



Gattman, Mississippi

TOWN MEETING

MAY 14, 1979

THE NEW COMMUNITY SONG AND STORY

GATTMAN IS MY HOME

(Tune: I'd like to Teach the World to sing)

I'd like to teach the world to work  
In perfect harmony.  
I'd like to show some folks I know  
What my town means to me.

CHORUS:

Gattman is my home.  
It's a place you should see.  
That's the way it should be.  
It is home to me.

In days gone past this was a farm.  
We had a grist mill too,  
A barber shop -- a cotton gin  
And a jail house too.

CHORUS

I'd like to see my dreams come true,  
And this is what we'd do:  
We'd get more people to share the load  
And get more money too.

CHORUS

THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE GATTMAN

People in Gattman of the past were more leisure wise as they  
went on their way. Everyone was friendly and had time to stop and  
talk a while.

Today, everyone is in a hurry to get to work, then hurry home  
to work some more. People don't have time to visit as they should,  
or don't take time to visit. There is too much T.V. viewing.

In the future we hope to see the people more caring, and  
pulling together for a better town, and better recreation cooperation.

## THE CHALLENGES

In the arena of city services the following blocks exist: no jail, no younger men involved, complications in working with county sheriff's department, not close to other cities in Mississippi. This indicates that the underlying challenge facing us is coordination with Alabama and county services because there is inadequate manpower locally. A local example that illustrates this challenge arena is that fire trucks usually arrive too late to care for fires in town.

In the arena of community involvement the following conditions exist: no breakthrough with getting people out, no coordination of groups, lack of response and too much other work to do. This indicates that the underlying challenge facing us is finding a new way to get people involved. A local example which illustrates this challenge arena is that people came from outside the community to help renovate the community center.

In the arena of economic development the following blocks exist: more employment is needed for later generations, need sewer and natural gas, need new businesses in town. This indicates that the underlying challenge is getting fire truck and volunteer department in Gattman. A local example of this challenge arena is the interest by local residents for business.

In the arena of recreational activities the following blocks exist: nothing for people to do, no available facilities, no money. This indicates that the underlying challenge facing us is getting available land for recreational park. Local examples of this challenge arena are: a swimming pool would pay for itself, school ball field isn't large enough, looking ahead for swimming pool, tennis court, baseball field.

## THE PROPOSALS

### RESCUE APPRECIATION NITE

We, the citizens of Gattman, in order to improve community protection propose to hold an appreciation nite through: inviting the Alabama fire department and rescue squad members, investigate how to get local fire truck and volunteer firemen, investigating to find out what night would be suitable to have supper, having the homemakers club sponsor the supper, inviting the citizens of the community who are interested, and asking for information and ideas on volunteer program.

### TOWN CLEAN-UP DAY

We, the citizens of Gattman, in order to get people involved and get the community to look better propose a Town Clean-up day, through: holding a clean-up day on May 26th, 3-4 adults driving pick-ups, 3-4 mowers (check with supervisor about buxh hog), holding a cook-out afterwards outside the community center, advertising and announcing a t sing-in (posters, Amory Advertiser, radio)

### MAPPY LEISURE HOURS

We, the citizens of Gattman, in order to get the land needed for recreation propose to do an investigation of land available, through: a peitition of interested people, listing the key people to talk to and getting the money to buy the laad.

### FUND-RAISING EVENTS

We, the citizens of Gattman, in order to raise money for the community propose to have a family night with "something for everyone," through: setting the date, adverttising, buying food and arranging for people to bring things and forming committees.

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Town Meeting Workshop Leaders:

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Lynn Brazen  
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## TOWN MEETING: MISSISSIPPI

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. The ICA staff and volunteer consultants in 103 American cities and overseas locations work with local sponsoring groups to coordinate program development and provide resources, training and follow-up services upon request. 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.

### SPONSORED BY:

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