The records of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee (UFWOC), Arizona State Office, were placed in the Archives of Labor History and Urban Affairs in February, 1970. Additional records were received in July 1983 and opened for research in April of 1990.

The United Farm Workers movement began in 1962 with the organization of farm laborers in Delano, California by Cesar Chavez. In 1965, the Filipino local of the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, headed by Larry Itliong struck the Delano grape growers over wage disputes. Chavez joined his National Farm Workers Association (NFWA) to their strike effort, and the two organizations merged in August 1966 to form the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO. During 1968 to 1970 the UFWOC conducted strikes against Arizona grape growers in every major city of the United States. When the boycott came to an end in July 1970, the Farm Workers sought Union recognition from the lettuce growers. On August 24, 1970 a massive labor strike began in Salinas and Santa Maria. The lettuce, table grape and Gallo Wine boycotts continued through 1973.

The struggle over H.B. 2134 in the State Legislature of 1972 marked the turning point in minority political representation of Arizona. A recall campaign against Governor Jack Williams was waged and lost, but the victory came in the number of Indians and Spanish-speaking minorities registered to vote as a result of the UFWOC action, and the future election of minority politicians to State Office.

The UFWOC records reflect the daily operations of the Tolleson, Arizona office. The beginnings of the National Farm Workers Service Center and the functions of the Robert F. Kennedy Medical Plan for migrant workers are revealed through personal legal cases, medical claims, immigration assistance and other personal service needs to Members. Hiring Hall records, Ranch Commission correspondence, and bargaining agreements illustrate the day to day operations of the Union. Negotiations with growers and legislative battles were major daily issues, besides the boycotts.
Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Arizona Grape Strike, 1968-70 Illegal I.N.S. Activity
California Prop. 22, 1972 Talisman Sugar Strike, 1972
Delano Grape Strike/Boycott, 1965-73 White River Farms Strike, 1972

Common abbreviations used are:

Community Action Program (CAP)
Maricopa County Organizing Project (M-COP)
Migrant Opportunity Program (MOP)
Robert F. Kennedy Medical Plan (RFK)
United Farm Workers Organizing Committee (UFWOC)

Among the important correspondents are:

UFWOC- Rudy Ahumada-Organizer
Leroy Chatfield-Treasurer, RFK Medical Plan
Cesar Chavez-Director
Avelina Vasquez Coriell
Joyce Fettner-Arizona Boycott Coordinator
Gustavo Gutierrez-Director of Arizona Office
Dolores Huerta-Secretary, UFWOC
Mel Huey-Organizer
Jack Levine-Attorney, Maricopa County Legal Aid Society
Vicente Mier-Hiring Hall

President Jimmy Carter
Etta Mae Hutcheson (Arizona House of Reps)
Renz D. Jennings (Arizona House of Reps)
Peter Nash (Chief Council for National Labor Relations Board)

An index to subjects and correspondents will be found on p. 13.

Contents

12 manuscript boxes
1 storage box
1 box (index cards)

Series I, Arizona State Bar Exam, 1976-77, Box 1:
Handwritten notes, class handouts on various law topics.

Bargaining agreements, in English and Spanish, for various growers.
Some drafts and related correspondence. Grievances, injunctions, civil complaints and suits.
Series III, Legislation, State 1971-72, Box 3:
Legislation, correspondence, fliers. Also prison depositions on treatment of Mexican inmates.

Series IV, Boycotts, 1968-1973, Box 4:
Song sheets, leaflets, pamphlets, newsletters, fliers, newspaper articles, newspapers, strike expense records.

Series V, Grape strike/boycott 1965-73, Box 4:
Dissertation, fliers, expense records.


Series VII, Hiring Hall Records, 1970-1973 (various bulk dates) Boxes 5-9, 13:
Lay-off lists, seniority lists, dispatch lists, hours worked for dues and medical plan deductions, leaves of absence requests.

Series VIII, Administration, 1969-1973 (bulk 1971-72), Boxes 9-11:
Correspondence, budgets, expenses, donation records, forms, information on topics such as immigration, Mexican history.

Series IX, Ranch Commission 1970-73, 1976, Box 11:
Correspondence on two growers, Centennial Farms and El Dorado.

Series X, National Farm Workers Service Center, 1970-72, Box 12:
Correspondence, reports and individual case files.

Note: 1 storage box of 3 x 5 cards containing quotes from Arizona newspapers and magazines from 1920-1940 is in the vault of the Archives.

Series I
Arizona State Bar Exam, 1976-1977
Box 1


Box 1

2. Community Property, 1977
3. Conflicts, 1977
4. Constitutional Law, 1977
5. Contracts, 1977
6. Corporations, 1976
Collective bargaining agreements are filed alphabetically by grower and chronologically in file. The Schenley Industries agreement of 1968 is one of the Union's earliest agreements. Grievances, injunctions, and other legal actions are filed alphabetically under the type of action-Company name. Note the Bud Antle suit and the injunction against Goldmar, 1973.

Box 2

1. Camelback Vineyards, 1970
2. Centennial Farms, 1970
3. D'Arrigo Brothers, 1970-71
4. El Dorado, 1970
5. Mel Finerman, 1971
6. David Freedman, 1970
7. Freshpict Foods, Inc. 1970
8. Freshpict Foods, Inc. 1971
9. Grape Contracts, 1970
10. Inter Harvest, Inc. 1970-71
11. Inter Harvest, Inc. 1972
12. Mont La Salle Vineyards, Mar 1971
13. Schenley Industries, Inc. 1968

Box 3

1. Civil Complaint-Tolleson
   Alex Auto Body & Paint Shop, 1970
2. Grievance
   Centennial Valley Farms, 1971-72
3. Grievance
   James Macchiaroli Fruit Co.
4. Injunctions
   Bodine, Goldmar, Tenneco, 1973
5. Suit
   Bud Antle, n.d.
6. Suit
   Hueblein, Inc. 1971
Legislation and related correspondence, fliers regarding bills in California and Arizona in 1971-72 pertaining to boycotts, right to strike, and worker representation. See Arizona H.B. 2134 which set off a recall campaign against Arizona Governor Jack Williams. Fliers and Correspondence against Republican Party over above legislative issues on national scale. Filed alphabetically by State and legislative initials/number. Republican party campaign is filed at end of legislation.

Box 3

7. Arizona
   Governor's Advisory Committee on Farm Labor
8. Arizona
   House Bill 207, 1971
9. Arizona
   House Bill 2134, 1972
10. Arizona
    House Bill 2134-Campaign Against
11. Arizona
    Prison Depositions, 1971
12. California
    Senate Bill 40, 1971
13. Campaign Against the Republican Party, 1970-73
14. Campaign Against the Republican Party-Legislation
15. Campaign Against the Republican Party
    Safeway Boycott, 1972-73

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Boycotts, 1968-1973
Box 4

Correspondence, newspaper articles, leaflets relating to boycott activities against lettuce, pesticides. Filed by subject alphabetically. Newspaper items filed in chronological order behind subjects.

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1. Films and Slides
2. Pesticide Information
3. Press Releases
4. Songs and Leaflets
6. Newsletters and Fliers, 1972
7. Newsletters and Fliers, 1973-74
10. Strike Expenses ($1,500) 1971
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   Delano Defense Fund, 1970
12. Grape Strike/Boycott
   Dissertation-R. Fineburg, 1968
13. Grape Strike/Boycott
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U.S. Dept. of Labor, 1965-1977
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15. U.S. Dept. of Labor
    INS Activity, 1977
16. U.S. Dept. of Labor
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17. U.S. Dept. of Labor
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18. U.S. Dept. of Labor
    Statement-C. Chavez, 1969

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Hiring Hall Records 1970-1973
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Employee lists for various purposes such as seniority, lay-off, dispatch, dues, medical plan deductions. Filed alphabetically by grower, and then by title of lists. Bulk of records for Inter Harvest, Inc.

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1. Centennial Farms
   Grievance Reports, 1971
2. Centennial Farms
   Seniority, 1971
Box 5 (continued)

3. Centennial Farms
   Work Orders, 1971
   Lay-Offs, 1971-72
5. D'Arrigo Bros. Co. Work
   Orders, 1971-72
6. El Dorado
   "Deduct $1.00", Apr 1973
7. El Dorado Dispatch
   List, 1971
8. El Dorado
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9. El Dorado
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10. El Dorado
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11. El Dorado Lay-
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4. Freshpict Foods, Inc.
   Seniority List, 1958-71
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9. Inter Harvest, Inc.
   Dispatch List, 1970-72
10. Inter Harvest, Inc.
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11. Inter Harvest, Inc.
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12. Inter Harvest, Inc.
    Dues, Jan-Mar 1971
13. Inter Harvest, Inc.
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1. Inter Harvest, Inc.
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2. Inter Harvest, Inc.
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3. Inter Harvest, Inc. Dues
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   Grievance, Nov 1974
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7. Inter Harvest, Inc.
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17. Correspondence, 1971
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19. Donations (to Delano) 1969-70
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23. Donations (and such) 1971, 1973
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1. Farm Workers Death Benefit Fund
2. Farm Workers Health Clini
3. Food Assistance to UFWOC Staff
4. Food Stamps Information, 1971
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6. Forms-Legal
7. Friends of the Farm Workers
9. Guadalupe Organization, Inc.
10. Gutierrez, Gustavo Accident Report
11. Hiring Hall, 1971
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13. Immigration-Forms
15. Labor Dept.
   Child Labor/Fair Labor
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23. Mexican History
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25. Migrant Opportunity Program (MOP)
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7. Seniority Reports, 1972
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10. Strike File, 1968-70
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12. Strong, Robert (Prof.)
13. Suspension, 1972
14. Talisman Sugar Strike (Fla.)
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15. UFWOC
16. Wage Deduction Authorization
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5. Chapparo, Maria
6. Chavez, Santiago
7. Flores, Antonio/Bertha
8. Flores, Benino
9. Flores, Rosa
10. Garza, Ramiro
11. Guebara, Jose
12. Guerrero, Ramon
13. Holguin, Francisco
14. Izaguirre, Guadalupe
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17. Medrano, Antonia
18. Ortiz, Josefa
19. Ramirez, Tony y Cazares, Rafael
20. Ricardes, Donaciana
21. Robles, Efraim
22. Sandoval, Benito
23. Silva, Trinidad
24. Simpson, Isabel
25. Soto, Manuel
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28. Zamorano, Felix
29. Nat. Farm Workers Service Center Corresp., 1970-71
30. Nat. Farm Workers Service Center Corresp., Jan-June 1971
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