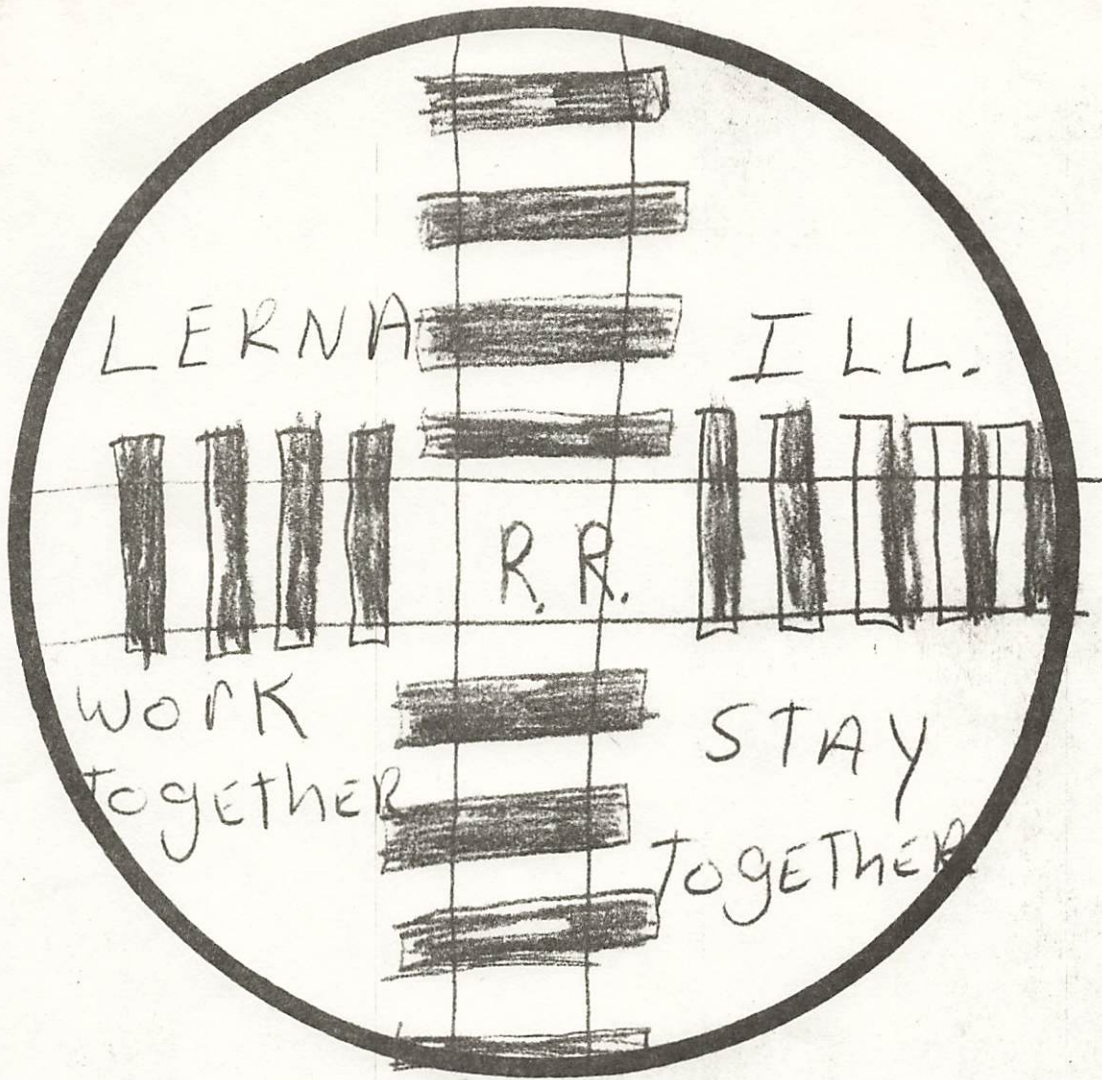


LERNA  
IL  
78

Coles  
County

ILLINOIS

#000



Town Meeting: Illinois

STORY

Our town Lerna was a thriving community but a big fire took it in the late 1920's. Almost all people left and now we are trying to grow and make the best of it. We are looking forward to the Lerna Lincoln Festival and community growth and prosperity, So our children also will look forward to something.

SONG



Lerna beautiful Lerna  
This is what we have all been working for.

Lerna beautiful Lerna  
its to bad you didn't look this way before.

Lerna beautiful Lerna  
Were sure glad to know that-  
You're no longer a bore.

INITIAL BRAINSTORM

PAST GREATNESS

Lerna moved from south of here to RR Crossing over 60 years ago	Carnivals in the park
Two depots	Clothing store
Movie house	Doctor
Hotel	Undertaker
Two grocery stores	Drug store
Livestock yard	
Passenger Trains	
Hat shop	
Barber shop	

FUTURE VISION

Recreation for kids	Don't have to leave town
Town police	Churches built up
Grocery store	Downtown area built up
Jobs	Paved streets
Keep the School	Old buildings down
More people	
Good water	
Stores	

PRESENT ISSUES

Vandalism	No local law enforcement
Rough roads	Parents not cautioning child
Properties cluttered	Water bill to high for single person
Sewer system	No recreation
Stray dogs	No local activities
Little kids in street	Local business closes at 5:00
Better water	Insurance and taxes to high in County
Need more business	State Fire Reg. keep town back
Patronize local business	Court system
Kids being destructive	Stale water from water tank

CHALLENGES

- I. In the area of Communications Gap the fact that the Village has no control over utilities, don't know regulations, has no federal grants, and there is a fixed cost if water system maintenance. Also, the cost of clear water due to the lack of a circulating pump.  
This indicates that the contradiction's are between elected officials and individuals which causes lack of funding.  
This is illustrated by misunderstanding on the cost of clear water, also misunderstanding on sewer grant, and lack of interest in community.
- II. In the area of Economics the fact that there are a lack of facilities and need to educate people, the lack of funds, and no demand for some services and private business people spend long hours.  
This contradiction is illustrated by the village population is too small.  
This is also shown by the people who go to other cities to trade.
- III. In the area of social health the fact that older people's interest is difficult with both parents working, lack of interest in park, local businesses hire outside help, indicates that the underlying problem is a lack of interest with nothing to do. This is illustrated by vandalism of park, kids roaming streets at all hours.
- IV. In the arena of law enforcement and relation to the county, the fact that no enforcement of local regulations, no dog tags, people don't want to offend their neighbors, some older people can't take care of their property, parents won't deal with their kids, people won't vote or find out who they are voting for or what the issue is. This indicates that the contradiction is that people don't want to get involved or commit themselves due to fear of offending their neighbors or over stepping the many regulations that exist.  
This is illustrated by the people in the county who "Cannot be pleased" go to the Sheriff's office and get turned over to someone else.

PROPOSALS

- I. We the citizens of Lerna, in order to create unity in the community propose to hold the 1st annual Summer Festival through 1. Organize a committee. 2. Plan details and date. 3. Publicity campaign. 4. Set it up. 5. Have the festival.
- II. We the citizens of Lerna, in order to Create Unity propose to have village meetings to achieve this goal.
- IIII. We the citizens of Lerna, in order to involve people in community improvements propose to have a Lerna Lincoln Festival to help raise money to achieve this goal.
- IV. We the citizens of Lerna, in order to Create Community Regonization and Influence propose to hold a Lerna Lincoln Festival to make people aware of our town by having community and political leaders on hand to help make the festival a success.

## PARTICIPANTS

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	OCCUPATION
1. Opal Bennett	Box 143	234-6894	Housewife
2. Thomas Bennet	Box 143	234-6894	Pension
3. Dan J. Roberts	Box 190	235-3020	Ladle Liner
4. Ed Lawyer	Box 133	235-4534	Mechanic
5. Lewis Thompson	Box 34	235-1632	Welding Service
6. Terry Strong		235-3062	Mechanic
7. Pat Patrick	R.R. #1	235-3061	Waitress
8. David Haverstock		234-6692	Factory
9. Donald Gibbons		234-6124	Retired
10. Richard Patrick	R.R. #1	235-3061	Truck driver
11. Loren Gillis	Box 113	234-7012	Factory
12. Dale Lawyer	Box 94	235-1112	Salesman
13. Bennie Easton	Box 173	235-4702	Unemployed
14. Anne Lawyer	Box 94	235-1112	Insurance Agent
15. Ralph Cresap	Box 164	345-7254	Repairman
16. Eric Cresap	Box 164	345-7254	
17. Lawrence Moritz	R.R. #1	234-8706	Mayor
18. Dan Lawrence	Box 160	234-2310	Manager-Young's
19. Albert Strong		235-3646	Mechanic
20. Glenn W. Shriver	Box 161	235-0875	Retired
21. Dorothy Shriver	Box 161	235-0875	Housewife
22. D. R. Gibbons	Box 191	235-5281	Welder
23. Michael Turner	Box 104	235-4632	Welder
24. James M. Poorman		235-1196	Factory
25. Aaron E. Dillman	R.R. #2	344-5220	Unemployed