UNION WOMEN TAKING BACK AMERICA

Books and Films to Read and Watch and Discuss
Also Posters and Web Sites!

compiled by
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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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LABOR UNION FACTS & FIGURES & RESEARCH


WEB SITES – STARTING POINTS FOR LABOR RESEARCH:

LABOR RESEARCH PORTAL (UC Berkeley, Institute for Research on Labor and Employment Library)
The IIR Library has “Labor Guides” to online & print resources as well as its basic web guides to unions, labor studies programs and libraries, government agencies, and career guides.

INTERNET RESOURCE GATEWAY: JOHN F. HENNING CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS (UC Berkeley, Labor Center)
http://www.irr.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: CATHERWOOD LIBRARY (Cornell University, ILR School)
http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/library/research/
The Catherwood 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.ilr.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; currently edited by the author.

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, full text of all publications, text and explanations of employment labor laws and regulations. This 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 Dept. of Labor responsible for collecting and publishing statistics about labor and employment. Starting here, you can find statistics 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.

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

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

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.

LABOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATION: WORKING LIFE
http://www.workinglife.org/
News & reports.

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.

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

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

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 Midwest Academy has been training people to organize since 1973. [available from USC]


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.

Building Regional Power Research Project.

This ongoing research project documents “how local labor movements are developing systematic strategies for achieving regional power.” Case studies of innovative practices are posted on this web site, to be shared and used as models. http://www.laborstudies.wayne.edu/power.html

Caiazzu, Amy. *’I knew I could do this work’: Seven Strategies to Promote Women’s Activism & Leadership in Unions.* Wash.DC, 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.


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


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://troubleshootershandbook.org/](http://troubleshootershandbook.org/); the book can be ordered there or from Labor Notes: [http://labornotes.org/troubleshootershandbook2](http://labornotes.org/troubleshootershandbook2).

WEBSITES:

BERGER-MARKS FOUNDATION
[http://www.bergermarks.org](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

LABOR PROJECT FOR WORKING FAMILIES
Resources (news, studies, contract language) for union members, negotiating teams, organizers, policy makers as well as community based organizations and activists on advocating for family friendly workplaces.

MIDWEST ACADEMY DIRECT ACTION ORGANIZING PROCESS
Outlines basic techniques of direct action organizing.

XPDNC: ORGANIZING DRIVE LINKS
Links to websites of active workplace organizing campaigns around the world.

FACTS @ YOUR FINGERTIPS: AN INTERNET RESEARCH GUIDE FOR UNION ACTIVISTS – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
[http://www.afscme.org/members/1254.cfm](http://www.afscme.org/members/1254.cfm)
Excellent guide to online resources for collective bargaining research for public and private sector workplaces.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING FAQ’S (Univ. of Hawaii, Center for Labor Education and Research)
Collective bargaining basics.
UE INFORMATION FOR WORKERS
http://www.ranknfile-ue.org/stwd_idx.html
Costing out contracts & more.

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

MASSACHUSETTS HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION: UNION CONTRACTS
http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=hrdsubtopic&L=3&L0=Home&L1=Employee+%26+Labor+Relations&L2=Union+Contracts&sid=Ehrd
Current copies of contracts and salary charts for unions that bargain with the State of Massachusetts.

NEW YORK STATE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF EMPLOYEE RELATIONS: COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
http://www.goer.state.ny.us/CNA/
Text of bargaining agreements between New York State and various unions representing state workers.
http://www.goer.state.ny.us/CNA/bumatrix.html
A subject matrix of contract articles in NYS public sector contracts; a convenient way to research particular contract clauses.

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


Ella Jenkins and a Union of Friends Pulling Together (CD/audiotape). Smithsonian Folkways, 1999. [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.


Hoose, Philip. *We Were There Too! Young People in U.S. History.* N.Y.: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2001. Brief biographies and photographs of young people active participants in social movements. Labor figures include our own Jessica Govea, who as a teenager was a founding member of the United Farm Workers.


A fascinating study of three women, all of whom work the same job but in different eras and thus in different places: Paterson, N.J. in the early 20th century, rural Mississippi during the civil rights era, and finally Matamoros, Mexico in the here and now.


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”.


Clear explanations in under 150 pages.


In telling the story of the women that are part of Dukes v. Wal-Mart, the largest class-action discrimination lawsuit in history, Featherstone also reveals how the Wal-Mart culture systematically devalues, underpays, and destroys the women who make up the largest portion of their workforce.


An explanation of how economic globalization has concentrated power in global corporations, with devastating results for people and the environment.


Louie, an activist and organizer, tells the stories of Chinese, Mexican, and Korean women workers who have organized for change in transnational sweatshops and in the home.


Sixteen case studies on organizing women workers in women-dominated occupations and industries around the world. Examples: domestic workers in Brazil, homeworkers in Canada, workers’ education for rural workers in Africa. A source of ideas and inspiration.


The author spent a year in China, documenting changes to the people, the labor force, and Chinese society in a global economy.


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
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”.
NNIRR, National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights.
http://www.nnirr.org/

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.

LABOR STUDIES

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.

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]


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.

WEBSITES:

UALÉ (UNITED ASSOCIATION FOR LABOR EDUCATION
http://www.uale.org/
http://www.uale.org/links/links.shtml
UALÉ 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.

Your Notes:

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]


Text on labor law written from a labor, rather than management, perspective.


Useful, inexpensive, packed with information on your rights as a worker and a union member in a question-and-answer format.


Nolo Press is known for its easy-to-use legal guides. This recent edition covers all aspects of employment law.


See author’s website for order info & chapter one online: [http://www.workrightspress.com/index.html](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](http://www.workrightspress.com/index.html).


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

WEBSITES:

**FINDLAW**

[http://www.findlaw.com](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](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.cornell.edu](http://www.law.cornell.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.

**YAHOO’S INDEX TO EMPLOYMENT LAW SITES**


Yahoo's directory of employment law sites.

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

[http://www.dol.gov](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](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

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 2008 elections.

Economics made understandable from those progressive people at the Center for Popular Economics.

Comprehensive, understandable analysis of the U.S. labor market by the Economic Policy Institute, a well-known think tank. Statistics, graphs & tables illustrate living standards of U.S. workers. Selected chapters and fact sheets on income, wages, etc. are available online: http://www.stateofworkingamerica.org/.

Published annually, this book is the place to go for names of government officials, addresses of agencies, and descriptions of what they are both supposed to be doing. Available from your local library or online: http://www.gpoaccess.gov/gmanual.

WEBSITES:

FIRSTGOV
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
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.

AFL-CIO: WORKING FAMILIES VOTE 2008
http://aflcio.org/issues/politics/
A voters’ guide for union members.

PROJECT VOTE SMART
http://www.vote-smart.org
This non-profit organization is dedicated to providing neutral information—facts, biographies, voting records—of political candidates.

FACTCHECK.ORG
http://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
Detailed information on PAC and individual campaign fund contributions.

CENTER FOR AMERICAN WOMEN AND POLITICS
http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/Facts/Officeholders/cong-current.html
Factsheets and research on women office holders in the U.S.

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

INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN'S POLICY RESEARCH
http://www.iwpr.org/
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.

SAFETY & HEALTH


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.

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

Labor Occupational Health Program
http://ist-socrates.berkeley.edu/~lohp/ 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 bilingual, 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.

SEIU: Education & Leadership Development: Safety and Health
Books and fact sheets on various health & safety issues, including HIV/AIDS, “sick buildings”, and smallpox. Some are downloadable from the web site, some need to be purchased.

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.

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

UNION SKILLS


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.

Till-Retz, Roberta. *Your Local Union Newsletter: Key to a revitalized Local: Why it’s important, how to get started, what to include*. 2002. [pdf version available for download: http://www.continuetolearn.uiowa.edu/laborctr/pdf/Newsletters.pdf]
Brief guide to help new editors get started with tips on getting content and basics of layout.


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/ | 6. Stating the Question. 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…. |

2008


**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.

CORPORATE RESEARCH PROJECT  
http://www.corp-research.org/  
See tutorial “How to do Corporate Research” by “dirt digger” supreme Phil Mattera.

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.

BARE BONES 101: A BASIC TUTORIAL ON SEARCHING THE WEB  
http://www.sc.edu/beaufort/library/pages/bones/bones.shtml  
Good tutorial on using search engines, including separate sections for the major search engines.

**SEARCH ENGINES & DIRECTORIES:**

GOOGLE / GOOGLE ADVANCED SEARCH  
http://www.google.com  
http://www.google.com/advanced_search  
If you haven’t tried the Advanced Search page, try it. It’s pretty easy to use and can be very helpful in narrowing down your search.

YAHOO! SEARCH  
http://search.yahoo.com/  

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 (i.e., research papers, scholarly articles, citations of articles, theses, books, abstracts). Not comprehensive, useful for leads to scholarly titles.
Hints for Using Search Engines:
- If possible, use unique terms.
- Or, use 2 or 3 key words or phrases.
- 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)?
- Try the Advanced Search Page, it’s not that hard.
- 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.

Your Notes & Web Sites:
WOMEN WORKERS TODAY—(MOSTLY US. & CANADA)


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 face 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.


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 FACT SHEETS

WOMEN’S LABOR HISTORY
These titles are a starting point. For a more complete list, see the Tamiment Library’s online guide to Sources in U.S. Women’s Labor History: http://www.nyu.edu/library/bobst/research/tam/women/cover.html.

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 what occupations were suitable for which group of individuals.

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


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.

SOURCES IN WOMEN'S U.S. LABOR HISTORY
http://www.nyu.edu/library/bobst/research/tam/women/cover.html
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://ocp.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.


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.


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.


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

Perez, Frank, with Dolores Huerta.  *Dolores Huerta (Contemporary Hispanic Americans series)*.  Raintree, 1996.

A "young adult" book, but still 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.
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.

[http://www.workinglife.org]
Online news on economic trends & union issues; replaces LRA’s print Economic Update. Not updated comprehensively, but good source for tracking recent studies and economic reports.

[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 -- building ships, soothing the sick, caring for children in and out of our homes, and working as labor leaders, teachers and builders of peace.

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
Have You Been to Jail for Justice?
Look to the Left
Union Maid
Compilation of 23 union songs.
United We Bargain, Divided We Beg

Anne Feeney & Chris Chandler
Flying Poetry Circus
Live From the Wholly Stolen Empire

Bev Grant
http://bevgrant.com/
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
http://www.nyclc.org/
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

Six Labor Choruses
The Great Choral Convergence Live!
A recording of 'the best of the best' of a historic concert featuring six labor choruses from around the country, which took place in Washington DC in 2004, part of the Great Labor Arts Exchange.

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.
POSTERS & STUFF

See Ordering Information for addresses (snail & Internet)

AFL-CIO UNION SHOP ONLINE.
Offers a variety of posters, including Fasanella paintings, the Cesar Chavez stamp, and “Sweatshops: Who Made Your Shoes.” Good selection of music. You can also buy books, videos, CD’s, buttons, cards, and clothing here. AFL-CIO golf balls? You’ll find it here.

BREAD AND ROSES CULTURAL PROJECT.
Bread and Roses was founded in 1979 as the cultural arm of what is now New York’s Health and Human Service Union, 1199/SEIU. One of the wonderful side benefits of their work is a wealth of posters on women and on labor. Their online Social Justice Giftshop also sells t-shirts and calendars. Here are some of the poster series they have originated and which are available for sale:

*Image of Labor Poster Series.* 1199 Bread and Roses Cultural Project.
Set of 10 posters, designed by well-known artists, with teaching guide.

*Women of Hope Series.* 1199 Bread and Roses Cultural Project.
Each series consists of a set of 12 posters designed to honor and recognize the contributions of women such as Ella Baker, Julia Alvarez, Maya Lin, Winona LaDuke & Bella Abzug, who serve as role models for children and adults. The posters can be bought individually or as a set. Teaching guides are available.

- Women of Hope: International
- Women of Hope: Latinas Abriendo Camino
- Women of Hope: Native-American/Hawaiian Women.

*Gallery Posters.* 1199 Bread and Roses Cultural Project.
A mix of posters that have been exhibited at Gallery 1199, including several Ralph Fasanella’s.

LABOR HERITAGE FOUNDATION.
This is the place to go for labor music and books related to labor culture. Also sells posters, buttons, notecards, etc.

NORTHLAND POSTER COLLECTIVE.
Northland Poster, the “mall of the other America”, has been in business since 1979. They offer a diverse collection of labor posters by artists such as Ralph Fasanella and Karin Jacobson, as well as labor t-shirts, buttons, bumper stickers, mugs, and even baby bibs.
Films that are starred (*) are relatively easy to locate. Other titles may be located through a public or labor library (if you don’t see it, ask the librarian to order it), or available for purchase online relatively inexpensively.

**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. The film shows some organizing efforts, including the successful struggle to raise the minimum wage in San Francisco. 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/

Produced, directed, and written by Rick Tejada-Flores and Ray Telles; Paradigm Productions/PBS.  
This documentary “follows the first successful organizing drive of farm workers in the United States, while recounting the many failed and dramatic attempts to unionize that led up to this victory”. Includes footage, past and near present, 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.

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.

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:

AFL-CIO
815 16th St. N.W., Room 209
Washington, D.C. 20006
http://www.aflcio.org

AFL-CIO - THE UNION SHOP ONLINE
http://unionshop.aflcio.org/shop/index.cfm

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.

BREAD AND ROSES CULTURAL PROJECT.
322 W. 48th St., 6th fl., NY, NY 10036
212-767-0025; http://www.bread-and-roses.com/

BNA BOOKS
P.O. Box 7814
Edison, N.J. 08818-7814
1-800-960-1220
http://storefront.bnabooks.com or http://www.bnabooks.com/ordering.htm
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
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO
1025 Vermont Ave, Suite 1030
Washington DC 20005
Phone: 202-638-0320; info@dpeaflcio.org; http://www.dpeaflcio.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.

NATIONAL LABOR CENTER: GEORGE MEANY CENTER
10000 New Hampshire Ave.
Silver Spring MD 20903
301-431-6400, ext. 432; http://www.georgemeany.org
[note: the Online Bookstore is for course materials only]

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; lohp@socrates.berkeley.edu; 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.nnirr.org/

PROJECT SOUTH
9 Gammon Ave. Atlanta, Georgia 30315
404-622-0620
http://www.projectsouth.org/pages/about_us.htm

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.
165 Conduit St.
Annapolis, MD 21401
1-800-321-2545;
https://ssl30.pair.com/unionist/ccp51/cgi-bin/cp-app.cgi
Central ordering of labor books from a variety of publishers.

WOMEN OF COLOR RESOURCE CENTER
1611 Telegraph Ave. #303
Oakland, CA 94612
510-444-2700
info@coloredgirls.org; www.coloredgirls.org

WORK RIGHTS PRESS
Box 391066
Cambridge MA 02139
1-800-576-4552; workrights@igc.org
http://www.workrightspress.com/

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