



Dr. King and SCOPE

Martin Luther King, Jr. (January 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968) was an American minister, activist, humanitarian, and leader in the African-American Civil Rights Movement. He is best known for his role in the development of civil rights using nonviolent civil protests. King has become a national icon in the history of American progressivism.

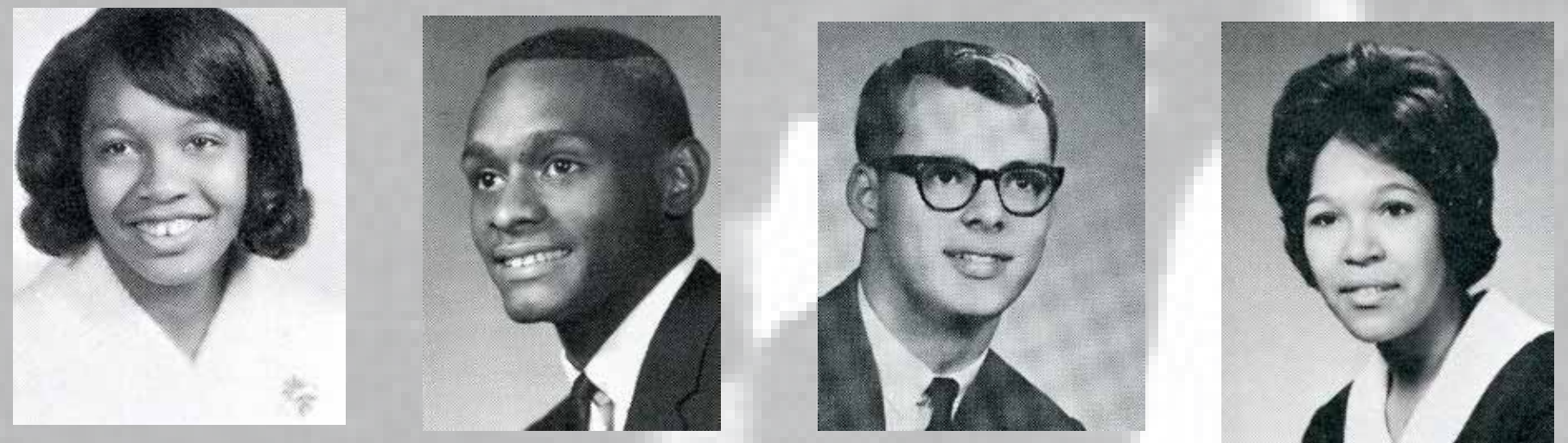
The Summer Community Organization and Political Education (SCOPE) Project of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) was a grass-roots organization, voter registration civil rights initiative conducted from 1965-66 in 120 counties in six southern states. Its goals were threefold: to bring the community together, register voters, and provide political education. Over 1,200 SCOPE workers (including 650 college students from across the nation, 150 SCLC staff members, and 400 local volunteers) served in 6 southern states to register African-Americans to vote. By the end of August 1965, more than 49,000 new African-Americans were registered to vote.

Students from both Kansas State Teachers College and College of Emporia participated in SCOPE, traveling to Madison County, FL. Those participating included, but are not limited to: Claudine Boldridge, Michael Edwards, John Hetlinger, Savannah Jones and Joe Keesecker (C of E).



The Bulletin, March 26, 1965.

Nearly 110 people composed of black and white students from colleges, a few instructors, ministers, and townspeople participated in a Sympathy Walk in connection with the Selma, AL, civil rights march.



As pictured in *The Sunflower* from left: Claudine Boldridge (1965); Michael Edwards (1966), William Jenkins (1965), and Savannah Jones (1966).



Emporia Gazette, July 12, 1965.

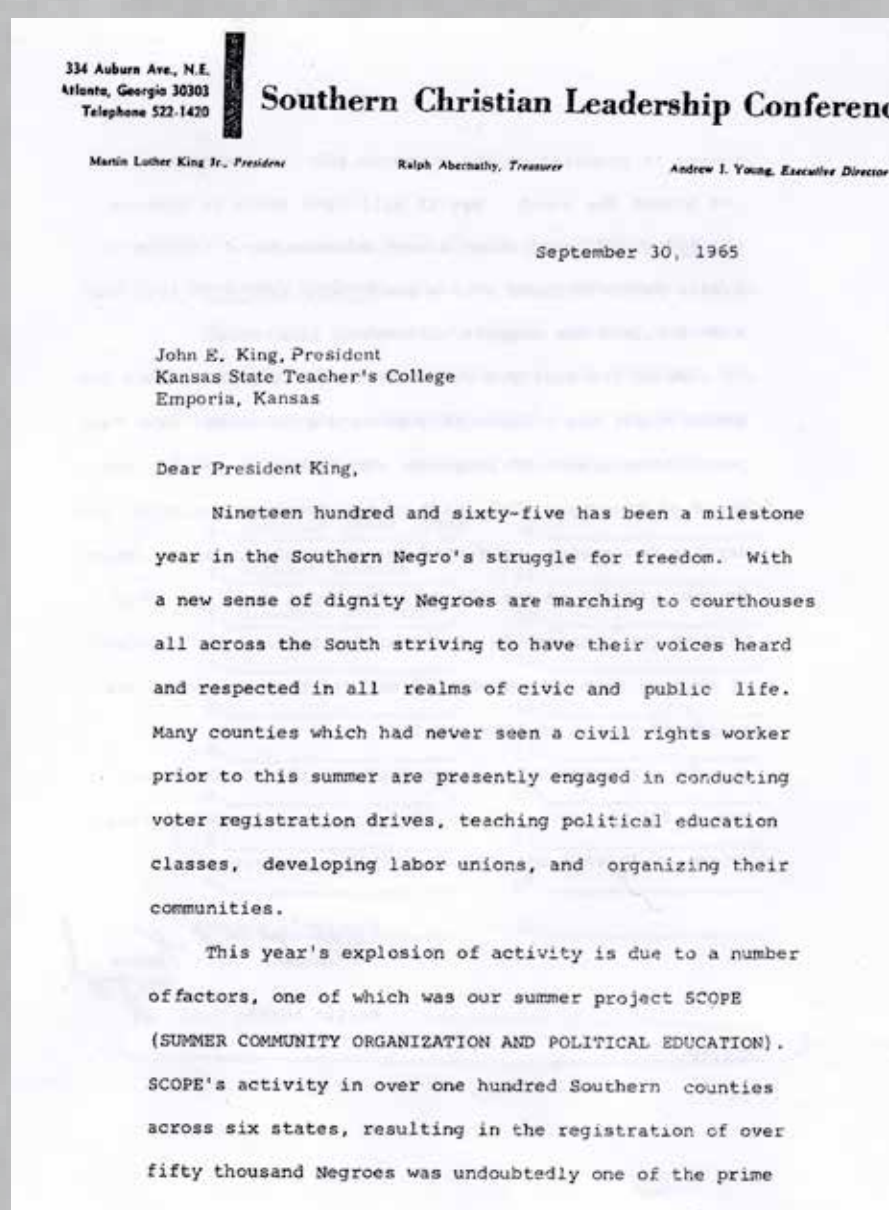
EMPORIA CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS- Members of a delegation from Emporia that went to Madison, FL., this summer included members of SCOPE. Shown above are, from left: Miss Savannah Jones, Joseph T. Keesecker (C of E), and Miss Claudine Boldridge.



Emporia Gazette, March 30, 1965.

KSTC student William Jenkins was one of two students selected by The State Methodist Student Movement to go to Alabama. While there Jenkins participated in a march for voters rights. Armed with a sign stating 'One Man, One Vote, Register Now,' Jenkins was among fifty people jailed in an Alabama prison where he was sent for taking part in demonstrations in Montgomery.

In protest of the segregated cells, Jenkins joined a hunger strike for six days. Those arrested were given an opportunity to plead guilty and "take the next plane out," but Jenkins elected to remain in jail and stand trial.



Letter dated September 30, 1965 from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. addressed to President John E. King recognizing and showing appreciation for student participation in the SCOPE project.

