

# SPLC REPORT



PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER  
PROMOTING TOLERANCE · MONITORING HATE · SEEKING JUSTICE

DECEMBER 2002  
VOLUME 32, NUMBER 4

## First Mix It Up Day is hit from coast to coast

Students in thousands of schools across America “mixed it up at lunch” on November 21. Their goal? To break down some of the barriers that divide them from one another in their daily lives.

“Despite the gains of the last 50 years, many unspoken rules continue to divide people by color, religion, class, ability, appearance and other factors,” said Jennifer Holladay, director of Tolerance.org, the Center’s Web-based activist project. “Nowhere are those boundaries more evident than in the average lunchroom.”

A joint initiative of Tolerance.org and Teaching Tolerance, the first annual “Mix It Up at Lunch Day” challenged students to make the commitment to step out of their cafeteria comfort zones for a single day, to take new seats and to see what would happen.



Angelique Cummings chats with Kevin Hull (left) and Michael Harris during “Mix It Up at Lunch Day” at Heritage High School in Rockdale County, Georgia.

Jacinta, a high school student in Minnesota, did just that.

“I actually got a chance to talk to people that I have seen before but never really talked to,” she said. “I felt quite wel-

come at their lunch table and had a lot of fun.”

Hundreds of miles away, Brittany, an Alabama high school student, was mixing it up in her school’s lunchroom, too.

“This is awesome,” she said. “Any other day, people would be sitting with other people who look exactly like them.”

“I hope today will be the first step in the right direction, a chance for people to see things they have in common with people they might not normally talk to or sit with,” Brittany said.

Mix It Up at Lunch Day was, in fact, a “first step,” officially launching the Center’s “Mix It Up” youth activism campaign, designed to help students identify, question and

cross social barriers in their schools and communities.

In the spring, Mix It Up will unveil a new dialogue handbook, being co-produced with the Study Circles Resource Center

(SCRC), and a new grants program to help fund student-directed activist projects.

The Connecticut-based SCRC is dedicated to finding ways for all kinds of people to engage in dialogue and problem-solving on critical social and political issues. It helps communities throughout the country by giving them the tools to organize productive dialogue, recruit diverse participants, find solutions, and work for action and change.

The Center counted more than 2,500 schools participating in the event, but the number is likely twice that amount, based on media reports about Mix It Up Day.

“The generous support of the Southern Poverty Law Center’s donors had a direct impact on hundreds of thousands of schoolchildren on November 21<sup>st</sup>,” said Holladay. “We will continue this pattern of success in 2003.”

For full coverage of the Mix It Up initiative, visit us online at [www.mixitup.org](http://www.mixitup.org).

## Exposé shakes foundations of white supremacist group

When William Pierce, founder and leader of the neo-Nazi National Alliance, died unexpectedly in July, the Center’s Intelligence Project was prepared — even if Pierce’s own organization was not. The Project’s intelligence sources had obtained an audiotape of a speech Pierce made at a secret leadership conference in April. When the *Intelligence Report* printed excerpts from Pierce’s harangue as part of an exposé in its fall issue, it sparked a controversy that is tearing apart America’s most successful white supremacist group — and causing angry rifts throughout the neo-Nazi movement.

In his speech, Pierce denounced the “defective people” in other hate groups and said the National Alliance “has no interest at all” in working with the rest of the neo-Nazi movement. He specifically trashed the Aryan Nations and World Church of the Creator, the country’s two other major neo-Nazi groups, telling his leadership to “be grateful that the movement is out there to soak up a lot of the freaks and weaklings

who might otherwise find their way into the Alliance and make problems for us.”

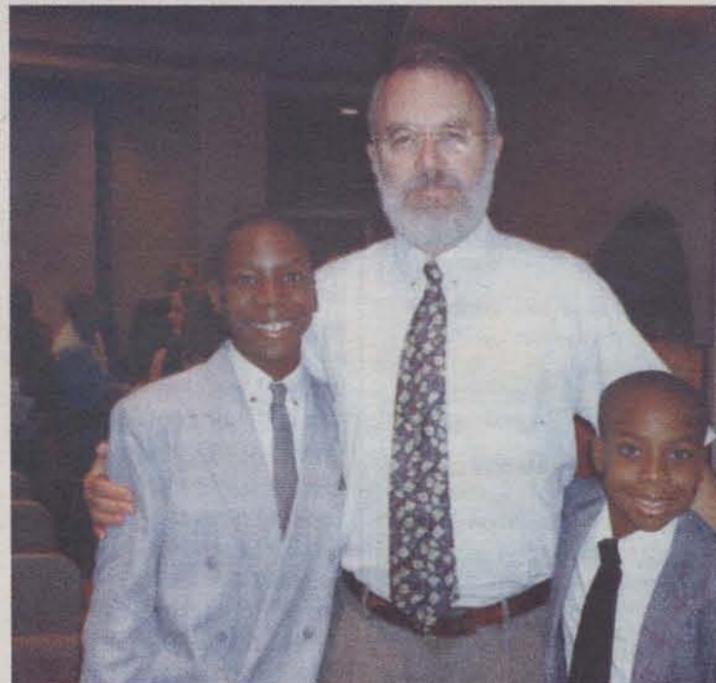
When the Intelligence Project made Pierce’s “freaks and weaklings” speech public, other neo-Nazis were outraged — particularly the young racist Skinheads who have put the Alliance on sound financial footing by buying CDs put out by its record label, Resistance Records. Many vowed to boycott Resistance and turn to other white power labels, which would be a major blow to the National Alliance’s pocketbook. In a story for the magazine’s winter issue, *Intelligence Report* editor Mark Potok quotes angry e-mails from the debate that ensued on Resistance Records’ Web site. One mem-



Mark Potok

ber of the Keystone State Skinheads offered what the National Alliance would consider the ultimate insult: “YOU ACT WORSE THAN A JEW!!!”

To make matters worse for the nation’s most powerful white supremacists, the *Intelligence Report* also made it clear that Pierce’s chosen successor, Erich Glibe, shared (continued on page 3)



### Mighty Times screening pleases crowd

Teaching Tolerance director Jim Carnes poses with Jediah Harris (left) and his brother Charles Harris III following a special screening October 13 for local citizens who contributed to the making of the Center’s new film, *Mighty Times: The Legacy of Rosa Parks*. Jediah helps tell the story. Held at the Rosa Parks Museum auditorium, the screening offered a first viewing for many who were active in the Montgomery Bus Boycott, along with many of their younger relatives. *Mighty Times* is the video component of Teaching Tolerance’s newest teaching kit, which the Center is distributing free to educators across America.

# SPLC REPORT

VOLUME 32, NUMBER 4

PUBLISHED BY THE  
SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER  
DECEMBER 2002  
www.splcenter.org  
www.tolerance.org

The Southern Poverty Law Center is a nonprofit organization that combats hate, intolerance, and discrimination through education and litigation. Its programs include Teaching Tolerance, Tolerance.org and the Intelligence Project. The Center also sponsors the Civil Rights Memorial, which celebrates the memory of 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  
Julian Bond  
Patricia Clark  
Frances M. Green  
Howard Mandell  
James McElroy

CO-FOUNDER &  
CHIEF TRIAL COUNSEL  
Morris Dees

VICE PRESIDENT  
FOR PROGRAMS  
J. Richard Cohen

LEGAL DIRECTOR  
Rhonda Brownstein

INTELLIGENCE PROJECT  
DIRECTOR  
Joseph Roy, Sr.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT  
EDITOR  
Mark Potok

TEACHING TOLERANCE  
DIRECTOR  
Jim Carnes

TOLERANCE.ORG  
DIRECTOR  
Jennifer Holladay

DESIGN DIRECTOR  
Russell Estes

HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR  
Sam Whalum

MAIL OPERATIONS DIRECTOR  
Mamie Jackson

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR  
Andy Svenson

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION  
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) 956-8491. All letters are assumed to be intended for publication unless otherwise noted.

© 2002 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

## Mighty Times educates supporter about racism

Center donor Charles Oswald is studying graphic design at Collins College in Phoenix. He wrote this letter to the Center in October.

I am writing to express my thanks. I just watched your new video, *Mighty Times*, and I have to tell you that you did an awesome job. I was extremely moved by the film.

As I watched in disgust how African Americans were treated back in the times of segregation, I realized that I never really understood how it affected the lives of black communities. I honestly don't believe that I was very well educated on how awful segregation was. As I watched the film, I actually found myself crying more than once, embarrassed for the behavior of my white ancestors.

Although segregation has ended, I want to express how thankful I am for your organization for making *Mighty Times*. I don't know if I would

have ever really taken the time to understand what happened so many years ago and what the black community went through to get equal rights.

You should be proud of your accomplishments, and be proud to know that you really are making a difference in so many people's lives. I have been a supporter of your Teaching Tolerance program and your

other work for a few years now, but now am even more committed to make sure that my support remains intact.

I know that racism is far from over, and, unfortunately, may never end. But with programs like yours, every day will always be a little brighter and hope will only grow stronger. Keep up the excellent work that you do.



Charles Oswald

I offer my sincere congratulations to those responsible for the "mixing it up" project. I saw the initial results in a news report last night. I observed how teens who were willing to open themselves to the concept of acceptance and inclusion of others discovered the gift of an open mind and heart. They are our best hope for the future — maybe they can teach the adults.

Thank you, thank you, thank you! I have been a supporter of your work since the beginning.

I. C.  
Camino, California

I read the article about your prison conditions case in the October *SPLC Report*, and I thank you for helping the inmates. We are truly blessed to have the Center helping them. It is unbelievable how human beings are warehoused in the prisons with no concern as to how they are treated. I work with an organization of families of inmates. We thank you and want you to continue with great courage.

R. C.  
Helena, Alabama

I recently read your latest issue of *Teaching Tolerance* and, as usual, was quite moved. I cannot think of a single organization in the U.S.A. that has the breadth and depth of materials for educators. Your crusade against hate is demonstrated through your thoughtful, high quality "awareness" articles that not only provide me with a thoughtful view of the important issues, but

inspire me to work harder each day to do what I can to combat hate wherever it may breed. I cannot thank you enough.

M. R.  
Wilmette, Illinois

I am very proud that I am a contributing member of the Center since 1982. It is my pleasure to support such a worthwhile cause.

S. D.  
Silver Spring, Maryland

Congratulations on your court victory in the case of Alabama judge Roy Moore [see story on page 5]. If you need any assistance in getting that statue removed, let me know. I have gloves, goggles and a big hammer and will happily assist in making little rocks out of that big one.

Thank you for standing up for the real America and the Constitution as it is meant to protect all Americans.

K. L.  
Seneca, South Carolina

I am so grateful for the powerful ["One World"] posters you sent to me a year ago for the youth program I worked with. They now trace the walls of the Shelter Project here, reminding us that the struggle for justice knows no borders.

D. L. G.  
Kingston, Ontario

The Tolerance.org Web site is absolutely fabulous. Thank you so much.

D. V.S.  
Appleton, Wisconsin



## Center hosts Public Citizen director

The Center hosted a longtime friend on November 1 when Public Citizen director Joan Claybrook visited. She spoke to Center employees at a "brown bag" lunch and spent some time with Center president Joe Levin (left) and Morris Dees. Founded by Ralph Nader in 1971 — the same year Levin and Dees established the Southern Poverty Law Center — Public Citizen is a nonprofit consumer advocacy group that represents consumer interests in Congress, before the executive branch and in the courts.

## Charles Guggenheim dies; directed three Center films

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Charles Guggenheim, 78, an internationally acclaimed documentary filmmaker who made three films for the Center, died October 9 after a seven-month battle with pancreatic cancer.

A cinematic storyteller with a knack for poignancy and drama, Guggenheim directed and produced prize-winning documentaries on people and events in a career that spanned half a century. He made over 100 documentaries, and 12 were nominated for an Academy Award. He won

four times — the last in 1995 for *A Time For Justice*, the video component of the Center's first teaching kit, *America's Civil Rights Movement*. Two other Center films — *The Shadow of Hate* in 1996 and *The Ku Klux Klan: A History of Racism and Violence* in 1983 — were among Guggenheim's films nominated for the Academy Award.

"Charles felt so privileged to have made films for the Center, knowing that they played a role in making the world a better place," said his daughter Grace Guggenheim.

Guggenheim was one of the first to create television media for American political campaigns, using the documentary style in groundbreaking ways. Starting with the presidential campaigns of Adlai Stevenson, Robert Kennedy and George McGovern, he went on to shape the campaigns of many of the most prominent senatorial and gubernatorial Democratic candidates in the 1960s and '70s. He met Center co-founder Morris Dees while working with McGovern, and the two became friends.

"Unlike the 'slash and burn' techniques of many of today's

campaigns, my father thought his job was simply to reveal the character of his candidates in an affirmative way and let the issues speak for themselves," said Grace Guggenheim. By the early 1980s, Guggenheim was feeling more and more like a propagandist and quit the business of political advertising.

Born in Cincinnati, Guggenheim attended college for a year and then joined the Army during World War II. He was assigned to an infantry division, but an infection hospitalized him and kept him from joining his unit in Europe. That unit, the 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry, suffered heavy casualties in the Battle of the Bulge, and thousands were captured by the Germans. Guggenheim spent his last months working on a documentary about prisoners of war from the 106<sup>th</sup>, Jewish soldiers who were separated from the other POWs and sent to a Nazi slave-labor camp in Berga in eastern Germany. The film, *Berga, Soldiers of Another War*, is scheduled for release next year.

"My father believed in this country and its principal truths," said Grace Guggenheim. "He also believed in justice and morality. The Center embodies those principles, and Charles was grateful to have had a critical role in helping educate people about what this country has been through and what we still need to accomplish."



Charles Guggenheim

STEVE BARRETT

# Former Aryan property serves as educational lab

HAYDEN LAKE, ID — The site where the Aryan Nations once taught their philosophy of hate and violence is now used by North Idaho College to educate students about the region's natural environment. When the headquarters of Richard Butler's white supremacist group were burned to the ground last year, only native wildlife remained — creating what college officials envision as the perfect place for an outdoor laboratory.

"It is really exciting to use this for education because the things it's been used for in the past haven't been very positive," said Pam Gomes, a forestry and biology teacher at Coeur d'Alene's Lake City High School. Gomes joined a group of officials from North Idaho College (NIC) who recently toured the property, looking for possible educational opportunities.

## Center's lawsuit lead to compound's closing

For over 25 years, the Aryan Nations used the 20-acre site to hold annual congresses, shooting practice and Sunday services where leader Richard Butler delivered vitriolic white supremacist sermons. Butler was forced to hand over his group's property in September of 2000, after a successful Center lawsuit resulted in a \$6.3 million verdict against him and the Aryan Nations. Plaintiffs Victoria and Jason Keenan, area residents who were shot at and threatened by security guards at the compound, took possession of the land after the jury awarded them damages.

Greg Carr, human rights advocate and former chairman of Prodigy Inc., bought the compound from the Keenans and donated the site to the North Idaho College Foundation. In a unique training session last year, local fire departments set a series of fires to the compound, ultimately burning all of its buildings to the ground.

Carr stipulated that the donated land must remain an undeveloped "peace park" for the next 20 years. "During that 20 years we want the land

to rest, to heal," said Tony Stewart, board member of the Kootenai County Human Rights Task Force. "The people who live nearby have been through so much for so many years — they're having peace now."

By using the land as an outdoor laboratory, NIC has found a way to respect the sanctity of the peace park, while also using it to meet students' educational needs.

"Our students need learning laboratories and we don't have a lot of property offsite," said Rayelle Anderson, executive director of the NIC Foundation.

"Anytime we can have a natural setting where productive research and training can occur, it's another benefit for our students."

The land is currently being used in a botany course, and in the future it may be used by biology and ecology courses, as well. The college also plans to teach political science students the history of the site.

Since the 2000 verdict, human rights activists in the Coeur d'Alene area have made great strides in countering the effects of the Aryan Nations' presence in the region.

"Because of the Center and the trial, we're closing one chapter and opening a new one," Stewart said.

That new chapter developed significantly with the unveiling of Boise's Idaho Human Rights Anne Frank Memorial in August. In addition, the Human Rights Education Foundation plans to build an educational center in Coeur d'Alene, thanks to a million-dollar donation from Carr. Other donations from Carr have also made possible a University of Idaho lecture series, as well as an 11-foot granite monument depicting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, donated to the city of Coeur d'Alene.

"It's like lifting a cloud from the area; locally, people are feeling we don't have to read daily about what's going on at the compound," Stewart said of the removal of Butler's compound. "It's such a long, long struggle, and the Southern Poverty Law Center has been helpful all the way through."



Tony Stewart

# Exposé shakes foundations of white supremacist group

(continued from page 1)

his mentor's view of other hate groups. The *Report* exposé quoted Gliebe seconding Pierce's "elitist" opinions of other "defective" neo-Nazis. Following Pierce to the podium, Gliebe assailed the "morons" and "hobbyists" in other groups and called for Alliance members to "totally wipe out this make-believe world otherwise known as 'the movement.'"

The story correctly suggested there would be a rift in the Alliance leadership after Pierce's death, too. Soon after it was published, Gliebe fired rival Alliance leader Billy Roper, known for reaching out to Skinheads and trying to work with other neo-Nazi groups. The winter *Intelligence Report* reports that Roper has formed a splinter group called White Revolution. Roper's Web site, Potok reports, is being hosted by a key former National

Alliance staffer — one more indication that the powerful Alliance is losing important supporters as well as grassroots followers.

## Report's veracity is verified

The fallout from Roper's firing — and from the *Intelligence Project*'s report — has the National Alliance leadership scrambling to placate its members. Despite the fact that 80 key Alliance members heard his and Pierce's incendiary remarks last April, Gliebe tried to categorically deny the accuracy of the *Intelligence Report* story, calling it a "disinformation effort." But Gliebe's cover-up attempt didn't get far: a National Alliance staffer, who was fired along with Roper, wrote that "with sadness," he had to confirm that the quotes "were accurate and were the source of many complaints." The Alliance's former attorney, Victor

Gerhard, wrote that everyone he spoke to backed up the accuracy of the article. "Nobody respects a sneak and a liar," said another former National Alliance staffer, referring to Gliebe's denial.

Meanwhile, Gliebe began to take desperate measures to hold the Alliance together. National Alliance leaders reached out to formerly despised groups like the World Church of the Creator and the Aryan Nations, and they began making rare personal visits to National Alliance chapters around the country, trying to shore up support.

While America's most successful neo-Nazi enterprise might not collapse any time soon, both its financial stability and its grassroots support have been severely shaken — thanks in no small part to the efforts of the *Intelligence Project*.

## Intelligence Briefs

tracking extremist activity

### JDL leader dies in jail

LOS ANGELES, CALIF. — IRV Rubin, 57, the militant chief of the hate group Jewish Defense League (JDL), died in a hospital nine days after authorities say he attempted suicide while awaiting trial for allegedly planning to bomb a mosque.

Authorities said Rubin intended to kill himself in the Metropolitan Detention Center in downtown Los Angeles by slitting his throat with a razor and then jumping 18 feet to a concrete floor, where he suffered the injuries that led to his death. He never regained consciousness after his November 4 fall. Within hours of Rubin's death, his widow threatened to sue unless federal authorities turned over more information about the incident, which she claimed was not a suicide. Authorities have so far rejected her request for an independent investigation.

Rubin had been in federal custody without bail since his arrest in December for allegedly plotting to blow up a mosque in Culver City and the office of a Lebanese-American congressman. Ruben faced at least 35 years in prison if convicted of the bombing plot charges.

### Bomb plotter Leo Felton convicted

BOSTON, MASS. — THE MIXED-race son of civil rights activists and his white girlfriend were convicted of plotting to blow up Jewish and black landmarks in a scheme prosecutors said was designed to spark a race war. They also intended to assassinate major civil rights leaders, including Center co-founder Morris Dees.

In July, a federal jury deliberated seven hours over two days before convicting Leo Felton, 31, son of a black father and white mother, and his girlfriend, Erica Chase, 22. Felton has said he blames his parents for "contaminating" him with black blood.

Felton and Chase were found guilty of conspiring to make a bomb, conspiring to make counterfeit bills, obstruction of justice and conspiring to obstruct justice. Felton was also convicted of bank robbery, conspiracy to commit bank robbery and attempting to receive explosives with the intent to kill or injure people or damage property. In October, one conviction for using a firearm as part of a violent crime was thrown out.

The pair are to be sentenced in December. Under federal guidelines, Felton faces 20 years in prison, and Chase faces three and a half. Both

have already served over a year in prison.

### Neo-fascist deported after Center exposé

ARLINGTON, VIR. — SEVEN YEARS after moving to the United States, a key British neo-fascist has been deported. Mark Cotterill, who spent much of his time in America trying to unite factions of the radical right, flew back to England on November 7. Cotterill will not be eligible for reentry for 10 years.

Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) officials began investigating Cotterill this year, in the wake of an August 2001 exposé in the *Intelligence Report*. The article reported that Cotterill, creator of the Virginia-based American Friends of the British National Party (AFBNP), had raised some \$85,000 for the racist British party in contravention of U.S. law. Agents of foreign political entities must register with the government or face possible felony charges, fines and deportation.

At a September 10 deportation hearing, INS officials presented evidence, including some compiled by the *Report*, that Cotterill was in the United States for political reasons, and had lied about that when he initially entered the country.

Cotterill announced in November that he was restarting his group as the Overseas Friends of the British National Party. He may be in a better position than ever to build a new organization after inheriting half of his mother's estate.

### Skinhead killer released from jail

PORTLAND, ORE. — FORMER racist Skinhead Kyle Brewster, who participated in one of Oregon's most infamous hate crimes, was released from prison November 19. He was convicted of first-degree manslaughter in the 1988 baseball-bat killing of Ethiopian student Mulugeta Seraw. Another Skinhead, Ken Mieske, who delivered the blow that crushed Seraw's skull, remains in prison; his earliest release date is in 2024, according to a prison official.

In 1990, the Center won a \$12.5 million judgment for Seraw's family in a successful civil suit against Tom Metzger, his son John and their White Aryan Resistance (WAR). A jury found the Metzgers and WAR trained the skinheads who killed Seraw and were responsible for the killing.

## Death penalty work suits new law fellow

When new law fellow Kelley Bruner-Armstrong began work in July, she plugged her legal skills into one of the Center's long-standing battles: the fight against the death penalty.

"Many people on death row have been denied adequate legal representation," Armstrong said. "Since these people are in the most dire life-or-death situations, it's all the more critical that they have someone to help them receive fair treatment."

In its last term, the U. S. Supreme Court handed down several rulings that could change not only the course of the Center's three Alabama death penalty cases, but the state of capital punishment throughout the United States. Since she joined the Center's legal staff, Armstrong has been working to ensure that these historic decisions are properly applied to the Center's cases.

### Court offers 'glimmer of hope'

"The recent Supreme Court decisions have shed a glimmer of hope on what is an otherwise bleak situation for death row inmates," said Center legal director Rhonda Brownstein. "We now have an opportunity to open the door for new sentencing procedures in the state of Alabama."

Alabama, which has the sixth largest death row inmate population in the nation, reflects the disproportionately large number of executions that occur in the Southern states.

"In the South, where the death penalty is carried out the most, it's particularly hard to find lawyers who are willing to

represent death row inmates," said Armstrong. "The Center has stepped in to provide assistance to some of the people who are most ignored by our society."

The Center also helps fund the Alabama-based Equal Justice Initiative, a nationally recognized center that provides resources in death penalty cases.

Armstrong, who has a background in international human rights law, has adapted easily to work on the capital punishment system. "I have spent a lot of time working on human rights issues in third-world countries," she said. "Since the death penalty is one of the most pressing human rights issues in our own country, I feel like I am still in sync with my life's goals."

Armstrong graduated from New York University School of Law in January 2001. She received her undergraduate degree from Florida State University, where she graduated *magna cum laude* with Phi Beta Kappa honors. Fluent in Spanish, she has performed legal and educational work with organizations in Costa Rica, Ecuador and Argentina. Before joining the Center, she was employed with the New York firm Cahill, Gordon & Reindel.

"Kelley has performed valuable work on what we consider to be one of our most important projects," Brownstein said. "For over 30 years, the Center has been dedicated to providing adequate legal defense for death row inmates. It is at the core of our commitment to help those who are most vulnerable to the injustices in our society."



Kelley Armstrong



### New York delegation visits Memorial

Center co-founder Morris Dees (center) shows the Civil Rights Memorial to Lou Tomson, president of the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation (LMDC) while Edward Wyatt, a reporter for The New York Times observes. The LMDC, created in the aftermath of the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks, is charged with establishing a memorial at the World Trade Center site. LMDC representatives, accompanied by New York media, visited the Center and met with Dees on October 5 as part of a weeklong research tour.

## Inmates get better health care under Center lawsuit agreement

PHENIX CITY, ALA. — In keeping with its mission to protect society's most vulnerable citizens, the Center's legal team recently won a court settlement that will dramatically improve health care for hundreds of jail inmates here.

In October, just days before the case was scheduled for trial, Russell County officials agreed to settle *Long vs. Johnson*, a 17-year-old class action jail conditions case assigned by a federal magistrate to Center attorneys two years ago. Under the agreement, the jail will significantly upgrade its medical staff and improve its procedures to provide adequate care for its inmates. In addition to a licensed practical nurse working 40 hours a week, it will increase the jail doctor's weekly hours from four to six and will make every reasonable effort to hire a part-time registered nurse. The sheriff must also hire a part-time clerk to maintain medical records and implement a new health screening process.

"Staffing was really the critical issue in this case," said law fellow Grace Graham, who repre-

sented the inmates. "The LPN the jail employs was overwhelmed and unprepared for her task. Record keeping was a disaster."

Though the jail typically houses about 300 inmates on any given day, over the course of a year more than 4,000 inmates will be incarcerated there. Until recently, inmates entering the facility were not tested for tuberculosis and other highly contagious diseases.

The death of inmate Aaron Whitehead in May was a stark example of the jail's inadequacy. Serving time for a drug offense, Whitehead complained to the nurse about blurred vision and was told he read too much. Over several weeks, he continued to complain of a variety of ailments and was told he had a stomach virus. Failing to recognize routine symptoms of diabetes, the jail's staff allowed Whitehead, 46, to die in his cell.

Center attorneys will monitor implementation of the health care improvements for the next four years.

## Texas camp teaches students nonviolent solutions

ARLINGTON, TEXAS — Julie Legg, an English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction specialist for the Arlington School District, had long dreamed of having a multicultural camp that would teach children respect for each other and their different cultures. With some help from a Teaching Tolerance grant and the non-violent principles of the Civil Rights Movement, her dream finally became a reality.

This past summer, 37 5th- and 6th-graders attended Legg's weeklong camp. They participated in storytelling, arts and crafts and team-building activities, all of which were designed to teach Martin Luther King Jr.'s nonviolent approach to addressing injustices.

"I thought there was a lot of violence" during the movement, camper Bryant Griffith said. "I didn't know most of the black people were trying to keep it peaceful."

Legg brought in two trainers from the Esperanza Institute, which hosted a similar camp in Rhode Island.



Kate Griffith gets answers from children while defining nonviolence at a Peace Camp funded by a Teaching Tolerance grant.

The trainers presented the Civil Rights Movement to the students to help them understand the power of nonviolent resistance. Participants learned and were given opportunities to practice the "Six Principles of a

Peaceful Community" and the "Six Steps for Peaceful Conflict Resolution."

"The plan was for participants to learn non-violence here at the camp and use those skills to form peace clubs at their schools," Legg said.

"Arlington is an ideal community for such a program," she continued. "In this town you can find at least 55 different languages spoken, which means that there are that many ethnic groups." The diversity of the community was reflected in the camp, with participation from Hispanic, African-American and white students.

"The children take to this like ducks to water," one parent commented. "It's natural to get along with people, and it comes easily to young people."

According to Legg, some of the students have already started peace clubs at their schools. "This is a good beginning for future clubs and camps to begin and continue here in Arlington," she said. "Children learned to critically examine conflict and began to develop the courage to stand against injustice as they experienced life from another's point of view and discovered their shared values."

# Official's slur inspires classroom to take action

MUSKEGON, MICH. — Moon Elementary School, located in the Marsh Field neighborhood here, is home to 350 students of low socioeconomic status. Eighty percent are African American, 15 percent are European American and five percent are Hispanic.

When an elected official who opposed construction of a playground near the school referred to the neighborhood children as "riff-raff," the derogatory comment was a call to action for Cara Taylor.

"As a teacher at the school and an advocate for students, I was saddened and offended by this slur," said Taylor. "It feeds into the negative stereotypes our students face daily. Too often they aren't given the opportunity to prove their capabilities because of such views."

The playground was built, and a Teaching Tolerance grant enabled Taylor to provide opportunities for the community to see the children in positive situations. "Usually these children are the ones receiving community service," she said. "My students can't give money or food, but they can give caring in the form of projects to help others."

She started by allowing all of her 4<sup>th</sup> graders to brainstorm about what services are needed within their community. They then made a list of activities they could perform and the resources needed. The Center's grant helped fund these resources.

The school staff joined in to help provide students with opportunities for developing respect and caring for themselves and their community. They partnered with the Marsh Field Neighborhood Association (MFNA), and its members served as mentors for the students — providing tutoring, pen pal activities and holiday celebrations. In return, the students assisted MFNA with the delivery of community newsletters.

Taylor implemented projects that allowed students to participate in monthly community service events. "By engaging in community service

projects, students can be provided with experiences to strengthen their character, build self-esteem and promote pride in their neighborhood," said Taylor.

The students' projects target the less fortunate in the school area. They made toys for children housed at three shelters in the city. In celebration of March Reading Month, the group designed bookmarks for the public library. For Earth Day, students cleared debris from around the school and throughout the neighborhood. They made decorations and wrote seasonal poems for the residents at the local nursing home.



A Teaching Tolerance grant gave these Michigan 4<sup>th</sup> graders the opportunity to perform service projects in their community.

Brenda Grabinski, parent of one of the students, believes the activities will have a lasting impact. "I think every school should do this for kids. It is a good form of teaching," she said. "They learn how to work together to get something done."

"Community service is important because it shows others that we are not 'riff-raff' kids," said one student. Another added, "Community service is fun and it leaves a good impression."

"The students in Cara Taylor's classroom are learning about their community and how to incorporate the life skills we emphasize at school into their everyday lives. And they are becoming more empathetic and caring for others," said school principal Sandra Griffin.

Teaching Tolerance grants have funded more than 700 innovative projects for educators nationwide.



Plaintiff Stephen Glassroth answers questions during a press conference following the court's ruling. Standing with him are Center lawyers Danielle Lipow (from left), Richard Cohen and Morris Dees.

## Court says monument violates Constitution

MONTGOMERY — The massive Ten Commandments monument sitting in the rotunda of Alabama's judicial building has created "a religious sanctuary within the walls of a courthouse" and must be removed, a federal judge ruled on November 18.

The decision came in *Glassroth vs. Moore*, filed by the Center and litigated in cooperation with Americans United for the Separation of Church and State and the American Civil Liberties Union.

Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore shocked the state in August 2001 when he installed the 5,280-pound monument without consulting his fellow justices. Under the cover of night, he secretly hauled the granite sculpture into the building that houses Alabama's appellate courts and the state law library. On hand to film the occasion was a video team from the Florida-based Coral Ridge Ministries, an evangelical Christian organization with close ties to Moore and which is raising money for his defense.

### Tolerance, justice are threatened

"It's an important case for the Center," said Center chief trial counsel Morris Dees. "We believe that Chief Justice Moore's conduct threatens the very values of tolerance and justice that form the core of the Center's mission." U.S. District Judge Myron Thompson, who presided over the trial, agreed with Center attorneys that the placement of the monument violates the First Amendment's Establishment Clause and its protections against state endorsement of religion.

"Based on the evidence presented during a week-long trial ... this court holds that the evidence is overwhelming and the law is clear that the chief justice violated the Establishment Clause," Thompson stated in his decision.

While Thompson noted that not all religious displays are inappropriate in state buildings, he found the display in question to be an "extreme case." Thompson stressed that Moore's monument

so obviously promotes religion that it "crossed the ... line between the permissible and impermissible" set out in the Constitution.

"The only way to miss the religious or non-secular appearance of the monument would be to walk through the Alabama State Judicial Building with one's eyes closed," Thompson wrote. "The monument ... is, therefore, dramatically different from other Ten Commandments displays in other government buildings and on other government land across the country."

The court's decision also found the grievances of the plaintiffs to be "credible in full."

"It offends me going to work every day and coming face to face with that symbol, which says to me that the state endorses Chief Justice Moore's version of the Judeo-Christian God above all others," said plaintiff Stephen Glassroth, a Montgomery lawyer. Moore testified that he installed the monument to express his belief that the Ten Commandments are the "moral foundation of America law" and his contention that they reflect "the sovereignty of God over the affairs of men."

Judge Thompson said Moore's notions come "uncomfortably too close to the adoption of ... a theocracy."

Moore became known as "the Ten Commandments judge" in the 1990s after two highly publicized lawsuits contested his hanging a Ten Commandments plaque in his Etowah County courtroom. He also gained national attention for incendiary remarks he made in a recent legal opinion that declared homosexuals "inherently evil" and implied that the state has authority to confine and even execute gay people.

"Chief Justice Moore has every right to believe what he does about the role of God and the state," said Danielle Lipow, the Center attorney who delivered closing arguments in the case. "What this case does is establish that Judge Moore does not have the right to impose that view on others through state policy."

## Donor wants to share Center's message

The Rev. Charles A. Dale visited in October to learn more about sharing the Center's resources with people in his community. Dale, a donor from Russellville, Alabama, feels that it is important for supporters like him to introduce the Center's educational materials in their local schools. Anna Geismar-Bowman, a recent graduate of the University of Texas who joined the Center's staff in September, hosted him on his visit.



TRIBUTE GIFTS RECEIVED BY THE CENTER FROM SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2002

IN HONOR OF

Joanna R. Aamodt	Dominic Isiah Cureton	Mark Charles Harris	Abigail Malmgreen	Nancy & Joseph
Lillian Abelow	Quintin Lewis Cureton	Kyle Hatcher & Becca Ripley	Jeff Mansfield	Schneider
Edwina Ades	Ann P. D'Adamo	Warren H. Heilbronner	Ma Rainey's Black Bottom	Lila Jean Schow
Kathleen O'Neill	Howard DeLong	David & Virginia Hein	Steve Marino	Helga Schroeter
Alexander	Michael & Sima Dembo	Richard A. Heinemann	Millie Marshall	Tracy Stoneman & Douglas Schulz
Leslie Angel	Dudley Diehl	Gayle Boyd & Gerald Hendrickson	Martha & Grace	Michelle Indianer Segal
Babak Arimajani & Sarah Colleran	JoAnne & Jeffrey Dietz	Ann Charles Watts & Jason Hillard	Jodi Marvet	Celia Silberberg
Hilda Aron	Davidson Dodd	Veronica Henry Mason	Veronica Henry Mason	Hyman Silver
Lewis Averett	David & Jane Draves	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Mass	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Mass	Irwin & Marcia Silverstein
Sheila Babbie	Vicki & Neil Einhorn	Megan & Jeremy McGee	Megan & Jeremy McGee	Norman Silverstein
Emma Bacboni	Nathan Enfield	David M. Metheny	David M. Metheny	Sam & Marie Singer
Mr. & Mrs. Warren D. Backer	Ronald Frederick English	Barry Mintzer, Esq.	Barry Mintzer, Esq.	Andrea Slatoplsky
Steven H. Baker	Si Felner	Wayne Murphey	Wayne Murphey	Ellen Slosman
Heidi & Bob Bandetson	Rebecca Leigh Fine	Bob & Marilyn Myers	Bob & Marilyn Myers	Sandy Slosman
Travis & Sarah Bargsten	Caitlin A. Fitz	Charles M. Myers	Charles M. Myers	Bea Sousa
Judy Bartels	Duncan J. Fitz	Su-Mei Yu & Robert Nichols	Su-Mei Yu & Robert Nichols	Ruth Spanginberg
Charles Batte'	Dylan B. Fitz	Ellen Ollendorf	Ellen Ollendorf	Haskell Springer
Anne Abbott & Sarah Beaversdorf	Ezra E. Fitz	Kathy Osborne	Kathy Osborne	James Steffy
Melissa J. Bennett	Mrs. M. Fleischer	Erin Ostendorf-Snell	Erin Ostendorf-Snell	Carl Tacy
Anne Abbott & Sarah Beversdorf	Ida Friedman	Cheryl Collins	Cheryl Collins	Susan Lynn Taylor
Anya Blasser	Tonia Galinsky	Patterson	Patterson	Jody Thone & David Teschler
Noyme & Arno Blum	Natalie & Irvin Gandler	Harry F. Pomeroy, Jr.	Harry F. Pomeroy, Jr.	Trina Tjersland
Barbara Blumberg	Daliah Gans	Allen Price	Allen Price	Carol Tschop
Mary Blumberg	Paul Gonson & Joan Mackenzie	Heidi & Cilio Primo	Heidi & Cilio Primo	Jimmy Tuerst
Debbie Bowers	Warren Goodwin	Elaine Puzzo	Elaine Puzzo	Chris & Danielle Van Wert
Jocyn & Jim Powman	Art Gorman & Mary Faas	Jeremy Kramer	Jeremy Kramer	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Veil
Jonah Solomon Carleton	Rachel Letty Greenberg	Rabinowitz	Rabinowitz	Christine Chartier & John Vermes
Sally & John Carson	Bob Greene	Robert Riedy	Robert Riedy	Ulrike Joiner & Dale Weigel
Rosalind G. Cohen	Carol Gross	Mark E. Ringer	Mark E. Ringer	Sue Schooner & Tom Wieder
Carla Conaty	Manfred Haertel	Mr. & Mrs. Basil Ringewald	Mr. & Mrs. Basil Ringewald	Brian, Deborah, Jay & Clara Willoughby
Harold "Bud" Cooper	Leone Haertel	Dianne & Bill Rogers	Dianne & Bill Rogers	Arlette Yates
Judy Cooper	Veronika Haertel	Steven Rosen	Steven Rosen	Linda Young
Marvin Cowan	Saundra Hall	Sylvia Saiger	Sylvia Saiger	
Jennie & Fred Crimi	Isabel Fredericson	Mrs. Williams Samuels	Mrs. Williams Samuels	
Gertrude Grant Croom	Handlow	Dara Sandow	Dara Sandow	
Mark & Peggy Curchack	Michael James Harriff	A. J. Scarpati	A. J. Scarpati	
	Jasmine Harris	Carl Schlesinger	Carl Schlesinger	
	Tzvee Harris			

IN MEMORY OF

Rosalind Abromowitz	Malvin Goldstein	Mary Powers
J. P. Adams	Frances D. Goodman	Spencer Prange
Andreas Albrecht	Helena W. Goodman	Sandra H. Pratt
Jerome Apatow	Beatrice Gordon	Jean Price
Mort Arenstein	Helen Abraham	William B. Ramsey
Susan Aronson	Gortatansky	Dora Markovitz Ravitz
Clinton Atkinson	Kristin Mary Grandstaff	Dora Ravitz
Robert L. Austin	Charles Guggenheim	Jon Reinsch
Rus Axson	Louis Gurevitch	Michael Richard
Ken Ball	Mark Andrew Hadwiger	Robert Richardson
Mark David Barban	Sheldon H. Harris	Beatrice Rittenberg
Isaac P. Barnes	Alden Hayden	Walter Alston Roberts, Sr.
Harry Basan	Janet Hayes	Anna Robinson
Chita Beal	Sid Hershey	Fred Rogers
Benjamin Beasley, III	John Holtvoigt	Rose Rosen
Walter Beck	Franklyn Holzman	Mort Rosenthal, M.D.
Leonard Beecher	David Jonathan Honegger	Edward Rutledge
Marion Berkman	Grace Hood	Gil Schamess
Samuel Orion Kosta Bernard	Jack Hoppock	Alvin M. Scher
Charlotte Bernstein	John & Katherine Hoppock	Ruben Schneidman
Robert W. Beyers	Helen Ruth Hoyt	Betty Schoen
Beatrice Bittner	Kim Hunter	Fran Dobbs Schon
Lois Blaese	Chuck Hurt	Mary Frances Schon
Sidney Bloom	Perdita Huston	Mark Schurmeier
Joseph L. Bowles	B. Jayapathy	Robert L. Sears
Annie Lee Lacey Branch	Lynn Johnstone	Milton Seligman
Charles Brinn	Gretchen Jones	Lou Seligson
Oliver Brown	Madison & Muriel Jones	Seymour Shainswit
Elke Cabral	Harold Kart	Gertrude Shapiro
Naomi Calof's Father	Herbert Kaufman	Norman Sharp
Stephen Cary	Goldie Kelly	Matthew Shepard
Reynaldo Lovo Castelar	Michael Klampe	Sarah & Saul Shur
Anna Chorchos	Maurice Klatch	Joseph Silberman
Robert Christensen	Jenni Knowles	Max Slaughter
Irving Cohan	Jerry Krause	Jean Alice Small
Roy Colby	Gabriel Ward Lasker	Louise Smith
David Sydney Crawford	Norm Laskowsky	Balbir Singh Sodhi
Jerry Crawford	Edith Watson Schipper	Maria Andrade Sousa
Monroe J. Crawford	Lathrop	Sylvia Simpson Spurlock
Michael B. Cuggino, Esq.	Gertraud Laurence	Nancy Squillini
Amadeo E. D'Adamo, Jr.	Mike Lindenberg	Marge Stark
Robert Paul Diethorn	Thomas Lindsey	Adolf Stefandl
Ruth Louella Dietiker	Miriam Lippman	Glenn Steinfast
Joyce Doan	Arthur A. Lord	Stephen R. Steinmuller, M.D.
George Dryfoos	Laura MacLaurin	James B. Stewart
Richard H. "Dick" Dunkel	Harold Mandelbaum	Lucy Strunsky
Ben Ralph Dunn	Kevin P. Martin	Sidney Swibel
Margaret Emily Dyball	Jullius Maszie	Morris Tanner
Jocelyn Edelston	Joseph Mathis	Brandy & LaShyra Thomas
Hugh Rigby Eggerton, Sr.	James Carey Maupin	Leo Toleda
Adam Everett Eichhorn	Hal McClean	Harriet Travis
Aaron Lamar Ellsworth	James J. McGlothorn, Sr.	Florence Trost
Harold Feldman	Hal McLain	Alene Uhry
Cy Fischer	Julia Merlis	Peter Vagelatos
Jack Frank	La Bron Merriweather	Morley Walker
M. Jack Frank	Howard Mescon	Betty Wasserman
Alvin Fross	Maryse Mikhail	Bill Wassmuth
Lore Funke	Bill Montgomery	Sy Weissberg
George Galerstein	Ann Murphy	Mr. G. Welch
Bernice Gerchenson's Mother & Grandmother	Natalie	Paul Wellstone
Don Gere	Ruth Neuman	Simone Wennik
Max P. Glassman, Esq.	Robert "Bob" Neville	Michael Whitman
Charles Gleaves	David Noga	D. Ward Wilson
Eli Glogow	Barbara R. Norman	Evelyn Wingate
Irene L. Golden & James A. Golden	Janie Nunes	Burton Witkovsky
Bernard Goldstein	Dick Oviatt	Frank Yablon
	David Pearlman	Eli A. Zubay
	Donald Henry Pearlman	
	Michael A. Pearson	

MAKE A TRIBUTE GIFT

The Center accepts gifts in memory of someone who has died or in honor of a special occasion such as a birthday, anniversary 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.

PLEASE PRINT

I am enclosing a special gift in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
 In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
 To celebrate his/her/their \_\_\_\_\_

SEND ANNOUNCEMENT OF GIFT TO:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

INDICATE ON ACKNOWLEDGMENT THAT GIFT IS BEING MADE BY:

Your Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (in case of questions) \_\_\_\_\_

# Donor remembered for her 'Bridge for Tolerance' club

OAKDALE, CALIF. — After years of making individual contributions, donor Josie Belmont found another, innovative way to support the Center's efforts. She formed a group in her retirement

health care. She was also a lifetime member of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Belmont pointed out that her Bridge for Tolerance members were true to the Center's ideals of acceptance and open-mindedness, always proving to be "pleasantly tolerant" when differences in members' card-playing abilities arose. They also held games once a week at the apartment of a wheelchair-bound member, allowing her to participate more easily.

"She was a very important person here because of the way she carried herself in all kinds of activities," said Jules Seitz, Belmont's friend and also a resident of Piedmont Gardens. "She was a very strong-minded person and very progressive in

her political ideas. She challenged a lot of people without fear."

Belmont was not only strong in her convictions, but a dedicated organizer as well. She created fliers to get the word out about the club's first meeting, arranged the regular bridge games and even set up a telephone line to take messages from club members. "At age 89, I overcame my aversion to message machines," she said. Even after her cancer was diagnosed, she continued to participate in the club for as long as possible.

"When you're 90 years old it's hard to find a way to contribute to the outer world," Peter Belmont said. "She was sick, but she was still trying to do what she had set up as her charitable endeavor."

"Running my little fundraiser for the Law Center that reaches to the core of me has meant a great deal to me in what turns out to be the last months of my life," Belmont said in her last letter to the Center.



Josie Belmont (standing) hosted bridge parties to benefit the Center.

community that raised not only monthly donations, but awareness of the Center's work as well. The group, giving dual meaning to the word "bridge," dubbed itself the Bridge for Tolerance Club. It hosted regular bridge games at the price of a dollar per game and donated the receipts to the Center's National Campaign for Tolerance.

"She was able to let people do two things that they were pleased to do," said her son, Peter Belmont. "It was a way of letting people play a game — something they wanted to do anyway — and also contribute to a charitable effort."

Sadly, Josie Belmont died August 19 of liver cancer. She was 90.

The time and energy she dedicated to the Bridge for Tolerance Club reflected Belmont's deep commitment to promoting diversity and tolerance. It also provided an entertaining activity for people in her Piedmont Gardens community. Her leadership role in creating the club was another example of her work for positive social change.

In her earlier years, she was engaged in political activity, serving as a poll watcher during elections and helping her congressman work for universal



Josie Belmont

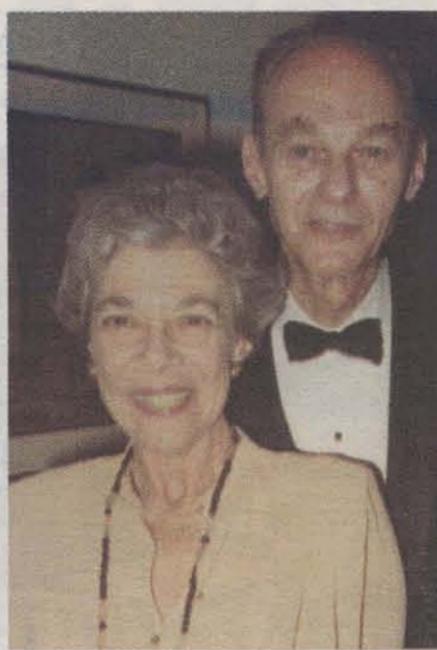


## Longtime supporter has first visit to Center

A supporter since 1983, Will Little of New York City had his first visit to the Center on November 21 when he passed through Montgomery on a cross-country drive to the west coast. Showing him the Civil Rights Memorial is Shannon Sanders, development coordinator for major gifts. Little also visited the Rosa Parks Museum and participated in the Center's in-house Mix It Up at Lunch Day during the noon hour. See related story on page 1.

## Special gift funds legal fellowship

A special gift to the Center was recently made by Grace R. Dembitz in memory of her late husband, Lewis N. Dembitz, both shown here in a 1983 photograph. The gift will fund a two-year legal fellowship for Center lawyer Grace Graham. Mr. and Mrs. Dembitz, of Washington, D.C., raised their children with a sense of justice and the need to support freedom for all, said daughter Marian Halley. "The gift to the Center is an expression of their belief in the need to fight intolerance and hatred directed towards any group," she said.



## Bequests

The Southern Poverty Law Center pays tribute to the memory of supporters who included the Center in their wills and other planned gifts.

The Center gratefully acknowledges the bequests received from November 1, 2001, through November 30, 2002.

- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Bonnie Kay Ashbaugh   | Charlotte Irvine         |
| Hoover Baker          | Martin C. Johnson        |
| James Belsey          | John Honey Jones         |
| Morris B. Benson      | Betty R. Kalin           |
| Kurt Bergel           | Frances B. Kaplan        |
| Helen W. Black        | Maurine E. Kauer         |
| James F. Browning     | Pauline L. Kishpaugh     |
| Robert C. Busch       | Harold P. Klein          |
| Sophie Cambria        | Katherine R. Kohrt       |
| Mary Lucille Carlson  | Jerome Land              |
| Elizabeth A. Carson   | Anne S. Leifer           |
| Robert O. Colton      | Charlotte Levy           |
| Virginia Cooke        | Elizabeth Lewton         |
| Jesse X. Cousins      | Dorothy S. Lynn          |
| Catherine Cram        | Kris Martin              |
| Ruth H. Crump         | Marjorie Melville        |
| Margot Dohan          | Mildred L. Mouw          |
| Carl Don              | Dorothy P. Neal          |
| John G. Dwyer         | David S. Nichols         |
| Warren R. Eakin       | Helen T. Pease           |
| Marie E. Eddison      | Jeanette Platt           |
| John O. Edwards       | Agnes M. Polokoff        |
| Patricia Ellin        | Elsa H. Resika           |
| Blanche W. Ferris     | Louise A. Retka          |
| Florence L. Fishbein  | Jose N. Reyero           |
| Edith A. Fletcher     | Elizabeth B. Robinson    |
| Blanche Faith Francis | J. Robert Rogers         |
| Ada W. Fritz          | George W. Rose           |
| E. Louise Gaudet      | Ilse W. Rothfuss         |
| June H. Gaudy         | Stuart Russell           |
| Willie Mae Gillis     | Lorraine C. Scherer      |
| Henry A. Glanzberg    | Howard Schomer           |
| August Gold           | Julia A. Schug           |
| Saul Gottlieb         | Minna Shanahan           |
| Lois P. Green         | Harriet Shapiro          |
| Elaine W. Handy       | Luch Stampleman Strunsky |
| Barbara G. Handyside  | Catherine Sullivan       |
| Valerie B. Hayden     | Thomas M. Taylor         |
| Helen F. Hazelton     | Clara A. Tucker          |
| Susan I. Heaton       | Gladys M. VanLoy         |
| Helen Hostetter       | Roger B. White           |
| Gwen Hovey            | Nettie Wolman            |

# With Center's help, schools respond to racial incidents

The Center's Web-based project, Tolerance.org, seeks to balance education with activism, providing knowledge that leads to power.

That role is readily apparent in the combination of news coverage, outreach and advocacy associated with the November 2001 aftermath of racially charged incidents at Auburn University.

Tolerance.org's role in bringing the issue to light — and then bringing light to the issues — is a strong example of the Web site's strengths.

The case involved white members of two Auburn fraternities — Delta Sigma Phi and Beta Theta Pi — who wore blackface costumes, one with a noose around his neck. Other partygoers wore Ku Klux Klan robes.

Pictures taken at two Halloween parties surfaced on the Internet and were brought to the attention of the Center. An array of stories by Tolerance.org writer Kelvin Datcher have been read by more than 500,000 visitors to Tolerance.org.

While covering the story, Datcher also became a player in it. As a representative of the Center, Datcher led



Kelvin Datcher (second from right), the Center's tolerance outreach coordinator, speaks during a town hall meeting at Auburn University one year after racially charged Halloween costumes prompted widespread outrage. With him are Auburn students (from left) Mariyam Jamila and Heath Henderson and Auburn city manager Doug Watson.

workshops and offered other services to bring about a heightened sense of diversity and tolerance on campus.

"It was very encouraging that the Auburn community reached out for help," Datcher said. "We were certainly glad to be able to support their efforts, but there's a long road ahead."

Brandon Riddick Seale, then-student body president at Auburn, agreed, saying, "I think there is much more work ahead of us than behind us."

That work isn't just at Auburn. Several other universities — including the University of Mississippi, University of Tennessee and Oklahoma State University — have experienced similar blackface incidents in the past year.

All have been met with shock and outrage from the campus communities.

As one Auburn student said, "I don't want other schools thinking that our school is racist. These were just a bunch of students who did something stupid."

Stupid — and unacceptable, according to Wes Williams, Auburn's vice president for student affairs.

"Thirty-seven years after the passage of the Civil Rights Act, there is no acceptable explanation for the appearance of students in Ku Klux Klan robes or blackface," Williams said.

Amid the ongoing problems, there also is positive news. Coverage of the incidents has led to increased awareness — and activism — on other campuses.

Consider Jeremy R. Jackson, vice president of Delta Tau Delta fraternity at Kennesaw State University in Georgia. After seeing Tolerance.org stories about Auburn, Jackson was moved to create a diversity-training program for all new fraternity pledges.

Saying that the blackface stories spread negative images of fraternities, Jackson said, "I knew that we were better than that, so I took this program on."

He ordered the Center's anti-bias resources to help in his effort.

Kennesaw's relationship with the Center will continue: Morris Dees is scheduled to speak at the university in February 2003.

## Leave a legacy through Partners for the Future



Civil Rights Memorial

Dedicated supporters of the Southern Poverty Law Center who include the Center in their wills or estate plans are our "Partners for the Future." These special donors have decided to extend their support beyond their lifetimes and leave a legacy of tolerance and justice.

Writing a will and including a bequest to the Center allows you to choose where your estate will go and, in most cases, helps you to reduce taxes on your estate. Your bequest or planned gift — regardless of size — is a meaningful way to honor the Center's work and assure its future.

If you are interested in receiving information about wills, charitable gift annuities or other planned giving opportunities available at the Center — with no obligation — please contact the Center's planned giving department toll-free at 1-888-414-7752 or complete and mail the form below. You can also send an e-mail to [plannedgiving@splcenter.org](mailto:plannedgiving@splcenter.org).

If you have already included the Center in your will or estate plans, please contact us so we can update our records. We want to welcome you as a Partner for the Future.

- The Center is already included in my will or estate plans. Please welcome me as a Partner for the Future.
- I'm interested in receiving general information about wills and planned giving.

Please send me information on the following specific planned giving opportunities:

- Wills       Retirement Plans       Charitable Gift Annuities  
 Securities       Insurance Policies       Trusts

My date(s) of birth is: \_\_\_\_\_

- Yes, please contact me. My phone is: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

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

## IN MEMORIAM

### Arthur A. Lord (1942-2002)

Arthur A. Lord, an Emmy-winning television news producer and ardent supporter of the Center since 1993, died at age 60 on September 25.

A native of Bar Harbor, New York, Lord served in the Air Force after his 1963 graduation from the University of Florida, including a stint at Cape Canaveral, as a news writer/producer. That started a career at NBC that would last 32 years.

Lord wrote for Chet Huntley, David Brinkley and Frank



Arthur Lord

McGee, among others, and participated in NBC's coverage of the Apollo 11 moon landing in 1969. He also covered wars in Vietnam and the Persian Gulf and the Iran hostage crisis. Other major assignments included coverage of seven presidents and two popes.

In 1971, the network made him an on-air correspondent and sent him to Saigon to cover the war in Vietnam.

In 1973, Lord moved to management at NBC, first as Houston's bureau chief and then as chief in Saigon. In 1975, as Saigon fell to the Communists, Lord not only directed NBC's coverage, but also arranged the evacuation of 104 Vietnamese NBC employees and their families in the last

days of the war. He often said the evacuation, dubbed "Operation Peacock" after NBC's longtime symbol, was his proudest accomplishment.

He won two Emmys and a George Foster Peabody Award.

Lord once told an interviewer, "My career has made me an eyewitness to history." Lord headed NBC News' Burbank bureau from 1979 to 1982 and closed his career in 1998 at the network as a producer for special projects.

From 1996 until 1997, Lord served as president of the Los Angeles Press Club where he was active in raising scholarship funds for student journalists.

A measure of the love and esteem that his colleagues held for Lord occurred a day before his death. Hundreds of donors turned out at a blood drive for him held at the NBC studios in Burbank.

"He was a man known for his extreme integrity," said NBC correspondent George Lewis.

Arthur Lord is survived by his wife, Susan, son Michael, daughters Sharon and Marlene, and grandchildren David and Alan Nguyen. His family requested that donations in his memory be made to the Southern Poverty Law Center.