

THE STATE OF THINGS



Host [Frank Stasio](#)

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The State of Things is a live program hosted by Frank Stasio devoted to bringing the issues, personalities, and places of North Carolina to our listeners. We present the Tar Heel experience through sound, story, discussion, commentary and listener participation through calls. Let us know your thoughts during the program at 1.877.962.9862 or by emailing sot@wunc.org. [Follow us on twitter.](#)

On the Latest Show

What's So Great About Being Middle Class?

Thursday, August 18 2011 by [Amber Nimocks](#) and [Frank Stasio](#)



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In the wake of the global economic crisis, it seems Americans agree on at least one thing: the middle class is under siege. But who is the middle class? And what is it that's plaguing them? Host Frank Stasio considers the state of the American dream with guests Sara Appel, a graduate student in literature at Duke University and a blogger for Working Class Perspectives; Michael Bowen, author of "The Roots of Modern Conservatism: Dewey Taft and the Battle for the Soul of the Republican Party" (UNC Press/2011); Scott Spiegel, chief financial officer for the America Institute of Certified Public Accountants; Michal Grinstein-Weiss, director of Assets Building Group and associate professor in the School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and Will Wilkinson, author and blogger at www.commondreams.org. Listener Call-in.