

SPLC REPORT



SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
400 Washington Avenue · Montgomery, AL 36104
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PAID
Southern Poverty
Law Center

PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
MILITIA TASK FORCE · KLANWATCH · TEACHING TOLERANCE

SEPTEMBER 1996
VOLUME 26, NUMBER 3



Prior to a Center lawsuit, prisoners were shackled in groups of five as they labored on Alabama roadsides.

Center Negotiates Ban on Chain Gangs

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — On the eve of trial in the Law Center's suit against the reinstatement of prison chain gangs, the Alabama Department of Corrections has agreed to a permanent end to the barbaric practice of shackling prisoners together. The agreement was reached just weeks after a prison guard fatally shot a chain gang inmate on an Alabama highway.

Because the case has been watched closely by officials in other states, the settlement makes it less likely that the practice of chaining inmates together will spread.

"We predicted a year ago that chaining prisoners together would lead to more violence among inmates and place them at risk of being injured or killed," Center Staff Attorney Rhonda Brownstein said. "The death of one prisoner, along with reports of injuries to inmates working with sharp tools while chained together, forced prison officials to re-evaluate the program. After a year of following this politically popular but flawed policy, the Department of Corrections finally conceded that the practice is inefficient and unsafe."

Although prison officials plan to continue chaining inmates individually instead of in groups as they labor outdoors, the settlement "is good for inmates because it prohibits the state of Alabama from ever resuming the practice of

chaining them together again," Brownstein said. "That was the real vice of the old program."

Several Southern states used prison chain gangs to build roads from the late 1800s to well beyond the 1930s. After former Prison Commissioner Ron Jones reinstated the practice in May of last year, the Center sued to have the chain gangs declared unconstitutional.

Hitching Post Challenged

Although the lawsuit has been partially settled, claims still pending in the case are now set for trial on October 7. One claim that will go to trial is the Law Center's challenge of the "hitching post," a metal rail to which prisoners are chained when they refuse or are unable to work.

"The hitching post is really a form of torture," said Brownstein. "Inmates are chained to the hitching post in the grueling Alabama heat for eight to 10 hours, sometimes with their hands above their heads, with little or no access to food, water or a bathroom. Because they are not given a due process hearing until after they have been punished, many prisoners who have good reason for refusing to work — such as illness — are unfairly subjected to the punishment," Brownstein said. "Alabama's use of the hitching post is cruel and unusual punishment and has no place in modern society."

Center Sues Klan Over Fire at Black Church

MANNING, S.C. — The Law Center is suing the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and four of its followers on behalf of a South Carolina church destroyed by arson in 1995. The arson was one of a series of fires at more than 30 black or predominantly black churches in the South in the last 18 months.

The Center represents the century-old Macedonia Baptist Church located near Bloomville, S.C., in the civil action filed in June. The church burned to the ground on June 21, 1995, the night after another black church, Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church in nearby Greeleyville, was destroyed by fire.

Timothy Adron Welch, 24, and Gary Christopher Cox, 22, pleaded guilty in federal court on August 14 to burning the two black churches. The men



Klansmen and convicted church arsonists Timothy Welch (left) and Gary Cox (right) are led from a hearing by Sheriff's Deputy Jesse Young.

could get up to 55 years in prison for violating civil rights and related laws.

On August 16, two more Christian Knights followers, Arthur Haley and Hubert Rowell, were indicted on conspiracy charges in the South Carolina church fires and for other appar-

ently racist crimes. After the indictments, both were added to the Center's lawsuit.

Welch and Cox also pleaded guilty to state charges of beating and stabbing a retarded black man in Berkeley County, S.C., in June 1995.

Please turn to pg. 3, "Center Sues Klan"

"One World" Posters Ready For Distribution to Teachers

This month, eight full-color posters from the award-winning magazine *Teaching Tolerance* will be made available free to classroom teachers nationwide. The poster set comes with detailed lesson plans for use with elementary and secondary students.

Adapted from the magazine's popular "One World" page, each 18-by-24-inch poster features a full-color image chosen to suggest a vision of a tolerant world. The creators include a Japanese American quilt artist, a Palestinian teenager, a Navajo schoolgirl and an African American portrait painter.

Paired with each poster image is a text passage that celebrates an ideal — or voices a concern — for our global community. The sources for these wise words



range from the teachings of an ancient Chinese philosopher to the poetry of an Indiana high school student.

The poster set, designed to be both inspiring and thought-provoking, can be used by teachers at all levels and in all disciplines.

The study guide included in the package incorporates critical thinking, class discussion, and writing and research exercises, as well as projects in music and art.

Teaching Tolerance Design Director Paul F. Newman, who designed the poster set, commented, "The 'One World' page of *Teaching Tolerance* makes a powerful statement, and we hope that by displaying the posters and engaging students in some of the suggested classroom activities, teachers will inspire our young people to make a commitment to work toward world peace and unity."

The posters are available to K-12 teachers upon written request on school letterhead to: One World Poster Set, Teaching Tolerance, 400 Washington Ave., Montgomery, AL 36104.

MAILBOX

This morning, I read over the most recent *SPLC Report* and was confronted with news of the disquieting proliferation of acts of hate and people of intolerance. This afternoon, with tears in my eyes, I read (in the August issue of *Life* magazine) of the 18-year-old African American high schooler, Keshia Thomas, in Ann Arbor, Mich., who threw herself on top of a Ku Klux Klansman to protect him from an angry crowd.

Please find enclosed a check to honor the heart and hope of Keshia Thomas.

J.K.
Poulsbo, Wash.

Thank you very much for taking the time to give me and my friend a tour of the SPLC's facilities. After our visit, we continued our car trip and turned on the NPR News. We were pleased to hear of another SPLC success, this time in striking a blow to Alabama's cruel use of chain gangs in its penal system. Well done! It reminded me again of how proud I am to be a contributor to the SPLC.

M.A.
Birmingham, Ala.

Last week I used *America's Civil Rights Movement* [the first Teaching Tolerance video-and-text kit] with 60 teachers at an ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) conference in Tampa. These materials are an important resource for these teachers, whose students are new to the U.S. and don't understand our country's history, its values of equality and equal opportunity, and yet its continuing discrimination.

J.J.
Gainesville, Fla.

I first became aware of the SPLC in the early '70s after Medgar Evers was killed, and I contributed for several years then. ... Last year, the Center came to my attention again as my awareness of militias grew and this country's everlasting racism became front-page news. Obviously this battle is far from won — even though great progress has been made for some Americans in some areas. I expect the need for the SPLC will continue.

L.R.
Lake Wales, Fla.

I am studying to become an elementary teacher, and your perseverance and constant struggle in the face of adversity are an inspiration to me. I am completing my student teaching in a school that is racked with poverty and racial tension. The [Teaching Tolerance] materials developed by the Center have helped me to cope, to make a difference, and to begin to enlighten those children whose lives I touch.

M.V.
Clark Summit, Pa.

I recently had the opportunity to attend a one-day workshop presented by Mr. Joe Roy [Klanwatch Director] at Adams State College, where I work as the Director of the Counseling Center. I learned much from the workshop and will continue to send whatever financial support I can. In the meantime, please accept my thanks for such a courageous and important effort.

T.M.
Aurora, Colo.

SPLC Open House a Success

The months of June and July were busy ones for the Center. Hundreds of supporters came from across the nation to an Open House celebrating the SPLC's 25th anniversary.

Many visitors echoed the sentiment of one donor from California who said, "This is a dream come true for me and my family. We've been supporting the Center for many years, and it's thrilling to finally be able to see the Civil Rights Memorial and meet the people who work here."

In preparation for the Open House, each department at the Center prepared exhibits and tours for visitors. The Civil Rights Memorial also underwent a major refurbishing for the event. Dedicated in 1989, the Memorial honors the martyrs of the Civil Rights Movement and is visited by more than 200,000 people each year.

The Memorial's black granite table and wall, covered by a continual flow of water, require special maintenance. At 18-month intervals, the lettering is cleaned of water deposits, and every five years, the entire structure is overhauled. This spring's refurbishment included re-gilding the inscriptions, as well as replacing the pumping equipment and metal structures within the monument. From planning to completion, the overhaul of the Memorial took almost five months and cost more than \$50,000.

In June, the Center was honored with a visit from the Memorial's designer, New York architect Maya Lin, who supervised the refurbishing. Lin, who also designed the Vietnam Veter-



Civil Rights Memorial designer Maya Lin visited the Center in June to supervise refurbishing of the monument.

ans Memorial in Washington, D.C., was the subject of the 1996 Academy Award-winning film *Maya Lin: A Strong, Clear Vision*.

The documentary, which includes a segment on Lin's work on the Civil Rights Memorial, will air on PBS on November 27 at 9:30 p.m. (check local listings).

Lin said, "I feel a strong connection to the monument and to the Southern Poverty Law Center. The Memorial is one of the most special works I'll ever do. As I researched the Civil Rights Movement for the design of the monument, the history of this period became very real to me."

The Center welcomes visits from supporters but, because of heightened security, requests that visitors call in advance for an appointment.



A worker re-gilds the inscriptions on the Memorial table.

SPECIAL LETTER

New Donors Asked to Spread Word

The Center periodically receives letters like this one from new donors, and we take these concerns seriously.

Raising the public's awareness of the danger posed by antigovernment militia extremists and of the continuing problem of hate and intolerance in America is a fundamental part of the Center's mission. Each new donor receives a video introducing them to the Center and its work and copies of Center publications such as *Teaching Tolerance* magazine and *False Patriots*, the Klanwatch report on the Patriot/militia movement.

While these materials are very popular with most new donors, some have questioned our sending them because of the cost involved. However, because we produce the mate-

Dear SPLC:

I appreciate the opportunity to view this video [*Seeking Justice*] and to read the wealth of material I have received since I sent a modest contribution. I must say, however, that I have a concern that the donation I sent has been spent several times over in the mailings I have since received, all to the effect of "preaching to the choir." I'm already convinced of the value and virtue of the work the SPLC is doing, and I do not need to receive any more promotional material.

M.M.

cost of producing and mailing the *Seeking Justice* video.

While the purpose of sending the video is not to raise money, unsolicited contributions the Center receives in response to the video more than offset the costs of producing and mailing it. Thus, not only does the video pay for itself, it helps defray the cost of the other materials we send out.

By educating new donors about the Center's work, we hope to make each of them an activist in our cause. One of the things we

ask new supporters to do is share the materials with their local schools, law enforcement officials, and churches and synagogues. Those actions alone more than justify the cost of sending materials to new donors.

For example, each copy of *Teaching Tolerance* magazine costs only 29¢ to produce. The total cost of the materials sent to new donors is only \$5.84, most of which is the \$3.41

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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) 264-3121. All letters are assumed to be intended for publication unless otherwise noted.

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Klanwatch Director Urges Military to Discharge Troops With Extremist Ties

WASHINGTON — In June, Klanwatch Director Joe Roy testified before a House of Representatives National Security Committee in Washington, D. C., where he called on the military to discharge soldiers involved in any way with hate groups or hate crime activity.

The existing policy regarding white supremacist activity in the military has proven inadequate in dealing with this serious problem, Roy said in his testimony. "As we understand it, military commanders have drawn a distinction between 'active participation' and 'mere membership' in extremist groups, with 'participation' being prohibited, while 'membership' is not.

"In our view, any type of involvement with white supremacist groups, including mere membership, should be grounds for discharge."

As a result of the hearings, National Security Committee members are drafting a bill to be introduced in the fall session that calls for military leaders to be more cognizant of hate group activity in their ranks and that provides a stricter policy for dealing with hate crimes in the military.

George Withers, a professional staff member of the House National Security Committee for the Democrats, said, "We are optimistic that we can get bipartisan support for the bill and that it will get through the House in the next session."

Roy was one of several representatives from various organizations who were asked by the House Committee to share their expertise on the extent of white supremacist activity on and around military bases.

"We cannot afford to ignore the fact that our nation's armed forces are a prime target for recruitment by extremists in both the Patriot and white supremacist movements," Roy testified. "In the last year, prominent neo-Nazis, along with a handful of militant Klansmen and Patriot extremists, have recruited in every branch of the military."

White supremacist groups seek out military personnel as recruits because of their specialized training and access to sophisticated weaponry and classified information, Roy said.

Murder at Fort Bragg

Congress launched the investigation following the

arrest of three active-duty soldiers for the shooting of a black couple near the Fort Bragg Army base in Fayetteville, N. C., in December 1995. Two of the 82nd Airborne Division soldiers were avowed neo-Nazis. During investigation into the murders, police found white supremacist literature and paraphernalia, including a National Alliance membership application, at one of the soldier's off-post rooms.

National Alliance, one of the fastest-growing extremist groups in the country, has recruited heavily on and near military installations in recent years. Prior to the Fort Bragg shootings, a National Alliance recruiter, who had served with the 82nd Airborne, rented a billboard near the Army base that advocated "taking back" America.

Klanwatch Monitors Military

Klanwatch has documented the presence of white supremacist groups in the military since the 1980s.

In 1986, active-duty military personnel held leadership positions in and were participating



Klanwatch Director Joe Roy (left) with NAACP official John Johnson prior to testifying before a House Committee investigating extremism in the military.

in paramilitary training exercises with the Klan group known as the White Patriot Party.

In 1990, police found an arsenal of weapons including 50,000 rounds of ammunition, 300 rifles, 200 handguns, a mortar, an anti-tank gun, a machine gun and a rocket launcher at the residence of a technical sergeant with the Air National Guard in Cambridge, Mass.

In 1991, two active-duty soldiers, who were involved with a group called Knights of the

New Order, were indicted on 16 counts of weapons violations. Their vast arsenal of weapons had been taken from two military bases.

In 1992, an underground organization of veteran and active-duty Special Forces personnel at Fort Bragg, N. C., formed a group called the Special Forces Underground that combined a racist, anti-democratic agenda with sophisticated tactical skills and military weaponry.

Center Sues Klan

Continued from page 1

The Center's civil suit alleges that the Christian Knights organization, which also has chapters in North Carolina, Kentucky and Tennessee, is liable for the actions of the four Klansmen.

Klan Activities Precede Fire

In the weeks preceding the fires, the complaint alleges, Welch and Cox attended several Christian Knights meetings and rallies. At a May 1995 rally, a speaker reportedly disparaged black churches as places where black people learn how to receive welfare benefits.

Less than a month before the Macedonia Baptist fire, a Klan rally notice, marked with a skull and crossbones and a picture of a hooded Klansman, was tacked to the church's front door.

The Center's lawsuit seeks compensatory and punitive damages from the Christian Knights, claiming that the organization is responsible for the actions of its members. The Center has used this legal strategy in the past to win multimillion-dollar judgments against white supremacist

groups whose members engage in criminal activity.

In 1990, the Center sued Tom Metzger and his White Aryan Resistance for the murder of a black man by neo-Nazi Skinheads in Portland, Ore. The jury returned a \$12.5 million judgment against Metzger and WAR. In 1987, an all-white Mobile, Ala., jury awarded a \$7 million judgment against the United Klans of America for the lynching of a young black man. The Center had brought the suit on behalf of the victim's mother.

Center Legal Director Richard Cohen said, "With this suit, we hope not only to win compensation for the members of Macedonia Baptist Church, but also to send a message to white supremacist groups that the cowardly act of burning houses of worship will not be tolerated. Obviously, not all church burnings are hate crimes, but patterns have emerged indicating that other fires may be racially motivated. Our Klanwatch department will continue to monitor the situation closely."

Griffin's Life Devoted to Klan

Virgil Griffin, Imperial Wizard of the Christian Knights, has spent a lifetime in the Klan. He was 18 when he joined the white supremacist organization in the early 1960s, finding support for his hatred of communists, drugs and integration.

Since then, Griffin has led or belonged to several Klan groups, including the extremely violent United Klans of America, the North Carolina Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, and the National Knights. In 1985, he founded the Christian Knights of the KKK and appointed himself its national leader or Imperial Wizard.

A lawsuit recently filed by the Center alleges that the Christian Knights and four of its members are civilly liable for torching a black church in 1995 (see "Center Sues Klan," p. 1).

Griffin's two decades as a Klan leader began in the mid-1970s when he became Grand Dragon of a small militant Klan organization called the North Carolina Knights. In 1978, Grif-

fin's Klansmen allied with an equally militant neo-Nazi organization, the National Socialist Party of America, to form the United Socialist Front.

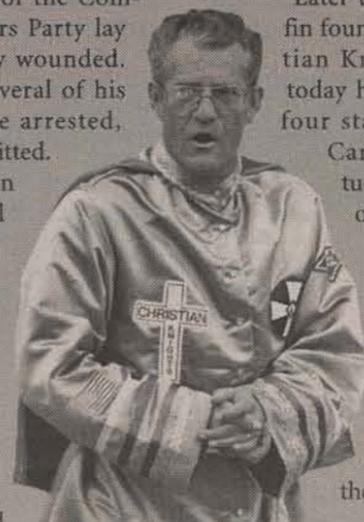
The new group was soon involved in violence. In 1979, members of the organization showed up at an anti-Klan rally in Greensboro, N.C., on a dare from rally organizers. A violent confrontation ensued. When the shooting stopped, five members of the Communist Workers Party lay dead or fatally wounded. Griffin and several of his members were arrested, tried, and acquitted.

Retried on federal civil rights charges in 1985, Griffin and his followers were acquitted again, with the exception of one who was sentenced to six months

in a prison work-release program.

After the acquittals, Griffin was unrepentant, telling reporters he didn't "see any difference between killing communists in Vietnam and killing them here." But the Greensboro experience apparently soured Griffin on neo-Nazis. "I'm not into Hitler," Griffin said. "I'm not into Skinheads, I'm not into nothing but Ku Klux Klan."

Later that year, Griffin founded the Christian Knights, which today has chapters in four states — North Carolina, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee. Under his leadership, the group has earned a reputation as the "marching-est" Klan in the nation.



Christian Knights Imperial Wizard Virgil Griffin

Work Progresses on Early Childhood Teaching Kit

SAN FRANCISCO — The third Teaching Tolerance video-and-text kit, *Starting Small: Teaching Tolerance in Preschool and the Early Grades*, is scheduled for release in the fall of 1997. Unlike the first two kits, which were geared to middle and high school students, this package will be aimed at early childhood educators.

"Elementary teachers are eagerly awaiting this kit," said Joseph Levin, Center President and Chief Executive Officer. "Since the inception of the Teaching Tolerance project, we've had educators asking when we would have materials designed for the early grades available. We're pleased to be able to offer this package."

The video in the kit, which is being produced by San Francisco documentary filmmaker Margie McGovern, will highlight five pre-K-through-3rd grade classrooms around the country that feature exemplary tolerance education programs. McGovern reports that the video is in post-production, where she does final editing and adds music, graphics and narration.

"It takes a team effort to create a film," said McGovern. "We had a great group of talented



Filmmaker Margie McGovern and her assistant, David Summerlin, do final editing of *Teaching Tolerance* early childhood video, *Starting Small*.

people working on it, and some wonderful schools and teachers to profile. We've tested it with a few teachers, and the response has been very positive. I'm excited to get the finished film into our schools."

The text, which is being compiled and edited by Teaching Tolerance Acting Director Jim Carnes, will profile the five teachers in the film, along with two others. In addition, the book will include a comprehensive annotated resource guide and step-by-step activities for teaching tolerance to young children.

The first two Teaching Tolerance video-and-text kits, designed for secondary class-

rooms, are being used in more than 50,000 schools and have won several prestigious awards. *Starting Small* will be sent free to elementary schools, upon written request of the principal. Its availability will be announced in future issues of *Teaching Tolerance* magazine.

Acting Director Carnes commented, "Without the support of our loyal donors, we would not be able to produce and distribute these high-quality tolerance education materials."

"We look forward to launching this great new resource for the early-learning environment, where tolerance for diversity begins."

Bullard Returns to Writing Career

Teaching Tolerance founding director Sara Bullard left the Center in May to pursue a full-time writing career. She will continue to work on a freelance basis for *Teaching Tolerance* magazine.

"The Law Center has been an exciting and rewarding place to work," Bullard said. "I interrupted my creative writing career nine years ago when I started working with Klanwatch. Now it's time to get back to my heart's desire — writing fiction."

Bullard joined the SPLC as Publications Director in 1987, having worked for several years in journalism and public-interest research. Her initial responsibilities included researching, writing and designing the bimonthly *Klanwatch Intelligence Report*, as well as numerous special publications, including *The Ku Klux Klan: A History of Hate and Violence*.

When the Law Center built the Civil Rights Memorial in 1989, Bullard worked with an advisory board of civil rights leaders to select the individuals and events cited on the memorial's timeline. Her research for this project resulted in the book *Free at Last: A History of the Civil*

Rights Movement and Those Who Died in the Struggle. She received a 1989 American Bar Association Silver Gavel Award for that work, which was published by Oxford University Press in 1993.

Bullard became the first director of the Law Center's Teaching Tolerance education project in 1991 and launched the project's semi-annual magazine in early 1992. Under her leadership, *Teaching Tolerance* won nine Educational Press Association awards. In 1995, the magazine earned the top EdPress honor, the Golden Lamp. She also managed production of the first two Teaching Tolerance video-and-text curriculum kits, *America's Civil Rights Movement* and *The Shadow of Hate*. The kits have also garnered several prestigious awards, including an Academy Award for *A Time for Justice*, the film component of the first kit.

Also in 1995, Bullard received the first annual Family Life Award for "her dedication to raising a generation free from

bias." Her book for parents, *Teaching Tolerance: Raising Open-Minded, Empathetic Children*, will be published by Doubleday in September 1996.

"Sara's contributions to the Center have been enormous," stated Co-Founder Morris Dees. "Under her direction, the Teaching Tolerance project has grown from just an idea to a well-respected force in the education field. I really don't think the project would have caught on and been so successful without her guidance."

"Sara left Teaching Tolerance in capable hands, and we will continue to maintain the high standards she established. We all wish her the best as she pursues her writing career."

Jim Carnes, Senior Writer for *Teaching Tolerance*, will serve as Acting Director while the Center conducts a search for a new director. A former editor for *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, Carnes has been with the Center since 1993.



Sara Bullard

Levin Named President and Chief Executive Officer

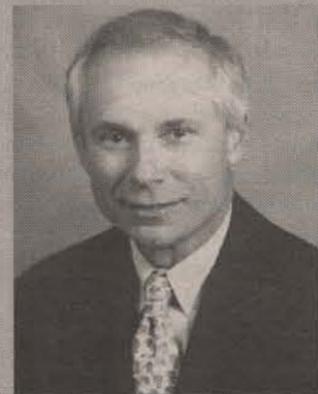
Joseph J. Levin Jr., Co-Founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center, has been named to the expanded position of President of the Center. His new duties will include those of Chief Executive Officer.

Levin has relocated to Montgomery from Washington, D.C., where he had been engaged in private legal practice since 1979. For the last two years, Levin headed the Center's Washington development office, where he assisted in the SPLC's endowment program and educational projects.

"The growth of the Center over the past five years has stretched our management staff," said Morris Dees, Co-Founder and Chair of the Executive Committee. "We're delighted to have Joe's seasoned experience and perspective to help carry us into the next century."

In anticipation of Levin's return and new role, the Center's Board of Directors eliminated the position of Executive Director and returned to the office of President most of the duties delegated to the Executive Director.

Additionally, the Board created the position of Director of Operations and appointed former Executive Director Edward Ashworth to



Joseph Levin

fill that job. Ashworth will continue to have day-to-day responsibility for all administrative functions, fundraising, and oversight and management of the Center's endowment.

"It's good to be home," said Levin. "We are confident that these changes will enable the Center to operate more efficiently and effectively in the long term and that all of us will be able to better serve the mission of the Center in its many activities."

Since Levin joined forces with Dees 25 years ago, the Center has grown from a small civil rights law firm to an organization recognized internationally for its legal victories against white supremacist groups, its tolerance education project and its sponsorship of the Civil Rights Memorial.

Teaching Tolerance Welcomes New Research Fellow

Rosa Hernández Sheets joined the Teaching Tolerance staff in August as Research Fellow. Sheets brings to the project a strong background in teaching, multicultural and bilingual education, curriculum development and writing.

Sheets earned a master's degree in Bilingual Education and a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Washington. Her teaching experience includes 16 years at all levels in rural, suburban and urban settings. In many instances, she developed and implemented programs for students traditionally labeled "at risk."

Sheets has published several articles on multicultural education and has presented papers at

education conferences across the U.S. She values her studies with Dr. James Banks and Dr. Geneva Gay, noted multicultural educators at the University of Washington, site of the 1997 Teaching Tolerance Institute.

Sheets stated, "The classroom environment must affirm and nurture students' ethnic identity, address issues of racism and discrimination, and ultimately inspire social action. Teaching Tolerance is enabling teachers to do these things."

Former research fellow Ting-Yi Oei has returned to his teaching position at South Lakes High School in Reston, Va. Research associate Gabrielle Lyon has returned to Chicago's South Side to continue her work in educational research and outreach.



Rosa Hernández Sheets

Center Assists in Discrimination Suit

MOBILE, Ala. — With the Law Center's assistance, Mobile, Ala., attorney Henry Brewster secured a \$400,000 judgment against the owners of a bar in rural Alabama for refusing to serve an interracial couple.

In July, Brewster brought the lawsuit against Milford and Angelia Smith, owners of Tiny's Lounge and Package Store in Summerdale, Ala. The case was settled after the Smiths admitted they had refused to serve Joseph and Debra Mickles because Joseph is black.

"There is no way that a small firm like ours could have brought this discrimination lawsuit without the support of the SPLC," said Brewster, a partner in the law firm Stein and Brewster. "A civil rights case like this is important but can be expensive to bring. Many times, the persons who are excluding black patrons from their establishment feel they have to do so in order to keep their white customers. My goal is to convince business owners like the Smiths that it doesn't pay to discriminate," Brewster said.

Center Legal Director Richard Cohen said the Law Center is assisting Brewster with two other discrimination lawsuits.

Blacks Not Allowed

According to the Mickles' complaint, the couple went to Tiny's Lounge in January to meet friends. Mrs. Mickles, who is white, said Smith told her, "This is a private club. I have a right to refuse service to anyone, and he's not coming in here," referring to her husband, Joseph. When one of their white friends protested,

Smith stated that if he didn't like it he could "get out of here, too."

The complaint describes other incidents in which blacks were refused service at Tiny's in recent years. On one occasion, three women who went to the bar for drinks after work were turned away because one of them was black. On another occasion, a black man was denied entry when he went to the bar to find his Hispanic brother-in-law, who was already inside. In a third incident, a white woman who had patronized Tiny's occasionally was not allowed to enter the bar with her black companion.

Discrimination Prohibited

In addition to the monetary settlement, the owners of Tiny's Lounge agreed to open the bar to all customers without regard to race or color and to discourage racist activity in the bar, according to documents filed in U.S. District Court in Mobile.

The owners must also obtain signed statements from all employees and persons renting the facility stating they will not discriminate in any manner on account of race or color. Notices must be posted in the bar and advertisements placed in local publications stating that Tiny's is open to all members of the public on an equal basis. The notices must include the telephone number of the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Attorney in Mobile so that patrons can report any future incidents of discrimination.

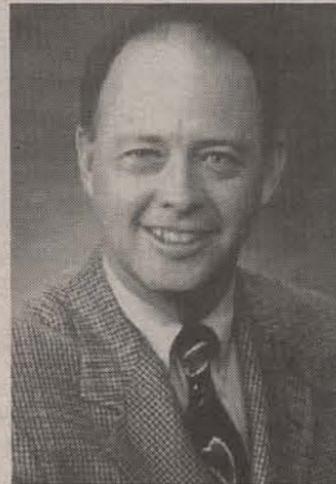
The consent decree was approved by U.S. District Judge Alex Howard in early August.

McElroy New SPLC Board Member

James McElroy, a California attorney who has been associated with the Center since 1989, has been named a member of the Center's Board of Directors. He replaces Jack Watson, who served on the Board since May 1992.

McElroy was a volunteer member of the SPLC legal team that successfully sued White Aryan Resistance leader Tom Metzger for encouraging Skinheads to murder an Ethiopian student in Portland, Ore., in 1988. In 1990, a jury ordered Metzger, his son John, the WAR organization and two of the Skinhead followers to pay \$12.5 million to the family of Mulugeta Seraw.

"Jim provided invaluable assistance in the Metzger trial," said Center President Joe Levin. "He has been the point man in California, responsible for seeing that proceeds from Metzger's hate business are collected and turned over to the family." In 1994, McElroy



James McElroy

received the Civil Rights Achievement Award from the Anti-Defamation League for his work on the Metzger case.

In January 1995, McElroy traveled to Ethiopia to visit Seraw's family and make financial arrangements for the education of Seraw's son, Henok. Since that time, Henok has moved to the United States where he is continuing his schooling.

"It is an honor to be asked to serve on the SPLC's Board of Directors," commented McElroy. "I have great respect for the work done by the Center, and I'm thrilled to be able to take a more active role in its efforts."

McElroy earned his law degree at the University of San Diego in 1977 and has been in

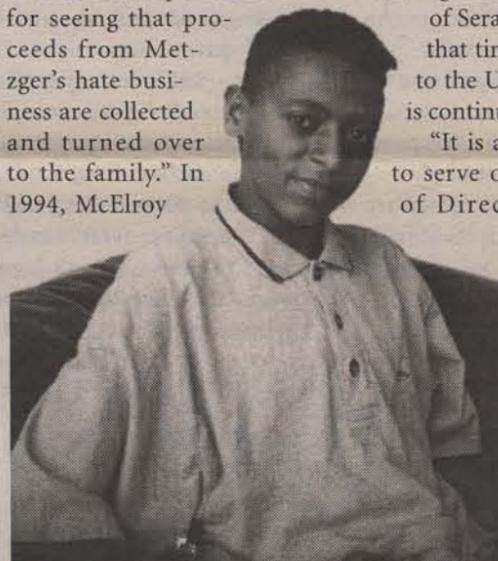
private practice in California since that time. Much of his work focuses on human rights and hate crimes, and he authored "Collecting Judgments for Hate Crimes Victims," which appeared in the *Civil Rights Acts Manual for Attorneys*, published by the State of California.

McElroy serves on the California Hate Crimes Commission and is the recipient of the Margaret Sanger Award for his pro bono work on behalf of Planned Parenthood.

Jack Watson, a trial lawyer and partner with the Atlanta-based firm of Long, Aldridge & Norman, became managing partner of the firm's Washington, D.C., office in 1994. Watson said he had enjoyed his service on the Board and regretted having to resign.

"My tenure on the Center's Board has been extraordinarily interesting and fulfilling. I sincerely regret that my work and travel schedule, now out of both Washington and Atlanta, simply does not permit me to devote as much time to the Center's activities as I have in the past. I shall continue to support the work of the Center in every way I can."

Center Co-founder Morris Dees expressed gratitude for Watson's service to the Center. "We will sorely miss Jack's thoughtful analysis of Center issues. Despite his departure from the Board, we look forward to Jack's continuing good counsel as a friend and supporter."



Henok Seraw visited the Center in May. His father was murdered by Skinheads in Portland, Ore., in 1988.

Legal Interns Help Prepare Civil Cases

Two talented law students interned in the Law Center's Legal Department this summer.

Donna Klett, a native of Stow, Ohio, is a third-year student at New York University School of Law. She is a staff editor for the school's *Environmental Law Journal* and a mentor for elementary school children.

During her internship with the Center, the Phi Beta Kappa honor student assisted attorneys with a death penalty appeal, a prisoners' rights class action suit, and civil litigation against members of a South Carolina Klan group arrested for burning a black church.

"I am happy that I have had an opportunity to work on a variety of interesting cases, ranging from consumer protec-

tion law to habeas work for a death row inmate," Klett said. "I was especially excited to work on the case that pushed the State of Alabama to end the use of chain gangs."

Prior to working at the Center, Klett had interned with the Cook County Public Defender's Office in Chicago and researched health care concerns of female prisoners for the New York Coalition for Women Prisoners. Klett, who holds a B.A. in philosophy from the University of Chicago, will participate in NYU's Criminal Defense Clinic this fall.

The Center's other legal intern was **Barbara Saavedra**. Born and raised in Albuquerque, N.M., Saavedra graduated with honors from the University of

Washington in 1991. She holds a B.A. in cultural anthropology and has studied Mexican political history at the Universidad de Guadalajara in Mexico.

As a third-year law student at Stanford Law School, Saavedra is a Public Service Fellow and co-founder of Law Students Supporting Justice for Immigrants. She has engaged in advocacy, education and outreach activities with various community and immigrants' rights groups.

"I wanted to work at the Center because it combines important legal work with public education," Saavedra said. "I find the Center's work compelling because it makes a vital contribution to fighting

racism and intolerance at a national level."

During her internship, Saavedra researched constitutional issues relating to Alabama's use of chain gangs, discriminatory policies that violate freedom of speech protections,

and "English Only" policies that adversely affect non-English-speaking residents of various states.



Barbara Saavedra (l) and Donna Klett

"Wrap Up" Year-End Gifts to Center

Supporters can be proud of what they have helped the Center accomplish in 1996. A few highlights are:

- Production of the Teaching Tolerance "One World" poster series, another innovative educational tool designed to illustrate themes of peace, justice and tolerance to students nationwide. With supporters' help, the poster set will be distributed free to more than 50,000 educators this fall.

- Winning a major legal victory against the notorious racist and *The Turner Diaries* author William Pierce. A jury found that Pierce participated in a fraudulent conveyance to keep the mother of a slain Gulf War veteran from collecting the assets due her. A previous SPLC suit won a settlement against the racist Church of the Creator for the killing of the black sailor by one of its "reverends."

- National recognition of the Center's Militia Task Force, a division of Klanwatch. The Task Force provides law enforcement agencies with up-to-date information on the growing Patriot/militia movement, including the dangerous secret militia cells.
- Installation of a sophisticated security program to protect the Center and its staff from those determined to undermine the Center's progress.

In the 25 years since its founding, the Center has won precedent-setting legal victories; rebuilt its burned head-

quarters; bankrupted the country's largest Klan organization; worked with law enforcement agencies to monitor hate groups; and touched the hearts of millions of students with messages of tolerance. Each accomplishment is made possible through the moral and financial commitment of the Center's supporters.

As year's end approaches, supporters can help ensure the Center reaches its immediate and future goals.

Gift Ideas for Supporters

Careful financial planning offers supporters unique ways to fulfill charitable goals. Along with providing crucial support for the Center's work, contributions made to the SPLC 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 celebrate a special occasion, or in memory of someone who has died.

Cash contributions are the most convenient type of gift. Deductions for this type of donation can be used to offset up to 50 percent of a supporter's adjusted gross income.

Increasing in popularity are non-cash gifts, such as stocks, bonds and mutual funds. Deductions for these contributions may be used by supporters to offset up to 30 percent of their adjusted gross income,

while also benefiting the Center's programs.

Giving Appreciated Stock

Record highs in the 1996 stock market mean that many donors are holding highly appreciated securities. Gifts of appreciated securities offer double tax savings while allowing supporters to renew their commitment to the Center's endeavors. In addition to realizing regular charitable deductions, supporters may avoid the capital gains taxes normally owed on assets that have increased in value.

For example, Ms. Young purchased 25 shares of XYZ stock in 1970 for \$375. Today, Ms. Young's stock is worth \$3,125. To fulfill her annual philanthropic goals and decrease her tax liability, Ms. Young decides to contribute the XYZ stock to the Center to help fund the Center's legal and tolerance education efforts.

Because Ms. Young makes an outright gift of stock, she avoids capital gains taxes of \$770 [(\$3,125 - \$375) x 28 percent capital gains tax rate], receives an income tax savings for the charitable deduction of \$1,125 (\$3,125 x 36 percent tax bracket) in 1996, and provides needed support for the Center's legal division. By using appreciated securities, Ms. Young saves 68 percent more after taxes than she would by selling the securi-

ties and giving the proceeds to the SPLC.

Income Gifts for Life

The Center's charitable gift annuity and pooled income fund programs are other excellent gift-giving vehicles. For supporters who wish to supplement their income or that of loved ones, life income gifts offer significant tax advantages. Besides cash gifts, securities can be used to fund income-in-return vehicles. This can be a welcome option for supporters holding low-yielding stocks or equity mutual funds.

Assume that Mr. Dalton wants to supplement his mother's monthly income and make a gift to the Center using his appreciated stock, which has increased \$8,000 since purchased.

After learning about the Center's special gift options, Mr. Dalton establishes a \$10,000 joint-life gift annuity for himself and his mother. With this gift, Mr. Dalton will receive lifetime annual payments of \$590, which can be used to provide for his mother. In addition, Mr. Dalton's stock, which yielded 2.5 percent in dividends, is now earning 5.9 percent, a 136 percent increase.

Through a gift annuity with the Center, Mr. Dalton also enjoys significant tax savings. He receives a \$4,422 charitable deduction this year. Plus, he

avoids \$990 in capital gains tax [(\$8,000 - \$4,462 reportable gain for the income he and his mother receive in return for the gift) x 28 percent capital gains tax]. And the capital gains tax Mr. Dalton owes is due in equal installments over 24 years.

If his mother predeceases him, Mr. Dalton may choose to relinquish his future annuity payments to the Center. This additional gift, made in memory of his mother, will express their mutual admiration of the Center's work for justice and tolerance. Mr. Dalton will also receive another charitable deduction for this outright gift to the Center.

The Center's Planned Giving staff is available to answer questions regarding any type of gift supporters may be considering. The Center offers free customized Benefits Summary illustrations for individuals interested in life income gifts. Requesting information does not obligate one to the Center.

Traditionally, year's end is a popular season for supporters to make contributions to strengthen the Center's work. Take advantage today of the numerous ways to celebrate special occasions, say "thank you" to family and friends, and enhance your commitment to the Southern Poverty Law Center's fight for justice and tolerance.

Donors Support Center in Creative Ways

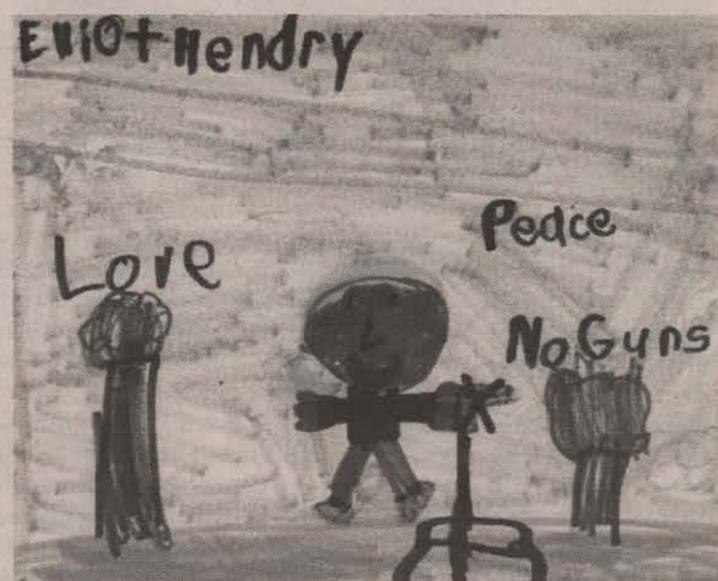
The hallmark of Center supporters is that they are caring individuals who not only believe in justice and tolerance but are willing to take a stand for those beliefs by supporting the Center's work. Most do this through personal gifts, but some donors have found innovative ways to advance the Center's efforts. The following are just a few examples.

- In an attempt to address prejudice and discrimination at her school in Massachusetts, 10th grader Sarah Melvoin organized a club, Human Relations Forum, where students could openly discuss racism and other types of intolerance. For her efforts, she was given a "You Can Make a Difference" Award by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The ADL stated, "Your influence has posi-

tively impacted a whole community in a lasting way." Melvoin chose to donate the money that accompanied the award to the Center to help promote racial harmony.

- Julie Zimmerman, president of Biddle Publishing Company in Maine, has twice donated to the Center the royalties from her book *Wishing on Daruma*. Written to promote world peace, the book describes Zimmerman's friendship with a Japanese pen pal that has continued for 38 years. The author also donated 100 copies of the book to the Teaching Tolerance project for distribution to local schools.

- In Santa Cruz, Calif., supporter Laurie Tanenbaum organized a Hanukkah concert and dance and donated the proceeds to the Center. The acoustic band Hoo-Tza-Tza and Friends performed Klezmer and Gypsy dance music, and many people learned some of the traditional Klezmer dances. Tanenbaum, the

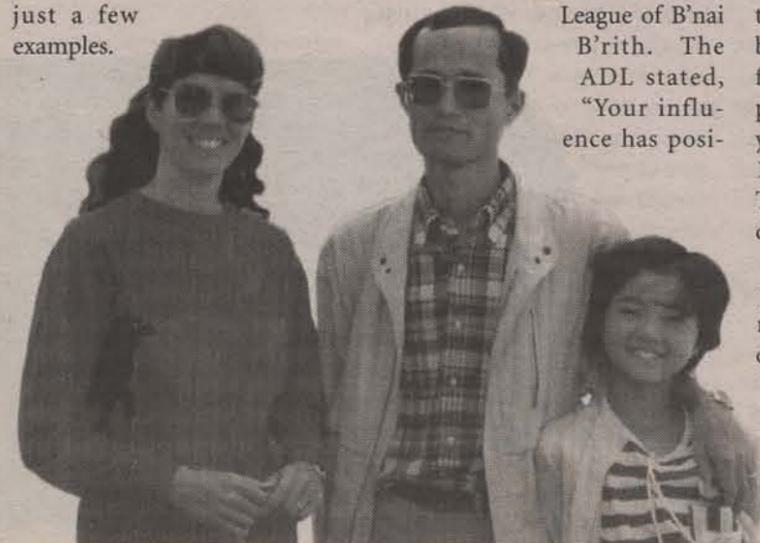


Missouri kindergarteners sent a gift and their visions of peace to the Center.

band's violinist, wrote, "From the performers, my parents [who helped work the event], and the many people who came — keep up the good work!"

- Samony Shoss, a teacher at a Jewish school in Missouri, sent a donation to the Center from her kindergarten students, along

with their "Visions of Peace," which they drew after hearing the poem "Let Peace Begin With Me." The gift came from the children's *Tzedakah* ("righteous giving") money, and it was made, as Ms. Shoss said, "to help you at the Center so more people can learn about Peace."



Julie Zimmerman (l) with her pen pal Kimiaki Tokumasu (c) and a friend

Memorial and Honorary Gifts Received by the Law Center since May 1996

In Memory Of

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|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Betty Sue Adams | Raymon E. Cox | Patricia C. Hart | Al Lewin | Leonard Ravven | Frank A. Smith |
| Harry J. Alderman | Elise Crane | Rosanne Hartwell | Helen Liebman | Rev. James Reeb | Mary Taft Smith |
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| Ruth Barbose | Catherine & Fredrick Dollinger | Sol Hoffman | Local 125th, Furriers Union, N.Y. | Lt. Col. Curtis Robinson | David Stiffelman |
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| Bertha Debra Bayla | David Fremont Dunson | Elna Howard | Lydia | Mr. & Mrs. Rosenfeld's 50th Wed- | Louis Squitieri |
| Charlotte Money Beatty | Samson R. Dutky | Betty S. Jillson | Rex McClung | ding Anniversary | Jane Tennesen |
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In Honor Of

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

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Baudouin New Klanwatch Publications Director

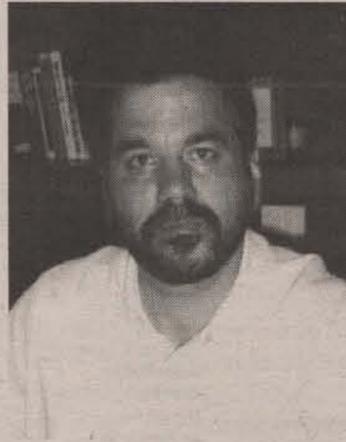
Richard Baudouin has been appointed Director of Publications and Information for the Center's Klanwatch project. Baudouin brings to the position more than 20 years' experience in journalism and public relations.

Prior to joining the Center in July, he was the Executive Editor of the Times Publishing Group of Lafayette, La. In that position, he oversaw editorial activities for a number of weekly and monthly publications in south Louisiana, including the *Times of Acadiana*.

The *Times* received national attention in 1994, when it donated the proceeds from an ad purchased by a Ku Klux Klan group to the Center's Klanwatch project and to the Lafayette chapter of the NAACP. That approach has been adopted by media organizations that do not want to benefit financially from hate groups but feel an obligation to let them express their opinions.

Baudouin also worked as a public relations and political

consultant in his native Louisiana. He is a graduate of Jesuit High School of New Orleans and Tulane University, where he received a bachelor's degree in English.



Richard Baudouin, Klanwatch Director of Publications and Information

In his new position, Baudouin will supervise production of all Klanwatch special publications, as well as the quarterly *Klanwatch Intelligence*

Report, which is sent to more than 6,000 law enforcement agencies nationwide. He will also coordinate media relations for Klanwatch.

"I have long admired the accomplishments of the SPLC and its Klanwatch project. I'm pleased that I will be able to participate in this important work," he said.

Michelle Bramblett, Klanwatch's former department secretary, was promoted to the position of Research Analyst for the Militia Task Force. In her new capacity, Bramblett will conduct in-depth reviews of publications, documents and law enforcement reports detailing the activities of America's paramilitary groups. The information will be added to the Task Force database to be shared with law enforcement agencies.

Bramblett joined the Mail Operations Department at the Center in 1992 and transferred to Klanwatch in March 1993.

CENTER VISITORS



Longtime donor Selma Rubin of California hosted a visit to the Center by Wilda Spalding of World Wins Corporation and Delores Gray of the Festival of Freedom, an interfaith gathering. Pictured are: (seated) Spalding and Gabrielle Lyon, former Teaching Tolerance Research Associate; (standing, l to r) Lisa Pickett, Donor Relations Coordinator; Gray and Rubin.

Partners for the Future

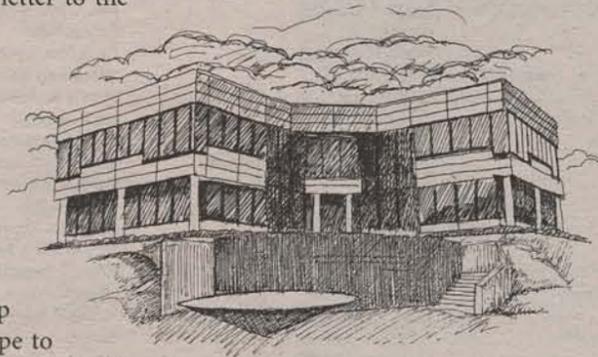
A Way to Help More Than You Thought You Could

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 own 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 decided to establish a permanent endowment large enough to sustain the Center's operations for many years to come.

The Center's goal for the Endowment is \$100 million, two-thirds of which has been attained. With your help through Partners for the Future, we hope to reach our goal in the next decade. Approximately 10 percent of Center support is applied annually to the endowment. 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 enroll me as a Partner for the Future.

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Please send me personalized, confidential calculations on the life income option(s) selected using the following birthdate(s) and theoretical gift:

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

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

IN MEMORIAM

Lorene Putsch (1911-1996)

Lorene Putsch, a charter member of the National Association for Social Workers and a Center supporter for more than a decade, died March 23 at the age of 84.



Born in Albuquerque, N.M., Putsch developed

a deep respect for wildlife and the environment during her adolescent years, when she lived on ranger stations in the Southwest with her mother and father, a forest ranger. After earning a Master of Arts in Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania, Putsch moved to the South, working in Louisiana and Georgia before settling in Birmingham, Ala., in 1969.

For the next eight years, Putsch worked with Birmingham's Family Counseling Association (which later became Child and Family Services), where she served as executive director. Under her guidance, the organization won several national awards for advocacy in family counseling.

After retiring in 1977, Putsch returned to counseling two years later and became co-director of the Family Violence Project in Birmingham.

At the age of 71, she was held hostage at knifepoint for over three hours by a battered wife's angry husband. Still, Putsch's commitment to her work did not waver.

Putsch's devotion to peace and the environment never ended. She served as treasurer of the Birmingham Committee for Peace and Justice in Central America and, in 1984, participated in The Ribbon, a project which surrounded the Pentagon with a peace banner. In retirement, she volunteered with the Wildlife Rescue Service at Oak Mountain State Park near Birmingham. Putsch had asked that memorial gifts be made to the SPLC and the Wildlife Rescue Service.

The Southern Poverty Law Center pays tribute to the memory of Lorene Putsch, humanitarian, peace advocate and environmentalist.