

# CEDAR BLUFF TOWN MEETING



JUNE 11, 1979  
COMMUNITY CENTER

## THE NEW SONG

### CEDAR BLUFF

TUNE: I've Been Working On the RR

I've been living in Cedar Bluff, all the live long day.  
I've been living in Cedar Bluff, Just raising a family.  
Since the railroad in 1890, We've been up and down.  
Cedar Bluff is making progress, Again we're coming around.

We are living in Cedar Bluff with water pure and clear.  
We are living in Cedar Bluff. Our churches hold us here.  
Our new Post Office gives us stability.  
Even though I work elsewhere, This is where I want to be.

We can all work together. Our future's here you see.  
We can all work together for community quality.  
Better roads to get to places, and shopping here at home.  
With shops and jobs and education, we'll build it for our own.

### OUR STORY

#### PAST

Cedar Bluff's heritage goes back to the land and the people. The land lies along the banks of Line Creek, which was a dividing line between two Indian tribes. The land was given to the Indians by the US government in the Dancing Rabbit Creek Treaty. After this time an Indian chief sold the land to white settlers and the people came to farm the land and cut timber. The railroad came in 1890 and gave a means of transportation.

At first it was more or less a self-contained community with a school going through grade 12. It had about 14 businesses, doctors, a railroad depot, etc. With the paving of the highway in 1950, jobs opportunities have opened up for the citizens in nearby towns.

#### PRESENT

Cedar Bluff is making progress, not by the leaps and bounds as we would like, but with steadfastness and enthusiasm. We are proud of our new community water system. We have worked hard and long. It took nine years to finally achieve a clear and abundant water supply. Our churches are growing stronger each year and working together to fulfill the Lord's promise of strength and unity. A new post office has crested a feeling of progress and has helped us step more efficiently into the future. Farmers have continued as they have for many years but with perseverance and updated methods. Although Cedar Bluff has felt at times abandoned by the county father, we continue to survive and grow effectively.

#### FUTURE

This is the way Cedar Bluff will look in the future: At least one nice General Mercandis Store with a good food supply. One industry for the employment coming for the community. More homes because of better schools and hospital and better roads. With all town and communities working together for the betterment of all, one day we will have a nice community center with recreation for the youth.

## THE CHALLENGES

In the arena of Roads, the following blocks exist:

1. lack of county funds
2. consideration of potential loss of revenue to another county.
3. county district lines

This indicates that the challenge facing us is ~~bringing~~  
BRINGING COMMUNITY PRESSURE ON RIGHT STRUCTURES.

Examples of arena are 1) two sides of square need to be paved  
2) road to Starkville unpaved.

In the arena of Community Center, the following blocks exist:

1. lack of funds
2. lack of leadership
3. too many other involvements

This indicates that the challenge facing us is  
FORMING A COMMUNITY CLUB.

Examples: 1) roof on center in bad need of repair  
2) restroom in center needs fixing, 3) tennis court is clay

In the arena of Growing Community the following blocks exist:

1. no funds
2. poor education
3. distance ~~from~~ from jobs and shops

This indicates that the challenge facing us is creating  
awareness of potential this community has if we'd pull together.

Examples: no stores or businesses, need sub-division for  
growth, county hospital equipment outdated.

In the arena of Upgraded Education, the following blocks exist:

1. 2 county school system
2. federal interference (school not representative with population)
3. lowest class teachers due to low pay
4. unresponsive administration

This indicates that the challenge facing us is discerning  
what citizens can do to upgrade school system

Examples: low ACT scores, whites in private schools to  
maintain standards.

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PROPOSALS

We the citizens of Cedar Bluff in order to get our roads paved propose to form a  
ROAD IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

We the citizens of Cedar Bluff in order to strengthen our community and to keep our Community Center propose to form a COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ACTION GROUP.

We the citizens of Cedar Bluff in order to upgrade the quality of education propose to form an  
EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT GROUP



## CEDARBLUFF TOWN MEETING

June 11, 1979

## PARTICIPANTS

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## TOWN MEETING PROGRAM

Town Meeting: Mississippi was created for communities by the Institute of Cultural Affairs, a not-for-profit, research, demonstration and training group concerned with the human factor in world development. During the period of November, 1978 through June 1979, the Town Meeting program is being offered under the sponsorship of the Governor's Office of Citizen Participation of the State of Mississippi.

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