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At SPOHP, we believe that one of the best investments we can make in our future is an intensive study of our past. We strive to make oral histories of individuals from all walks of life accessible to as wide an audience as possible. SPOHP needs your help in order to sustain and build upon our research, teaching, and service missions. If you like what you see in this newsletter please consider making a tax-deductible contribution. Thank you for your support!

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Samuel Proctor Oral History Program
241 Pugh Hall
PO Box 115215
Gainesville, FL 32611

IN MEMORIAM: DR. ROBERT ZIEGER

Dr. Robert Zieger, Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus at the University of Florida and one of the preeminent labor historians of the United States, passed away on March 6, 2013. He was a two-time recipient of the Philip Taft Labor History Book Award for the best book in labor history. Dr. Zieger also served on the SPOHP Program Advisory Board, and chaired the awards committee for the Julian Pleasants Visiting Scholar Award.

Dr. Zieger moved to the University of Florida in 1986, and in 1998 he received the appointment of Distinguished Professor of History. Bob was a beloved teacher at UF and his favorite courses were the History of American Labor and The United States, 1914-1945. Scores of Bob's students went on to become union organizers and leaders in the labor movement.

Bob's encouragement of our students was deeply humbling. Even though he was busy reviewing manuscripts, attending

Labor Council meetings, and serving on numerous university committees, Bob would often show up at the Proctor Program office and exclaim: "Put me to work, Paul!" He was especially excited to learn that university students were demonstrating a newfound interest in learning about the history of union organizing.

Bob sat down with one of our interns recently and gave a superb tutorial of the 1981 PATCO strike that signaled a turning point in American history. Our students loved Bob Zieger for the same reason that our union brothers and sisters did. In spite of his many accolades Dr. Zieger saw himself as a member of the working class. He was one of us, a treasured ally in our search for historical truth and social justice.

Bob Zieger, Presente!



One Community Many Voices

STUDENTS AT SPOHP

SPOHP provides a productive research environment for students across limitless disciplines involved in the practice of oral history.

UNDERGRADUATE

SPOHP staff **Scott Kraff** has accepted an offer at Georgetown law school in the fall.

SPOHP staff **Kapri Crowley** received an award at the 2013 Phi Alpha Theta conference for best social/cultural research for her paper, "Getting to the Point: Mythical Swords in Fantasy Films."

SPOHP staff **Genesis Lara** was selected for University Scholars funding and the Ann Regan Undergraduate Award from the Department of History for her senior thesis.

SPOHP intern **Brittany Hibbert** was selected for University Scholars funding and McNair Scholars funding for her senior thesis.

SPOHP intern **Joanna Joseph** was selected for University Scholars funding for her senior thesis.

SPOHP intern **Kenny Bain** was elected treasurer of Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society.

GRADUATE

Congratulations to SPOHP staff **Justin Dunnivant** for successfully defending his master's thesis, *African American Mortality Amongst Inhabited Alleys in the District of Columbia: A Case of the Mt. Pleasant Plains Cemetery*. Justin was also selected for a Foreign Language & Area Studies fellowship.

SPOHP staff **Ryan Morini** was awarded the Tedder Family Fellowship through UF Digital Humanities Center, the Ruth McQuown Award through the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research, and a mini-grant from the Southwest Oral History Association for his work with Western Shoshone Indians in eastern Nevada.

SPOHP staff **Erin Conlin** was selected for the Jack and Celia Proctor Award in Florida and Southern History and the George Pozzetta Dissertation Award through the Department of History, and the Ruth McQuown Award through the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research

SPOHP staff **Ross Larkin** received a travel grant from Graduate School Council to attend the Canadian African Studies Association Annual meeting

Congratulations to SPOHP staff **Jessica Taylor** for passing her prequalification exams, a requirement for her PhD.



SPOHP had a record turnout for Stephanie Coontz's public program.

This Issue

- ▶ Farmworker Awareness Week
- ▶ "Legacies" in Mississippi
- ▶ New Student-Driven Research Projects
- ▶ SPOHP Public Programs in Review
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- ▶ SPOHP News and Upcoming Events

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I met Samuel Proctor in the summer of 1997 in the course of researching my dissertation. The first thing that struck me about Dr. Proctor was his kindness and generosity as well as his dedication to teaching and community-based history. Here I was, an anonymous graduate student, and there was the legendary Samuel Proctor—willing to spend an entire afternoon tutoring me on the finer points of Florida history. Samuel Proctor gave me a lesson that day on the distorting power of racism, anti-Semitism, and anti-Catholicism in Florida's past. Next, Dr. Proctor instructed me to call on Joel Buchanan in order to receive a lesson on African American history in Gainesville.

Today, as SPOHP embraces new challenges and opportunities, I think about that summer day in 1997 when Sam Proctor taught me the meaning of oral history. We are above all a research center; however, we equally value teaching and we place our students in contact with members of diverse and underserved communities.

This summer semester, our graduate coordinator, Erin Conlin will be taking UF students to interview retired agricultural workers in Apopka, Florida. This has been a region hard hit by environmental pollution, and the voices of its community members have often been forgotten. No longer.

I also think that Dr. Proctor would have approved of our ongoing Veteran's History Project. Sam—himself a World War II

veteran—would have been delighted at Ann Smith's superb leadership as well as our small army of volunteers who gather, preserve, and promote the voices of our nation's heroes.

This semester, our academic interns have conducted an oral history project with members of Gainesville's Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. The church hosted a wonderful potluck celebration where our students presented portions of their interviews to members of the community.

All of these activities require investments in recording and editing equipment as well as resources to preserve and share the stories of our narrators with K-12 teachers, members of the general public, and independent scholars.

Among the things I imbibed from Samuel Proctor was his love of UF Oral History, and his unabashed ability to ask friends to support this program. If you like what you see in this newsletter, I ask you to consider joining a growing family of individuals who are sustaining the Proctor Program with tax-deductible contributions. With your help, we will continue the work that Samuel Proctor started nearly five decades ago.

Sincerely,
Paul Ortiz,
Director of SPOHP

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Students as Historians: Voting Rights in McComb

By Diana Dombrowski

SPOHP has sent a group of students to the Mississippi Delta every September for the past five years to learn from veterans of the civil rights movement in the region. This year's trip was even more productive due to the contributions of a group of young researchers from McComb High School in southern Mississippi.



The McComb Legacies Project, which is sponsored by *Teaching for Change*, is an after-school research project where students use oral interviews to learn how their elders worked to defeat Jim Crow laws in the Deep South. Ms. Falana McDaniel is the project facilitator and Digital Medias Technology teacher at McComb High School. Ms. McDaniel also organized a research trip for five Legacies Project students to the Mississippi Delta, partnering with SPOHP to attend our annual research trip to the Delta in 2012.

This spring, students from McComb High School produced a documentary, "The Voting Rights Struggle," using oral history research from their community. The documentary won first place in Mississippi's National History Day competition, and is currently in the running for a national award.

A miracle of social action education is taking place in McComb, Mississippi. Ms. McDaniel tirelessly places her students in leadership positions, and she inspires them to learn about their rich heritage as children and grandchildren of freedom struggle veterans in Mississippi through oral history, digital media, storytelling and other methodologies. Falana McDaniel is certainly not the only teacher, administrator, parent or student responsible for this miracle; however, she has proven to be integral to the success of the vibrant educational culture of McComb.

SPOHP Collaborates with Holy Trinity Episcopal

By Erin Conlin

In 1991, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in downtown Gainesville was destroyed in a fire when a serial arsonist made his way through the southeast. The church rallied around the bell tower that survived from the 1907 structure and rebuilt within a few years.

SPOHP's interns conducted twelve interviews with church leaders on the idea of rebuilding, and how the church has overcome many challenges to better serve the community. These interviews were compiled into a single video which reflects how the church rebuilt itself, both as a physical structure and a servant to the community.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church hosted a potluck film viewing party to premier the student's work, and interns, SPOHP staff, church leaders, and community members all came together for the event.



SPOHP to Co-Sponsor 9th Annual Latino Film Festival

SPOHP is pleased to co-sponsor the 9th Annual Gainesville Latino Film Festival at UF's Harn Museum, which is organized by the Gainesville Latina Women's League. The film festival takes place during September and October, and the lineup will be posted to the League's website, <http://latinawomensleague.org/>

2012-2013

SPOHP PUBLIC PROGRAMS IN REVIEW

By Sarah Blanc

SPOHP's Public Programs highlight scholars and activists who use oral interviews in their work. These free events also give our community an opportunity to share their ideas with these noted individuals. This year we were honored to feature several high-profile speakers, and we were humbled by the record audience turnout from our Gainesville community.

In March 2013, marriage and family historian Stephanie Coontz spoke on the 50th anniversary of Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique* in a lecture titled, "Mad Men, Working Girls, and Desperate Housewives." Revisiting the book fifty years later, Coontz confessed that she found Friedan's writing dry and outdated. It was only when she interviewed over 250 women about the book's impact that she recognized its paramount importance to expanding women's rights. Coontz also pointed out that today's "women's issues" are really issues that affect everybody, and the audience of over 400 was extremely receptive to this message.

In February 2013, Alan Rosen gave a public lecture on his book about the first series of interviews conducted by David Boder with Holocaust survivors in 1946. Using a wire recorder, the first device capable of capturing hours of audio, Boder returned to the United States with the first recorded Holocaust testimonials, and also the first recorded oral histories of significant length. The audience was powerfully silent and contemplative as Rosen shared interviews from survivors of modern history's greatest human rights atrocity.

In November 2012, Dr. Larry Rivers, historian and president of Fort Valley State University gave a lecture on his book, *Rebels and Runaways: Slave Resistance in 19th Century Florida*.

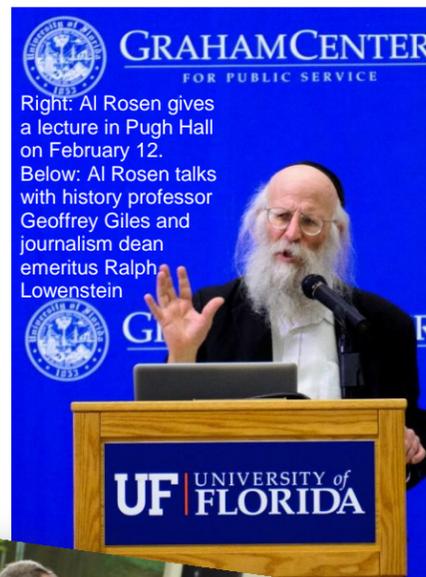


Paul Ortiz introduces Stephanie Coontz at a roundtable discussion of her book, *A Strange Stirring*. Above: Larry Rivers reflects during the musical prelude to his public lecture in November 2012.

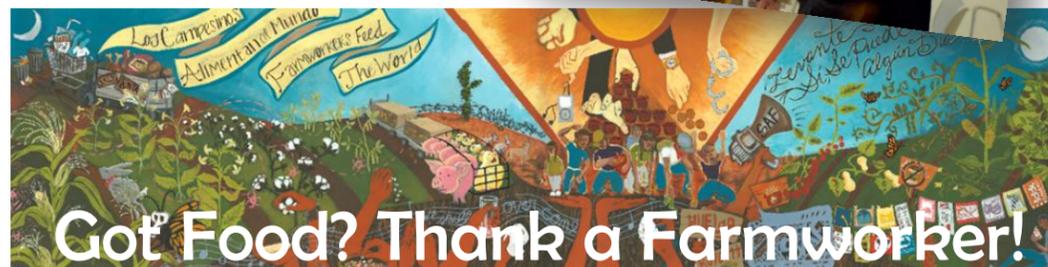
Rivers and many Florida historians agree that the Second Seminole War in northeast Florida was in fact a slave rebellion, and stressed that slaves had developed approaches to rebellion that have been overlooked by past historians. Rivers collected the written accounts of former slaves who courageously rebelled against servitude, and pointed out that these cases were documented because it was so important for the individual to remind their family that they fought for their freedom.

If you missed any of these programs, you can still watch them on our YouTube page, which also features some of our latest interviews. The next issue of *One Community, Many Voices* will announce the official dates of SPOHP's 2013-2014 public program season. Our programs will highlight the 50th anniversary of the civil rights movement in St. Augustine, UF Libraries' acquisition of the Stetson Kennedy Papers, and leading activists who use oral interviews to strengthen their message.

SPOHP wishes to thank all of the supporters who were able to attend our public programs in 2012 and 2013, and all of the co-sponsors who made these events possible. We had some of our largest audience turnouts this past year, and we're looking forward to everything next year has in store.



Right: Al Rosen gives a lecture in Pugh Hall on February 12. Below: Al Rosen talks with history professor Geoffrey Giles and journalism dean emeritus Ralph Lowenstein



Got Food? Thank a Farmworker!

SPOHP'S 5TH YEAR CO-SPONSORING FARMWORKER AWARENESS WEEK

By Isht Vatsa, artwork provided by Student Action with Farmworkers

SPOHP co-sponsored the 2013 National Farmworker Awareness Week in April with a week-long series of related events. SPOHP partnered with Student Action with Farmworkers (SAF), a nonprofit organization based in Durham, North Carolina that supports expanding rights for migrant farmworkers throughout the Carolinas. Each year, SPOHP co-sponsors the national "Farmworker Awareness Week," which offers documentary screenings, public panels, and demonstrations across the city.

We also partner with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), a community-based worker organization of Hispanic, Haitian, and Mayan Indian immigrants working in low-wage jobs. The CIW has made unprecedented advances in working conditions in the region through their grassroots approach of educating consumers. Our earliest interviews with CIW founders already show significant progress in their fight for better working conditions, and we look forward to recording their future achievements as they carry on their work. Our interviews from SAF and the CIW have been compiled into a podcast series to further both groups' efforts to educate the community.

CONNECT WITH SPOHP

SPOHP Awarded Program Grant from Center for Humanities

The Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere at UF awarded a grant to SPOHP for "Support for Workshops and Speaker Series in the Humanities" for 2013-2014. Our next newsletter will announce the official dates for next year's speaker series.

The Stetson Kennedy Papers at the University of Florida

The writings, recordings, and papers of Stetson Kennedy, covering his work in folk life, civil rights, and Florida history, are now being processed and made ready for public use through the P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History and SPOHP. We are pleased to preserve Stetson's legacy as a writer, activist, and advocate for social justice."

Stimulating Intercultural Dialog

Technology Coordinator Deborah Hendrix is helping Spanish language students at the University of Florida create educational materials through video production. The students discuss important cultural topics while exercising their proficiency in Spanish. Deborah is also producing a documentary on the immigrant struggle in Gainesville, titled *Siempre Adelante*. The film includes interviews from four undocumented individuals living and working in Gainesville. Watch the trailer on our Youtube page!

SPOHP Community Cookbook

If you visit the SPOHP offices somewhat regularly, you might notice that we're always sharing food. This summer, SPOHP is compiling our first community cookbook, collecting Gainesville's many traditions of delicious food into one comprehensive volume. If you would like one of your recipes to be included in this volume, please e-mail it to s.v.blanc@gmail.com or mail to 241 Pugh Hall, PO BOX 115215, Gainesville, FL, 32611.



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