

# TOWN MEETING



# REPORT

MARCH 1978

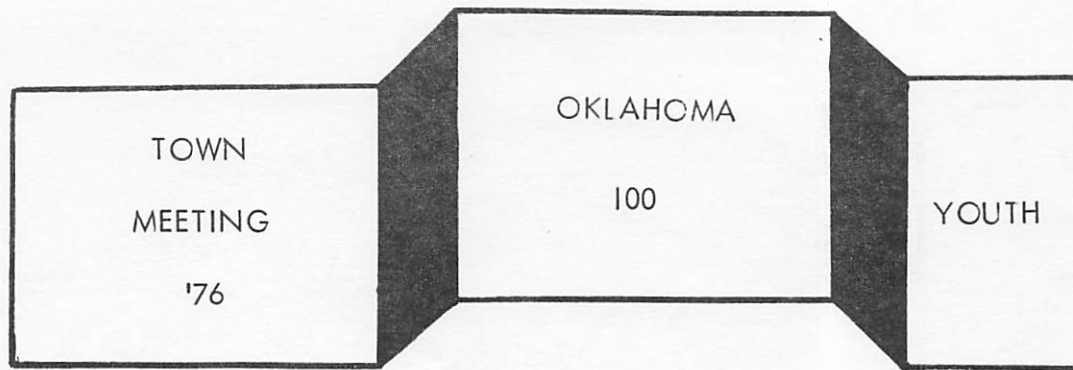
TOWN  
MEETING



---

**A FRESH WIND  
SWEEPING  
ACROSS  
THE  
PLAINS**

---



## TOWN MEETING '76

TOWN MEETING '76 brought people together in the community to celebrate the Bicentennial and to work together for their common goals. The participants in the Town Meeting worked to meet their challenges with heightened community involvement and recovered individual responsibility.

## OKLAHOMA : 100

OKLAHOMA 100 saw 117 communities hold Town Meetings and initiated community action in over 85% of these communities. Concerns were addressed and the communities organized their human resources by activating the pride of the people in caring for their neighbors.

## YOUTH & ELDERS

TOWN MEETINGS were held in SCHOOLS and SENIOR CITIZEN CENTERS to insure that all were involved. Youth and Elders alike saw how they could make a direct contribution to the needs of their local community. This unprecedented participation broadened the circle of citizenship.



ELDERS

STATEWIDE  
ASSEMBLIES

ON-GOING  
ACTIVITIES

---

## STATEWIDE ASSEMBLIES

TWO STATEWIDE TOWN MEETING ASSEMBLIES enabled towns to share common experiences and see how their concerns were closely related to each other. In what Oklahoma City Mayor Patience Latting called "A move that cuts across apathy in the State and the Nation, the local people become aware that they can deal with their own problems by facing the challenge and becoming involved. "

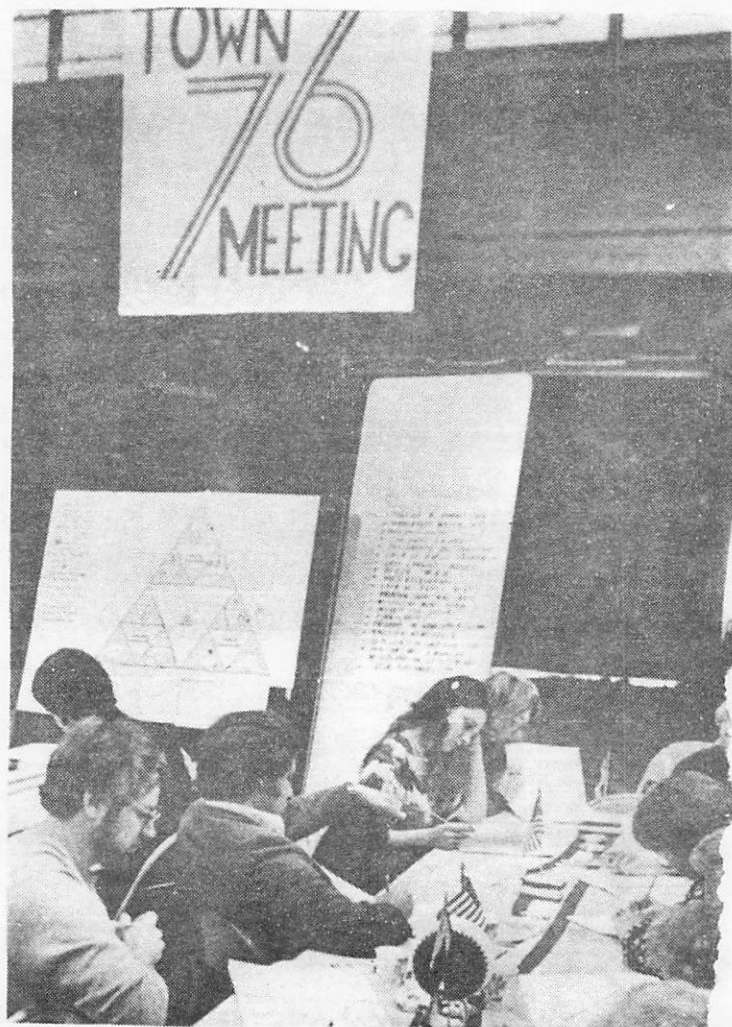
## ON-GOING ACTIVITIES

THE FOLLOW-UP for the Town Meetings showed genuine progress in meeting local needs. Greater awareness of one another, and more active community involvement were catalyzed by the Town Meeting program.

# TOWN MEETING BICENTENNIAL YEAR

## BEGINNING AWAKENMENT TOWN MEETING '76

The Bicentennial was the Pioneer Year for Town Meetings in Oklahoma. Citizens met in 26 of Oklahoma's major towns to celebrate their past and look to the future. Hundreds gathered on Saturdays as residents of their town and discovered what each other was doing and that they had common concerns and goals. They were able to discuss issues without arguments and saw the possibility of working together. These Town Meetings became a sounding board of interest across the whole state for renewing citizen participation. It was a good year.



# 1977 TOWN MEETING OKLAHOMA 100



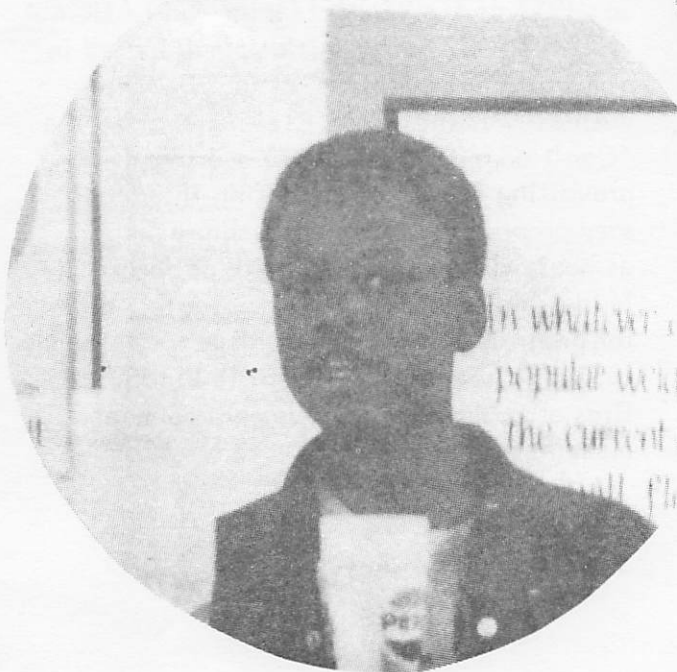
## TOWN MEETING SPREADS STATEWIDE

As an out growth of the original 26 Town Meetings, the Governor proclaimed March 26, 1977 as TOWN MEETING: OKLAHOMA 100 DAY. 117 communities participated in a magnificent event. Getting down to business was the spirit. Towns reversed the "Can't do mind set" by discovering the prevailing issues, and creating the necessary proposals. New leadership emerged as housewives and others with no formal leadership training became powerful forces for progress in their communities. Oklahoma 100 was a successful attempt to kindle the fires of community involvement to meet human needs.

# YOUTH & ELDERERS

Included in the Town Meeting program in Oklahoma there have been many meetings held in over 100 schools and 17 senior citizen centers. They even generated enthusiasm, interest, motivation, and cooperation among staff, personnel, students, parents, and community. The experience provided an excellent opportunity for developing community awareness, appreciation, and imparting knowledge of the past, present, and future to all who participated.

## ALL AGES PARTICIPATED



The benefit of 50 years of living has been brought back into the community, and young people feel that they have input into local government.



# STATEWIDE ASSEMBLIES

## TOWNS SHARE COMMON CONCERNS

Two Statewide Town Meeting Assemblies were held where communities shared future directions and local approaches to deal with local issues. At the 1st Assembly, April 2, 1977, approximately 350 individuals, representing over 70 communities, shared challenges and proposals from their local Town Meetings to discern the future directions. Oklahoma's 2nd Assembly, held on December 3, 1977, allowed further interaction among the citizens of Oklahoma. They shared their accomplishments and next steps necessary for the life of their community. It was a time for great CELEBRATION!

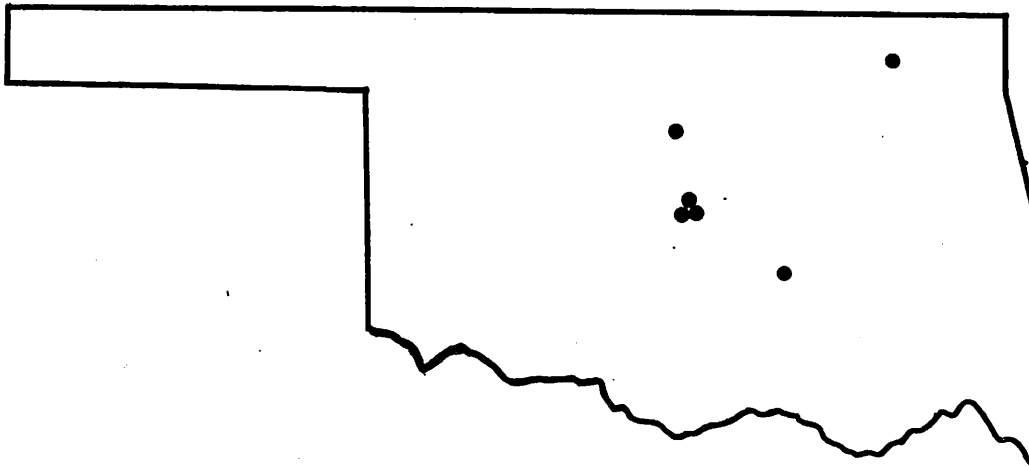


"We can't say, let GEORGE do it, cuz George has already died of exhaustion. We're going to have to do it ourselves."

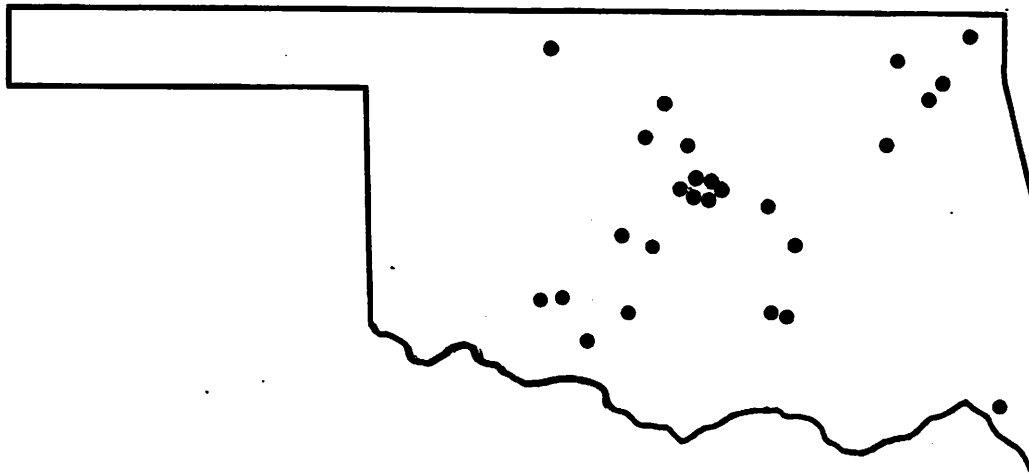


# OKLAHOMANS CALL FO

DECEMBER 1975

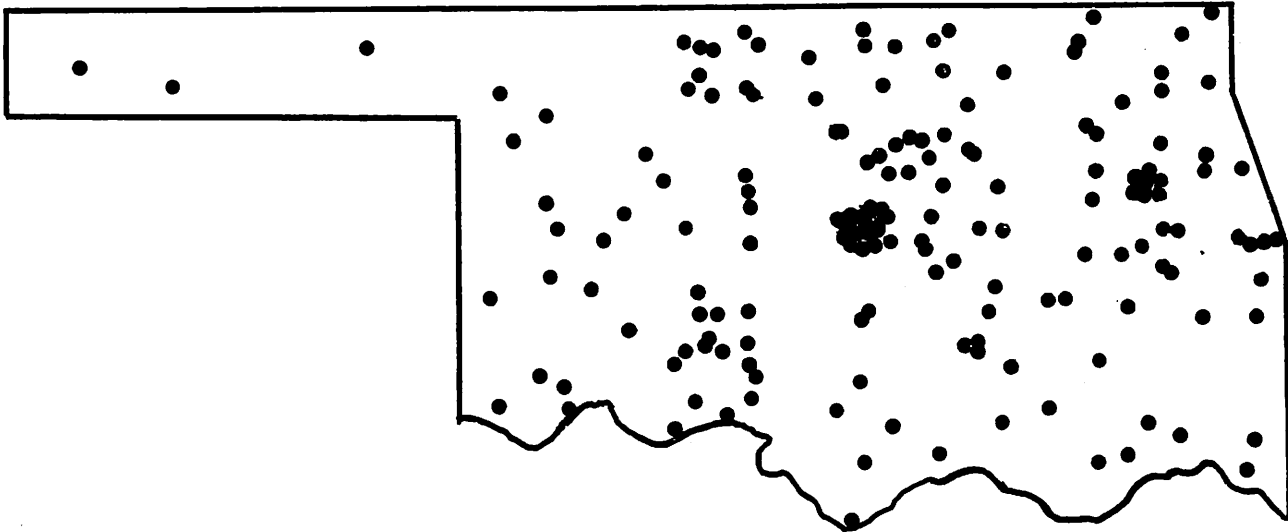


DECEMBER 1976



# R TOWN MEETING

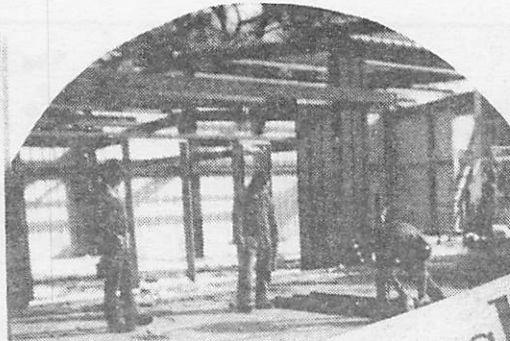
DECEMBER 1977



## Participating Communities

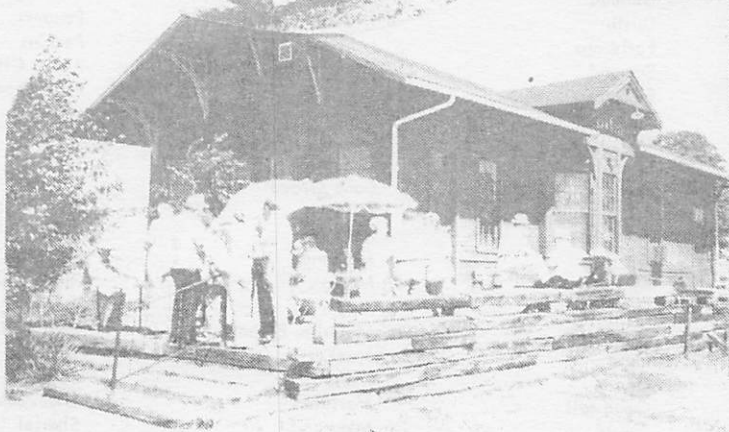
Ada	Classen	Gracemont	Midwest City	Shawnee
Adair	Clinton	Guthrie	Moffett	Shidler
Alva	Comanche	Hammon	Mountain View	Spencer
Aradarko	Covington	Hartshorne	Muldrow	Sterling
Andrews Square	Coyle	Hastings	Muskogee	Stillwell
Antlers	Cushing	Holdenville	Nasli	Stuart
Arcadia	Davenport	Idabel	Oakland	Tahlequah
Atoka	Del City	Jay	Okarche	Tecumseh
Bartlesville	Depew	Jet	Okemah	Thuckerville
Bennington	Doagherty	Kaw City	Oklahoma City	Thomas
Bethany-Warr Acres	Dover	Kingfisher	Oklahoma City South	Tipton
Big Cabin	Duncan	Kinta	Okmulgee	Tonkawa
Bixby	Dustin	Kiowa	Panama	Towers
Blackwell	Earlsboro	Lahoma	Perkins	Tryon
Boise City	Edmond	Lamont-Deer Creek	Ponca City	Tulsa
Boley	El Reno	Langston	Pond Creek	Tupelo
Boswell	Elgin	Lawton	Parum	Verden
Broken Bow	Elk City	Leedey	Purcell	Wagoner
Brooksville	Elmore City	Lexington	Quinton	Wakita
Burns Flat	Enid	Lone Grove	Randlett	Walters
Calvin	Erick	Mangum	Ratliff City	Wann
Canton	Eufaula	Maramec	Rattan	Wapanuka
Cardin	Fairfax	Marland	Red Oak	Warren
Carney	Fargo	Marlow	Ringwood	Watonga
Cashion	Fletcher	May	Ripley	Webbers Falls
Cement	Forgan	McGuire Plaza	Rush Springs	West Bartlesville
Central City 5	Gans	Meeker	Sallisaw	Wister
Cherokee	Geary	Meno	Sasakwa	Woodward
Chickasha	Goodwell	Meridian	Shamrock	Wynona
Claremore	Gould	Miami	Shartel Towers	

# TOWN MEETING ONE

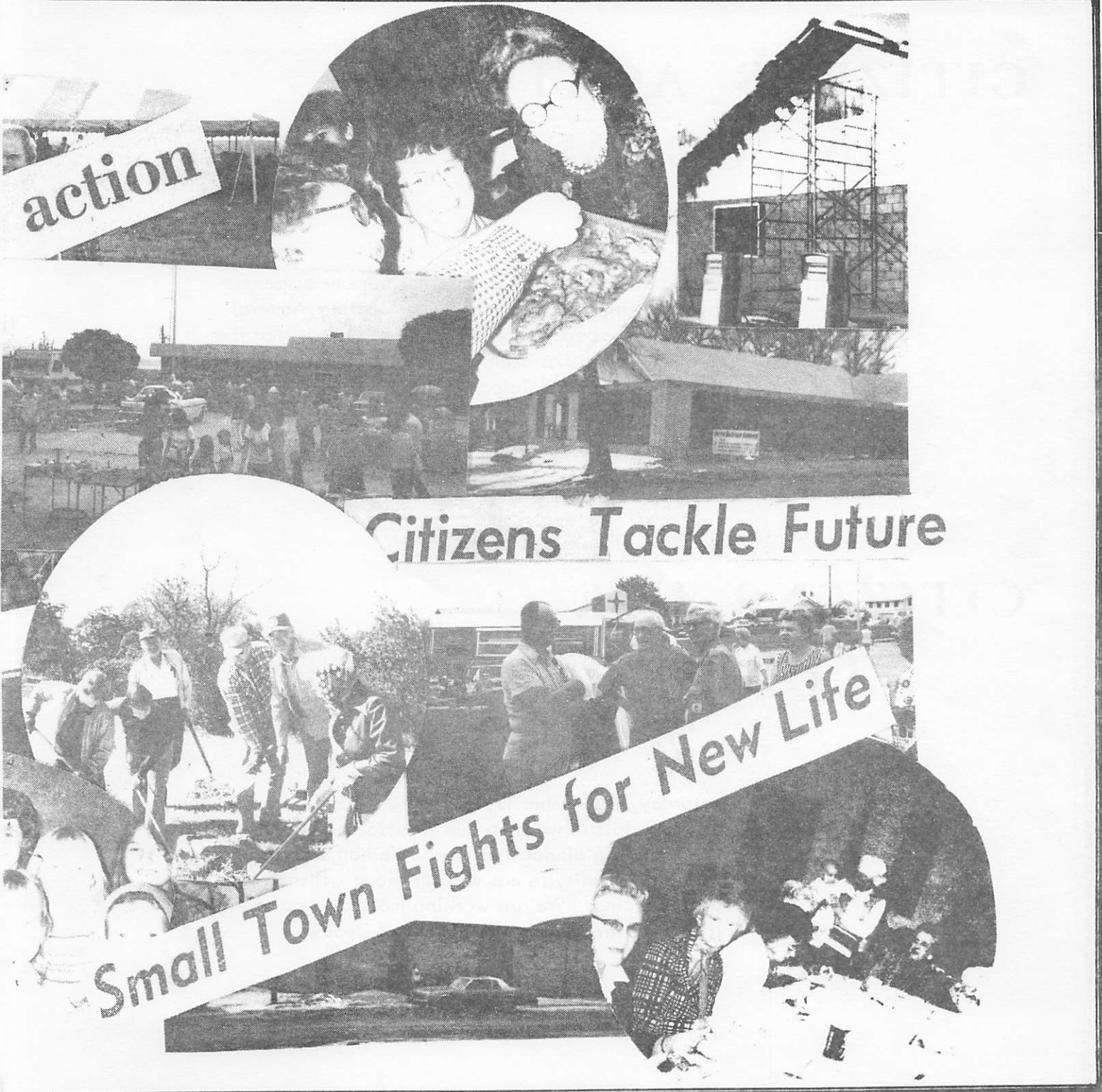


citizenship into

alternatives which they themselves have no part in shaping. We invite those who are alarmed by the "yawns" of a drowsy giant caucus to join us at 7:30 Thursday, in the room of the



# YEAR LATER



# COMMUNITIES ON

## CITIZENS ACTIVE IN COMMUNITY

There have been quite a different number of people involved since our original Town Meeting, several hundred new people are taking part. I feel that the greatest impact has been a general awakening of average citizen participation in practically every aspect of the community's life.

-Citizen of Lawton

## CITIZENS USE THEIR RESOURCES

Saturday, November 12, we had a work day to help the city officials to work on our Fire House and City Hall. We had a big dinner that day. We had several people in our community to eat with us along with the men that were working. We are working more as a community than we ever have in the history of Depew.

-Citizen of Depew

# THE MOVE

## TOWNS MAKE PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT

The City of Carney planted about 350 Loblolly Pine Trees in early spring, furnished by the Warehouse Company at Wright City, Oklahoma, free. About 150 were planted by homeowners. There are three blocks of new sidewalk, 12 blocks repaired and 25 blocks of streets sealed and chipped. We have taken 40 acres into the City this year, 6 new houses, and land is being prepared for 3 more at present. Three storefronts are getting a face lifting presently.

-Citizen of Carney

## INTERACTION BETWEEN THE COMMUNITIES

Contact with other "like" communities has introduced a breath of commonality over our State, giving it a single concern; "Self-Help" as an attitude. This outside interest makes improvement a viable reality to replace what was a previous dream.

-Citizen of Red Oak

# REPRESENTATIVE SUPPORT

Beacon Publishing Company Borden, Inc.	Potts-Stephenson Exploration Company
Butler Paper Company Burger King	Pub Public Service Company
C. R. Anthony Company Data Graphics of Oklahoma	Rainbo Bread Ralston Purina Company
Denver Reese Typesetting Company Doenges Brothers Ford Co., Inc.	Ramada Inn Reading and Bates Off-Shore Drilling Co., Inc.
Exxon Company, U.S.A. Fife Corporation	Riley Reproductions, Inc. Rockwell International
Fred Jones Manufacturing Graham Paper Company	Roy Rogers Restaurants Safeway Stores, Inc.
Holiday Inn Hood, Hope and Associates	Schwab Company Shakey's
Humpty Supermarkets, Inc. IGA Consumer's Stores	Sheraton Inn Sirloin Stockade
J.C. Penney Co., Inc. Kabet's Gifts and Accessories	Skaggs-Albertson Skirvin Plaza Hotel
Kentucky Fried Chicken KTVY Television	Solo Cup Company Sonic Drive Inn
Liberty National Bank and Trust Co. Lindsay's Speedy Printing	Sooner Federal Savings and Loan Association Southwest Factories, Inc
Long John Silver's Lowe Runkle Company	Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Speed Walker Commercial Letter, Inc.
Macklanburg Duncan Co. McDonald's	T. G. and Y. Stores, Company Tom Morris Enterprises
Midwest Paper Company Montego Bay	Trans World Travel Agency Video Independent Theaters, Inc.
Oklahoma Bindery Service Oklahoma Gas and Electric Co.	Walmart Stores, Inc. Wendy's Hamburgers
Oklahoma Natural Gas Co. Pizza Hut	Western Paper Company Wilsey Bennett of Oklahoma, Inc.
Postal Instant Press	Wilson Foods Corporation Winchell's Donuts
	Young Enterprises

SPECIAL THANKS TO ADDRESSOGRAPH MULTIGRAPH CORPORATION

DEEP APPRECIATION IS EXPRESSED TO ALL THE INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES  
FOR THEIR SUPPORT GIVEN TO EACH COMMUNITY'S TOWN MEETING.



# STEERING COMMITTEE

## TOWN MEETING: OKLAHOMA 100 - BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### PRESIDENT

Thomas L. Whitsett, MD  
University of Oklahoma  
College of Medicine  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

### VICE PRESIDENT

Delmar L. Stagner  
Attorney at Law  
Spradling, Stagner,  
Alpern & Friot  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

### SECRETARY

Gary L. Mercer  
Retailer  
Kabet's Gifts & Accesories  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

### TREASURER

Raymond D. James, Jr.  
Architect  
James & Childress Associates  
Ada, Oklahoma

### CHAIRMAN-STEERING COMMITTEE

Mrs. Gladys Warren  
Chairman-Director  
Oklahoma Bicentennial  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

John Clifton  
Attorney at Law  
State Senator  
Shawnee, Oklahoma

John C. Graham  
Conglomerate Restaurants, Inc.  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Drew Mason  
Transworld Travel Agency  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Larry I. Young, MD  
Physician & Surgeon  
Claremore, Oklahoma

Charles A. Brooks, C.P.A.  
Brooks, Gray & Northcutt  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Ray H. Potts  
Potts-Stephenson Exploration Co.  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

## TOWN MEETING: OKLAHOMA 100 - STATE STEERING COMMITTEE

Roger Alexander  
Phillips Petroleum Co.  
Bartlesville, Oklahoma

Rev. Donald Brooks  
McAlester State Penitentiary  
McAlester, Oklahoma

Rev. & Mrs. Orra G. Compton  
Christ United Methodist Church  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Newt Cornwell, Jr.  
Pharmacist, Gibson's Dept. Store  
Guthrie, Oklahoma

Fred Davis, President  
National Assoc. for the  
Advancement of Colored People  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Larry Derryberry  
Attorney General of the  
State of Oklahoma  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Rex Dimmitt  
External Jaycees Programming  
Vice President  
Enid, Oklahoma

William S. Doenges, Jr.  
Doenges Brothers Ford  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

David Eck  
Enid Civitan Club  
Enid, Oklahoma

Paul English  
United Press International  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Mrs. Nancy Frame  
Ada Bicentennial Committee  
Ada, Oklahoma

Dr. Dale L. Gibson  
President South Oklahoma City  
Junior College  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Larry Gilly  
Gilly's Shoe Store  
Duncan, Oklahoma

Robert K. Goodwin  
Publisher, Oklahoma Eagle  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mrs. John Graham  
Knight Lake Drive  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Steve Hope  
Hood, Hope & Associates  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Mr. & Mrs. Lester Jacobs  
Coker Motor Co.  
Alva, Oklahoma

Joe W. McBride, Jr.  
Publisher, Anadarko Daily News  
Anadarko, Oklahoma

Kinley A. McClure  
U. S. Postmaster  
Lawton, Oklahoma

Mrs. Prudence Mercer  
Kabet's Gifts & Accessories  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Mrs. Nancy Miller  
Wewoka Sun Newspaper  
Wewoka, Oklahoma

V. Duane Moore  
Optometrist  
Ada, Oklahoma

William Pickard  
Okmulgee County Development  
Council  
Okmulgee, Oklahoma

Paul Roeber  
United Business Capital, Inc.  
Idabel, Oklahoma

Elizabeth Simon  
Assistant Director  
Oklahoma Bicentennial Commission  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

D. Weston Stucky  
Assistant City Manager  
Shawnee, Oklahoma

Mrs. Pat Whitsett  
6208 Lansbrook  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Donald G. Wilson  
Governor  
Kiwanis - Texas/Oklahoma District  
Fort Worth, Texas

Captain & Mrs. Robert Wright  
Vance Air Force Base  
Enid, Oklahoma

# OKLAHOMA STATE SONG

## Something to Sing About: Oklahoma

---

I have ridden in rodeos, / spun yarns and do-si-doed,  
Hitch-hiked the Turnpike from Tulsa to Jay  
I have sat with the Cherokee, / wandered through Green Country,  
Powwows and councils create a new day.

CHORUS: From the Port O'Catoosa to the / gusty Panhandle,  
'Cross the prairies and the lakes through the dense Arbuckle Mountains  
From the Black Mesa in the west, / up to the wilderness  
Something to sing about, this State of ours.

I have welcomed the dawn from the / banks of the Cimarron,  
Followed the sun to the great Sandstone shore,  
Watched it climb shiny red up the / Canyon Rock Riverbed,  
Up to the clouds where the gold eagles soar.

CHORUS:

I have heard the wild wind sing the / places that I have been,  
Stringtown and Ada and Idabel, too,  
Names like Poteau and Tonkawa, / Broken Bow and Washita,  
Names of the pioneer from history grew.

CHORUS:

I have wandered my way from Wau / rika to Chickasha,  
Treated my toes to the sweet morning dew.  
And the warm summer breeze kissed the / leaves of the blackjack trees  
Singing this song that I'm singing to you.

CHORUS:

Yes, there's something to sing about, / tune up a string about,  
Call out in chorus, or quietly hum,  
Of a State that's still young, with a / ballad that's still unsung  
Telling the promise of great things to come.

CHORUS:

**TOWN MEETING** is offered under local sponsorship by a nationwide volunteer staff of specially trained community leaders. **TOWN MEETING** was developed by the Institute of Cultural Affairs, a not-for-profit research, demonstration and training group concerned with the human factor in world development. The ICA staff and consultants in 47 American cities work with local groups to coordinate program development and provide resources, training and follow-up services upon request. For further information, contact ICA.



The Institute of Cultural Affairs  
708 N.E. 15th Street  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
73104  
405-271-6454

