

December 17, 2014

**Michael Jacoby Brown**  
training & coaching

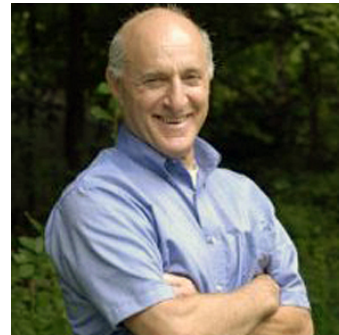
*Helping organizations achieve their goals  
through recruiting and motivating others*

**Organizer's Edge** ▶

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### From Michael Jacoby Brown

Long before thousands marched to declare that "Black Lives Matter" many people knew that Roger Newell's life mattered. And not only because of what he did as a great a dedicated organizer, but who he was. I dedicate this issue of the Organizer's Edge to Roger Newell who died recently at too early an age. Roger was a friend, a colleague and a savvy organizer, most recently with the Teamsters. Roger was also Chair of the Washington DC Jobs with Justice Campaign, a member of the Board of the National Organizers Alliance and a contributor to the Organizers Edge. (See his contributions in the October 2014 and September 2013 issues in our archive).



Although the focus of this E News is to highlight new ideas, we can never forget that the people who do the work matter... Our lives matter. We can never lose sight that the work of justice is done by real people, and we need to acknowledge and celebrate the people who do the work, as much, if not more, than the work itself. Roger left us so suddenly and so young. I encourage people to contribute to the scholarship fund in his name, so his legacy will live on among people who were never lucky enough to know him personally. [Click here to make donation to scholarship fund](#)

### Roger Newell: In Memoriam

[Click here to watch video of Roger teaching.](#)

I had to Google "selling wolf tickets" to remember what Roger Newell told me it meant, long before anyone could "google" anything.

Roger was the first Black man to explain to me some important things about the Black community, and his experience as a Black man. He taught me in a patient, non-guilt tripping way because Roger understood that organizing also involved teaching.

[Read on...](#)



We want to hear from you, your reactions, ideas, what is at the edge YOUR "envelope." Just go to...

[MichaelJacobyBrown.com/Contact](http://MichaelJacobyBrown.com/Contact)

### **Who else you will hear from.....**

We are just starting, but so far you can expect to hear what the following people are thinking:

Jessica Tang: Boston Teachers Union, AFT

George Luse of the Mass Teachers Assn,

Scott Reed with the PICO Network, ,

Cathy Howell, in Oregon and El Salvador, formerly with the AFL-CIO,

Caesar McDowell of the Interaction Institute for Social Justice,

Diana Bell of Community and Labor United,

David Hernandez of the California Education Assn,

Linda Honold, of Wisconsin Voices

Attica Scott, now an elected official in Louisville, KY,formerly with Jobs with Justice,

Quinn Rallings in Alabama with the PICO Network,

Bob Van Meter with the Local Initiative Support Corporation in Boston,

Walter Davis, in Tennessee, of the National Organizers Alliance,

Deb Askenase, of Community Organizing 2.0,

Deb Fastino, of the Coalition for Social Justice in New Bedford, MA,

Rebecca Gutman, with SEIU-1199,

Tim Dean, of SEIU-1199,

Claudia Horwitz, of Stone Circles in North Carolina,

Mary Ochs, long time organizer in Los Angeles

and others, hopefully, including YOU

### **Other Useful Links**

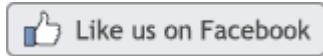
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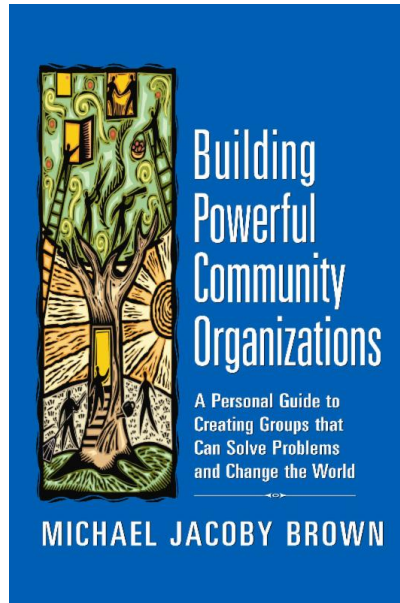
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