

White American Culture, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

A multiracial organization

WINTER 2002

Annual report - the year 2001

Once again it's time for our annual report. Here's what we've been doing.

Convention

The Center continues working on the White Antiracist Convention. In particular, we've continued to invite people to join the Advisory Council (see listing, this page).

We've revised some of our original thinking about organizing. There will still be a White Antiracist Leadership Conference this year as a means of launching the oversight organization for the convention. But rather than trying to set up a structure of planning groups and student groups, we now envision our task as one of obtaining resources for the White Antiracist Leadership Conference itself. The matter of how the resources are used should then flow out of that event.

We have tentatively scheduled the White Antiracist Leadership Conference for November 15 & 16, 2002. There are two possible sites under consideration, but no selection has been made as yet.

Prior to the conference we want to develop a registry of people and organizations who are interested in supporting the Convention effort, as well as raise funds and secure other resources as needed. Then, when the Leadership Conference takes place, the planners and the oversight organization that emerges will have a pool of resources to undertake the actual Convention effort. And they will also have the flexibility to determine their own structure suitable to their purpose and the conditions that exist at that time.

Advisory Council Members *White Antiracist Convention*

Lucky Altman	National Conference for Community and Justice/Los Angeles
Rev. David Billings	European Dissent, People's Institute for Survival and Beyond
Robert T. Carter	Psychologist, Columbia University
Ronald Chisom	People's Institute for Survival and Beyond
Diana Dunn	European Dissent, People's Institute for Survival and Beyond
Marian Meck Groot	Women's Theological Center
Jeff Hitchcock	Center for the Study of White American Culture
Judith Katz	Kaleel Jamison Consulting Group
Frances E. Kendall	Consultant on organizational change and communication
Paul Kivel	Activist, anti-violence educator, Author: <i>Uprooting Racism</i>
Paul Marcus	Community Change, Inc., Boston
Robert W. Terry	Author: <i>For Whites Only</i>
Tim Wise	Activist, author, speaker, antiracism educator

Publishing

Last January we had just received the first copies of Jeff's book, *Unraveling the White Cocoon*, fresh from the printer. The print run totaled 577 copies. By the end of July they were sold out. There followed a prolonged discussion with the publisher regarding another printing, some details of which have been printed in previous issues of our newsletter. To make a long story short, all publishing rights have now been returned

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Life at the Center

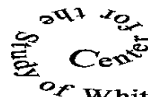
You may have noticed our winter newsletter is coming out somewhat later than usual. Spring is literally around the corner. Part of the reason for the delay involves a comparatively sizeable consulting job the Center performed for a division of NASA. Yes, we're NASA contractors!

In truth, the facility in question has experienced concerns over racial relations, not unlike many organizations in the United States, with whites overly represented in senior level positions and people of color concentrated in lower ranks. However, unlike most organizations, people in a position to contract for human relations training saw the need to make race an issue, and not only that, to bring a discussion of whiteness and white culture into the picture.

Beginning in late October we custom designed and performed two major training initiatives. For the first, volunteers from throughout the organization went through a multiracial Institute on Race. The second initiative was brought on by a lawsuit in which African American employees alleged unfair treatment. As the suit was being settled, we were called on short notice to design and perform a mandatory training program for supervisors.

All this has been a mixed blessing. One result has been that other activities have been pushed back—hence the newsletter arriving now instead of sooner. Our other activities, including our website and convention plans, need our attention. And while our income statement now looks wonderful, the U.S. government pays slowly. Our cash flow has been so severely impacted that in the immediate moment we are worse off than before October.

In time, though, the U.S. government pays. And while those of us who performed the work have many years experience as trainers in other circumstances, it's heartening to find a group of people willing and able to bring us into an organization under the banner of the Center. All in all, the experience, while demanding in its immediacy, proved satisfying to both our client and ourselves. There is the possibility of continuing activity, but for now we have a chance to catch our breath and return to other matters needing our attention.



White American Culture, Inc.

The *Membership Newsletter* is a publication of the Center for the Study of White American Culture, Inc. sent exclusively to its members 4 times per year. The Center for the Study of White American Culture is a multiracial organization whose mission is to define and examine white United States culture and to address its role in, and impact on, the greater American culture.

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embers - new and renewing since last issue

Students

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Contributors

Cessie Alfonso
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Sherry Holland
Judith H. Katz

Elaine Manglitz
Kim O'Reilly
Daniel B. Singley

Advocates

Patti DeRosa
Charley Flint
Jeff Hitchcock

David Ludlow
Lorrie N. Smith

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to the author, Jeff Hitchcock, who is making them available to the Center.

Current plans are to re-publish the book. The original publisher dealt only with academic and association markets. Much to our regret, they did not try to place the book in the much larger trade market. In other words, the former publisher made no effort to bring the book to outlets and review sources available to the general public. While we remain interested in seeing the book used in college courses, one major purpose of the book—that it reach out to everyday white Americans beyond the campus, in all walks of life—was not being realized.

In the normal course of the life of a new book, copies are sent to trade review journals, magazines, newspapers and other outlets. Some influential reviewers expect prepublication galleys and will not touch a book that is already published. Reaching these reviewers is important to introducing the book to a wide readership.

Consequently, the Center will now act as publisher. We're going to use the name Crandall, Dostie & Douglass Books as our imprint. The name commemorates two nineteenth century white antiracists (Prudence Crandall and A.P. Dostie) and the nineteenth century African American leader, Frederick Douglass.

The book will be released under a new copyright. In order to do this, we need a new title, which will be *Lifting the White Veil: An Exploration of White American Culture in a Multiracial Context*. Furthermore, some of the time sensitive material will be updated, and the entire book will receive another light editing. New front matter will also be developed, and a new cover. The book will be printed in hardcover and priced at about the same as the previous publication. The first print run will number 3,000 books. We expect to have copies for sale in mid-July.

We did not produce any other publications during the year. As always, we continue to look for new manuscripts for our WHITENESS PAPERS series. Members are invited to submit queries to the series editor, Charley Flint, at DrCFlint@aol.com.

We also invite queries on book-length publications now that we have entered the field of book publishing on our own. Send book queries to Jeff Hitchcock, at jeffhitchcock@euroamerican.org.

Training and speaking

If we simply measure the income generated by our training and speaking engagements, the Center had an outstanding year in training. However, 89% of our income from training and speaking engagements came from a single client. This is a mixed blessing. For a closer look at what we mean see the commentary, *Life at the Center*, on page 2.

Membership

The events of September 11 have impacted our membership roll. Last year at this time our membership stood at 100 members. This year the count is 86. In the immediate weeks following September 11 there was a noticeable drop in the rate of new memberships we received. That, together with some normal attrition and, to some extent, our later than usual mailing of final renewal notices, probably accounts for the drop.

The good news is that many members continue to remain with us. It would be difficult to overstate how important this fact is to our outlook. It gives us both hope and guidance. Hope that a committed cohort of activists exist who consider it important to examine and act upon white culture and white privilege. And guidance in the form of renewed support that leads us to believe we are providing something of value to people who share our goals.

Internet services

During 2001, under the direction of webmaster Scott Barrett, the Center's web site received a major redesign and upgrade. At the same time, we made the transition from our original ISP to one that offered a broader range of support options and a pathway for expansion. The site, www.euroamerican.org, continues to maintain its presence on the web, and grow. The site averaged 120 visits per day through the year, a 50% increase over the year 2000. Many people continue to learn of us and our work through the site. Depending on their take on the matter, we receive email ranging from supportive and enthusiastic to thinly veiled accusations of how racist we are. Along more constructive lines, we find we are now being

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widely listed as a resource in multicultural resource listings.

Our email discussion group, the whiteness listserv, continues to remain a popular feature. If you are a current member and are not yet on the list but would like to be, contact us at contact@euroamerican.org.

Outlook for 2002

This year is a time of remaining faithful to our mission. There is a temptation to give into the aftermath of September 11, and temper our rough edges in the name of unity. The political climate is less forgiving of social critics.

There is also a temptation to remake ourselves as a training outfit, based on our recent success. Training,

indeed, is one of our functions. We hope to do more and do it well. But we also have our organizing work that doesn't show up on an income statement so dramatically, but which goes to the core of our purpose. We look forward to our continuing work on the white antiracist convention and anticipate it becoming increasingly demanding of our time as the year unfolds.

We hope, too, to build our web presence. There is a growing demand on the Internet for information about white American culture. We hope to address that demand, and continue our advocacy for building a multiracial society.

Financial report

In 2001 our income quadrupled, due almost entirely to work performed for a single government client in the final quarter of the year. Aside from this, our income from sales of publications nearly doubled, but income from membership donations dropped by 20% over the previous year.

Expenses remained in line with the growth of income. Our expanded training services required a much expanded payment of trainers (consultant fees & expenses). We also began paying accumulated interest on outstanding loans made to the Center in its earliest years. We are nearly current on interest and will soon begin to pay of the principal, though in the short term the Center has had to borrow once again to cover expenses as we still await payment of overdue receivables from our recent flurry of training work.

We show a healthy net income for the year. This amount will be reinvested, most notably to publish *Lifting the White Veil*, the reworked version of *Unraveling the White Cocoon*, under the Center's new imprint.

It is not clear at this time if our financial position reflects true sustainable growth, or is simply due to a fortunate circumstance from a single contract. Consequently, we will remain conservative in our planning. No salaries were paid in 2001.

Income Statement, Year 2001

Income	
Contributions income	329.40
Engagements	44,010.00
Membership donations	2,928.00
Miscellaneous income	77.13
Reimbursed expenses	681.00
Sale of publications	5,408.93
Total Income	53,434.46
Expense	
Bank service charges	175.00
Board meetings	61.58
Books, articles, publications	606.67
Conference fees	868.38
Consultant expenses	3,249.53
Consultant fees	21,097.08
Interest expense	4,060.34
Internet operations	725.59
Member discount	113.78
Miscellaneous	71.93
Office operations	3,509.03
PR and marketing	532.06
Professional fees	945.00
Publishing operations	3,322.35
Training	810.90
Travel	2,290.01
Unpaid invoices	56.95
Total Expense	42,496.18
Net Income	10,938.28