

THE GOLDEN YEAR OF AWAKENMENT

I want to talk about the North American County Saturation Campaign. You have two maps, one of which is a fairly accurate reproduction of where we stand right now in North America; it shows which counties in the United States and Canada have been done. The second map is called "Georgianna's Picture Map." There are no titles on it and it doesn't have a neat, half inch border around it. There are just two pictures, one of Canada and one of the United States. By the time this talk has ended I hope you have a title for this picture which holds what this year really is about.

I am going to talk about four things relative to this campaign: the shape of the campaign, the campaign as winning, how it is winning and, fourth, guardians are not only nice -- they're needed.

First, the shape of the campaign. In Oklahoma last Spring we made the great discovery that the rural areas were ready for Town Meeting. The decision to move on the rural was made in Oklahoma. As we went into these small towns, we found it was no secret that they knew they had problems. Their problems are the same problems facing the urban areas but three characteristics of the rural communities make them just right for Town Meeting.

One is that hope still exists in the rural. They have not experienced the failure of numerous programs which has led to cynicism in the cities. Second is their lack of bureaucracy. They are receptive to Town Meeting and it is easy to set up. You go into town, talk to the mayor and Mert, who used to be the switchboard operator in the old telephone days and you've gone through the only bureaucratic system that exists. The third great gift of the rural is that those concrete proposals come out concretely--like repair the sidewalk; and they are easily implemented.

I want to read something to show you the kind of thing that can happen in those small towns. This is about a Town Meeting held in October, 1976, in Old Fort, N.C. Town size: 700. Thirty or forty people attended that Town Meeting. A couple of our people went back through, contacted two of the Town Meeting participants and asked what had happened since then. Here's the list:

A new gift shop, a new fire department created by renovating an old garage, a new restaurant, a new community theater is in the process of being built, an enlarged Western Auto Store, a new car wash, completed subdivision housing, a new mini-park, a large factory building newly painted, an old house moved with renovation plans to make it into an apartment building, a new drugstore, a new emporium building, and improvements on the town museum.

When asked if all of these accomplishments in a ten-month period were due to the Town Meeting, one of the participants responded with the following story: "If someone asked me, I think I would have to say yes. The changes are due to Town Meeting. It's like getting a new chair for your living room. Once you put the new chair in the room you start looking at the whole room in

a different way. You see that the curtains need to be changed or that the couch is a bit tacky or that you might improve the room with a plant here and there. Our Town Meeting was like that new chair. Everything that has happened was not directly proposed in the Town Meeting, but the meeting gave us a whole new perspective on our town. And we are really looking forward to the future." That's what happens after a Town Meeting and it happens fast in the rural!

This campaign is also shaped by the fact that it consists of 3,518 awakening events happening throughout the year and completed by June 30, 1978, covering the whole continent in gold. It's nice to know that the optimists of old spent hundreds of years trying to turn base metal into gold, but do you realize that in one year we are going to turn a whole continent gold? This continent of gold is the launching ground that will allow us to go back and do county saturation at the township level and urban saturation in the year following. I don't know what history will call this campaign, but I don't think it will be the North American County Saturation Campaign. That's why I want you to write your own titles. I have mine. I think history is going to call this year "The Golden Year of Awakening."

Now, how is the campaign winning? We went into this year with 540 counties done. We figured that if we did 888 counties in Quarter II; 999 in Quarter III, and 1,111 in Quarter IV, it would all add up to a grand total that would color the continent gold. The Impact Post had its own standard for measuring just how successful the campaign is. We've been saying that if 444 of this quarter's 888 were scheduled or held by the time of the Guardians meeting, October 15, that we were right on target. Well, 498 have been scheduled or held, so we are about 30 Town Meetings ahead of schedule right now.

What's the weaponry we bring into winning this campaign? One clue is that our post, which used to be the Town Meeting or Global Community Forum Post, is now the Impact Post. We have a firepower screen of five different weapons. The big guns, the ones that bear the brunt of the battle, are Town Meeting or Global Community Forum. There are four supporting guns of small caliber ammunition that, webbed together, are our total firepower screen.

One is the Global Women's Forum. That forum is designed to release one of the greatest untapped resources in the world today, the women. They are hungry for involvement. By the end of this quarter we will have done 40 GWF's overseas and who knows how many in this country. It staggers your mind when you see the women that can come out of that course involved in setting up and doing Town Meetings or in womaning the social demonstrations.

Another weapon is the Community Youth Forum. The youth, too, are one of our great untapped resources. We are bringing that force into the mainstream of engagement. There is also the university program. One guardian took a semester's leave of absence from his position as a professor of physics at Penn State to set up the university program that would feed university students as interns into community service through Town Meetings or the Social Demonstration Projects. We thought the first thing we'd have to do was to find universities willing to participate, but Amos had hardly begun, when Georgetown

University called to say they wanted to send 15 people to one of our Projects. Amos is working right now on what that internship would look like.

The last gun in our impact firepower is a new LENS. This corporation LENS is going to enable executives and employees of any company to begin to work out through their place of business how their company relates responsibly to the community and the world. What a source of future guardians lies there! It, too, hits the double impact sword of giving us troops for Town Meeting and social demonstration. As that impact firepower begins to boom, you can see how it relates to GSD.

It's very clear that the troops that are going to do those social demonstrations and build the new Movement are going to come out of Town Meetings. It's also clear that, as we do those community forums, all 3,518 of them, the screen we'll have, as to where those demonstrations need to go, will be as complete as it has ever been before in history. At the same time, what allows us to do those Town Meetings is the fact that those social demonstrations stand as an authentic sign that something happens on the other side of awakening. Those social demonstrations are turning out to be a great funding source. They are even beginning to fund Town Meeting. On the basis of the Cannonball story, Montana Power and Light is giving \$5,000 to fund Town Meetings in the Dakotas.

Now, how's the campaign winning? Your map has six areas. Two in Canada and four in the U.S. Some 2,300 of the counties yet to be done are in Areas Chicago and Houston. The remaining 1,100 counties are divided among the other four areas. Keep that fact in your screen, if you will, and picture in your mind a huge juggernaut. Juggernaut, according to the dictionary, is "the power of the Hindu god Vishnu." A more Western definition of it is a "swift moving force that crushes everything in its path." For our purposes, the "everything" is the enemy that we confront: unconsciousness that gets crushed in its path. Image that huge juggernaut, if you like, moving from east to west and west to east and down through center from the north.

Let's start out on the West Coast. Nevada is done, and it was funded by a grant from one of the banks which only asked us to do 10. We did 19. We think we'll go back and ask for more funds at this point. Arizona will be done in two weeks, and \$15,000 in funding is backing that up. Colorado, Montana, California and Washington will all be done by Christmas, and here is the surprise in them all. Hawaii will be done by Christmas!

Now, the Hawaii maneuver consists of Charlene Forbes and a guardian, who has said he will pay for transportation there and back between Thanksgiving and Christmas, setting up four Town Meetings and coloring Hawaii gold. I have an offer to make to you that you can't refuse. Any guardian who would like to buy four counties at \$1,200 apiece, that's \$4,800, and supply his own airfare, will be welcome to go on that trip with those two lovely ladies to color Hawaii gold. I realize that there will probably be more than one of you, and consequently, we will hold a lottery of all the names who are willing to meet those conditions. The winner goes to Hawaii and the loser goes to Alaska during the same time.

That means after Christmas, we'll have to do Oregon, New Mexico, Wyoming, Idaho and then the west is done. Follow the juggernaut, if you please, up to Western Canada. It's a three pronged attack up there. Alaska forms one prong of that attack. A Town Meeting has been set up in one of the islands that lies next to Russia, and if those islanders would invite some of their Russian relatives to attend that Town Meeting, we could say we have penetrated Russia.

The second prong of that attack is Vancouver, which is rolling nicely. But the real prong of the juggernaut is going to be in doing and completing the province of Saskatchewan. That will be the brand that lights fire to the whole prairie out there. Now move, if you will, to Eastern Canada. The juggernaut there is New Day New Brunswick. Forty-five CFC's are scheduled. Thirty have been set up. They ran out of troops to set up any more. We dispatched three of our top circuiters to Canada just before the Guardians meeting. They left with a plan that they had titled, "Armageddon--the Final Day." Do you know how old Spartan wives used to send their husbands out to battle? They said, "Come back behind your shield or on it." We update this sendout for our three New Brunswick circuiters. We say, "Come back carrying your briefcase or in it." There is no way that we will lose any part of the juggernaut force that is started. New Brunswick will come off. In doing the New Brunswick 45, eastern Canada will have done in a couple months time three times as many CFC's as it has done in the past three years.

Move on down the East Coast to the juggernaut of Area New York. New Jersey, as you know, has already been done. But listen to this list. By Thanksgiving, all of New England will be colored gold. Six states: Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts will be done. They are going to have their Assembly in Faneuil Hall in Boston, where America's first town meetings met. It was in Faneuil Hall that the colonists decided on the resistance that birthed this nation. You can mark New York done by Christmas. And if you can find on your map a little island off the coast of Massachusetts called Nantucket, you could color it gold.

Joan Seacord in-kindred a seat on an airplane, took off for Nantucket, holding a golden retriever dog in her lap, set up a Town Meeting, returned on the same airplane and held the Nantucket Town Meeting. Washington, D.C. is done, and Maryland by Thanksgiving will be done. Delaware will be done. In the East the juggernaut will roll over ten states and one district. That means what's left to do in Quarters III and IV is Virginia, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania, and Area New York's plan is that one third of its troops will be free for redeployment after Thanksgiving. That's the shape of a juggernaut.

Now let's go to Areas Houston and Chicago. For me, there's a different image there. That's where the mass of those counties are. My image is that they are like a volcano about ready to erupt that sends up lots of molten lava here, there and everywhere else. Now, each one of those areas has taken a different approach toward acting out that kind of eruption. The image that holds it for me in the South is the softsell kind of "Y'll come." In the Texas Panhandle, for example, 15 Town Meetings out of their maneuver of 26 are done, and the other 11 are scheduled. One circuiter down there has collected every ethnic and Polish joke he can find. He rides into town and says to someone, "You hear about the two Yankees?" If that doesn't do it, he goes into his magic

act. He has about ten acts he goes through. By the time he's through, they forget he drove into town carrying Maryland plates on his car and they're talking about him as a hometown boy, and they've set up a Town Meeting.

Oklahoma is already taken care of, and in Corpus Christi, the parish priests have said yes to setting up nine Town Meetings in counties in South Texas. Two bishops are supporting the effort. By the end of this quarter, Texas is going to be literally cornered with only the center to do and all forces moving into it. You have to realize that doing Texas is like doing a nation in most other places. The Gulf States are penetrated. The TVA is going to help us set up Town Meetings in all the states where they operate, and, I hope, help us fund them. We have made some inroads into Florida. Hither and yon the plot goes on all across Area Houston. We'll allow them in those later quarters to take the whole area.

Go up to Area Chicago. I'd use the long sword/short sword image here. Last Spring, Area Chicago did a series of state campaigns in which they broke open funding bases, authorization, and a grasp of the geography unlike anything this movement has ever seen before. The fantastic base from which this Area is operating will allow it to unsheath the short sword to deal the blow that makes Chicago Area go within the next couple quarters.

Each house is doing 13 in its turf. The Minneapolis House found out 13 was no problem. They are moving so quickly in Minnesota that they plan to finish the state by the end of the quarter. That's 63 Town Meetings done. They just did a funding blitz. They called on 150 corporations, sold them counties, and within a week's time they had raised \$17,000. Not bad. Also, Minneapolis is bringing in an average of \$400 in local funding per Town Meeting at this point.

Let me tell you who made up that blitz team. Three house people, three development people from Chicago Centrum, and 8 guardians. That leads me to the last point: that guardians are not only nice -- they're needed. There is no doubt in anybody's mind that there's nothing stopping us from doing the 3,518. We know how to set them up. We know how to do them. We know how to awaken, and those circuiters are out there setting them up on the average of one a day. They are coming in that fast. The only possible glitch is keeping those circuiters on the road. In other words, what we need are the support systems and the funding systems that allow the juggernaut to keep moving and allow Area Chicago and Houston to keep sending up the molten lava that will finally color those areas gold.

Last Spring couldn't have happened without guardians. About one third of the total troops in the New Jersey and Oklahoma campaigns were guardians. Guardians have helped with their lives, fortunes and sacred honors. That means they give you their credit card. They even give you a car, a house to stay in, they do the funding for you, they'll orchestrate Town Meetings, they help give circuit time, they write brochures, they write letters to all their friends, and they in-kind and decor assembly halls. The guardians have done everything there is to be done in a campaign last Spring and into this quarter as well.

Now, write, if you would, your title for this year of awakening and while you write it, I'll just go on. Write it the way you think the history books are going to look at this year, and in conclusion, let me say one thing. There is no way you could keep me out of this campaign. There is no way. I'm a guardian and I am going to be a part of this campaign which is a gift that history offers an opportunity to participate in very rarely.

In Oklahoma, I got down there and I got so excited, I couldn't sleep. I thought to myself, who would I call at 5 o'clock in the morning who would be up. I'd heard that Joe Mathews was always up, so I called him to tell him all the great things that were happening in Oklahoma. There was so much going on I could have called him every day, because I wasn't sleeping anyway. About the third day, he said "You know, you've waited eight years for this to happen, haven't you?" I said, "No, truthfully, Joe, I've waited all my life for this moment to happen." It's that kind of year we have the opportunity to participate in. We are going to spend time this weekend in those guardian task forces designed to discover how it is that you and I participate to our maximum creativity in getting those campaigns done, and keeping those circuiters out on the road.

Now, what was the title you wrote down? Gold Rush. Wearing the Golden Crown, The Year of the Great Day. Well, all of you probably have something like that down or in your mind. I guess I want to close by first telling David Wood that I will be eternally grateful to him for reintroducing me to the soliloquy out of Henry V. Shakespeare knew what I'm trying to talk about and what you and I have experienced when he said through the mouth of King Henry V, "We few, we happy few, we band of brothers, for he today that sheds his blood with me, shall be my brother though he be ever so vile. This day shall gentle his condition. And gentlemen in England now abed, shall think themselves accursed that they were not here."