

TIMELINE: FARMWORKER MOVEMENT 1960-1993

By LeRoy Chatfield,
Founder/Director, Farmworker Movement Documentation Project

Designed by Jennifer Szabo

LEGEND:

Presidents



California Governors



COLOR CODING:

External Events

External Events With Some Influence on
Farmworker Movement

Specific Farmworker Movement Events

| | |
|-------------|--|
| <p>1960</p> | <p>1960 Number of California Latino Elected Officials - < 12 Number of California Latino Elected Officials - < 12 FDA Approves First Birth Control Pill Founding of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) Founding of Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Pat Brown 1959-1967</p> |
| <p>1961</p> | <p>Folk Singer Bob Dylan Issues First Album Cursillo Movement Comes to San Francisco President John Kennedy Creates Peace Corps First Freedom Ride to the South Rev. Wayne "Chris" Hartmire Appointed Director California Migrant Ministry</p> <p style="text-align: right;">John F. Kennedy 1961-1963</p> |
| <p>1962</p> | <p>Cursillo Movement Comes to Sacramento, Monterey, Los Angeles Second Vatican Council Begins Cesar Chavez Resigns from Community Service Organization (CSO) September Cesar Chavez Founds the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA)</p> |
| <p>1963</p> | <p>Beatles Release "I Want To Hold Your Hand" Founding of La Alianza by Reies Tijerina Martin Luther King Writes "Letter from Birmingham Jail" Civil Rights March on Washington</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Lyndon Johnson 1963-1969</p> |
| <p>1964</p> | <p>Migrant Minister Rev. Jim Drake Creates Farmworker Organization in Porterville UAW Sponsors Citizens Crusade Against Poverty President Lyndon Johnson Declares "War On Poverty" Mississippi Civil Rights Summer Project Passage of Civil Rights Act of 1964: Segregation Illegal Berkeley Free Speech Movement (FSM) December Nobel Peace Prize Award to Martin Luther King Ernesto Galarza Publishes "Merchants of Labor" Bracero Program Ends NFWA Establishes Death Benefit Insurance Program Dolores Huerta Hired by NFWA for Membership Department Fall Cesar Chavez Publishes NFWA Newspaper: El Malcriado</p> |
| <p>1965</p> | <p>Malcolm X Assassinated President Lyndon Johnson Signs Medicare Bill Jim Drake Hires Gilbert Padilla To Organize Farmworkers In Porterville Area Farmworker Rent Strike March in Tulare County Second Vatican Council Ends California Rural Legal Assistance Founded NFWA Establishes Farm Worker Credit Union September Delano Grape Strike Begins - AWOC & NFWA <i>Leadership of Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC): Larry Itliong, Andy Imutan, Phillip Vera Cruz, Bob Armington</i> <i>Leadership of National Farm Workers Association (NFWA): Cesar Chavez, Gilbert Padilla, Julio Hernandez, Tony Orendain, Dolores Huerta, Roger Terronez</i> October First Delegation of California Religious Leaders Visit Delano to Support Striking Farmworkers November Luis Valdez & Agustin Lira Begin El Teatro Campesino December Walter Reuther, UAW President, Visits Delano and Pledges Monthly Financial Support to Striking Farmworkers National Delegation of Church Leaders Visit Delano to Support Striking Farmworkers</p> |

1966

Quotations of Chairman Mao Published In China
 Founding of Black Panthers
 Senator Robert Kennedy Visits Delano Grape Strikers
 Jim Drake Organizes First National Farmworker Boycott
 March-April NFWA March to Sacramento
 April Schenley Industries Recognizes NFWA
 June Eugene Nelson NFWA Organizer Ignites Texas Melon Strike
 NFWA Delano Summer for Student Volunteers
 August Union Merger: NFWA & AWOC Become United Farm Workers Organizing Committee (UFWOC)
 UFWOC Wins DiGiorgio Secret Ballot Union Elections
 NFWA Establishes Health Clinic at Arroyo Camp Strike Headquarters

1967

San Francisco "Summer of Love" Ronald Reagan
1967-1975
 Brown Berets Formed
 Mark Jonathan Harris Documentary Film "HUELGA!" Released
 April El Malcriado Creates Texas Edition
 UFW Contract with DiGiorgio Corporation Signed
 Farmworker Strikers Nursery School Opens in Delano
 National Farm Worker Service Center (NFWSC) Opens in Delano
 NFWSC Purchases 40 Acres West of Delano for Future UFW Headquarters
 Farm Worker Co-Op Gas Station Opens in Delano
 El Malcriado Publishes "La Dulce Vida in the North" by Andy Zermeno & Daniel de los Reyes & Luis Valdez
 NFWSC Builds Farm Worker Co-Op Gas Station on Forty Acres
 United Farm Workers Cooperative Established in Eastern Washington State

1968

Viet Cong Launch Tet Offensive
 Student Strike at San Francisco State University
 Chicano Movement Emerges
 Passage of Civil Rights Act: Housing Discrimination Illegal
 Martin Luther King Assassinated
 Senator Robert F. Kennedy Assassinated
 Center For Community Change Founded
 Title VII Bilingual Education Law Passed by Congress
 East Los Angeles Chicano Students High School Walkouts
 February-March - Cesar Chavez: Fast For Nonviolence
 June UFW GOTV Campaign East Los Angeles - Robert Kennedy For President

1969

Founding of Weathermen Richard Nixon
1969-1974
 United States Apollo 11 Lands on Moon
 Woodstock Festival
 New Yorker Publishes: Peter Matthiessen: "Profile: Cesar Chavez"
 1969-1971 Chicano Moratorium
 US Defense Department Grape Purchases: 1967 - 7.5 million lbs. /1969 - 16 million lbs.
 White Chapel Bell Foundry (London) Donates "Farmworker Freedom" Liberty Bell
 National Conference of Catholic Bishops Appoint Farm Labor Mediation Committee
 Jacques Levy Introduces Cesar Chavez to German Shepherd Dogs
 UFW Health Clinic Temporary Location on Forty Acres
 UFW Builds Union Headquarters On Forty Acres
 UFW Coachella Valley Strikers 100 Mile March to Mexicali
 International Grape Boycott Day
 UFW GRAPE BOYCOTT OFFICES: AZ (Phoenix); CA (San Jose, Los Angeles, San Pedro, Oakland, Pacoima, San Francisco, Sacramento, San Diego); CO (Denver); DC (Washington); FL (Miami); GA (Atlanta); IL (Chicago); LA (New Orleans); MD (Baltimore); MA (Boston); MI (Detroit); MN (Minneapolis); MO (Kansas City, St. Louis); NY (Buffalo, New York City); OH (Cleveland, Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton); OR (Portland); PA (Pittsburgh, Philadelphia); TN (Memphis); TX (El Paso, Houston); WI (Milwaukee); WA (Seattle); Canada (Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver)
 First Union Health & Welfare Plan for Farmworkers: RFK Farm Worker Medical Plan (UFW Contracts: Gallo, Christian Brothers, Schenley, Perelli-Minetti, Almaden, Paul Masson, Franzia, DiGiorgio, Novitiate)
 UFW Volunteers Gordon and Felicia Williamson Open the Huelga School in Delano

1970

Four Student Anti-War Protestors at Kent State and Two Protestors at Jackson State University Shot and Killed by National Guard Soldiers and State Police
First Earth Day

La Raza Unida Party Emerges

Walter Reuther, UAW President Killed In Plane Crash

Canada National Grape Boycott Day

Police Kill L.A. Times Columnist, Ruben Salazar, Chicano Moratorium Rally

Inter-Harvest Signs UFW Union Contract for Salinas & Santa Maria Valleys

Freshpict & Pic-N-Pac Sign UFW Union Contracts In Salinas Valley

January UFW Calls 1970 "Year of the Farm Worker"

UFW Begins Taller Grafico Studio with Ruben Montoya

April Coachella Valley Grape Strike Victory

July Delano Grape Strike Victory

July/August Fresno County Grape Growers Sign UFW Contracts

July Teamster Union Signs Sweetheart Contracts With Salinas Valley Growers

December Cesar Chavez Jailed In Salinas Advocating Lettuce Boycott

1971

Pesticide DDT Outlawed

Gloria Steinem Launches Ms Magazine

Ernesto Galarza Publishes Autobiography "Barrio Boy"

Founding of National Farm Worker Ministry (NFWM)

UFWOC Relocates Headquarters to La Paz (Keene CA)

UFW Vice-President (and former AWOC leader) Larry Itliong Resigns

New Rodrigo Terronez Memorial Clinic Opens at UFW Forty Acres

Federal Agents Report Assassination Plot Against Cesar Chavez

1972

Watergate Break-In

Passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)

Texas Court Rules Texas Rangers Conspired With Growers Against Strikers

UFW Campaigns for Art Torres for Assembly Against Incumbent Alex Garcia

Creation of Human Billboards to Wage No on Prop 22 Campaign

UFW Arizona Governor Recall Campaign Begins

Pete Velasco Elected To UFW Executive Board to Fill Larry Itliong Vacancy

UFW Opens Farmworker Clinic in Calexico

January Death of UFW Volunteer Nan Freeman on Picket Line

February Coca Cola Signs UFW Union Contract for Florida Citrus

April AFL-CIO Grants UFW National Union Status

UFW Organizes National Letter Writing Campaign (1 million letters) Against GOP

May/June Cesar Chavez: Fast of Love in Phoenix AZ

November Defeat of Grower Sponsored California Proposition 22

1973

Roe v. Wade Makes Abortion Constitutional Right

New York World Trade Center Becomes Tallest Building in World

Watergate Hearings Begin

California Supreme Court Rules Teamster Collusion With Salinas Growers

Anne Draper, Farmworker Champion/Organizer of Delano Food Caravan Dies

UFW Calls 1973 "Year of the Boycott"

Safeway Sues UFW Claiming \$100 Million in Boycott Losses

UFW Arizona Governor Recall Campaign Garners 170,000 Signatures

General Counsel Jerry Cohen Files Major Law Suit Against Teamster- Vegetable Grower Collusion Against United Farm Workers

UFW Board Member Andy Imutan Resigns

Rick Tejada-Flores Documentary Film "SI SE PUEDE" Released

Grape Growers Refuse To Renegotiate Contracts - UFW Grape Industry Strike Called

Dorothy Day and 450 UFW Strikers & Religious Volunteers Arrested in Fresno County

Elected Officers: Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta, Gilbert Padilla, Pete Velasco, Phillip Vera Cruz, Mack Lyon, Richard Chavez, Eliseo Medina, Marshall Ganz

Juan De La Cruz Farm Workers Pension Plan Established

UFW Farmworker Educational Building at La Paz Completed

1973
cont.

New UFW Offices Constructed in McAllen Texas
 Cesar & Helen Chavez Celebrate 25th Wedding Anniversary
 UFW Sanger Health Clinic Opens
 August Striker Naji Daifullah Killed by Police Officer
 August Striker Juan de la Cruz Shot Dead On Picket Line
 September First Convention of United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO

1974

Hank Aaron Breaks Babe Ruth's Homerun Record
 Resignation of Richard Nixon
 Cesar Chavez Has Private Audience with Pope Paul VI
 Labor Contractor Bus Accident Kills 19 Lettuce Workers in Blythe
 Former UFW Volunteer, Art Torres, Elected to CA State Assembly
 UFW Mexicali Health Clinic Opens
 UFW Florida Health Clinic Opens
 June UFW Dedication of Agbayani Village for Retired Filipino Workers

Gerald Ford
1974-1977

1975

Fall of Saigon/Vietnam War Ends
 Louis Harris Poll: 17 Million Honor UFW Boycotts in US
 California Supreme Court Outlaws Use of Short Handled Hoe
 Glen Percy Documentary Film "Fighting For Our Lives" Released
 April Passage of Agricultural Labor Relations Act (ALRA) in California
 July/August Cesar Chavez: 1000 Mile Farmworker March
 September 1975/January 1976 40,000 California Farmworkers Vote In Union Elections

Jerry Brown
1975-1983

1976

Apple Computer Launched
 ALRB Exceeds Operating Budget, Shuts Down, CA Senate Republicans Refuse To Fund
 UFW Martin Luther King Farm Workers Fund (Healthcare, Education, Social Services) Established
 UFW Calexico Clinic Opens
 November UFW Sponsored California Proposition 14 Defeated

1977

February - Death of Former UFW Board Member Larry Itliong
 UFW Board Member Philip Vera Cruz Resigns
 Teamsters & United Farm Workers Sign Jurisdictional Pact

Jimmy Carter
1977-1981

1978

Jonestown Massacre
 UFW Executive Board Votes 5-4 To Disband Legal Department
 National Farm Worker Minister Rev. Jim Drake Resigns
 UFW Board Member Eliseo Medina Resigns

1979

Sony Walkman Introduced
 Mother Teresa Awarded Nobel Peace Prize
 February UFW Striker Rufino Contreras Shot Dead On Picket Line

1980

CNN Established
 John Lennon Assassinated
 Early 1980s - 45,000 Farmworkers Protected by UFW Contracts
 UFW Board Member Gilbert Padilla (& Founding Member of NFWA) Resigns
 1980 UFW General Counsel Jerry Cohen Resigns

| | | |
|------|---|---|
| 1981 | <p>First Woman Appointed To U.S. Supreme Court Personal Computers (PC) Introduced by IBM 1981 UFW Board Members Jessica Govea and Marshall Ganz Resign</p> | <p>Ron Reagan 1981-1989</p> |
| 1982 | <p>E.T. Movie Released Michael Jackson Releases "Thriller"</p> | |
| 1983 | <p>First American Woman In Space Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Becomes National Holiday UFW Develops Radio Campesina Network <i>KUFW/Visalia CA; KMYX/Bakersfield CA; KNAI/Phoenix AZ; KRCW/ Pasco WA; KSEA/Salinas CA</i> National Farm Worker Service Center Launches Campaign to Develop Affordable Housing and Economic Development in the Central Valley</p> | <p>George Deukmejian 1983-1991</p> |
| 1984 | <p>Number of California Latino Elected Officials - 460 Vietnam War Memorial Opened in Washington D.C. AIDS Virus Discovered Cesar Chavez Publishes "Food and Justice" Magazine July United Farm Workers Call for National Grape Boycott November Cesar Chavez Addresses Commonwealth Club of San Francisco</p> | |
| 1985 | <p>Hole in Ozone Layer Discovered</p> | |
| 1986 | <p>Ferdinand Marcos Flees the Philippines Iran-Contra Scandal Unfolds United Farm Workers/Washington State Organized Independent of AFL-CIO Cesar Chavez Announces National "Wrath of Grapes" Boycott Campaign Farmworker Documentary Film "Wrath of Grapes" Released</p> | |
| 1987 | <p>DNA Used To Convict Defendants 25th Anniversary of United Farm Workers - UFW Martyrs Park Dedicated</p> | |
| 1988 | <p>US Shoots Down Iranian Airliner July/August Cesar Chavez: Fast for Life</p> | |
| 1989 | <p>Berlin Wall Falls Students Massacred In China's Tiananmen Square UFW Board Member Chris Hartmire Resigns UFW Establishes Juan de la Cruz Pension Plan UFW Founds LUPE (La Union Pueblo Entero): Community Organizing</p> | <p>George H.W. Bush 1989-1993</p> |
| 1990 | <p>Nelson Mandela Freed</p> | |
| 1991 | <p>Operation Desert Storm South Africa Repeals Apartheid Laws Federal Minimum Wage Raised to \$4.25</p> | <p>Pete Wilson 1991-1999</p> |
| 1992 | <p>Official End of the Cold War World Wide Web Started For Home Use First Black Woman Elected to U.S. Senate October Death of Fred Ross, Sr.</p> | |
| 1993 | <p>Number of California Latino Elected Officials - 800 Cult Compound in Waco Texas Raided World Trade Center Bombed April - Death of Cesar Chavez/40,000 Mourners Attend Delano Funeral</p> | <p>Bill Clinton 1993-2001</p> |