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Resources for the Association Activist

Recommended Reading

Rules for Radicals

Saul Alinsky, Vintage Books, 1989

The classic book about organizing people, written by one of America's foremost organizers.

Organize for Social Change

Midwest Academy Manual for Activists

Third Edition, Kim Bobo et al, Seven Locks Press, 2001

This is one of the best books about collective action and putting the screws to decision-makers. It's about winning battles.

Building More Effective Unions

Paul Clark, Cornell University Press, 2000

Penn State Professor of Labor Studies Paul Clark applies the latest in behavioral sciences research to creating more effective unions. His insights are both astute and highly practical.

The Trajectory of Change: Activist Strategies for Social Change

Michael Albert, SouThend Press, 2002

Z Magazine's Michael Albert has assembled a collection of thoughtful articles on ways to overcome various obstacles to social change.

Roots to Power: A Manual for Grassroots Organizing

Lee Staples, Praeger, 1984

This is a good nuts and bolts guide to organizing. It is especially good on recruiting, developing action plans, executing them, and dealing with counterattacks.

Taking Action: Working Together for Positive Change in Your Community

Elizabeth Amer, Self Counsel Press, 1992

Written by a Toronto community activist, this book is easy to read, full of examples, and sprinkled with how-to-advice.

Organizing: A Guide for Grassroots Leaders

Si Kahn, McGraw Hill, 1981, Revised 1991

This book is well organized. You can find relevant material for your situation without reading the whole book.

Ethical Ambition: Living a Life of Meaning and Worth

Derrick Bell, Bloomsbury, 2002

A gem of a book that delves into the question of "Why become an activist?" It is both thought-provoking and energizing.

Soul of a Citizen: Living with Conviction in a Cynical Time

Paul Rogat Loeb, St. Martins Press, 1999

Provides solace for the activist's soul and juice for the activist's battery.

Recommended Websites

These must-read books are essential for any activist.

- [A self-guided training for the net activist](#)
- [Online tools in concert with traditional organizing techniques](#)
- [Multiple cyber resources for activists](#)
- [Best practices tool kit](#)

- [Community organizing by ACORN](#)
 - [AFL-CIO Organizing Institute](#)
 - [Union Organizing: A General Resource Guide](#)
 - [Cyberspace resources for nonprofits](#)
 - [Designing effective action alerts for the Internet](#)
 - [Remixing the Web for social change](#)
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- [Frequently Asked Questions About Being an Activist](#)

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