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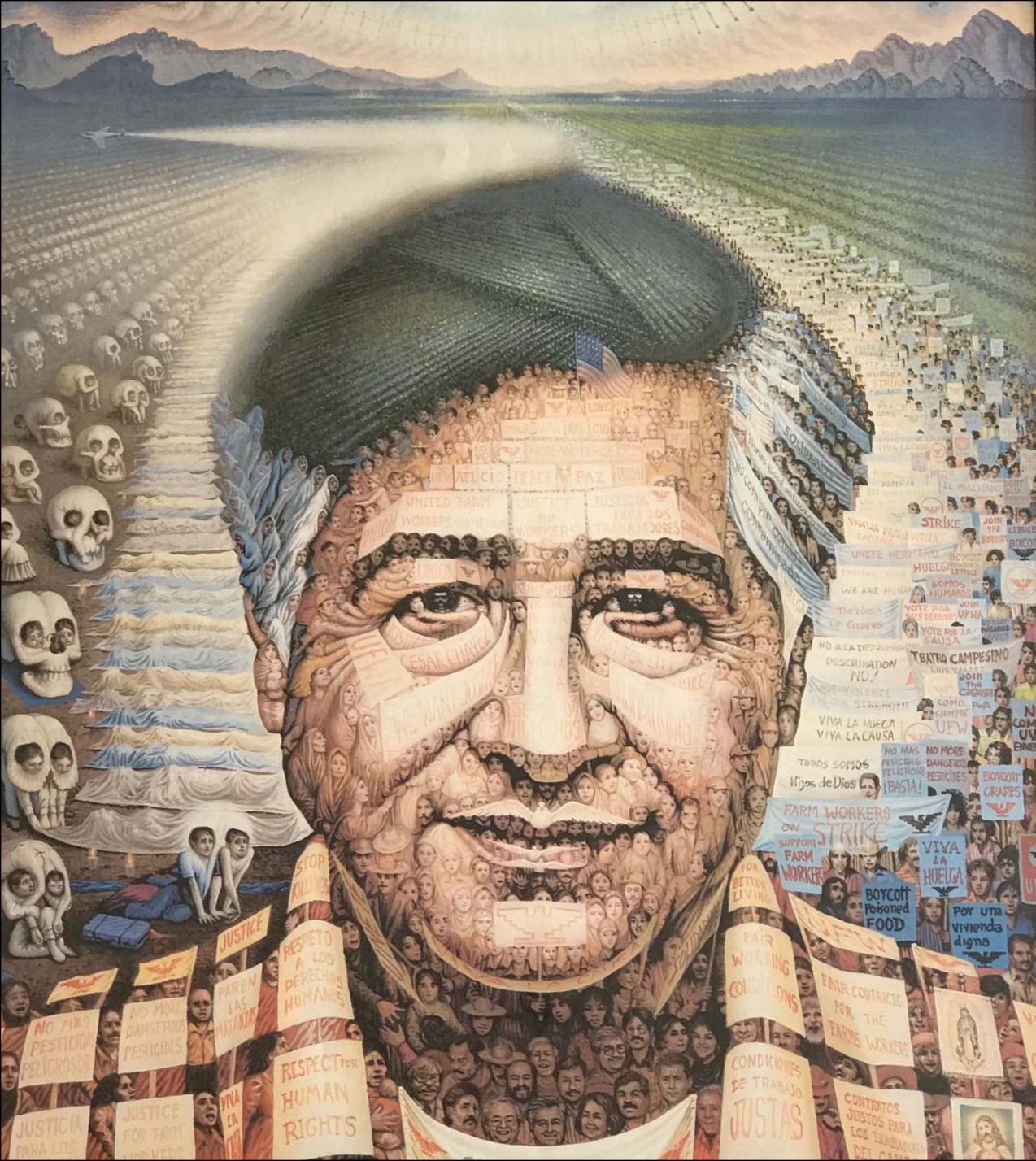
BURIED SEEDS

Strength>Future>Foundation>Shop Steward Training Series

March 2018 Shop Steward Meeting
Joe Pimentel - Instructor

“THEY TRIED TO BURY US. THEY
DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE SEEDS”

-Mexican Proverb



LA CAUSA

For Cesar he became the cause and the cause had become him.



CESAR E. CHAVEZ

- 1927 – Cesar was born near Yuma, Arizona, March 31st
- 1938 - Family is forced to leave their home and move to California
- Cesar's drops out of school after in the 8th grade to work the fields full time. He can't stand to see his mother age working in the fields.
- 1948 - Cesar joins the United States Navy



COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATION

1952 – Fred Ross recruits Cesar to the Community Service Organization (CSO) and mentors Cesar.

For the next ten years Cesar would learn important grass roots organizing skills from Fred including:

- Voter registration
- Electing Spanish speakers to city councils
- Lobbying and championing legislation that supported the cause.



NATIONAL FARM WORKERS ASSOCIATION

- 1962 - Takes his young family and moves to Delano, returning to working in the farm fields and co-founding the National Farm Workers Association
- 1965 - Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC) begin a grape strike in Delano, lead by Larry Ittilong. Cesar and the NFWA would join the strike, officially moving the NFWA into the Labor Movement
- 1966 - The Unions join to form the United Farm Workers.



SI SE PUEDE

1968 -

The strike had entered into its 3rd year. Many of the striking farm workers had turned to violence.

Troubled by the workers resorting to violence Chavez decides to recommit himself to the Labor Movement and Peaceful action through a fast.

The Fast would last 25 days and not only would it inspire the farm workers but it would capture the attention of the nation.

1970's -

The UFW Would successfully negotiate contracts for Farm Workers and influence several legislation that would forever change the agricultural industry.



CAPTURING A NATION

March to Sacramento

In 1966 8,000 Farm Workers and their supporter marched 340-miles from Delano to Sacramento to call attention to the ongoing strike against grape growers.

The marchers walked through 33 cities. Upon arrival to the state capital, Gov. Pat Brown refused them an audience. They did not get to address the Governor, but they captured the attention of the nation.

The march was a part of the growing radicalization of the working class.



BOYCOTTS FOR AWARENESS

In 1965, after the start of the grape strike, farm workers began a campaign that would bring awareness of the grueling conditions in the grape fields through a boycott of table grapes and wine grapes.

Farm workers found a strong ally in house wives from around the country.

Growers were brought to their knees as produce rotted the stands. They ultimately conceded and signed contracts with the farm workers in 1970.

TAKE-A-WAYS AND OBSERVATIONS

- Cesar was willing to take action
 - Cesar saw the struggle of his people and wasn't going to just stand by and be spectator.
- Cesar was willing to be taught
 - Cesar was exposed to another way of life and was willing to learn how to achieve that life for him and his people.
- Cesar was willing to pour himself out
 - Cesar could not just hold in what he had been exposed to, he spread it as far as he could.

WORLD FAMOUS PRINCIPLES

- *We are Active*
 - World Famous Stewards are always willing to do the work of a steward.
- *We are Accessible*
 - World Famous Stewards are always approachable to co-workers and Union leadership.
- *We are Aware*
 - World Famous Stewards are always conscious of our responsibility to honor and continue our legacy.

“Legacy is not leaving
something for people, it’s
Leaving something in people”

- Unknown