GENERATIONAL ALLIANCES + SISTERHOOD = UNION POWER

Resources for Activism

compiled by
Donna L. Schulman, Director, Carey Library
School of Management and Labor Relations, Rutgers University
(732) 932-9608, dlschulman@smlr.rutgers.edu
Generational Alliances + Sisterhood = Union Power
35th Northeast Regional UALE Summer Institute for Union Women
Resources for Activism

Summer School is just the beginning. Here are resources you can use to learn more about the labor movement and to expand your activist’s “tool kit”. It is a selected list; use it as a starting point to browse and explore. Web sites are listed within each section.

Most of the books and films listed are still in print; they can be ordered through the Internet (Powell’s City of Books is a union-friendly site: http://www.powells.com/) or from one of the specialized sources listed in the back. Or hopefully they can be found in your local public, union, or extension school library. If not, request them!

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Not comprehensive, but a fun and useful resource, especially for union newsletters and speechwriting.

Concise definitions and historical background for 300 words, phrases, and acronyms frequently used in the labor world.

Addresses, telephone numbers, names of major officers of major U.S. unions, state federations, and listings of locals by state (but minus addresses & phone numbers). Statistical appendix includes BLS & AFL-CIO membership data.


*Mention and format*:

A good reference book for your public or school library.

An inexpensive all-in-one labor reference book.

**WEB SITES – ACADEMIC STARTING POINTS**

LABOR RESEARCH PORTAL (UC Berkeley, Institute for Research on Labor and Employment Library)
http://www.irle.berkeley.edu/library/?page=4
The IIR Library has *Labor and Web Guides* to online & print resources related to globalization, immigration, labor culture, and U.S. unions.

INTERNET RESOURCE GATEWAY: JOHN F. HENNING CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS (UC Berkeley, Labor Center)
http://www.iir.berkeley.edu/henningcenter/gateway/index.html
This website contains links to organizations, articles, position papers, and training materials on labor and the global economy.

RESEARCH PORTAL: CATERWOOD LIBRARY (ILR School, Cornell University)
http://www.illcornell.edu/library/research/
The Caterwood Library, the research library of the ILR School, has a number of academic-oriented research guides available here, plus “Best of the Web” guides for working people.

LABOR UNIONS AND THE INTERNET
http://www.ilc.cornell.edu/library/research/subjectGuides/laborUnionsInternet.html
This website contains an extensive collection of web sites related to collective bargaining, labor law, and other labor topics, written by the author (Donna).

CAREY LIBRARY (School of Management and Labor Relations, Rutgers, the State Univ. of New Jersey)
http://www.smlr.rutgers.edu/library/index.html
Stay tuned for a new web site, featuring resource and research guides like this one.
WEB SITES – STATISTICAL STARTING POINTS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR: FIND IT BY TOPIC
http://www.dol.gov/dol/topic/index.htm
The DOL offers a vast amount of information on its web site, including employment statistics, the full text and explanations of employment labor laws and regulations, and publications such as the Occupational Outlook Handbook and the Monthly Labor Review. This topic listing is one way of locating what you need.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR: FIND IT BY AUDIENCE
http://www.dol.gov/dol/audience/aud-women.htm
http://www.dol.gov/dol/audience/aud-labor.htm
And, another way to find DOL information is to use these portal web sites for women and labor unions.

U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
http://www.bls.gov/
BLS is the part of the DOL responsible for collecting and publishing statistics about labor and employment. Starting here, you can find data on the labor force, unemployment, inflation, wages & earnings, plus online publications such as the Occupational Outlook Handbook and the Monthly Labor Review.

U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS: UNION MEMBERSHIP
This annual publication tracks labor union membership.

UNIONSTATS.COM: Union Membership and Coverage Database
http://www.unionstats.com/
This Internet data resource provides “private and public sector union membership, coverage, and density estimates compiled from the Current Population Survey (CPS) using BLS methods”; it is updated annually.

WEB SITES – UNION & UNION–RELATED STARTING POINTS

AFL-CIO
http://www.aflcio.org

CHANGE TO WIN
http://www.changetowin.org/

AFSCME PUBLICATIONS
http://www.afscme.org/publications/
Online books on labor topics, many useful to all workers.

XPDNC LABOUR DIRECTORY
http://www.xpdnc.com/
A labor directory to labor union web sites plus sites on labor-related topics (campaigns, research, politics, women, and work).

LABOURSTART
http://www.labourstart.org
Labor news from around the world.

BIG LABOR.COM
http://www.biglabor.com/
Created by Union Communications Services, this site features extensive links to U.S. union web sites (international and locals), updated weekly, plus a weekly labor cartoon, song, quote, book, steward tip, & today in labor history.

UNION JOBS CLEARINGHOUSE
http://www.unionjobs.com


A report summarizing the discussion and recommendations of a retreat of women union organizers.


A nuts-and-bolts handbook.


A compilation of the “common law” of labor arbitration; gives summaries of actual cases and analyses of trends in such areas as discipline & discharge, union rights, strikes, and sexual harassment.


The “comprehensive manual for grassroots organizers.”[available from USC and Amazon.]


These articles by union & academic researchers present new frameworks and strategies for organizing; topics include strategic initiatives, community-based organizing, building membership, and public support.

Caiazza, Amy. *’I knew I could do this work’: Seven Strategies to Promote Women’s Activism & Leadership in Unions.* Washed, Berger-Marks Foundation, 2008. [available online at http://www.bergermarks.org]

Based on interviews, this report analyzes obstacles union women face and strategies (mentoring, flexible options for involvement) that unions could use to encourage women’s involvement and leadership.


Successful programs and contract clauses negotiated by unions across the country. This book is slightly out-of-date and out-of print, but still useful. Check labor libraries for copies.


Conference presentations, studies, and data on organizing within professional occupations and industries.


A report on organizing campaigns by 17 DPE affiliates.


Fine studies the role worker centers play in organizing and assisting low-wage and immigrant workers.


Designed for union leaders, activists, negotiating teams and organizers, this step-by-step guide provides the tools needed to advance a successful work and family agenda. Order from web site: [http://www.working-families.org/organize/guide.html](http://www.working-families.org/organize/guide.html)

Mauer, Michael. *The Union Member’s Complete Guide: Everything You Want—and Need—To Know About*


Parker, Mike, and Jane Slaughter. Working Smart: A Union Guide to Participation Programs and Reengineering. Detroit: Labor Notes, 1994. Case studies by activists who have grappled with participation programs, strategies and tactics based on their experiences. Order from website: http://labornotes.org/workingsmart


Slaughter, Jane, ed. A Troublemaker’s Handbook 2: How to Fight Back Where You Work-And Win! Detroit: Labor Education and Research Project, 2005. This well-known workers’ guide to organizing has been totally updated and rewritten. Its chapters are based on the experiences of over 250 activists; their stories are followed by tips and resources. New material is on the website http://troublemakershandbook.org/: the book can be ordered there or from Labor Notes: http://labornotes.org/troublemakershandbook2.

Whitefield, Pam, Alvarez, Sally, & Emrani, Yasmin. Is There A Women’s Way Of Organizing? Genders, Unions, and Effective Organizing. 2009. (also at http://digitalcommons.lir.cornell.edu/reports/26/)

WEBSITES:

BERGER-MARKS FOUNDATION
http://www.bergermarks.org
The Berger-Marks Foundation seeks “to bring the benefits of unionization to working women and to assist organizations committed to those principles.” Their web site presents reports on their activities and conferences and information on how women organizers can apply for grants.

BUILDING POWER IN THE WORKPLACE: THE AFSCME INTERNAL ORGANIZING MANUAL
http://www.afscme.org/publications/1668.cfm

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING FAQ’S (Univ. of Hawaii, Center for Labor Education and Research) http://homepages.uhwo.hawaii.edu/~clear/CB-FAQ.html
Collective bargaining basics.

FACTS @ YOUR FINGERTIPS: AN INTERNET RESEARCH GUIDE FOR UNION ACTIVISTS – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
http://www.afscme.org/members/1254.cfm

MIDWEST ACADEMY
http://www.midwestacademy.com/
This well-known organization conducts trainings on organizing for social change.

STRATEGIC ORGANIZING
http://www.union-organizing.org/
This new web site offers ideas for organizing strategies and tactics, focusing on communication via leaflets, videos, and the Internet. You can follow it on Facebook and Twitter.
XPDNC: ORGANIZING DRIVE LINKS
http://www.xpdnc.com/links/orgdrive.html
Links to websites of active workplace organizing campaigns around the world.

Excellent guide to online resources for collective bargaining research for public and private sector workplaces.

UE INFORMATION FOR WORKERS
http://www.rankfile-ue.org/swtd_idx.html
Costing out contracts & more.

LABOR CONTRACTS DATABASE (UC Berkeley)
http://www.iir.berkeley.edu/library/contracts/

AFSCME CONTRACTS ONLINE
http://www.afscme.org/publications/11568.cfm

AFSCME MODEL CONTRACT LANGUAGE
http://www.afscme.org/members/2327.cfm

CHILDREN’S LITERATURE—LABOR

Photographs of children & teenagers of migrant workers, plus their words and their poetry.


Great photographs.

The story of the army of child workers led by Mother Jones from Philadelphia to New York in the early 20th century. For middle school children.

This illustrated, bilingual book tells the story of Carlito, whose mother is a janitor in downtown L.A.. Based on the Justice for Janitors strike of April 2000, for children in grades 4–6.

Farmer Brown’s cows become literate and then strike for better working conditions; a funny tale that actually appeals to adults more than children.

[Available from Labor Heritage Foundation]
“Designed to open a wider concept of being part of a union” to young children through a variety of songs, rhymes, and stories, this recording is gentle and welcoming in the Ella Jenkins tradition.
An account of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire in 1911. Recommended for children aged 7-11.

A history of the work girls have done over the years in the U.S.; for young adults.

Brief biographies and photographs of young people who were active participants in historical events and social movements. Labor figures include our own Jessica Govea, who as a teenager was a founding member of the United Farm Workers.

YA (young adult) biography of the radical labor organizer who believed one should “Pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living”.

Recounts the everyday life of ten-year old Rebecca Putney who lives in a boarding house and works in a cotton mill. Is Rebecca brave enough to join a protest against a pay cut? Beautifully illustrated.

A young girl goes to work in the mills of Lowell, Massachusetts, hoping to save enough money to reunite her family; for young adults. Paterson is a popular, award-winning young adult author.

The biography of an influential labor and civil rights leader who worked tirelessly in the struggle for basic rights in the workplace and in society for African Americans.

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**THE GLOBAL ECONOMY**

Using charts, tables, and cartoons, this book aims to make “the international economy comprehensible for everyone and reveals the harmful effects of corporate-driven globalization”.

Study of two factories owned by the same tortilla company, one on the U.S. side of the border, one in Mexico.


How do unions deal with multinational corporations? These articles, the outgrowth of a groundbreaking conference of unionists and researchers from around the world, discuss innovative strategies unions are using in the new global economy.

Clear explanations in under 150 pages.

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In telling the story of Dukes v. Wal-Mart, the largest class-action discrimination lawsuit in history, Featherstone also reveals how the Wal-Mart culture systematically devalues and underpays the women of their workforce.

Fellner, Kim. *Wrestling with Starbucks: Conscience, Capital, Cappuccino.* N.J: Rutgers Univ. Press, 2008. Fellner talked to coffee growers, corporate officers, baristas, and consumers in the course of her examination of a company that has been maligned and praised for its role in the global economy.


STITCH. *Pushing Back: Women Workers Speak Out on Free Trade.* Wash. DC: STITCH, 2004. This publication “explores the impact of free trade on women workers” in Central America and the U.S. in their own words. These are the stories of women organizing in the garment, agricultural, and health care industries. (English & Spanish). [Order directly from STITCH: http://www.stitchonline.org/documentation.asp]

WEBSITES:

GLOBAL WOMEN’S ACTIVISM: SELECTED SITES (Rutgers University) http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/rr_gateway/research_guides/womens_studies/activism.shtml

Links to organizations and online resources “devoted to worldwide women’s activism”.


SOLIDARITY CENTER http://www.solidaritycenter.org/

The AFL-CIO started the American Center for International Labor Solidarity in 1997 to assist workers around the world struggling to establish and build labor unions.
Clark, a labor professor, offers strategies on how unions can utilize recent social science research in a number of areas, including leadership, organizing, and union culture.

A critique of the labor movement.

Articles on the continuing challenges faced by gay and lesbian workers on the job. Kitty Krupat is a NE Women’s Summer School faculty member.

“Statistical, historical, legal and public policy analyses that highlight the possibilities and challenges confronting the labor movement as well as the special concerns of African Americans.”

A collection of essays by labor activists and scholars, assessing the where the labor movement is at the end of the twentieth-century and where it might be going.

A thought provoking study of two different organizing drives that argues for continuing worker involvement during and after the campaign.

Insights and case studies of the “new” AFL-CIO by people directly involved with its resurgence, including Jo-Ann Mort (UNITE!), Karen Nussbaum, Richard Bensinger, and Juan Gonzalez.


Recent research and analyses of recent labor organizing campaigns, including Justice for Janitors, Union Summer, plus studies of the people who do the organizing—organizers and union leaders.

This is Yates’ answer to those workers who think unions are only after their dues. He writes persuasively about collective bargaining, union structure, labor law, sexism & racism.
Burke, Bev, et al. *Education for Changing Unions*. Toronto: Between the Lines Productions, 2003. Applying the principles of popular education to labor unions, the authors discuss the job of union educator, designing effective education programs, and “our favorite union education activities”. [available in U.S. through Highlander bookstore]

Highlander Research and Education Center
http://www.highlandercenter.org/
This popular education and research organization collects and produces resource materials for popular educators and organizers, and sponsors popular education programs at its home in Tennessee. See the Bookstore section for books and videos by them and other similar grassroots organizations.


UALE (United Association For Labor Education)
http://www.uale.org/
http://uale.org/weblinks
UALE is the professional association of university and union labor educators. In addition to information on its conferences, this is where you can find out about the regional women’s union summer institutes, the *Labor Studies Journal*, and position announcements in the field. See the Links page for listings of Labor Education programs in colleges, universities, and independent organizations.

Wertheimer, Barbara Mayer, ed. *Labor Education for Women Workers*. Phil.: Temple Univ. Press, 1981. How to put together training and education programs for union women. Written by labor educators, many of whom have been involved in summer schools past and present.

**LABOR LAW**

Bravo, Ellen, and Ellen Cassedy. *9 to 5 Guide to Combating Sexual Harassment: Candid Advice from 9 to 5*, *The National Association of Working Women, updated ed.* Milwaukee: 9to5 Working Women Education Fund, 2000. This popular guide focuses on working (not executive) women, using real-life stories to illustrate what sexual harassment is and the most effective ways to prevent or fight it. [Order from CLUW or UCS]


Schwartz, Robert M. *The FMLA Handbook: A Practical Guide to the Family and Medical Leave Act for Union...
Members and Stewards, 3rd ed. Cambridge: Work Rights Press, no publication date.
See author’s website for order info & chapter one online: http://www.workrightspress.com/index.html.

Question-and-answer format; the grievance process, union right to information, duty of fair representation. For
order info & chapter one online: http://www.workrightspress.com/index.html.

Readable, informative, written for workers, grounded in a union perspective.

WEBSITES:

FINDLAW
http://www.findlaw.com
This legal web directory will point you to the correct place online for anything legal.

FINDLAW - LABOR LAW
http://www.findlaw.com/01topics/27labor/index.html
And this is the directory to web sites on labor and employment law.

LEGAL INFORMATION INSTITUTE
http://www.law.comell.edu
This site serves as both a directory to U.S. laws & court decisions and a source for brief explanations of legal
subject areas. A good source for the full text of US Supreme Court decisions.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
http://www.dol.gov
A huge web site, check here for laws and regulations (original language and summaries), forms, contacts for
DOL divisions, full text of DOL publications.

ELAWS: DOL EMPLOYMENT WORKPLACE LAWS
http://www.dol.gov/elaws

U.S. NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD
http://www.nlrb.gov
Full-text of most NLRB publications, explanations of the National Labor Relations Act, full-text of NLRB
decisions back (as of this writing) to 1979.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RELATIONS BOARDS
http://www.afscme.org/publications/11159.cfm
A list of all existing boards, including links to web sites where available, courtesy of AFSCME.

POLITICS, ECONOMICS, WORK TRENDS

2010.
The Almanac, published every two years, is a unique blend of facts and analysis; it includes profiles of every
member of Congress and state governors, narrative profiles of all states and House districts, plus analyses of
demographic, political, and cultural factors related to the latest elections.

Heintz, James & Nancy Folbre. The Ultimate Field Guide to the U.S. Economy: A Compact and Irreverent
Economics made understandable from those progressive people at the Center for Popular Economics.


**WEBSITES:**

FIRSTGOV  
[http://firstgov.gov](http://firstgov.gov)  
A portal for U.S. government information; go here first if you’re not sure where to search.

THOMAS  
[http://thomas.loc.gov](http://thomas.loc.gov)  
The web site of Congress, check here for bills, laws, committee reports, and anything related to the work of the House of Representatives or the Senate.

PROJECT VOTE SMART  
[http://www.vote-smart.org](http://www.vote-smart.org)  
This non-profit organization is dedicated to providing information on political candidates.

FACTCHECK.ORG  
This nonpartisan, nonprofit ‘consumer advocate’ for voters aims to reduce the level of deception and confusion in U.S. politics by monitoring the factual accuracy of what is said by major U.S. political players.

OPEN SECRETS  
[http://www.opensecrets.org](http://www.opensecrets.org)  
Detailed information on PAC and individual campaign fund contributions.

ECONOMIC POLICY INSTITUTE  
[http://epinet.org/](http://epinet.org/)  
Briefings and reports on economic issues such as minimum wage, trade policies, employment trends.

CENTER FOR AMERICAN WOMEN AND POLITICS (Eagleton Institute)  
Factsheets and research on women office holders in the U.S.

INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN’S POLICY RESEARCH  
IWPR conducts research on women and employment, work and families, and related issues. Many of their reports can be downloaded free from their web site.

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT LAW PROJECT (NELP)  
[http://www.nelp.org](http://www.nelp.org)  
An advocacy organization that promotes progressive public policies via research and publication. See web site for reports on labor standards, living wage, immigration, and workforce development.
RESEARCH SKILLS


WEBSITES:

FACTS@YOUR FINGERTIPS: AN INTERNET RESEARCH MANUAL FOR AFSCME ACTIVISTS
http://www.afscme.org/publications/1670.cfm
One of the best research guides on the web, not just for AFSCME members.

THE INTERNET PUBLIC LIBRARY
http://ipl.org
Quick guide to online reference books.

REFDESK
http://www.refdesk.com
Fast facts, figures, definitions, the web site you'll wonder how you ever did without.

SEARCH ENGINES & DIRECTORIES:

GOOGLE / GOOGLE ADVANCED SEARCH
http://www.google.com
http://www.google.com/advanced_search
Try the Advanced Search page. It's easy to use and can be very helpful in narrowing down your search.

GOOGLE IMAGES
http://www.google.com/images
Google’s search engine for locating graphics, tests indicate it brings up more images than its competitors.

GOOGLE U.S. GOVERNMENT SEARCH
http://www.google.com/ig/usgov
Use to locate government information or web sites.

GOOGLE SCHOLAR
http://scholar.google.com/
Locates online academic materials (research papers, scholarly articles, etc.). Useful for leads to scholarly titles, but researchers should use with academic databases.

Hints for Using Search Engines:

- If possible, use unique terms.
- Identify phrases by using quotation marks
  - example: “chocolate turtles” instead of chocolate turtles
- If you don’t get any results, think of synonyms
  - example: “medical care” or “health care”
- If you get too many results, explore the advanced features of the search engine
  - Can you search by key word in title?
  - Can you limit the date?
  - Can you limit the domain (.edu, .org)?
- Use credible web sites, by recognizable authors or organizations.

Remember that not everything is on the Internet! If you can’t find anything after using the above hints, try the print resources or online periodical databases available through libraries and colleges.


Easy-to-use guide to preventing and alleviating RSI (repetitive stress injury) symptoms. Many stretches and exercises for neck, back, shoulders, even face.

CLUW Center for Research and Education. *Health Fact Sheets* on topics such as menopause and osteoporosis can be downloaded from their web site: http://www.cluw.org/publications.html


“Designed to get workers talking to each other about the issue”; video also available.


Sample contract language from actual contracts on such topics as worker information and training, specific hazards, right to act, joint labor-management activities, protective measures, injured workers.


Includes tools for winning safety improvements, examples of successful h&s campaigns, and strategies for workplace h&s advocacy.

**See the following Internet sites for additional occupational safety & health publications:**

Labor Occupational Health Program
http://www.lohp.org/ and click on “publications”.

In addition to above, LOHP offers books and training guides for union workers on hospital hazards, cosmetology health & safety, computer workstation health & safety, violence on the job and more; many publications are bi-lingual, some are online only (& free!).

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/homepage.html

A wealth of online information sheets, studies, training materials, AV materials on all OSH aspects, including reproductive health, stress, health care workers. Also provides a gateway to health and medical databases of articles and chemical information.

New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (NYCOSH)
http://www.nycosh.org

In addition to current news & data, NYCOSH has an excellent collection of links to online resources in the areas of industry and workplace hazards.

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*Safe Jobs Now: An AFSCME Guide to Health and Safety in the Workplace* is one of the many safety & health publications available on the web from AFSCME:

http://www.afscme.org/publications/1334.cfm

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Shaw, Catherine M. *The Campaign Manager: Running and Winning Local Elections, 3rd ed.* Westview Pr, 2004. Written with political elections in mind (the “local” is geographic), some of these how-to’s can be applied to running for union election or to support a labor-friendly candidate. This is a very elementary book, best for political beginners in small cities or towns.


Williams, Eesha. *Grassroots Journalism.* N.Y.: Apex Press, 2000. “A practical manual for doing the kind of newswriting that doesn’t just get people angry, but active—that doesn’t just inform, but inspires.”


Good to know:
The original 1916 Robert’s Rules of Order is available free on the web:
http://www.bartleby.com/176/  

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<th>6. Stating the Question.</th>
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<td>When a motion has been made and seconded, it is the duty of the chair, unless he rules it out of order, immediately to state the question — that is, state the exact question that is before the assembly for its consideration and action….</td>
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WOMEN WORKERS TODAY—(MOSTLY US. & CANADA)

Activist and feminist struggles in the Canadian labour world.


Cobble, Dorothy Sue, ed. The Sex of Class: Women Transforming American Labor. Ithaca: ILR Press, 2007. A collection of articles that explore “how the sex of workers matters in understanding the jobs they do, the problems they fact at work, and the new labor movements they are creating.” Authors include Ruth Milkman, Katie Quan, Janice Fine, and Karen Nussbaum.


Costello, Cynthia B. et al., eds. The American Woman, 2001-2002: Getting to the Top. N.Y.: Norton, 2001. Sponsored by the Women’s Research and Education Institute, a collection of essays on women’s leadership status in several fields, including Lois Gray’s article on women’s leadership in labor unions.


Eisenberg, Susan. We’ll Call You If We Need You: Experiences of Women Working Construction. Ithaca: ILR Press, 1998. The experiences of 30 women who entered the construction industry during the past 20 years, and found endless challenge, collected by a master electrician/poet.


LaTour, Jane. Sisters in the Brotherhoods: Working Women Organizing for Equality in New York City. Palgrave Macmillan, 2008. In this exciting book, LaTour traces the struggles and triumphs of the women who broke into the skilled trades in NYC. You will probably see at least one familiar name here, and certainly identify with their stories.


A study of CLUW, based on the author’s dissertation. Still very scholarly in book form, containing very little about the regional summer schools, though Silke did attend a Northeast school at UConn.

WEB SITES:

COALITION OF LABOR UNION WOMEN (CLUW)
http://www.cluw.org/

CLUW LINKS
http://cluw.org/links.html
Also called “Websites We Like”, this is an excellent collection of websites of interest to working women; topics are: Women and Work, Women’s Health, Reproductive Rights, Getting Older/Staying Healthy, Women and the Global Economy, Other Constituency Groups and Allied Labor Organizations, Miscellaneous.

FEMINIST MAJORITY FOUNDATION
http://www.feminist.org/

LABOR PROJECT FOR WORKING FAMILIES
http://www.laborproject.org/
Contract language and newsletter on work/family issues.

U.S. WOMEN’S BUREAU
http://www.dol.gov/wb/

U.S. WOMEN’S BUREAU PUBLICATIONS include:

WOMEN’S LABOR HISTORY

These titles are a starting point. For a more complete list, see the Tamiment Library’s online guide to Women's History Resources in the Tamiment Library: http://nyu.libguides.com/tamiment_womens_history

Revised to include more on Native American, African American, Hispanic, Asian American women, rural labor, current issues.


A comprehensive history of women and trade unions in the U.S. Two editions are available: the original 2-volume edition, and a condensed 1-volume version.

Jones explores the history of labor through the lens of politics and economics that determined in different times

2010
what occupations were suitable for which group of individuals.


Jones wrote this book in response to the lack of material on black working women.


Cited as “the single best survey of transformation of women's paid and unpaid work from the colonial period to the present” (AHR); the 2003 anniversary edition has been updated.


An excellent, very readable history of women's work in and out of the home.


This well-reviewed book has brought new attention and interest to the tragedy that was a turning point for organizing immigrant needle trade workers and instigating health and safety practices.


The first readable history of working women in America, written when Barbara could not find a suitable text to use with union women. Barbara was also the founding spirit of the UCLEA Women's Summer Schools.


A comprehensive, up-to-date history.

WEB SITES:

WOMEN’S LABOR HISTORY LINKS (AFSCME)
http://www.afscme.org/publications/12441.cfm
Terrific listing of over 130 web sites on women in the labor movement.

AFRICAN AMERICAN LABOR HISTORY LINKS (AFSCME)
http://www.afscme.org/publications/12440.cfm
Excellent bibliography of online resources on African American workers and general history, including links to materials on the Sleeping Car Porters, A. Philip Randolph, and Martin Luther King, Jr.

WOMEN'S HISTORY RESOURCES IN THE TAMIMENT LIBRARY
http://nyu.libguides.com/tamiment_womens_history
Online version of a guide to scholarly resources (books, records, videos, etc.), including a section on Internet resources.

WORKING WOMEN, 1870 – 1930 (Harvard University Libraries Open Collections Program)
http://ooc.hul.harvard.edu/ww/
Digital collection of books, pamphlets, photographs, and manuscripts from Harvard’s libraries “exploring women’s roles in the U.S. economy between the Civil War and the Great Depression”. Still in process, and growing.

THE TRIANGLE FACTORY FIRE
http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/trianglefire
Excellent multimedia site created by the Cornell ILR Kheel Center and UNITE!; history, photographs, documents, oral histories, cartoons, research guide for high school students.
WOMEN’S LABOR HISTORY – BIOGRAPHY

Gurley Flynn was a charismatic speaker, an IWW leader of the Lawrence and Paterson strikes.

Alice Cook’s energy was legendary. She at the age of 94, leaving behind a lifetime of labor organizing, education, and research. Cook spoke to NE Summer School women several times; each time was inspiring.

Highly praised biography of Perkins, who was instrumental in forming the New Deal policies that changed workers’ lives during the Great Depression and after.

There are several editions of the diaries of Charlotte Forten, writer, teacher, and anti-slavery activist.

Well-reviewed biography of Mary Harris Jones, fighter of rights for the mine workers.

You know Genora Johnson Dollinger if you’ve seen the documentary With Babies and Banners; she helped create the Women's Emergency Brigade and became one of the strike's leaders. Her labor activism continued after the strike, and this is her story.

In 1975, Kornbluh directed an oral history project that recorded the "stories" of 54 union women pioneers. Their voices were direct, their stories inspiring and fascinating. This book presents 11 of these stories.

The absorbing story of the labor and family lives of Rose Schneiderman, Fannia Cohn, Pauline Newman, and Clara Lemlich.

Excellent reference book on women's labor history.

A well-known historian, takes a new look at the life and the legend.

This biography rescues Hillman from the shadow of labor leader husband Sidney, and relates her limitless energy in union organizing, and civil rights activism.
A “young adult” book, informative and readable.

Springer lived an amazing life as a black woman active in the ILGWU and later the AFL-CIO. This study focuses on the latter part of her career. (Springer visited the N.E. Summer School several years ago.)

One of the few biographies of Sarah Bagley.

![Young Workers Image]

**YOUNG WORKERS**

http://www.aflcio.org/aboutus/laborday/
A 48-page survey examining of young workers’ economic standing, attitudes and hopes for the future.

In March 2010, the Berger-Marks Foundation sponsored a “cross-cultural, cross-generational two-day summit for women activists to help identify what turns young women on to unions and what turns them off”. You can sign up to be notified when the report on the summit is published at the above web page.

CAW sees local youth committees as entry points into the union for young workers. This 40-page handbook outlines best practices.

www.caw.ca/assets/pdf/08-Chapter_19.pdf
The Canadian Auto Workers introduced this 5-page discussion paper at its 2008 conference. It explores “the issues and challenges of the generational shift coming as younger workers begin to become more active in the CAW”, and talks about the CAW Youth Network.

Educause. *Mentoring Kit*.
http://www.educause.edu/mentoring
There are many ways of developing a mentoring program. Educause, a nonprofit organization, describes different types of programs and gives resources for developing your own. Many of these program are for higher education or IT organizations, but the ideas can be applied to unions.

http://digitalcommons.ilr.cornell.edu/workingpapers/104
This study looks at the issues facing young people and unions and how unions are seeking to organize and involve young workers and members.

http://www.dol.gov/dol/topic/youthlabor/studentworkers.htm
Summarizes laws and regulations related to young people in the workforce, including relevant industries, with links to more comprehensive information.
JOURNALS & NEWSLETTERS

Dollars and Sense.  Bimonthly.  
[29 Winter St., Boston, MA 02108, 617-447-2177, http://www.DollarsAndSense.org]
Explains U.S. and international current economic issues from a left perspective. Many articles on work and unions.

[LPWF, IIR, 2521 Channing Way #5555, Berkeley, CA 94720; 510-643-7088; http://www.working-families.org]
Newsletter of union activities and resources.

Labor Notes, Labor Education & Research Project. Monthly  
[7435 Michigan Ave., Detroit MI 48210; (313) 842-6262; http://www.labornotes.org]
Articles from an activist viewpoint; useful Resources list.

[LRC, Queens College, 25 West 43rd St., NYC 10036; 212-827-0200; http://www.newlaborforum.org/]
Articles, fiction, poetry, and discussion of contemporary work issues. Selected articles are available online.

Labor-oriented journal with readable articles on current, provocative issues by journalists & academics.

MUSIC

Music has always been an integral part of Summer School. If you would like to listen to “labor music” at home or at your union meetings (or in the office!), here are some suggestions, mostly women-oriented. You can purchase these CD's or audiocassettes by from the Labor Heritage Foundation (see Sources section) or from CDBaby, an online distributor of independent music (.http://www.cdbaby.com/home)

Linda Allen
Women's Work
Songs about women's real work, from building ships to soothing the sick.

Brooklyn Women's Chorus
The Power of Song
Directed by our own Bev Grant, the Chorus sings songs of labor, peace and justice, many of which will be familiar to summer school alums.

Coal Mining Women
Re-release of songs by Hazel Dickens, Florence Reese, Phyllis Boyens, Sarah Gunning and others.

DC Labor Chorus – 2-song CD
Includes "Welcome Union Members" and "Health Care Stomp"

Anne Feeney
Dump the Bosses Off Your Back
Have You Been to Jail for Justice?
Look to the Left
Union Maid
United We Bargain, Divided We Beg

Anne Feeney & Chris Chandler
Flying Poetry Circus
Live From the Wholly Stolen Empire
Bev Grant
*We Were There: Songs of Women's Labor History*
Relive Labor History Night with this CD; accompanying songbook

Pat Humphries
*Hands*
Named for Humphries' cover of Phil Ochs' unreleased song. Includes No Sweat and We Were There.

Ella Jenkins
*Ella Jenkins and a Union of Friends Pulling Together*
Labor songs and recitations for children; wonderful for the under 6 set.

Tom Juravich
*Out of Darkness*
Songs from the United Mine Workers movie.

Charlie King and Karen Brandow
*Puppet Town*
Songs of political puppets, corporate rats, and ordinary people all over the world struggling to make it better.

Charlie King and Martha Leader
*Steppin' Out*
With We Just Come to Work Here and World Turned Upside Down.

New York City Labor Chorus
*In Solidarity*
15 songs, with Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee.
*Workers Rise: Labor in the Spotlight*
Features union songs as well as lively selections from gospel, jazz, classical, and folk traditions.

Pipets - The chorus of the Harvard Union of Clerical and Technical Workers (AFSCME)
*Gonna Build A Union*

**We Just Come to Work Here, We Don't Come to Die**
Songs of work and safety by Sweet Honey in the Rock, Laurel Blaydes, Anne Feeney, Joe Glazer, Larry Penn, and others.
These films are available from various sources, including Netflix, Amazon, and your public or labor library (if you don’t see it, ask the librarian to order it).

For more labor and work-related film titles, try the
Labor Film Database:  https://laborfilms.dabbledb.com/page/laborfilms/ePjMknLK
  Over 1,000 films listed.
Labor Film Festival Database:  https://laborfilms.dabbledb.com/page/laborfilms/oohjaYNX
  Listing of labor film festivals around the world.
DC Labor Filmfest  http://www.dclabor.org/ht/d/ProgramDetails/i/23256/pid/46784
  This annual film festival screens the latest and best.
Look Back: Labor and the Moving Image:  http://lookbacklabor.blogspot.com/
  A “curated online exhibit” featuring films and videos about and by organized labor. There is an interesting range of titles here, from current videos supporting union strikes to the 1954 Salt of the Earth.

**American Dream.** 1992, directed by Barbara Kopple.
  The story of the Hormel strike, by the Academy Award-winning director.

**Bread and Roses.** 2000, directed by Ken Loach. * 
  The Justice for Janitors struggle is personalized in this engaging film with the fictional story of Maya, a newly arrived illegal immigrant, who joins up with an idealistic organizer and other workers to fight for better working conditions.

**Clockwatchers.** 1998, directed by Jill Sprecher, starring Parker Posey, Lisa Kudrow.
  Initially funny but finally disturbing film about the lives of temporary office workers.

**Eyes on the Fries, Young Workers in the Service Economy.** 2003, directed by Casey Peek.
  This short film examines the rise of the low-wage service sector and the young people who work in it. Some organizing efforts are shown, including the successful struggle to raise the minimum wage in SF. It can be ordered from the Berkeley Labor Center:  http://laborcenter.berkeley.edu/youngworkers/

  Originally broadcast on public television, this documentary tries to answer the title question by contrast-ing U.S. job losses with China’s busy factories with American people’s quest for low-price products. You can watch parts of this program online:  http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/walmart/

**The Fight in the Fields: Cesar Chavez and the Farmworkers’ Struggle.** Produced, directed, and written by Rick Tejada-Flores and Ray Telles; Paradigm Productions/PBS, 1997.
  This documentary “follows the first successful organizing drive of farm workers in the United States”. Includes footage of our own Jessica Govea Thornbourne.

**La Ciudad (The City).** 1998, Zeitgeist Films.
  This highly praised film tells four stories about recent illegal immigrants to New York City, giving insight into their hopes and struggles. Written & directed by David Riker; Spanish-language with English subtitles.

**Life + Debt.** 2001, directed by Stephanie Black, narration written by Jamaica Kincaid.
  An unforgettable look at the poverty that lies behind the luxurious tourism of the island of Jamaica, and a dissection of the effect globalization has had on the workers and the economy.

**The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter.** 1980, directed by Connie Field, distr. by Direct Cinema.
  A wonderful history of the "Rosies" who worked in the factories during World War II and who were forced out when the men returned, told by five "Rosies".

**Live Nude Girls Unite!** 2000, directed by Julia Query & Vicky Funari.
  Query, a performance artist and former dancer, tells the story of a group of strippers in San Francisco who
got fed up with their working conditions and formed the first Exotic Dancers Union.

**Made in L.A.** 2007, directed by Almudena Carracedo.
A documentary about three Latina immigrants, workers in Los Angeles garment sweatshops, who meet at the Garment Worker Center and campaign, for what turns out to be three years, for basic labor protections. Originally broadcast on public television (P.O.V.), this film can be purchased at http://www.madeinla.com/

**Matewan.** 1987, directed by John Sayles.
A tale of the bitter clash between union and coal company, told with the beauty and simplicity of folk ballads. Shows the important roles women played in the mining community.

**Newsies.** 1992, directed by Kenny Ortega, starring Christian Bale.
A Disney film about early-20th century newsboys who organize (and sing while doing it). Good for helping kids understand the importance of solidarity.

**Norma Rae.** 1976, directed by Martin Ritt, starring Sally Field, Ron Leibman.
Based on the real-life story of Crystal Lee Sutton, a textile worker who joined forces with a labor organizer to unionize a Southern mill.

**North Country.** 2005, directed by Niki Caro, starring Charlize Theron, Frances McDormand.
A single mother takes a job in the coal mine to make a living wage, but finds that the female miners are abused and humiliated by the other workers. But when she sues for sexual harassment, the other women are too scared to join her.

**Salt of the Earth.** 1954, directed by Herbert Biberman.
Gripping story about the struggle of a New Mexican mining community for better working conditions, which explores roles of women, class, and human dignity. Film-makers themselves were blacklisted. (This film is available on various web sites.)

**Schmatta: Rags to Riches to Rags,** doc. 2010, directed by Marc Levin.
This HBO Documentary is not available for distribution as of this writing, so hopefully you can see it at a film festival or on television. It is the story of what happened to the NYC garment industry, whittled down to nothing by automation and globalization. Labor figures prominently in the story.

**Silkwood.** 1983, directed by Mike Nichols, starring Meryl Streep, Cher.
The fictionalized story of Karen Silkwood, who struggled for safe working conditions at the nuclear plant where she worked, and was mysteriously killed.

**Union Maids.** 1977, directed by Julia Reichert, distr. by New Day Films, 48 min.
The fascinating stories of Sylvia, Kate, and Stella, who tell the way things really were back in the days when people risked their lives and jobs to organize trade unions. Interviews intercut with newsreel footage.

An award-winning documentary that weaves together the stories of three immigrants, illustrating how the global economy has forced immigrants to leave their home countries. It can be purchased from NNIRR.

The "untold story" of the Women's Emergency Brigade, the working women, wives, mothers, sisters, who were the backbone of the 1937 Flint Sitdown Strike.

The story of the first working women’s "summer school" at Bryn Mawr College under the inspiring leadership of Hilda "Jane" Smith.
ORDERING INFORMATION & SOURCES FOR LABOR TITLES

To Order Books Online:
POWELL’S CITY OF BOOKS (unionized bookstore)
http://www.powells.com

AMAZON
http://www.amazon.com (largest inventory)

For Resources Cited in This List:

AFSCME
1625 L St. NW., Washington, D.C. 20036-5687
http://www.afscme.org/publications/publicationsindex.cfm

THE APEX PRESS
777 United Nations Plaza, Suite 3C, New York, N.Y. 10017
1-800-316-APEX (2739); http://www.cipa-apex.org/
Distributes titles on corporate power, economic justice and social change..

BEVGRANT.COM
http://www.bevgrant.com
Find out about Bev’s latest gigs here, and buy music by Bev and the Brooklyn Women’s Chorus.

BNA BOOKS
P.O. Box 7814, Edison, N.J. 08818-7814
1-800-960-1220 http://www.bnabooks.com
BNA (Bureau of National Affairs, Inc.) is the largest publisher of labor relations books in the U.S.

CDBABY
http://www.cdbaby.com
Small Oregon company that sells music by independent musicians.

CENTER FOR LABOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION, UCLA
Box 951478, Los Angeles, CA 90095
310-794-5982 ; http://www.labor.ucla.edu

CINCO PUNTOS PRESS
1-800-566-9072 http://www.cincopuntos.com/

COALITION OF LABOR UNION WOMEN (CLUW)
1925 K Street NW, Suite 402, Washington, D.C. 20006
202-223-8360; getinfo@cluw.org; http://www.cluw.org

DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO
1025 Vermont Ave, Suite 1030, Washington DC 20005
Phone: 202-638-0320; info@dpeafclio.org; http://www.dpeafclio.org/

FACETS MULTIMEDIA
1517 W. Fullerton Ave., Chicago, IL 60614
773-281-9075; http://www.facets.org
Specializes in foreign, classic, cult, art, and hard-to-find videos & DVD’s, for purchase or rental.

HIGHLANDER RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER
1959 Highlander Way, New Market, TN 37820
http://www.highlandercenter.org/ [click on “Highlander Store”]

INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN’S POLICY RESEARCH (IWPR)
Publications
1707 L Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20036.
202-785-5100 ; http://www.iwpr.org

THE LABOR HERITAGE FOUNDATION
815 16th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20006
http://www.laborheritage.org/
Large selection of labor-related music (CD’s & audiotapes); also posters, buttons, and selected books, including children’s books, poetry, & novels.

LABOR NOTES
7435 Michigan Ave., Detroit, MI 48210
(313) 842-6262 (credit card sales only); http://www.labornotes.org/

LABOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH PROGRAM
University of California at Berkeley
2223 Fulton Street, Berkeley, CA 94720-5120
(510) 642-5507 ; info@lohp.org ; http://www.lohp.org

LABOR PROJECT FOR WORKING FAMILIES
2521 Channing Way #5555, Berkeley, CA 94720
510-643-7088; http://www.laborproject.org

NIRR (National National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights)
310 8th Street Suite 303, Oakland, CA 94607
http://www.nirr.org/

PROJECT SOUTH
9 Gammon Ave. Atlanta, Georgia  30315
404-622-0602 http://www.projectsouth.org

ROBERT McCONNELL PRODUCTIONS
4303 67th AVE NW
Gig Harbor, WA 98335
253-265-3184 OR 1-800-532-4017; http://www.parli.com/

STITCH
1525 Newton Street, NW,
Washington, DC 20010.
202-265-3790; http://www.stitchonline.org/newsletter.asp

UNION COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC. (UCS)
165 Conduit St.
Annapolis, MD 21401
1-800-321-2545;
https://ssi30.pair.com/unionist/ccp51/cgi-bin/cp-app.cgi
Central ordering of labor books from a variety of publishers.

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Cambridge MA 02139
1-800-576-4552; workrights@igc.org; http://www.workrightspress.com/

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