



Smithsonian  
*National Museum of American History*  
*Kenneth E. Behring Center*

## Guide to the Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation

NMAH.AC.0602

Alison Oswald

2008

Archives Center, National Museum of American History  
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# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Arrangement.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	2
Names and Subjects .....	3
Container Listing .....	4
Series 1: Original Videos, 1995 May 31-to 1995 June 1.....	4
Series 2: Master Videos, 1995 May 31 to 1995 June 1.....	6
Series 3: Reference Videos, 1995 May 31 to 1995 June 1.....	8
Series 4: Photographs, 1995-06-01.....	10

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
<b>Title:</b>	Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation
<b>Identifier:</b>	NMAH.AC.0602
<b>Date:</b>	1995 June 1
<b>Extent:</b>	0.5 Cubic feet (3 boxes)
<b>Creator:</b>	Crew, Spencer, Dr., 1949- Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation. Walker, Hal, Jr. (Hildreth), 1933- Stephens, Lee Lemelson, Jerome H., 1923-1997 Molella, Arthur P., 1944- Travis, John Walker, Bettye Davis, Dr. Heyman, Ira Michael, 1930-2011
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Summary:</b>	Collection documents inventor Hal Walker and his research and development work with lasers and electric automobiles.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Created by the Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation in 1995.

### Provenance

This program was the "first in a series of lecture-demonstrations by American inventors and entrepreneurs for young people called Innovative Lives. The collection was transferred from the Lemelson Center to the Archives Center on July 8, 1997.

### Available Formats

Series 2 digitized in 2014.

### Processing Information

Collection processed by Alison Oswald, 2008.

## Preferred Citation

Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

## Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions. Signed copies of releases for Hal Walker and Mark Lee Stephens on file.

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## Biographical / Historical

Hal Walker was born in 1933 in Louisiana. In 1951, he joined the Navy and served for four years as a qualified electrician's mate. In 1955, Walker joined Douglas Aircraft Company installing radar systems and at the same time began taking classes at L.A. City College. Soon after joining Douglas Aircraft, a series of layoffs occurred and Walker joined RCA working with the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System (BMEWS). He continued to sharpen his technical and managerial skills developing industrial and medical uses for lasers, plasma, quantum physics, and holography. By 1981, Walker joined Hughes Aircraft, the organization that brought Laser Target Designator Systems (LTDs) to the United States Army's weapons inventory. Walker retired from Hughes Aircraft in 1989 and with his wife, Dr. Bettye Davis Walker, founded A-MAN, the African American Male Achievers Network, Inc. Science Discovery Learning Center. A-MAN's mission is to utilize Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)-related projects as a motivational tool and advance the educational achievement, and the intellectual and career development of African-American, Latino and other minority students pre-K thru 12thgrades.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection contains original (Betacam SP), master (Betacam SP), reference (1/2" VHS) videos and photographs documenting Spencer Crew, Secretary I. Michael Heyman, Arthur Molella and Jerome Lemelson in honor of the establishment of the Lemelson Center and the first Innovative Lives Program (a series of lecture-demonstrations by American inventors and entrepreneurs for young people--by Hildreth "Hal" Walker. Hal Walker discusses his background and how he became an inventor. With John Travis, a chemist from the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Walker demonstrates the properties and applications of lasers, including measuring the distance to the moon and voice communications. Walker developed laser equipment that projected images of the moon back to the earth during the 1969 Apollo moon walk.

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## Arrangement

Collection is arranged into four series.

Series 1: Original videos

Series 2: Master videos

Series 3: Reference videos

Series 4: Photographs

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Aerospace engineers
- Aerospace industries
- African American inventors -- 20th century
- Automobiles, Electric
- Electric engineering -- 1980-2000
- Inventions -- 20th century
- Inventors -- 1950-2000
- Lasers
- Optics
- Photographs
- Physics -- 20th century

Types of Materials:

- BetaCam SP (videotape format)
- Interviews -- 1980-2000
- Lectures -- 1990-2000
- Oral history -- 1990-2000
- Slides
- Videotapes

Names:

- A-MAN (African American Male Achievers Network)

Preferred Titles:

- Innovative Lives Program (NMAH public program series)*

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Original Videos, 1995 May 31-to 1995 June 1

10 videocassettes (*betacamsp*)

- Box 1, Item OV  
602.1-2      Lemelson Center Annoucement, 1995 May 31  
*1 videocassettes (betacamsp) (Duration: 60:00 )*  
Welcome and introductory remarks by Spencer Crew, Secretary I. Michael Heyman, Arthur Molella and Jerome Lemelson in honor of the establishment of the Lemelson Center and the first Innovative Lives Program (a series of lecture-demonstrations by American inventors and entrepreneurs for young people-- by Hildreth "Hal" Walker. Discussion of the Lemelson Center goals and mission. Interview questions with Jerome Lemelson about patenting, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and entrepreneurship in the United States. Features a laser demonstration with Jerome Lemelson and school students in the Hands on Science Center, American History Museum.
- Box 1, Item OV  
602.3-4      Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation, 1995 May 31, 1995 June 1  
*2 videocassettes (betacamsp) (Duration: 43:00)*  
Features a laser demonstration with Jerome Lemelson and school students in the Hands on Science Center, American History Museum. Lemelson answers questions about inventing and his desire to have more children and the American public interested in science and technology.  
  
Features the \$10,400,000.00 check the Lemelson's donated.  
  
Innovative Lives Program footage featuring Hal Walker and school children. Begins with introductory remarks by Arthur Molella about the program. Jerome Lemelson speaks about the future of America being in the hands of young people. Hal Walker opens the program by discussing his life and the obstacles he faced growing up in Louisiana and his experiences as an African-American.
- Box 1, Item OV  
602.5-6      Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation, 1995 June 1  
*2 videocassettes (betacamsp) (Duration: 47:00.)*  
Hal Walker in Hands in Science in American Life Exhibit with school students.
- Box 1, Item OV  
602.7-8      Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation, 1995 June 1  
*2 videocassettes (betacamsp) (Duration: 58:00)*  
Features Hal Walker, with his colleague Mark Lee Stephens, in Los Angeles at the African-American Male Achievers Network Inc. Science Discovery Learning Center. Walker and Stephens discuss the significance of an electric car. The remainder of the footage features Stephens discusses his background and how he became involved in the aerospace industry and the electric car project.
- Box 1, Item OV  
602.9-10      Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation, 1995 June 1  
*2 videocassettes (betacamsp) (Duration: 51:26)*  
Footage continues in Los Angeles at the African-American Male Achievers Network Inc. Science Discovery Learning Center. Focus on the model featuring the electric car. Hal Walker discusses a paper glider airplane project with school

students. Student interviewed about her science fair project. Bettye Walker featured in reading lab with school students. Some B-roll footage.

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 2: Master Videos, 1995 May 31 to 1995 June 1

6 videocassettes (betacamsp)

- Box 2, Item MV 602.1 Lemelson Center Announcement, 1995 May 31  
*1 videocassettes (betacamsp) (Duration: 60:00)*  
Welcome and introductory remarks by Spencer Crew, Secretary I. Michael Heyman, Arthur Molella and Jerome Lemelson in honor of the establishment of the Lemelson Center and the first Innovative Lives Program (a series of lecture-demonstrations by American inventors and entrepreneurs for young people--by Hildreth "Hal" Walker. Discussion of the Lemelson Center goals and mission. Interview questions with Jerome Lemelson about patenting, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and entrepreneurship in the United States. Features a laser demonstration with Jerome Lemelson and school students in the Hands on Science Center, American History Museum.
- Box 2, Item MV 602.2 Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation, 1995 May 31, 1995 June 1  
*1 videocassettes (betacamsp) (Duration 43:00)*  
Features a laser demonstration with Jerome Lemelson and school students in the Hands on Science Center, American History Museum. Lemelson answers questions about inventing and his desire to have more children and the American public interested in science and technology. Also featured is the \$10,400,000.00 check the Lemelson's donated.  
  
Innovative Lives Program footage featuring Hal Walker and school children. Begins with introductory remarks by Arthur Molella about the program. Jerome Lemelson speaks about the future of America being in the hands of young people. Hal Walker opens the program by discussing his life and the obstacles he faced growing up in Louisiana and his experiences as an African-American.
- Box 2, Item MV 602.2 Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation, 1995 June 1  
*1 videocassettes (betacamsp) (Duration: 47:00)*  
Hal Walker in Hands in Science in American Life Exhibit with school students.
- Box 2, Item MV 602.3 Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation, 1995 June 1  
*1 videocassettes (betacamsp) (Duration: 58:00)*  
Features Hal Walker, with his colleague Mark Lee Stephens, in Los Angeles at the African-American Male Achievers Network Inc. (AMAN) Science Discovery Learning Center. Walker and Stephens discuss the significance of an electric car. The remainder of the footage features Stephens discusses his background and how he became involved in the aerospace industry and the electric car project.
- Box 2, Item MV 602.4 Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation, 1995 June 1  
*1 videocassettes (betacamsp) (Duration: 1:01:46)*  
Features Hal Walker, Dr. Bettye Davis Walker and Mark Lee Stephens, in Los Angeles at the African-American Male Achievers Network Inc. Science Discovery Learning Center. Bettye Walker discusses he background and childhood and explains her role at the AMAN headquarters. Bettye Walker is the President of the Science, Discovery and Learning Center which administers programs for black male achievers clubs (BAMC) and young ladies achievement clubs (YLAC). The Center provides hands-on activities, a reading lab, viewing



lab, and computer lab. Additional discussion of the center's significance, funding raising strategies, and connection to South Africa.

Some footage with Lee Stephens and school students at the AMAN Headquarters discussing a model featuring electric cars.

- Box 2, Item MV 602.5 Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation, 1995 June 1  
*1 videocassettes (betacamsp) (Duration: 51:26)*  
Footage continues in Los Angeles at the African-American Male Achievers Network Inc. Science Discovery Learning Center. Focus on the model featuring the electric car. Hal Walker discusses a paper glider airplane project with school students. Student interviewed about her science fair project. Bettye Walker featured in reading lab with school students. Some b-roll footage.
- Box 2, Item MV 602.6 Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation, 1995 June 1  
*1 videocassettes (betacamsp)*

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 3: Reference Videos, 1995 May 31 to 1995 June 1

6 videocassettes (vhs)

## Lemelson Center Announcement, 1995 June 1

1 videocassettes (vhs) (Duration: 60:00)

Box 3, Item RV 602.1

Welcome and introductory remarks by Spencer Crew, Secretary I. Michael Heyman, Arthur Molella and Jerome Lemelson in honor of the establishment of the Lemelson Center and the first Innovative Lives Program (a series of lecture-demonstrations by American inventors and entrepreneurs for young people-- by Hildreth AHal@ Walker. Discussion of the Lemelson Center goals and mission. Interview questions with Jerome Lemelson about patenting, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and entrepreneurship in the United States. Features a laser demonstration with Jerome Lemelson and school students in the Hands on Science Center, American History Museum.

Box 3, Item RV 602.2

Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation, 1995 June 1, 1995 May 31

1 videocassettes (vhs) (Duration: 43:00)

Features a laser demonstration with Jerome Lemelson and school students in the Hands on Science Center, American History Museum. Lemelson answers questions about inventing and his desire to have more children and the American public interested in science and technology.

Features the \$10,400,000.00 check the Lemelson's donated.

Innovative Lives Program footage featuring Hal Walker and school children. Begins with introductory remarks by Arthur Molella about the program. Jerome Lemelson speaks about the future of America being in the hands of young people. Hal Walker opens the program by discussing his life and the obstacles he faced growing up in Louisiana and his experiences as an African-American.

Box 3, Item RV 602.3

Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation

1 videocassettes (vhs) (Duration: 47:00)

Hal Walker in Hands in Science in American Life Exhibit with school students.

Box 3, Item RV 602.4

Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation

1 videocassettes (vhs) (Duration: 58:00)

Features Hal Walker, with his colleague Mark Lee Stephens, in Los Angeles at the African-American Male Achievers Network Inc. (AMAN) Science Discovery Learning Center. Walker and Stephens discuss the significance of an electric car. The remainder of the footage features Stephens discusses his background and how he became involved in the aerospace industry and the electric car project.

Box 3, Item RV 602.5

Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation

1 videocassettes (vhs-c) (Duration: 1:01:46)

Features Hal Walker, Dr. Bettye Davis Walker and Mark Lee Stephens, in Los Angeles at the African-American Male Achievers Network Inc. Science Discovery Learning Center. Bettye Walker discusses he background and childhood and explains her role at the AMAN headquarters. Bettye Walker is the President of the Science, Discovery Learning Center which administers programs for black male achievers clubs (BAMC) and young ladies achievement

clubs (YLAC). The Center provides hands-on activities, a reading lab, viewing lab, and computer lab. Additional discussion of the center's significance, funding raising strategies, and connection to South Africa.

Some footage with Lee Stephens and school students at the AMAN Headquarters discussing a model featuring electric cars.

Box 3, Item RV 602.6

Hal Walker Innovative Lives Presentation  
*1 videocassettes (vhs) (Duration: 51:26)*

Footage continues in Los Angeles at the African-American Male Achievers Network Inc. Science Discovery Learning Center. Focus on the model featuring the electric car. Hal Walker discusses a paper glider airplane project with school students. Student interviewed about her science fair project. Bettye Walker featured in reading lab with school students. Some b-roll footage.

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*

## Series 4: Photographs, 1995-06-01

*1 electronic discs (cd)*  
*Box 3, Folder 1*

*[Return to Table of Contents](#)*