



# Montana Human Rights Network

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Dear Friends:

Enclosed are a set of books comprising a nearly complete collection of the works of Ben Klassen, founder of the Church of the Creator. We hope they will be useful for any research you may wish to do into the beliefs of the "church," and we are sending them for that purpose. I have also enclosed various publications and flyers, as we have extra copies from our collection.

Also please find an envelope with a membership form for the Montana Human Rights Network. There were considerable expenses in our acquisition and processing of these materials. A contribution to the organization would be very much appreciated.

Until December of 2003, these materials were in a storage unit in Superior, Montana, under the control of the Church of the Creator Northwest. As background, I have enclosed a report on this splinter group as we understood the situation in March of 2003. It is out of date on several points, and this letter should fill in to the present. (For more background, you may wish to snoop around our website at [www.mhrn.org](http://www.mhrn.org) or that of the Center for New Community at [www.newcomm.org/bdi/index.htm](http://www.newcomm.org/bdi/index.htm).)

On December 10, 2003, I received a call from someone identifying himself as John Haase (hereafter referred to as JR.) JR, who was designated as "Hasta Primas" (second in command) of the group, said he was leaving the group and would like to sell us the contents of a locker for "gas money." Co-director Ken Toole and I met with JR at a restaurant in Missoula on December 16, where we visited with him for about an hour. He agreed to speak with an investigator from the Justice Department while Ken and I proceeded to Superior where we unloaded the contents of a rural storage locker into the backs of two pickup trucks and a UHaul trailer.

The following titles were found. We no longer have copies available of those with an asterisk. However, we can make them available to you by arrangement.

*Against the Evil Tide*  
\* *Brink of a Bloody Racial War*  
\* *Building a Whiter Brighter World*  
\* *Expanding Creativity*  
\* *Klassen's Letters Volume One*  
\* *Klassen's Letters Volume Two*  
\* *Little White Book*

*Nature's Eternal Religion*  
*Rahowa: This Land is All Ours*  
\* *Revolution of Values Through Religion*  
\* *Salubrious Living*  
*Trials, Tribulations and Triumphs*  
*White Man's Bible, First Edition*  
*White Man's Bible, Second Edition*

In addition to the books, there were 5 boxes of pamphlets, flyers, loose papers, copies of emails and other correspondence. These materials have been examined by the Justice Department for potential use in the upcoming trial of Matt Hale, and have been categorized and filed. To the extent there were extra copies, we have included them with this mailing. Once again we will make arrangements for any of these materials to be available to other researchers upon request. Contrary to persistent rumors, there were no gold or silver bars in the hundreds of boxes we received. (Thus, the request for a contribution.)

For the most part, the books appear to have been mailed in 1995, primarily from John Brooks in El Cerrito, CA to either Claude Umphenor of Weippe, ID, Dan Hassett of Missoula, MT or Slim Deardorff of Superior, MT. There were occasional boxes from Dane Hall of Tehachapi, CA, mailed later to Hassett or Deardorff.

We have now had two conversations with JR and maintain access to him. We expect a press story shortly. JR stated that he left the organization because everything is falling apart and "they're all a bunch of losers." He seemed disillusioned because people were inactive, rather than having had a change of heart.

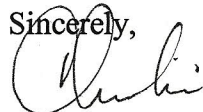
JR has been involved in the church for the past 10 years in Montana and Idaho, but appears not well connected to other white supremacists. He said he never met Matt Hale or Rudy Stanko. Other than John Trochmann of Militia of Montana, he appeared not to even know the names of leading white supremacists. JR said there were only four people at the last gathering in Superior - Slim, Dane, himself, and another Montana activist named Fred. He said Dane Hall came to Montana several times, stating that he intended to stay, but it never lasted more than a couple weeks. He said the group may have about 22 members, all but seven of whom live in prison.

JR said Dan Hassett engineered the split with Matt Hale, but couldn't get along with Hall, that Dan is now with the National Alliance, and that he has become quite paranoid and mostly stays at his home in Missoula. He characterized Slim as an incompetent drunk who still lives at the property in Superior and maintains contact with Thomas Kroenke of Wyoming. He said he believes Kroenke is trying to pull together a meeting in the Midwest of the various factions of COTC this month.

We have a variety of other details we are willing to share with those who have further interest. Please contact Travis McAdam in our office, who is most familiar with the materials. [travismc@mhrn.org](mailto:travismc@mhrn.org) or 406-442-5506.

We hope you find these materials useful. We are sending them out to researchers we know and have addresses for. If you know of people you would believe would like a set, please put them in touch with us.

Sincerely,



Christine Kaufmann, Co-director