

# Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Crain Woods

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## Overview of the Collection

<b>Repository:</b>	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
<b>Creator:</b>	Woods, Crain
<b>Title:</b>	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Crain Woods,
<b>Dates:</b>	December 5, 2002
<b>Bulk Dates:</b>	2002
<b>Physical Description:</b>	3 Betacam SP videocassettes (1:05:39).
<b>Abstract:</b>	High school teacher and city council member Crain Woods (1932 - ) served as a city legislator in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Woods was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on December 5, 2002, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
<b>Identification:</b>	A2002_223
<b>Language:</b>	The interview and records are in English.

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## Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Educator and politician Crain Woods was born in Due West, South Carolina, on December 14, 1932. The youngest son of a farmer and a housewife, Woods attended Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina, following his graduation from high school. Woods earned a B.S. in 1957, and later returned to school, attending South Carolina State University for an M.S. in education and graduating in 1970.

After earning his bachelor's degree, Woods began his teaching career in 1959 in the Clarendon County Department of Education, where he was a teacher and a coach. Three years later, Woods was hired by the Horry County Department of Education, where he served as a teacher and school administrator. Woods continued on with Horry County until his retirement. In 1994, Woods became involved in the city government of Myrtle Beach after winning a City Council seat, and served as a city councilman until 2002. Woods remains active with the local government today, serving on the Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel Corporation board of directors and the All Aboard Committee, which is taking measures to have the Myrtle Beach railroad station placed in the National Registry of Historic Places. Woods sits on the board of the Myrtle Beach Housing Authority. He has also been active with the Horry County chapter of the American Red Cross for more than twenty-five years and currently serves as chairman of the organization. Additionally, Woods is a charter member and sits on the board of the Children's Museum of South Carolina. Woods and his wife, Julia, have been married since 1959.

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## Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Crain Woods was conducted by Larry Crowe on December 5, 2002, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and was recorded on 3 Betacam SP videocassettes. High school teacher and city council member Crain Woods (1932 - ) served as a city legislator in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

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## Restrictions

### Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

### Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

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## Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

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## Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

### Persons:

Crain Woods

Crowe, Larry (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

### Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Crain Woods--Interviews

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African American educators--Interviews.

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African American educators--South Carolina--Charleston.

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## Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

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The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

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Myrtle Beach (S.C.)

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## HistoryMakers® Category:

EducationMakers

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PoliticalMakers

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## Administrative Information

### Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

### Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Crain Woods, December 5, 2002. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

### Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 6/29/2012 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

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## Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Series I: Original Interview Footage, December 5, 2002

Video Oral History Interview with Crain Woods, Section A2002\_223\_001\_001, TRT: 0:28:55  
2002/12/06

Crain Woods slates his interview and give his favorites. Woods was born on December 14, 1932 in Due West, South Carolina. Woods' mother, Ida Crain was born in Pickens County, South Carolina on September 1, 1894. Wood's first name comes from his mother's family name. Woods' father, Thomas Woods was born on May 29, 1896 in Anderson County, South Carolina—but he later moved with his family to Due West, South Carolina. Woods' parents met in college. He and his two older sisters grew up in the county of Due West, a town which Woods describes as very religious. Woods attended Carver Elementary School and High School. He remembers going to school in a

Presbyterian parsonage in the late 1930s, because there was no school building in his town for African American children. Similarly, a masonic lodge housed Carver High School—the high school only went to the eleventh grade. Woods' favorite subject in school was science. Woods graduated high school in 1950 and soon after, began attending Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina.

Video Oral History Interview with Crain Woods, Section A2002\_223\_001\_002, TRT: 0:29:35  
2002/12/06

Crain Woods began his teaching career as a coach with the Clarendon County Department of Education in 1959. He also married his wife, Julia, in that year. Three years later, Woods was hired by the Horry County Department of Education, where he served as a teacher-- and later as an assistant principal. Working in the school system there was challenging; although, Woods felt that it was good for him and his family financially. While working as a teacher, Woods would drive from Myrtle Beach to South Carolina State University in order to take graduate courses and obtain his master's degree. At one point his studies had to be approved by the school's superintendent because certain courses required him to leave work early. He earned an M.S. in education from the university in 1970. Woods continued working in Horry County until his retirement in 1991. In 1994, Woods became involved in Myrtle Beach's city government after winning a City Council seat. He served as a city councilman until 2002.

Video Oral History Interview with Crain Woods, Section A2002\_223\_001\_003, TRT: 0:07:09  
2002/12/06

Woods discusses how he would like to be remembered and shares personal photographs of himself and his family.