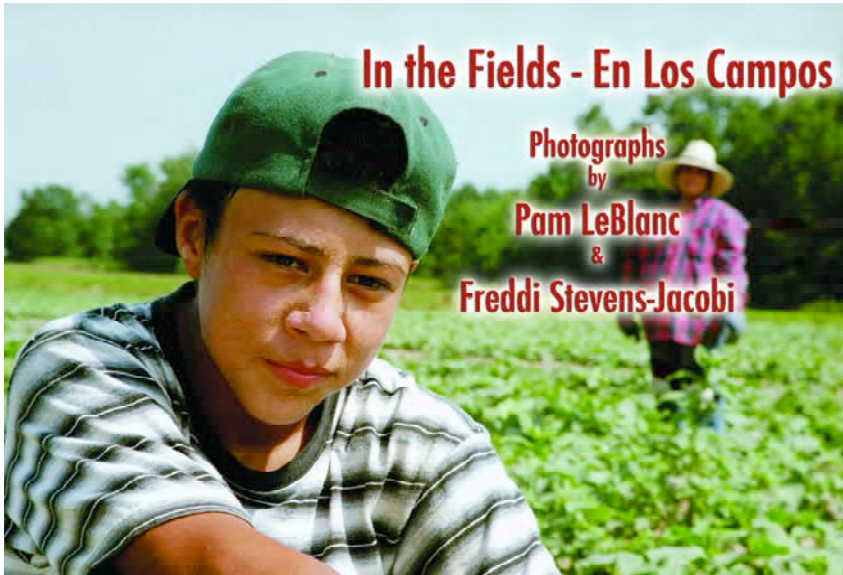




Volume 10

WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY

Fall 2006



Joel and his Mom. Photo by Freddi Stevens-Jacobi.

In this age of agribusiness and the many advances in food yields, the bounty of fruits and vegetables are still gathered – almost without exception – by hand. Migrant laborers are the nearly invisible mechanism that gathers in the harvest. Campesinos live in an insular world and outsiders looking into this social fabric are rare. That is why the Walter P. Reuther Library is pleased to present the upcoming photographic exhibit, “In the Fields” (En los Campos).

Documentary artists, Pam LeBlanc and Freddi Stevens-Jacobi, bring their photographic and oral history project to the Reuther’s main gallery beginning September 15th and closing May of 2007. With the able assistance of Stevens-Jacobi’s daughter, Emily, who works with the youth news organization, Y-Press, LeBlanc & Stevens-Jacobi conducted the interviews while visiting migrant camps in Indiana and Michigan. The documentary team presents a chronicle of everyday life as experienced by migrant teenagers themselves.

The show features 30 large-format color images and the

accompanying oral reflections of teenagers who have already spent much of their lives in the fields with their families and must now consider continuing this lifestyle through adulthood. It is estimated that out of the 1 million migrant workers who traverse the country, over 400,000 of them are children. And two-thirds of adolescent farm workers travel without the guardianship of parents.

LeBlanc and Stevens-Jacobi have made other sojourns into revealing aspects of our society that many of us have not had to look at. Their Academy Award nominated film, “See What I Say,” dealt with the revelations of a number of women who were hearing-impaired. And their film, “Waiting Tables,” focused on the lives of women who were waitresses or members of

the “pink collar” work force.

“In the Fields” is not a judgmental project. The images and oral histories are meant only to enlighten us as to a way of life. However, one should come away with an overarching feeling of the strong sense of family ties within these Latino laborers.

Since 1967 the Walter P. Reuther Library has been the official repository of the United Farm Workers Union (UFW) which was formed by a former migrant worker, Cesar Chavez. The UFW collection consists of photographs, documents, and memorabilia chronicling the successes and

continued on page 4



Ana. Photo by Pam LeBlanc.

Collections Open for Research

Irving Bluestone: UAW New Directions Movement and Victor Reuther: UAW New Directions Movement

Irving Bluestone: 1984-1992 [1 l.f.]

Victor Reuther: 1986-1991 [.75 l.f.]

The New Directions Movement emerged in 1986 as a dissident caucus of UAW local union leaders within St. Louis-based



Irving Bluestone.

Region 5 opposed to the joint labor-management programs favored by the union's leadership. Retired UAW vice president Irving Bluestone, an early proponent of joint programs, and retired UAW International Affairs



Victor Reuther.

Department director Victor Reuther, a supporter of NDM goals and its spokesman, Region 5 assistant director Jerry Tucker, collected correspondence, meeting minutes and notes, financial records, ephemera, speeches, legal briefs and publicity documenting the group's rise within the UAW. ■

Ann Francis

1970-2003 [1 l.f.]

The collection consists primarily of publications related to women in the skilled trades collected by Francis, a journeyman pipefitter and technical instructor in the UAW-GM apprentice program responsible for developing programs to recruit and train women and minorities for the skilled trades at the Lansing, Michigan Oldsmobile plant in the 1980s and 1990s. ■

Wayne State University Office of the President: William Rea Keast

1965-1971 [58 l.f.]

Keast's presidency spanned a period of tremendous ferment in Detroit and at Wayne State that witnessed the 1967 riot and the rise of both the anti-Vietnam War and black power movements. Described as student-oriented and accessible, he managed to keep the campus relatively quiet while working to raise the University's profile among urban universities, expanding the medical and other professional schools as well as its graduate and research programs. The collection contains a broad range of materials documenting campus growth, student unrest and the University's evolving urban mission. ■

Philip H. Van Gelder

1920s-1990s [7 l.f.]

The collection consists of correspondence, reports, newspaper clippings, publications, ephemera and other material related

to Van Gelder's career as an organizer for the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, the United Electrical Workers and the International Association of Machinists as well as his work with human rights, health care and unemployment insurance advocacy groups in his home state of Maryland. ■

American Association of University Professors Wayne State University Chapter

1940-1973 [5 l.f.]

The WSU AAUP, organized in 1930, but resistant to the idea of unionization until the Michigan Legislature eliminated penalties for striking public employees in 1965, became the collective bargaining representative for faculty and professional staff in a closely contested election in 1972. The collection contains membership lists, applications and questionnaires, correspondence, flyers, meeting minutes, newsletters, newspaper clippings, committee reports, surveys, statistical data and President Arnold Pilling's notes of phone conversations and diary entries related to the chapter's activities during its formative years, the 1972 election campaign and the first contract negotiations. ■

Tracy W. McGregor

1846-1970 [11.5 l.f.]

McGregor and his heiress wife, Katherine Whitney, were among Detroit's leading philanthropists in the early twentieth century. The collection contains correspondence, reports, journals, meeting minutes, publications and other material documenting the history of the McGregor Institute for homeless men, founded by McGregor's father, his civic and philanthropic activities, especially with regard to the McGregor Fund, and his later life as a bibliophile. Included as well are contemporary documentation compiled from other sources by McGregor biographer, Philip P. Mason, and oral histories and other material collected for the Fund's McGregor biography project. ■

Marc Stepp

1940-2000 [2 l.f.]



Marc Stepp.

Stepp advanced through positions of leadership within the UAW from vice president of Local 490 at Chrysler's Highland Park, Michigan, plant to assistant director of Region 1B, culminating in his election to the International Executive Board in 1974, only the

second African American to hold that position. The collection consists primarily of his speeches as UAW International Vice President. ■

Union Minorities/Women Leadership Training Project

1976-1981 [2.5 l.f.]

The Union Minorities/Women Leadership Training Project, funded by state and federal grants, offered classes in communication skills, assertiveness training and leadership development to labor union members on college campuses and in union halls throughout Michigan, the only program of its kind in the country at the time. The collection consists of correspondence, program materials and progress reports, participant questionnaires, project publications and other items documenting the training of African Americans, Latinos and women for leadership positions within their unions and communities. ■

SEIU Historical Collection

1910-1996 [2.5 l.f.]

Now in its 85th year, the Service Employees International Union is one of the older unions still in existence. In its formative years it largely organized janitors and window washers. Later it would organize workers in a wide array of service industries, including health care workers, public employees, stadium workers and even security guards and clerical workers. The SEIU Historical Collection contains records documenting its long history, including correspondence, memos, clippings, meeting minutes, statistical reports, obituaries, speeches, press releases, banquet and souvenir programs, SEIU publications, and unpublished research papers about the union. The collection contains biographical files and related material of all SEIU presidents and of other important figures in SEIU history. ■

SEIU Local 79 Collection

1952-1992 [28 l.f.]

With a history spanning from 1937 to the present, Local 79 is the second oldest and longest-running SEIU local in Michigan. Although its membership is now limited to health-care employees, until recently it organized a range of building employees, stadium workers and others. Most of the local's records created before 1980 were destroyed in a fire. The local's prominence is evidenced by its size and the role it has played within SEIU and the labor movement more generally. The SEIU Local 79 Collection

includes files of Richard Cordtz, Paul Policicchio, staff, contract negotiations, employers, organizing drives, various Local 79 units, and other labor organizations. This collection has correspondences, staff activity reports, agreements, clippings, meeting agenda and minutes, bulletins, internal reports, wage classifications and scales, pleadings, NLRB material, clip-



pings, employee policy manuals, membership surveys, leaflets/flyers, newsletters, membership/seniority lists, meeting notes, local constitutions and by-laws, local union publications, financial statements, contract proposals, speeches, and meeting attendance lists. ■

George W. Crockett, Jr. Collection, Part II

1966-1978 [4.5 l.f.]

George W. Crockett, Jr. was one of Detroit's leading African American jurists. He took a serious interest in the administration of the Constitution and representation of his clients and constituents as a lawyer, judge and congressman even when his decisions were controversial.



George W. Crockett, Jr.

The papers that comprise this collection reflect as much. Part II of the George W. Crockett, Jr. Collection contains records of Crockett's activities as a Detroit Recorder's Court judge, including correspondence, memos, agenda, minutes, various administrative records, reports, clippings, proposals, pleadings, articles, legal opinions and memoranda, court reform proposals, surveys, organizational charts, court orders, and tributes/testimonials, amongst other records. Because Crockett was the presiding judge of the Detroit Recorder's Court in 1974, this collection provides a unique glimpse into the day-to-day activities of the Court during that important period in Detroit's history. ■

SEIU Research Department, Part II

1980-1986 [4 l.f.]

The reports comprising part II of the SEIU Research Department Collection broadly reflect many of the issues with which the union was concerned during the early to mid-1980s. The collection's importance is viewed in this context. The

Research Department was established in 1942 as the Research and Education Department. It was created mainly to help prepare SEIU negotiators at the bargaining table during World War II. Highlights of this collection include wage/salary surveys, critical analyses of the Reagan years and their economic

impact, health care evaluations, industry reports, summaries of various collective bargaining settlements and annual membership reports. Also available is a complete series of reports from the 1983 National School Employees Conference sponsored by SEIU. ■

In the Fields - En los Campos

continued from page 1

struggles of organizing farm workers during the past forty years. Pam LeBlanc and Freddi Stevens-Jacobi's photographic/oral history project complements the UFW collection and provides rare insight into the way of life of the teenage migrant farm worker. ■



Girls at Burma Farms Photo by Pam LeBlanc.



Laura and her dad. Photo by Pam LeBlanc.



Abraham with boxes. Photo by Freddi Stevens-Jacobi.



Eliud and his grandfather. Photo by Freddi Stevens-Jacobi.

Audiovisual Department

Documenting Heartbreak and Hope in New Orleans

The Audiovisual department is pleased to announce the acquisition of 480 digital images from the photographer Dale Rich.

Rich traveled to New Orleans on two separate occasions in April of 2006 to participate in support efforts and document the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and its impact on the community. His first venture was in joining the “Right to Return, Vote and Rebuild” rally and march sponsored by Reverend Jesse Jackson’s Rainbow/PUSH Coalition and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). His second trip documented the work of the “Freedom Caravan,” a voter’s rights initiative sponsored by the Historic Ebenezer Baptist Church of Atlanta. The Freedom Caravan provided transportation to evacuees, dispersed by the storms, back to New Orleans so that they could vote in the April elections. The newly donated photographs record both events Rich participated in, as well as his ventures into New Orleans’ beleaguered neighborhoods.

Dale Rich is a well-respected photographer who has worked with both the *Michigan Chronicle* and the *Detroit Free Press*. His collection is one of the Reuther Library’s premiere resources in contemporary urban issues. The new digital photographs promise to be an important addition to the Library’s collections. ■



The remnants of Hurricane Katrina as seen through Dale Rich’s camera in April, 2006.

University Archives

Fifty Years of Living at Wayne

Student housing has always been a difficult issue for Wayne State University (WSU). Many people who live in and around Detroit think of WSU as a “commuter school.” Indeed, most of the students commute to classes, often after working during the day. In addition to the local commuters, there are the many students from elsewhere in the state, the nation and the world. Like other urban universities throughout the country, student housing at WSU is and always has been a critical issue.

On May 7, 1953, the University’s newspaper, *The Detroit Collegian*, reported that student housing was seriously underutilized. Eighty-three percent of residence hall rooms were occupied while only sixty-six percent of total available housing in the Student Center had been rented. Individuals desiring to live in the Student Center had to meet priority requirements set by the University, as well as passing a health examination. First priority was given to contract nurses and other students attending Wayne University (WSU didn’t

become a state university until 1956) under special contract.

In 1959, the University housed less than two percent of the student body. By 1960-61 that number was reduced by half.

The decade of the 1960s presented new challenges. The Detroit Housing Authority withdrew housing for students and faculty at the Jeffries Project on West Canfield. These units were desperately needed for Detroit residents displaced by the 1967 riot. Housing possibilities were in short supply, and of poor quality. Moreover, area landlords discriminated against students.

In the 1970s, subsidies were offered to graduate students with a high level of academic ability. *The South End* reported the subsidy program was developed to dispel the notion that Wayne was “too expensive.” At a time when federal funding was low, this was a welcome offer. In 1979, there were approximately nine hundred seventy-five units available on campus. This accounted for less than three percent of the total student body.



Students barbeque in front of the Joy Dormitory, c. 1960s.

In 1990 it was determined that a minimum of 1,000 graduate and professional students were turned away yearly due to a lack of on-campus housing. Wayne State University President David Adamany developed a long-range plan to build residence halls. University Towers on Cass Avenue was opened in 1995 with a total of 300 units. Since 2002, construction of three additional residence halls has added room for more than 1500 students to live at Wayne State. The University currently houses more than 2,400 students.

In the years to come, the University will continue to evolve in directions that best serve the needs of education, drawing students from all over the world. Indeed, Wayne’s primary identity as a commuter school may become another interesting historic tidbit ■

Updates

The Labor Legacy Landmark

This summer marks the third anniversary of the dedication of “Transcending,” the Michigan Labor Legacy Landmark in downtown Detroit. Since August, 2003, the Landmark has become a popular attraction for visitors attracted by its soaring 63-foot-high stainless steel arcs and the 14 bronze reliefs that pay tribute to the city’s working men and women.

The Landmark, believed to be the largest work of public art honoring labor in the U.S., has been featured on Detroit public television’s *Art Beat* show and in other local and national media. In June, for the last two years, a total of one hundred educators from throughout the country toured the Landmark as part of a week-long course on labor and industrial history arranged by Henry Ford Community College.

The Michigan Labor History Society has produced a guide to the Landmark and other public art and historical sites connected to the labor movement. For a copy, please write to the MLHS c/o Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, 5401 Cass, Detroit MI 48202. It is also available at the MLHS website: www.LaborLegacyDetroit.org. Contributions to complete the project are welcome and can be sent to the same address. Donations are tax-deductible, and each donation of \$100 or more entitles the donor to have a name listed on the wall of honor at the site. ■

The Margery A. Long Scholarship for Archival Administration

The Walter P. Reuther Library is pleased to announce Jennifer Hassell as the first recipient of the Margery A. Long Scholarship for Archival Administration. The scholarship, a tribute to longtime Reuther audiovisual archivist, Margery Long, was established to recognize scholastic achievement by students pursuing an archival certificate and to encourage their continued progress in the field.



Margery A. Long Scholarship recipient, Jennifer Hassell.

Hassell is a student in the Masters of Library and Information Science program and is concurrently working towards a graduate certificate in Archival Administration.

Those interested in applying for next year’s award must submit an essay and a completed application to Kristen Chinery, Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, 5401 Cass Avenue, Detroit, MI 48202 or ac9538@wayne.edu. A more detailed description of the scholarship and the application are available on the Reuther’s website: www.reuther.wayne.edu. ■

Double Coverage: A History of the Detroit Lions through Photographs



Former Lion, Wally Triplett poses with the Lions Mascot, Roary. Photo by Rick Bielaczyc.



Roary strikes a pose next to the statue of Walter Reuther. Photo by Rick Bielaczyc.

The Walter P. Reuther Library celebrated Super Bowl XL at Ford Field in Detroit, with the opening of its exhibit, *Double Coverage: An Exhibit of Detroit Lions History through Photographs*. Lions mascot Roary and former Lions running back and return specialist, Wally Triplett, attended the opening reception that was held on January 26, 2006. The exhibit chronicled the Detroit Lions history, from their first year in the Motor City in 1934 to the present. ■



Guests enjoy the panels chronicling Lions championship years and the history of the Thanksgiving Day game. Photo by Rick Bielaczyc.

New Acquisitions

The Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees/International Brotherhood of Teamsters

The Reuther Library is pleased to announce that it is now the official archive for the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees (BMWE), which recently merged with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. The national headquarters for the BMWE is in Southfield, Michigan, just north of Detroit.

The men and women of the BMWE are the workers who build, repair and maintain the nation's railroad track system. This collection contains 300 linear feet of records dating to the founding of the BMWE's predecessor, the Order of Railway Trackmen, in 1887. Also included are a number of graphics, journals and other non-manuscript items. We hope to have the collection open for researchers in the near future. ■



Graphic Communications Conference/International Brotherhood of Teamsters

The Reuther Library is pleased to be the home for over 750 journals, convention proceedings, meeting minutes and books from the Graphic Communications Council (GCC), which is a result of a merger between the Graphic Communications



International Union (GCIU) and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters in 2005. The GCIU was the product of a series of unifications between five predecessor craft unions: the Amalgamated Lithographers of America (ALA); the International Photo Engravers Union (IPEU); the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders (IBB); the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union (IPPAU); and the International Stereotypers and Electrotypers Union (ISEU).

The materials date from 1895 and are beautiful examples of the work of GCC members and their predecessors. The collection is open for research. Contact archivist Kristen Chinery for a complete list. ■

Reuther Library Endowment

The Reuther Library has established a permanent endowment to provide operating support for the future. In the new digital age, the Reuther will strive to continually collect and preserve the historical records of the American Labor movement, modern urban affairs in metropolitan Detroit, and the history of Wayne State University. The endowment will assure that the Reuther is able to provide enhanced digital access to its collections, develop online and traveling exhibits and create other educational materials for students, the public, union members, as well as our patrons and researchers from around the world. Support is essential to maintaining the Reuther's reputation as a first-rate research institution and the pre-eminent labor archive in North America. Your gift is an investment in its future. ■

For more information, please contact:

*Mike Smith, Director
Walter P. Reuther Library
Wayne State University
Detroit, Michigan 48202
313-577-0415
m.o.smith@wayne.edu*

Or, visit our website at:

www.reuther.wayne.edu



Brown University Associate Professor of American Civilization, Matthew Garcia, brought a group of Brown undergraduate students to the Reuther Library for three weeks in June 2006 as part of a project to explore the lives of Mexican people through primary source research in archives. Pictured above, left to right: Professor Garcia, Jaclyn Martinez, Rochelle Garza, Grisel Murillo, Veronica Cortez, and Annette Shreibati. Not pictured, Adriana Sandoval. ■

**Walter P. Reuther Library
ADVISORY BOARD**

Donald Boggs

Metro Detroit AFL-CIO

David Bonior

Professor, Wayne State University

Kevin Boyle

Professor, Ohio State University

Patricia Ford

Washington D.C. Labor Council

Doug Fraser

Professor, Wayne State University

Ron Gettelfinger

President, United Automobile Workers

Jewell Gould

*Director Research & Information
American Federation of Teachers*

Charles Hyde

Professor, Wayne State University

Larry Lipton

*Vice-President Investments,
Smith Barney Citigroup*

Lou Salvatore

*Senior V.P., President of Global Asian
Customer Group, Lear Corporation*

Mike Smith

Director, Walter P. Reuther Library

Cassandra Ulbrich

Wayne State University

William Young

*President, National Association
of Letter Carriers*

Walter P. Reuther Library

Upcoming Events

2006

OCTOBER 19-21

**North American Labor
History Conference**

McGregor Memorial
Conference Center, WSU

2007

APRIL 20-21

**49th Annual "Michigan in
Perspective" Local History
Conference**

McGregor Memorial
Conference Center, WSU

*For an up-to-date listing of Reuther Library events, log on to our
Website at www.reuther.wayne.edu*

**WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Walter P. Reuther Library
5401 Cass Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Detroit, Mich.
Permit No. 3844

GENERAL INFORMATION

Reading Room hours:

**Monday-Tuesday - 11a.m.-6:45 p.m.
Wednesday-Friday - 9 a.m.-4:45 p.m.**

Business hours:

Monday-Friday - 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Phone: 313-577-4024

Fax: 313-577-4300

www.reuther.wayne.edu