit in January against Butler and the Aryan Nations. The Center's complaint alleges that members of the Aryan Nations security force shot at Victoria Keenan and

her son, Jason, and chased them for over two miles as the Keenans drove down a public road that passes the Aryan Nations compound in nearby Hayden Lake. After the Keenans' car was forced into a ditch, the suit claims, the Aryan Nations security force members held the Keenans at gunpoint and battered and threatened to kill them.

Security authorized to use violence

The complaint states that the security force was authorized by Aryan Nations leader Butler to use violence against outsiders seen as a threat to the Aryan Nations. The suit seeks damages to compensate the Keenans for their injuries.

One of the defendants in the case, security force leader Jesse Edward Warfield, pleaded guilty to felony criminal charges

brought in connection with the incident and was sentenced to two to five years in prison.

The lawsuit against the Aryan Nations is the latest in a series that the Center has brought against hate groups for the violent acts of its members. In its most recent victory, the Center won a multimillion-dollar judgment in 1998 against the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan for burning a black church in South Carolina.

Other defendants in Center lawsuits have employed tactics similar to Butler's failed lawsuit in an apparent effort to derail the Center's cases. None has been successful.

Working with the Center in its case against the Aryan Nations are Coeur d'Alene lawyers Norman Gissell and Ken Howard.



Cathleen Caron (left) and Ruth Rocker

Summer legal interns learn litigation strategies

Alabama native Ruth Rocker and Cathleen Caron of Connecticut are two exceptional law students who interned at the Center this past summer.

"I came to the Center because of its excellent reputation in trying civil rights cases," said Caron, a third-year law student at American University's Washington College of Law.

Rocker, a third-year student at Georgia's Emory University School of Law in Atlanta, agreed.

"This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Rocker said. She described her experiences as a "crash course" in everything from preparing for trial and writing briefs to collecting judgments and brainstorming new ideas for cases.

Rocker and Caron helped attorneys prepare for court appearances, draft legal briefs and research issues ranging from the denial of public benefits to needy families to acts of terror committed against a mother and her son.

Caron, who is fluent in Spanish, spent three years in Guatemala and Mexico as a teacher, researcher and human rights advocate before entering law school. She received a citation for excellence in research while earning a B.A. in history and environmental studies from Dartmouth College.

Rocker serves as president of her school's chapter of the Black Law Students Association. She graduated cum laude from Alabama's Jacksonville State University in 1997 with a degree in psychology and forensic investigation.

"Hearing stories about civil rights battles fought and won by people who were actually on the front lines was exciting and invigorating," Rocker said. "In addition to improving my research and writing skills, I learned the importance of being well organized and prepared for every step in the litigation process."

Center's file photo linked L.A. shooter to Aryan Nations

Continued from page 1

was published in the October 1995 issue of the Center's *Intelligence Report*. It ran with a page-one advisory to law enforcement agencies about a national counter-intelligence campaign mounted by two prominent militia networks in coordination with the Aryan Nations.

Furrow surrendered to the FBI the day after the Los Angeles shootings — after an \$800-plus cab ride to Las Vegas — and allegedly told agents that his act was a "wake-up call to America to kill Jews." He supposedly had considered attacking other Jewish targets in Los Angeles but was thwarted by tight security. He chose to attack the North Valley Jewish Community Center in suburban Granada Hills by chance, after exiting a nearby freeway to get gas.

In the vehicle Furrow allegedly used to flee the attack on the center — and the scene of the murder of the postal worker a few hours later — officials found a copy of *War Cycles, Peace Cycles*, by Richard Kelly Hoskins. Center officials explained to reporters that Hoskins was a key ideologue of the anti-Semitic Christian Identity religion. Hoskins, who lives in Lynchburg, Va., has been writing racist tracts since 1958.

A more famous book by Hoskins, *The Vigilantes of Christendom*, espouses so-called "Phineas actions" — terrorist attacks by men who feel they are called directly by God. Like those



Aryan Nations leader Richard Butler (center) and followers

who follow the strategy of "leaderless resistance," the "Phineas Priest" acts as a lone wolf rather than taking orders from anyone — a model that may have inspired Furrow.

In a 1995 ceremony at the Aryan Nations compound, Furrow married a woman named Debbie Mathews. She is the widow of Bob Mathews, who created and led a group known as The Order and was killed in a 1984 shootout with federal agents in Washington state. The Order murdered a Jewish talk show host and robbed more than \$4 million before authorities shut it down.

Furrow praised as 'good soldier'

The Aryan Nations has been one of the country's most infamous hate groups for over two decades. A few days after Furrow was charged with the Los Angeles shootings, Aryan Nations

leader Richard Butler praised his racist disciple as a "good soldier" and refused to condemn the attack. "Sometimes you have to do these kinds of things for the cause," he told the *New York Post*.

In the wake of revelations connecting Furrow to the Aryan Nations, Center officials provided expert analysis to national and local media, including major television networks and cable news stations, *The New York Times* and National Public Radio.

The Center's Web site, www.splcenter.org, also logged a record number of hits in response to the Los Angeles shootings. (See Mailbox on page 2.)

Furrow, who was released from a Seattle area psychiatric hospital just three months before the attack, seemed to revel in the attention. As he was led into a courtroom filled with reporters, he leaned toward his lawyer. "They all like me," he said.

California teacher is new Teaching Tolerance fellow

In August, Teaching Tolerance welcomed its 1999-2000 research fellow, Michelle McAfee.

She has worked as a 2nd grade teacher at Park Day School in Oakland, California, for the past seven years.

An independent school serving 225 students, Park Day School does not use textbooks. Instead, teachers like McAfee develop their own curricula by

weaving together materials from workshops, seminars, college courses and educational publications like *Teaching Tolerance*. Each year, McAfee's class gets treated to a yearlong unit on "Family History and American Immigration," which McAfee developed. "I emphasize the mosaic quality of our world, our nation, our city, our school, our classroom and our families," says McAfee.

Teaching Tolerance selected McAfee from more than 100 applicants from around the country.

"Michelle's classroom experience, creativity and demonstrated dedication to equity issues made her the ideal choice," said Teaching Tolerance director Jim Carnes. "And her extensive background in curriculum development certainly will

prove useful." McAfee, who earned her bachelor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley and additional teaching credentials from San Francisco State University, will provide writing and research support for Teaching Tolerance magazine, the program's video-and-text kits and other educational materials.



Michelle McAfee

Memorial and Honorary Gifts

Received by the Law Center from April to June 1999

In Memory Of

John H. Abernathy	Robert Carp	Phil Ford	James D. Hoskins	Dawn Frazier McDaniel	Mary Jane M. Reed	Mary Taft Smith
Steven Alexander	Ted Carroll	Mary Mac Franklin	Andrew J. Howard III	Hudson McKinley	Erin Ann Renard	O. J. Sokoloff
Betty Altman	Sam T. Chiapetta	William D. Franklin	Josephine Howard	Louisa McPhee	Isidore Rogoff	Mildred Spence
Bella Altenberg	Marcus Cogan	Ada Freeman	Ralph Jacqmin	Beatrice Meacham	Sol Rosner	Robert C. Spencer
Harry Alverse	Doris Cohen	Charles Gaa	George Joelson	Gilbert Mellin	Wayne Rothenberg	Jack Stafford, Jr.
Lorraine Anderson	Columbine High School	Roy Gale	Clara Johnson	Rosamond & John Merritt	Bernard Rothman	Ernest Stanton
Frank J. Arko	David & Alice Crosby	Fleanor Johnson Garst	Barbara Jordon	Lee Meyer	David Rozman	Robert W. Steel
Ella Aschertrop	Bill Cundiff	Mary E. Gartland	Jack & Eva Kahn	Marshal Meyer	Marcella Ruppel	Joseph Stern
Judge Clyde Atkins	Bobby Darin	Wilma George	Donald Kaliebe	Elliott Middleton, M.D.	Aaron Ryen	Nat Stern
Richard Hess Austin	Scott Haston Davis	Joan K. Gertner	Roslyn Kaplan	Anna Florence Miller	Leonard Sachs	Sidney Stern
Byford Baker	Chester Day, Jr.	Jean W. Geter	Lillie M. Katzel	Eugene Miller	Sol Samazin	Leonard Strelitz
Donna Balsamo	Joseph Dettmer	Angelo Ghee	David Kaufman	Morris Mitchell	Gaston Samuel	Evelyn Sussman
Alice Barnes	Georgette Devroye	Gale Gilburt	Jack Kaufman	Ira Molay	Irene Samuel	Mary Targoss
Kay Barron	Irene Diamond	Anne Jane Fabico Gleason	William J. Kelly	Charles E. Monroe	Julius Samuels	Curtis Taylor
Michael Barsuch	Robert Disenberg	Emanuel Goldberg	Joseph Kemen	Hayley Mordecai	David Sanborn	Dorothy Thornton
Bertha Debra Bayla	George E. Dodd, M.D.	Joseph Golder	Sybil Kenny	Juliette Newman	Thomas Rolland Sassaman	Susan Trachtenberg
Lewis Belkin	Frederick & Catherine Dollinger	Andrea Goodfriend	William King	Howard Nickelson	Armin Schaffer	Barbara Holman Turner
Roge S. Belkin	Michael Donofrio	Lucienne Goodheim	Patrick T. Knight	Alexander H. Nitkin	Frances Schulte	Daryl Turner
Maria Belmonte	Esther Dorsk	Harold P. Grambs	Arthur J. Kraft	Henry J. Offer	Jack Seploff	David C. Turner
Louis Beloff	Frederick Douglass	Eva Green	Stephen Locke Krampf	John O'Neill	William Sexton	Margaret Waddington
Pearl Bernholtz	John R. Draper	Suzy Green	Bertha Debra Kulick	Miriam Orner	Jacqueline Leigh Shafer	Grace W. Waring
Kenneth Biro	Virginia Foster Durr	Sam Greenstein	Sherman Bennett Lans	Daniel Pachman, M.D.	Matthew Shepard	Marsia Watson
Ethel G. Block	Bert Dziuk	Shamekka Grier	Christopher Marsh Lawrence	Nina M. Paparazzo	Eleanor Sherman	Lyn Weingarten
Harry Boskey	Lucille G. Eberding	Jean E. Haider	Elizabeth & Nathan A. Laveson	Elizabeth Parker	William Shipley	Nina Weinik
Phillip & Blanche Brail	Eleanor Edmonds	Archie Harris	Billie Lee	Jessie Peck	Isaiah Shoels	Evelyn Weinman
Marie Brooks	Jean Rosen Edwards	Mark Harris	Anita Dworkin Lerman	Morris Perkins	Dorothy Sholin	Beverly White
Eliner Brown	Adrien Egan	George Hartman	Thelma Levine	Carleton Perry	John Shortall	Larry Wiener
Gwynn Brown	Gary Elford	Hazel Hawkins	Benjamin Levinson	Barnard Pershing	Joseph N. Silverman	Kathy & Michael Williams
Lula Mae Brown	Lee Falk	Ralph C. Hayes	Donald Lewis	Nettie Persico	Arnold J. Silvers	Jesse Wilson
Beulah Broyles	Edie Faye	Justin Patrick Hays	Claire Lobis	Edward C. Peterson	Ethel & Jacob R. Silvers	Mazzie Wittkin
Bert Buehler	Mildred Fines	Susie D. Herman	Ruth Luckman	John B. Quick	Sarah Simon	Jasper Wulfestieg
Florence Burke	Sam Fink	Nannie Hereford	Susan Lowe	Dorothy Rachnowitz	James J. Slattery	Sam & Sonia Zanitsky
Richard J. Burton, Jr.	Jack & Hilda Finkenthal	Irwin L. Herrnstadt	Fred Loy	Phil Randall	Harry Lawrence Smith	Gertrude & Bill Zuckerman
William Burton	Robert Finnell	Ada & Robert Hicks	Bob Manners	Fred Razor	James Smith	
Maryann Caplan	Samuel A. Fish	James L. Hillman	Marilyn McBeth	Emma Rattner		

In Honor Of

William H. Adashek	Stephanie Burns	Freeman T. Freeman	Travis E. Jackson	Greg & Sheila Ginsberg Mead	Murray & Enid Rosenblatt	Sadie Surkis
Vanessa Alonso	Michael Byrd	Ivan Friedman	Christy M. Jenkins	Peg McFerrin	Elizabeth Rothman	John Alec Szabo
Tom Alperin	Sandy Campbell	Melinda Friedman	Paul Jochann	Annette McRay	Pauline M. Rowe	Pete Tepley
True & Sam Appleton	Susan Cannon	Amy & Andy Fuentes	Mable A. Jones	Paul & Marianne Meijer	Hia Rubenstein	Jeffrey Tietens
Sandra Arndt	Elizabeth Chamberlin	Hannah & George Galerstein	Bill Josephs, Ph.D.	Ruth Mesard	Robert & Joan Sadoff	Jean Tosh
Connie Augsburger	Anna Chavis	Florence Oliven Gaum	Hilda Kaiser	Randy Michaelis	Norma Safransky, M.D.	Rick Toth
Rufus L. Austin	Lori Cohen	Nell Wickle Gibson	Bernard Kaplan	Betty M. Miller	Reba Sardell	Elizabeth & Joge Tsang
Melissa Awbrey	Stuart & Carola Cohn	Steve Glick	Roslyn Kaplan	Mr. & Mrs. Seymour Miller	Ellen Sbarounis	Liz Twardon
Phoebe Bacon	Francis Connor	David Goldstein	Talia Karasov	Albert Milone	Erika Schafer	Marianne Twyman
Mohannad Ebrahim Bahadori	Joe Courtney	Addy Gordon	Rheta Negrete-Karwin	Edith Morris	Bernice Schiller	Lucy L. Underwood
David & Jessie Schulman Baker	Calvin Dame	Robert Gottsegen	Asher Katz	Steve Morris	Sophie & Jonathan Schwartz	Jeff Vigliotti
Betsy Balyeat	Ruthanne Davis	Juanita Graham	Ira Katz	Mr. & Mrs. Joe Morrison	Timothy Scott	Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Vogel
Sandra Bateman	Morris Dees	Beth Grendaw	Jack Kay	Zachary Mosner	Millard "Dilly" Segal	Dinah Volk
Katy Beck	Deborah Dickey	Barbara Gronfeld	Gona Kaye	Tracey Neugeborn	Patty Shade	Jean Wakely
Barb Behmer	Jenny Dillman	Jeffrey Gross	Lois Kester	J. B. Nichols	Seth Shaffer	Peggy Ward
Barbara Pollack Berger	Rebecca Dowling	George Guttman	Beverly & Allen Kezsbom	Louise Niedorf	Evan & Debra Zeidenberg	Simon James Webster
Ron Berkowitz	M. & J. Drogin	Michael Hallett	Ronni Kotler	Harold Norris	Shopper	Alyssa Weiss
David Bernhardt	Jennifer Duncan	Bob Hollowell	Stanley & Marilyn Kraus	Charles M. Nowlin	Michael Sigall	Marie Weiss
Elissa Billings	Cornelia Johnson Dwyer	Naomi & George Hornstock	Donn Kuntz	Pres Nowlin	Ann & Michael Silberberg	Jay West
Nina Binder	Howard Ebright	Haynes	Jason LaButti	Elane O'Rourke	Lucas N. Simpson	Dr. Wexler
Alex Blair	Sheila Eifer	William Michel Henri	Nathan Landman	Samuel Pacilli	Max Singer	Naomi Williams
R. Gordon Bradwick	Janet Elwood	Andrew Louis Herring	Nancy J. Langer	Nancy Paller	Sue Skalinder	Dorothy & Milton Wilner
Hilda Rollman Branch	Rhoda Ewert	Lillian & Ernie Herzberg	Levi	Alan Perl	Jerry Smith	Gabriel Winant
Herbert & Shirley Brankley	Johnathan & Tali Farine	Shelley Higgins	Sid & Muriel Lezak	Mark & Susan Phelps	Taylor Naomi Sondheimer	Margaret Nelson Wrenn
Jeffrey Brantley, M.D.	Paul & Judith Mourant	Mike Hilton	Eleanor Elizabeth Linafelt	Jason M. Porth, Esq.	Areta Stanton	Oscar & Valerie Stevenson Yanez
Morris E. Brown	Fenimore	Rob Hilton	Marc Linowitz	Dorine Pozen	Kate Star	Arnold Yellin
Sylvan Buchman	Harold Ferman	Paul Hobin	Edward Lisner	Sandra & Lawrence Price	Karen Stark	Sybil & Elliott Yerman
Mavis Buginas	Mr. & Mrs. Ted Farmer	Mr. & Mrs. James Hogue	Joan Davis Lockwood	Maria A. Puciese	J. Ronald Stephens	J. Grace Yoon
Susan Bunnell	Eva Field	Priscilla Horton	James & Sandra Bateman	Mark & Jean Shipman Rhea	Dick Strauss	Morris Zack
Clint Burgess	Liz Fisher	Darcy & Lindsey Hunter	Maresca	Summer Marie Roettjer	Marty Suker	Claudia & Charles Zelazny
Cory Burgess	Rose Fishkin	Bruce Israel	Jane & Jack Martin	Benjamin Rollert		

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.

SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER

P.O. BOX 548 · MONTGOMERY, AL 36101-0548 · (334)264-0286

In Memory of / In Honor of Gift Form

Please Print

I am enclosing a special gift in the amount of \$ _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

To Celebrate his/her/their _____

Send acknowledgment of gift to:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Indicate on acknowledgment that gift is being made by:

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

What to give this holiday season?

Year-end gifts of stocks, mutual funds can help Center fight hate and bigotry

This holiday season give a meaningful gift: a contribution to aid in the Center's ongoing quest for justice. By making this gift before December 31, you will support the Center's vital programs as well as receive personal tax benefits next spring.

Year-end brings opportunities for both the Center and its supporters to renew their dedication to the fight for tolerance and peace. Your gift will support programs such as the Intelligence Project in its efforts to monitor hate groups like the World Church of the Creator (see story

on page 3) and the influx of hate sites on the Internet.

In addition, your gift will also fund important and timely programs such as *Responding to Hate at School*, a comprehensive handbook to be distributed this fall to every school in the country, over 109,000 in all. These programs would not be possible without the moral and financial commitment of Center supporters.

A gift to the Center in its fight for peace and justice is a legacy that will extend well beyond our lifetimes.

Contributions made to the Center during the final months of the year can also make meaningful gifts for loved ones. Any donation to the Center can be made in honor of someone living, to highlight a special occasion or event, or in memory of someone who has died. And special acknowledgment cards will be sent to the appropriate person(s). This is one holiday gift that will continue to give for years to come and become a source of pride for you and your loved ones.

Stock and mutual fund gifts benefit the Center and you

Record highs in the 1999 stock market mean that many donors are holding highly appreciated stocks and mutual funds. Giving a gift of securities is an easy and beneficial way to support the Center. Gifts of appreciated securities offer double tax savings for those who itemize while also allowing supporters to renew their commitment to the Center's programs. Supporters receive a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the stock in the year the gift is made up to 30 percent of their adjusted gross income. And by contributing assets held for over 12 months, supporters conveniently avoid capital-gains taxes normally owed on assets that have gained or appreciated in value if sold.

To illustrate, William Smith purchased 100 shares of XYZ stock in 1995 for \$7,000. Today, Smith's stock is worth \$15,000. If Smith chooses to sell his appreciated securities, he will incur substantial capital gains taxes. However, by making an outright gift of stock, he avoids capital gains taxes of \$1,600, receives income tax savings for the \$15,000 charitable deduction and provides necessary support for the Center.

Instructions for giving securities:

If you hold the stock certificate, contact Development Coordinator Windsor Meadows and inform her of your impending stock gift. Send the securities by registered mail to Meadows in the Center's Planned Giving Department. Finally, sign an irrevocable stock power transferring the securities to the Center and mail it in a separate envelope to the Center. Your broker can provide a blank stock power, or we'll be happy to send you one.

If your broker holds the stock certificate, contact your broker and advise him or her of your

wishes to make a gift to the Center. If you hold more than one type of stock, decide which stock and the number of shares you wish to transfer. The easiest and quickest way to complete a stock gift is through a "back office transfer." To do this your broker will need the following information: The Center's brokerage account is with Smith-Barney through the local Montgomery office of Robinson-Humphrey Company. The Center's account number is 445-11583-1-7 and the DTC number is 418.

Either you or your broker should contact the Center about the gift. This ensures that the Center properly credits and promptly acknowledges the gift.

In Honor and In Memory gifts are lasting legacies

Gifts to the Center In Honor or In Memory of loved ones and friends are a special way supporters can fulfill holiday and philanthropic needs. For every such gift received, the Center sends an acknowledgment card to the honoree or family of the deceased. Also, the honoree's name is listed in the *SPLC Report* and in the Center's Book of Remembrance. This is a way supporters can share their dedication to the Center's fight for peace with their loved ones.

It's rewarding to set up a life-income gift with the Center. Such gifts, including charitable gift annuities and charitable trusts, help provide a financial safeguard for the Center's future work and offer the donor and/or other named beneficiaries with payments for life.

There are several minimum requirements that must be met. They include the following:

- To set up a charitable gift annuity, a donor must be 60 years of age or older, and the minimum gift amount is \$5,000.

- Charitable trusts generally require a \$100,000 contribution due to significant set-up and maintenance costs.

The Center can help you determine which life-income gift best suits your needs and send you personalized benefits information with no obligation. Be sure to provide your date(s) of birth and the amount of the gift you are contemplating. And if you plan to use stock to fund the gift, please provide the cost basis (the amount you originally paid for the stock.)

Consider making a year-end gift to the Center. It is only through the generosity and dedication of our supporters that the Center's mission continues. Whether you are interested in donating securities, making a contribution In Honor or In Memory of someone or creating a life-income gift, the Center's Planned

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, 1998, through July 30, 1999.

James R. Adriance
Dorothy Shaw Arcularius
Freda Diamond Baruch
Patricia A. Beatty
Jane Lee Bradley
Elinor Briefs
Robert A. Carley
Shirley M. Carson
Joan Platoff Chaplan
Viola Conn
Margaret B. Croissetier
Lois S. Dashiell
Marjorie H. Emery
Alexander Evanoff
Margaret P. Fetzer
Madeline Gelder
Cecelia L. Goldberger
George Goldfrank
Sylvia P. Gordon
Gertrude Green
Mary E. Griffith
Harold Gross
Bertha M. Groth
Stanley I. Hart
Betty J. Heffron
Clarence C. Himes
Toni Hollingsworth
Harry S. Huggins
Marjory S. Hughes
Henry Colson Jackson
Jane P. Kaltenback
Mary S. Kimmons
Samuel Komoroff
Gertrud M. Kurth
Eva J. Leo
Georgia Lloyd
Otilia H. Lynch
Maud Marshall
Constance C. Matreyek

Reverend Petty D. McKinney
Ida Craven Merriam
Maurice Miller
Kenneth W. Moore
Anita L. Morreale
Flora Murai
Oscar Nimetz
Morris Oser
William J. Payne
Ludwig Pick
Marguerite Poole
William Popper
Elizabeth H. Rally
Madie J. Ross
Irene M. Ruskin
Zenna L. Serrurier
Nancy Sheridan
Jerome Shore
Harriet T. Singer
Mary Lillian Skeele
Trudy Stamm
Norma R. Starobin
Kathryn Walter Stein
Mae Suslow Stern
Leah Sternshein
Helen H. Stokes
Nellie S. Storms
Jean W. Sweeney
Frankie A. Thompson
Emma S. Thornton
Peggy Tohrner
Olar Ruth Tucker
Hedwig H. Turkenkopf
Stanley R. Vidinghoff
Florence H. Wagner
Alma F. Watkins, Jr.
Sidney Wettstein
John Yarnelle
Angela B. Zent

EXAMPLE

SMITH'S 100 SHARES OF XYZ CORP

Cost basis	\$7,000
Present value	\$15,000
Capital gains tax savings (20% of \$8,000 gain)	\$1,600
Charitable deduction	\$15,000
Value of charitable deduction (28% tax bracket)	\$4,200
TOTAL TAX SAVINGS	(\$1,600 + \$4,200) \$5,800

In Honor and most other gifts to the Center are made by check or money order. Such gifts are the easiest way to aid in the Center's immediate and future goals. In addition, 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. Likewise, any unused portion of the gift can be carried over for as many as five years.

Giving Department can help you every step of the way. Our staff will send you basic information intended to aid in answering your estate planning questions, as well as personalized benefits information with no obligation.

As the the next millennium approaches, new challenges of tolerance and justice arise daily. By including the Center in your holiday giving, you help us prepare to meet those crucial needs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

In Honor/In Memory Gifts, please contact Felecia Taylor, 334/264-0286, ext.358
Stock or Mutual Fund Gifts, please contact Windsor Meadows, 334/264-0286, ext.364
Life-Income Gifts, please contact Linda Stringer, 334/264-0286, ext.359

Wilbert Oliver: An extraordinary ordinary man

MANSURA, La. — Wilbert Oliver, lead plaintiff in one of the Center's earliest class action lawsuits, died on August 17 at age 89. In death, he got something he couldn't get for his mother — full funeral services from Escude Funeral Home.

When Martha Pierre Oliver died in 1971, her son approached the white-owned Escude Funeral Home, the only mortuary in his hometown here. The firm would embalm his mother, but it refused to allow her wake to be held on its premises because she was black. Hixson Brothers Funeral Home, the only other mortuary in the parish, would not handle black bodies at all.

The pain of Escude's refusal went deep. The indignity was compounded by the fact that Oliver's mother, the community midwife, had delivered and nursed some of the Escude children and was considered a family friend.



Wilbert Oliver

"Wilbert was so hurt by this that he decided he was going to do everything in his power to change this custom," said Father August Thompson, a Catholic priest who pastored the Olivers' church at the time. At Oliver's urging, Thompson tried to find a local lawyer who would take the funeral homes to court but found that "no lawyer wanted to touch it," he said. The priest finally contacted the Center, which agreed to take the case.

The class action was filed on September 13, 1973, in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, Louisiana. It alleged that the

Escude and Hixson Brothers funeral homes violated a federal law that prohibits discrimination against blacks in contracts. The facts presented by the Center were not disputed, and a federal judge handed down a summary judgment within a month that declared

the undertakers' actions unconstitutional.

The ruling had the practical effect of forcing funeral homes throughout the nation to provide equal services to blacks and whites.

"Although the case did not go to the Supreme Court, it served notice to funeral homes, and even cemeteries and other businesses, that if they practiced discrimination against blacks they could be violating federal law," said Joe Levin, the Center attorney who represented Oliver. Levin co-founded the Center with Morris Dees and now serves as its president.

Joseph Escude Jr., who still runs the only funeral home here, said recently he did not contest the lawsuit 26 years ago. "It was a matter of discrimination," he said, "We knew we'd lose. Back then, he said, "nobody was putting blacks in white funeral homes."

Raised in Mansura, a town of 1,600 about 70 miles northwest of Baton Rouge, Oliver was a laborer who lost his left arm in a Spanish-moss-cleaning machine early in



Oliver's death and funeral drew national media attention.

life. Despite his injury, Oliver earned a living cutting sugar cane and raising vegetables. He and his wife reared 11 children.

"He was just an ordinary man, one of the common people and not a crusader," said Father Thompson, "but it is usually the ordinary people who make a difference by doing extraordinary things. We never know what we are capable of doing until we do it."

Despite the lawsuit, the Oliver and Escude families remained friendly toward each other.

"There were no hard feelings," Escude said, adding that Oliver was a good man.

Oliver is survived by his wife of 69 years, Catherine Carmouche Oliver, two sons, a foster son, six daughters, 39 grandchildren, 72 great-grandchildren and 13 great-great-grandchildren.

A burial mass was held on August 21 at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church in Mansura with burial in St. Paul Cemetery. Visitation was held the night before at Escude Funeral Home.

Partners for the Future

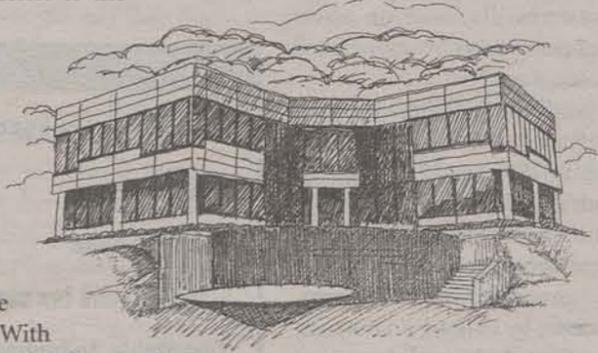
A Way to Help More Than You Thought You Could

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 \$106 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.



- The Center is already included in my will or estate plans. Please welcome me as a Partner for the Future.
 I'm interested in becoming a Partner for the Future.

Please send me information on:

- Wills Charitable Remainder Trusts Retirement Plans
 Securities Charitable Lead Trusts Insurance Policies
 Charitable Gift Annuities/Fixed Income Option

Date(s) of Birth _____

\$ _____ Cash Securities (\$ _____) Cost Basis

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Please contact me at (_____)

Mail to: Partners for the Future • The Southern Poverty Law Center • P.O. Box 548 • Montgomery AL 36101-0548

IN MEMORIAM

Barbara Woodard (1924-1997)

Barbara Woodard, loyal Center supporter, died peacefully on July 25, 1997, with her husband, Grant, at her side. Born on March 31, 1924, in Kansas City, and a graduate of Minnesota's Carleton College, Mrs. Woodard dedicated her life to helping others.

A mother of four, Mrs. Woodard saw the need for early childhood education and founded the Head Start program in Mount Vernon, Ohio. And even before the founding of the Southern Poverty Law Center, Mrs. Woodard was active in the Civil Rights Movement. In the early 1960s she traveled to the Mississippi Delta, as a board member of the League of Women Voters, to help register black voters.

The Woodards moved to Texas in the early 1970s, and Mrs. Woodard earned a master's degree in social work. She became the executive director of Houston's Women's Christian Home, an organization that aids women in crisis. Evidence of Woodard's impact on the program is clear; after her retirement in 1990, "Barbara's House" was built and named in her honor. She also received

a distinguished service award from the organization.

Mrs. Woodard was a board member of Houston Achievement Place from 1978-95, and a co-founder of Westside Homeless Partnership, a nonprofit group in the Houston area that serves homeless families and children. She also worked with the Houston/Harris County Homeless Coalition. Mrs. Woodard was honored by the Carleton College Alumni Association with a distinguished achievement award. "Barbara objected when I applied for the award on her behalf," said her husband, "and she was surprised when she was chosen."

The Center is grateful to have been a part of Mrs. Woodard's life since 1973. The moral support she and her husband have bestowed upon the Center and their financial commitment as "Friends of the Center" have made a difference in the Center's work. The Center pays tribute to the life of Barbara Woodard and appreciates Mr. Woodard's desire to continue to promote justice and equality for all people in his wife's name.

