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3. Other Accomplishments:

The Americorp member is assisting the North Central Resource, Conservati and Development Council and Union County Historical Society in putting together a booklet on Veterans of World War II from Union County, Mississippi to be placed in county libraries and for private use.

4. Unique Successes or ``Great Stories'':

AMERICORPS
4th QUARTER REPORT

SITE INFORMATION

Operating Site name:	RC+D Pearl Area Office (Cluster-3)
State:	Mississippi
Site ID #	94 AD F D C C10
Your Name:	Lori Stewart
Your Position:	Americorp / Public Relations
Telephone number:	(601) 965-4559
Fax number:	(601) 965-5734
e-mail address (if available)	MS0201 1/hs
Date report completed	9/28/95
Reporting Period:	JULY 1 - September 30, 1995
Program Start-up date:	August 26 '94

Objectives Section

Objective: **(state objective)**

Education of students on environmental education – slide program, Resource Guide, Fact Sheets, Rankin Co. Trail

Progress towards meeting this community service objectives

A Resource Guide has been completed & will be given to teachers after printing of the document. We hope it will reach a lot of teachers & several thousand students.

(complete this sheet for each objective)

Objectives Section

Objective: (state objective)

Progress towards meeting this community service objectives

A slide program has been completed of a youth camp sponsored by Mississippi Soil & Water Conservation Comm. We hope this program, which will be transfered to video, can be used to encourage others & demonstrate how Agriculture can be taught in a fun way.

(complete this sheet for each objective)

Objectives Section

Objective: (state objective)

Progress towards meeting this community service objectives

III

Fact Sheets have been drawn up for the Simmons Arboretum showing the trail boundarys & specific trees along the trail. The information was drawn up on a drawing program called EazyCad 2. The sheets will be distributed to students visiting the Arboretum on field trips etc.

(complete this sheet for each objective)

Objectives Section

Objective: (state objective)

II.

Progress towards meeting this community service objectives

The Rankin Co. Trail is now completed and ready for classroom visits. Articles have been written about work days & accomplishments. Article is enclosed. It will be published in the upcoming RCTD newsletter.

(complete this sheet for each objective)

Rankin County
Conservation
Trail Workday

The Rankin County nature trail is quickly becoming an outstanding, all seasonal educational facility. At a work day held recently, numerous volunteers came together to prepare the trail for the upcoming school year.

The half mile trail located at the Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service building in Brandon, has endless opportunities for teachers and their students.

Donated materials and a volunteer work-force made a May work day a huge success. Park benches placed at the entrances and at the "old fashion garden" provide scenic resting places. The amphitheater acquired concrete benches. Steps made from crossties donated provide a safer passage and build up low places on the path. Slopes and wet areas received crossties also. Trees trimmed, brush cleared and flowers planted along the path enhance the beauty of the acreage. Cable handrails added to a foot bridge previously built by 4-H members will make the trail accessible even during wet periods.

Among the volunteers were employees of the MS. County Extension Service, MS. Forestry Commission, Natural Resources Conservation Service, MS. Soil & Water Commission and the Earth Team. George Weaver of the Rankin County Sheriffs' Office directed five enmates that helped by spreading gravel on the trail. Other contributors include Trustmark Bank in Rankin County, Rankin County Board of Supervisors, Murphy Adkins-Chancery Clerk, and Gray-Daniels Ford of Brandon.

TRAINING ASSESSMENT

PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS
Please specify precisely what kind of staff or Member training or other technical assistance can be provided by USDA, the Corporation for National and Community Service, or other sources to improve your project.

Environmental Ed. training such as project learning tree, project wet, project wild + others.

PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Report on problems resolved and unresolved, obstacles to achieving program objectives, significant sources of delay, program elements not meeting expectations, events or incidents that caused concern. Use the format below for explaining problems and solutions.

NATURE OF PROBLEM
Please state the problem clearly and concisely. Be candid.

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED?

IF NO, WHAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM?

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SOLUTION OR RESOURCES NEEDED TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM?
Specify what steps you, your Members, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future

MEDIA ASSESSMENT

1. **NATIONAL IDENTITY ACTIVITIES THIS QUARTER**

2. **MEDIA COVERAGE** - An article was published in Mississippi Gardens magazine about Madison Ave Elementarys outdoor facilities (classrooms) Article is enclosed. Also a second news letter is due out at the end of July.

3. **OTHER CREATIVE DOCUMENTATION**

Young Sprouts

Mother Nature's Own

Laurie Stewart

Landscaping the school grounds at Madison Avenue Elementary changed a lot more than the just the looks of the place. One outdoor classroom is already in use, the first of three outdoor facilities funded by an Urban Forestry Grant and numerous local contributors. The



The Giving Tree shades Madison Avenue's outdoor classroom.

classroom's shade comes from a big, old oak tree nicknamed 'The Giving Tree' by the Eco-Kids at the school. Its amphitheater-stage hosts storytelling, music practice, art, plays, and class parties.

A second classroom, 'The Reading Garden', features a canopied patio surrounded by butterfly gardens, funded in part by an Entergy Environmental grant and planted by first- and second- graders. Project coordinator and Madison Avenue parent Donna Yowell says, "The children stand along the edges of the garden and throw zinnia seeds. In the fall when they return to school the garden is all in color with blooms and butterflies."

Since physical education is no longer a required course in public schools, the walking/nature trail at Madison Ave. Elementary is Madison, MS., does double duty. It offers exercise opportunities along with nature education right on the campus. An English class can take a walk on the nature trail, close their eyes, listen, then come back and write a poem or essay. A math class counts tree species while science students test water quality in the stream along the trail.

The enthusiasm displayed by this huge project is contagious. To emphasize the importance of trees in the environment, students known as Eco-Kids labeled trees on the grounds, recycled Christmas trees,

The children are excited about the changes to their campus. Fifth grader David Finnegan says, "I like it because I like the outdoors and how we are protecting trees. I think everyone likes it because it's interesting."

and taught other students about Urban Forestry through a series of bulletin board displays. A vegetable garden, wildflower garden, and entrance landscaping with flowers

4th AMERICORPS
QUARTER REPORT

SITE INFORMATION

Operating Site name:	Brookhaven (field office), MS
State:	MS
Site ID #	
Your Name:	Bennie Hutchins
Your Position:	RC+D Coordinator
Telephone number:	601-833-5539
Fax number:	601-835-0054
e-mail address (if available)	
Date report completed	9-25-95
Reporting Period:	July 1 - Sept. 30, 1995
Program Start-up date:	9-12-94

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES THIS QUARTER

1. Staff changes made this quarter:

None

2. Program structural changes made this quarter:

None

Number of Members who have left National Service this quarter.	1
Total-to-date	1
Number of Members who have gained employment thru their AmeriCorps Service	0

BUDGET INFORMATION

Federal dollars spent on AmeriCorps (Local Level Only) Project Manager completes this section	
Per cent of your time spent on AmeriCorps	3
Approximate dollar amount	1,500
Cost for any other Federal employee spending time on AmeriCorps	–
Travel costs for Members & Managers	250
Training costs	100
Supplies	50
Uniform costs	–
Program Costs (Please explain what these costs were.)	–

Partner dollars spent on AmeriCorps	
Supplies	$ 50 ~~1,000~~
Travel	–
Training	–
Program Costs	–
Other	–

Objectives Section

Objective: (state objective)

To recruit and train volunteers for Adopt-A-Stream program

Progress towards meeting this community service objectives

During the service year 12 volunteers were recruited. All attended an intensive 3-day workshop for training and certification. Six streams have been adopted for monthly and quarterly testing and reporting on biological, chemical, and physical parameters.

(complete this sheet for each objective)

PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Member Development: Progress made in boosting the personal development of members.

None this quarter.

2. Community Building: Progress made in meeting your community service objectives.

A water quality database is being established from data collected and submitted by volunteers on 6 streams.

3. **Other Accomplishments:**

Draft plan prepared for an Adopt-A-Watershed project using Farm-A-Syst and Home-A-Syst environmental evaluation check-sheets and involving youth groups, especially High School Vo-Ag classes to carry out.

$500 grant received from MP+L (Entergy Corp.) to implement.

4. **Unique Successes or ``Great Stories'':**

MEMBER ASSESSMENT
as of end of this quarter

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITIONS: 1 TOTAL EMPLOYED: 1

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	0
TOTAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	1

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Box 1 - GENDER	
Number of Males	0
Number of Females	1
TOTAL	1

Box 2 - RACE	
Number of Caucasians	0
Number of African Americans	1
Number of Native Americans	0
Number of Hispanics	0
Number of Asian Americans/Pacific Islander	0
Other	0
TOTAL	1

Box 3 - EDUCATION	
Number w/out High School Diploma or GED	0
Number with High School or GED	0
Number with some college	0
Number with college degree	1
Number with Graduate degree	0
Number w/Professional or Trade School	0
TOTAL	1

NOTE: Totals in boxes 1-3 should be the same number and should be the same as TOTAL EMPLOYED.

BOX 4 - OTHER	
Number receiving Health Insurance from NRCS	0
Number receiving Child Care through AmeriCorps	0
Number of children	0
Number w/Disabilities	0

MEMBER INFORMATION

FULL-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

Number of Members authorized for your site:	
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1
Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter:	1
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1
Number of Members at beginning of quarter:	1
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1
Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter:	560
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1
Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter:	560
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1
Total Hours of Direct Service to Date:	1415
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1

PROJECT DIRECTOR COSTS (One per State - Above site level costs only)
Do **NOT** include any costs already captured by the Project Manager.

Federal dollars spent on AmeriCorps	
Per cent of your time spent on AmeriCorps	5%
Approximate dollar amount	80.00
Cost for any other Federal employee spending time on AmeriCorps	0
Travel costs for Members & Managers	89.00
Training costs	800.00
Supplies	20.00
Uniform costs	
Program Costs (Please explain what these costs were.)	

Non-Federal Funds Spent (Explain)

MEMBER ASSESSMENT
as of end of this quarter

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITIONS: 1 TOTAL EMPLOYED: 1

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	0
TOTAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	1

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Box 1 - GENDER	
Number of Males	1
Number of Females	0
TOTAL	1

Box 2 - RACE	
Number of Caucasians	0
Number of African Americans	1
Number of Native Americans	0
Number of Hispanics	0
Number of Asian Americans/Pacific Islander	0
Other	0
TOTAL	1

Box 3 - EDUCATION	
Number w/out High School Diploma or GED	0
Number with High School or GED	0
Number with some college	1
Number with college degree	0
Number with Graduate degree	0
Number w/Professional or Trade School	0
TOTAL	1

NOTE: Totals in boxes 1-3 should be the same number and should be the same as TOTAL EMPLOYED.

BOX 4 - OTHER	
Number receiving Health Insurance from NRCS	0
Number receiving Child Care through AmeriCorps	0
Number of children	0
Number w/Disabilities	0

MEMBER INFORMATION

FULL-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

Number of Members authorized for your site:	
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1
Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter:	1
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1
Number of Members at beginning of quarter:	1
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1
Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter:	560
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1
Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter:	560
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1
Total Hours of Direct Service to Date:	1415
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1

MEMBER ASSESSMENT
as of end of this quarter

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITIONS: 1 TOTAL EMPLOYED: 1

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	0
TOTAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	1

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Box 1 - GENDER	
Number of Males	0
Number of Females	1
TOTAL	1

Box 2 - RACE	
Number of Caucasians	0
Number of African Americans	1
Number of Native Americans	0
Number of Hispanics	0
Number of Asian Americans/Pacific Islander	0
Other	0
TOTAL	1

Box 3 - EDUCATION	
Number w/out High School Diploma or GED	0
Number with High School or GED	0
Number with some college	0
Number with college degree	1
Number with Graduate degree	0
Number w/Professional or Trade School	0
TOTAL	1

NOTE: Totals in boxes 1-3 should be the same number and should be the same as TOTAL EMPLOYED.

BOX 4 - OTHER	
Number receiving Health Insurance from NRCS	1
Number receiving Child Care through AmeriCorps	0
Number of children	0
Number w/Disabilities	0

MEMBER INFORMATION

FULL-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

Number of Members authorized for your site:	
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1
Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter:	1
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1
Number of Members at beginning of quarter:	1
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1
Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter:	875
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	875
Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter:	168.5
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	168.5
Total Hours of Direct Service to Date:	1700.0
Environmental Corps Members:	0
Rural Development Corps Members:	1700.0

MEDIA ASSESSMENT

1. **NATIONAL IDENTITY ACTIVITIES THIS QUARTER**

Senator Thad Cochran (R), Mississippi, presented plaques to our 5 AmeriCorps members during the RC&D Council's annual meeting in August, 1995, recognizing their contributions to the Council's rural development efforts.

2. **MEDIA COVERAGE**

3. **OTHER CREATIVE DOCUMENTATION**

400 Copies of 8-page Newsletter mailed to partners.
2 pages covered AmeriCorps activities

MEMBER ASSESSMENT
as of end of this quarter

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITIONS: 1 TOTAL EMPLOYED: 1

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	
TOTAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	1

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Box 1 - GENDER	
Number of Males	
Number of Females	1
TOTAL	1

Box 2 - RACE	
Number of Caucasians	1
Number of African Americans	
Number of Native Americans	
Number of Hispanics	
Number of Asian Americans/Pacific Islander	
Other	
TOTAL	1

Box 3 - EDUCATION	
Number w/out High School Diploma or GED	
Number with High School or GED	
Number with some college	1
Number with college degree	
Number with Graduate degree	
Number w/Professional or Trade School	
TOTAL	1

NOTE: Totals in boxes 1-3 should be the same number and should be the same as TOTAL EMPLOYED.

BOX 4 - OTHER	
Number receiving Health Insurance from NRCS	1
Number receiving Child Care through AmeriCorps	0
Number of children	0
Number w/Disabilities	0

VOLUNTEER ASSESSMENT

Non-AmeriCorps Member Volunteers

Total Number of non-AmeriCorps Volunteers involved in AmeriCorps service activities in this quarter 1

Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers in this quarter. 10

MEMBER INFORMATION

FULL-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

Number of Members authorized for your site:
- Environmental Corps Members: _____
- Rural Development Corps Members: 1

Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter:
- Environmental Corps Members: _____
- Rural Development Corps Members: 0

Number of Members at beginning of quarter:
- Environmental Corps Members: _____
- Rural Development Corps Members: 1

Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter:
- Environmental Corps Members: _____
- Rural Development Corps Members: 498

Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter:
- Environmental Corps Members: _____
- Rural Development Corps Members: 369

Total Hours of Direct Service to Date:
- Environmental Corps Members: _____
- Rural Development Corps Members: 1700

4th AMERICORPS
QUARTER REPORT

SITE INFORMATION

Operating Site name:	Monticello, MS
State:	MS
Site ID #	
Your Name:	Bennie Hutchins
Your Position:	RC+D Coordinator
Telephone number:	601- 833- 5539
Fax number:	601- 835- 0054
e-mail address (if available)	
Date report completed	9-25-95
Reporting Period:	July 1 - Sept 30, 1995
Program Start-up date:	9-12-94

PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Report on problems resolved and unresolved, obstacles to achieving program objectives, significant sources of delay, program elements not meeting expectations, events or incidents that caused concern. Use the format below for explaining problems and solutions.

NATURE OF PROBLEM
Please state the problem clearly and concisely. Be candid.

Lack of financial cost-share funds as an incentive for limited-resource farmers to get involved in using the pumpout/waste utilization system

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED? No

IF NO, WHAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM?

None. It's in hands of local committee for CFSA program.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SOLUTION OR RESOURCES NEEDED TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM?
Specify what steps you, your Members, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES THIS QUARTER

1. Staff changes made this quarter:

None

2. Program structural changes made this quarter:

None

Number of Members who have left National Service this quarter.	1
Total-to-date	0
Number of Members who have gained employment thru their AmeriCorps Service	0

VOLUNTEER ASSESSMENT

Non-AmeriCorps Member Volunteers

Total Number of non-AmeriCorps Volunteers: involved in AmeriCorps service activities in this quarter	8
Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities: completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers in this quarter.	300

MEMBER INFORMATION

FULL-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

Number of Members authorized for your site:
Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: 1

Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter: _____
Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: 0

Number of Members at beginning of quarter: _____
Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: 1

Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter: _____
Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: 412

Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter: _____
Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: 290

Total Hours of Direct Service to Date: _____
Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: 1700

PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Report on problems resolved and unresolved, obstacles to achieving program objectives, significant sources of delay, program elements not meeting expectations, events or incidents that caused concern. Use the format below for explaining problems and solutions.

NATURE OF PROBLEM
Please state the problem clearly and concisely. Be candid.

The Volunteer Adopt-a-Stream Project still continues to be limited by limitations on funds and on number of Volunteer training workshops being offered within the State.

HAS THE PROBLEM BEEN RESOLVED? No

IF NO, WHAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM?

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE SOLUTION OR RESOURCES NEEDED TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM?
Specify what steps you, your Members, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future

No quick solution, exact more workshops needed. Not likely to happen due to ~~short~~ limitations on state funding (for workshops)

MEDIA ASSESSMENT

1. NATIONAL IDENTITY ACTIVITIES THIS QUARTER

2. MEDIA COVERAGE

5 news realeases this quarter.

3. OTHER CREATIVE DOCUMENTATION

MEMBER ASSESSMENT
as of end of this quarter

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITIONS: 1 TOTAL EMPLOYED: 1

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	
TOTAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	1

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Box 1 - GENDER	
Number of Males	
Number of Females	1
TOTAL	1

Box 2 - RACE	
Number of Caucasians	
Number of African Americans	1
Number of Native Americans	
Number of Hispanics	
Number of Asian Americans/Pacific Islander	
Other	
TOTAL	1

Box 3 - EDUCATION	
Number w/out High School Diploma or GED	
Number with High School or GED	
Number with some college	1
Number with college degree	
Number with Graduate degree	
Number w/Professional or Trade School	
TOTAL	1

NOTE: Totals in boxes 1-3 should be the same number and should be the same as TOTAL EMPLOYED.

BOX 4 - OTHER	
Number receiving Health Insurance from NRCS	1
Number receiving Child Care through AmeriCorps	0
Number of children	3
Number w/Disabilities	0

VOLUNTEER ASSESSMENT

Non-AmeriCorps Member Volunteers

Total Number of non-AmeriCorps Volunteers: involved in AmeriCorps service activities in this quarter — 12

Total hours of AmeriCorps service activities: completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers in this quarter. — 120

MEMBER INFORMATION

FULL-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

Number of Members authorized for your site:
Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: 1

Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter: _____
Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: 0

Number of Members at beginning of quarter: _____
Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: 1

Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter: _____
Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: 364

Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter: _____
Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: 304

Total Hours of Direct Service to Date: _____
Environmental Corps Members: _____
Rural Development Corps Members: 1566

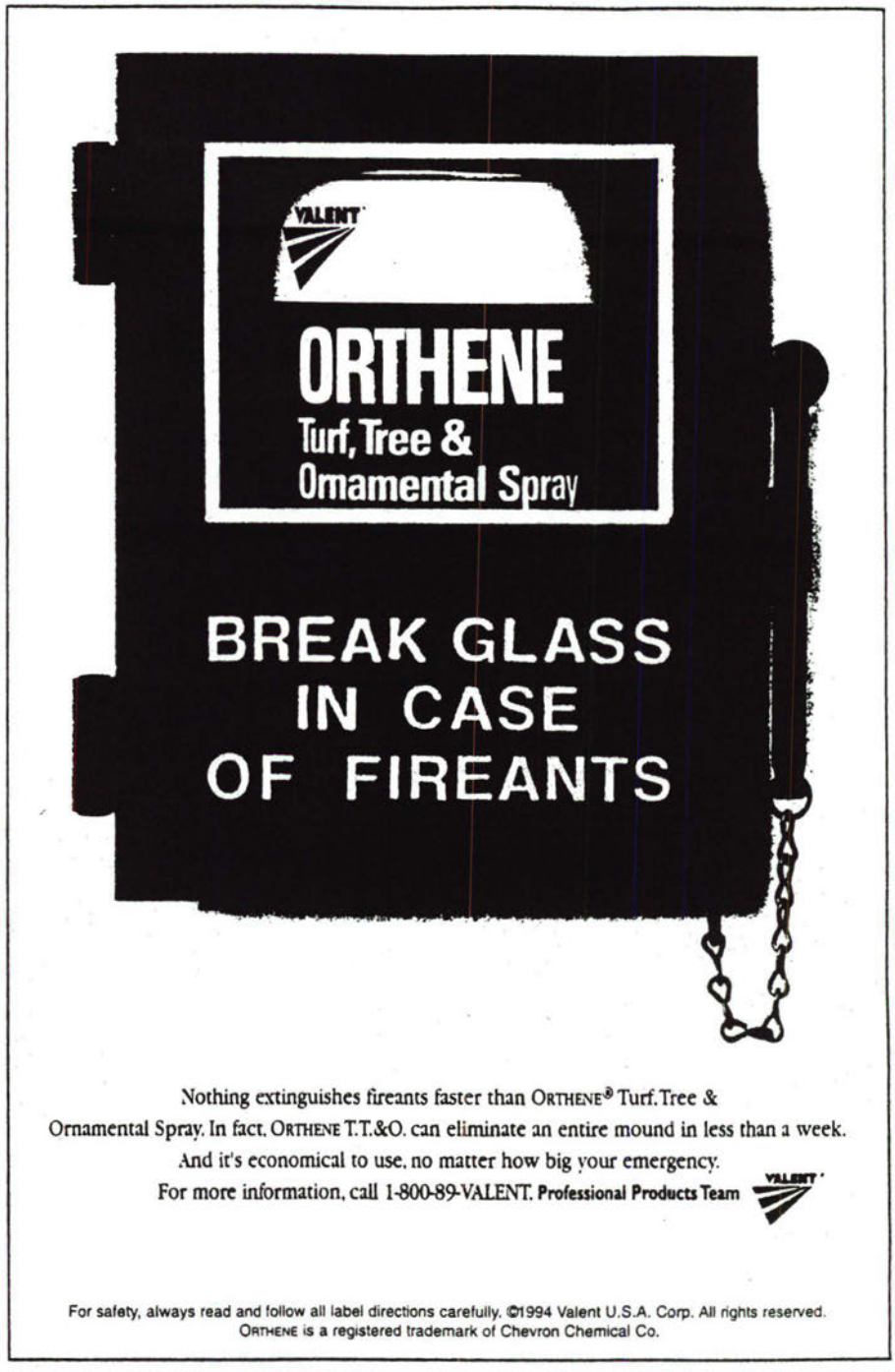
donated by Madison Beautification have all been done by teachers and students to the benefit of everyone involved. A critical factor in the project's success has been that Principal Sue Jones, invites parents to get involved in their child's school and makes them feel welcome.

Parents and teachers agree this environmental education project is a real asset to their community. Nearly one thousand children will benefit each year. Yowell has one goal in mind, "My objective is to develop a variety of outdoor facilities for all teachers which will support their classroom activities." She and her team of parents and community volunteers have done just that.

Laurie Stewart is an AmericaCorps volunteer with the Natural Resource Conservation Service



The Reading Garden



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VALENT

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15163 Hwy. 49
Lyman, MS



MEMBER ASSESSMENT
as of end of this quarter

TOTAL AUTHORIZED POSITIONS: 1 **TOTAL EMPLOYED:** 1

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	0
TOTAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPS POSITIONS FILLED	1

DEMOGRAPHICS OF AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Box 1 - GENDER	
Number of Males	0
Number of Females	1
TOTAL	1

Box 2 - RACE	
Number of Caucasians	1
Number of African Americans	0
Number of Native Americans	0
Number of Hispanics	0
Number of Asian Americans/Pacific Islander	0
Other	0
TOTAL	1

Box 3 - EDUCATION	
Number w/out High School Diploma or GED	0
Number with High School or GED	0
Number with some college	1
Number with college degree	0
Number with Graduate degree	0
Number w/Professional or Trade School	0
TOTAL	1

NOTE: Totals in boxes 1-3 should be the same number and should be the same as TOTAL EMPLOYED.

BOX 4 - OTHER	
Number receiving Health Insurance from NRCS	0
Number receiving Child Care through AmeriCorps	1
Number of children	1
Number w/Disabilities	0

MEMBER INFORMATION

FULL-TIME MEMBER INFORMATION

Number of Members authorized for your site:
- Environmental Corps Members: 0
- Rural Development Corps Members: 1

Number of Members enrolled at end of quarter:
- 1
- Environmental Corps Members: 0
- Rural Development Corps Members: 1

Number of Members at beginning of quarter:
- 1
- Environmental Corps Members: 0
- Rural Development Corps Members: 1

Total Hours of Direct Service for previous Quarter: 682
- Environmental Corps Members: 0
- Rural Development Corps Members: 1

Total Hours of Direct Service for this Quarter: 450
- Environmental Corps Members: 0
- Rural Development Corps Members: 1

Total Hours of Direct Service to Date: 1414
- Environmental Corps Members: 0
- Rural Development Corps Members: 1

ATTACHMENT 1

1-9 The Sea Coast Echo

2-9 The Columbian Progress

3-9 The Wayne County News

4-9 The Student Prinz

5-9 The Advertiser News

6-9 The Student Prinz

7-9 The Sun Herald

8-9 The Advertiser News

9-9 The Sun Herald

ATTACHMENT 2

1-8 Letter from Joe Johnson

2-8 Letter from Patt Cucullu

3-8 Grant Workshop Reminder

4-8 RC & D Newsletter October 1994

5-8 RC & D Newsletter November 1994

6-8 Brochure of Southeast MS Tourism Association

7-8 Agenda of SMTA Organizational Meeting

8-8 Agenda of Southeast MS RC&D Council Meeting

WAYNE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
POST OFFICE DRAWER 508
WAYNESBORO, MISSISSIPPI 39367
TELEPHONE 601-735-6056
FAX 601-735-6246

November 3, 1994

Ms. Maragaret Tier
Coordinator
Southeast Mississippi Tourism Assoc., Inc.
315, Wm. Colmer Bldg.
Main and New Orleans Streets
Hattiesburg, MS 39401-3497

Dear Margaret:

I enjoyed your visit today and I am sure you will be successful as you continue to work organizing the SMTA.
Just a reminder of you speaking schedule in Waynesboro.

Tuesday November 22: Lions Club-meet at 12:00 noon at the Best Western restaurant located on Hwy. 84 east. Person contact, Robert Taylor 735-6056.
Glen Dickerson 735-5111) 20-30-Wayne
Magnolia Bank. 1:00 - 20-30 min.

Thursday December 8: Kiwanis Club-meet at 12:00 noon at Carol's Roundtable located on Hwy. 45 south. Person to contact, Terry West 735-2871

BAY SAINT LOUIS
A PLACE APART

PATT CUCULLU
TOURISM DIRECTOR

P.O. Box 2550
Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-2550
TEL: (601) 467-9092
FAX: (601) 467-3905

40/76252 Hyrd

BAY SAINT LOUIS
A PLACE APART

November 21, 1994

Dear Margaret,

Thanks for your nice letter. I was glad to hear that things are working out so well for you.

Our cemetery tour was a great success: the weather was perfect and we raised $ 520.85 for the building fund. And we all had a great time!

The City now owns the Kegel and have hired a local architect to design the new interior, which the grant money will pay for. We feel as if we're finally on track (pun intended)

Call me when you have time to come again and I'll arrange lunch. Hope it's soon!

Sincerely,

Patt

AmeriCorps*USA

Operating Site Quarterly Report

National Direct, Federal, Tribal, and Territorial Programs

1.Operating site: Mississippi Delta

NameRural Dev. Location Southern Region

2.Operating Site ID # : 94ADFDC010

3.Corporation Grantee Name: USDA National Direct

4. Mark the reporting quarter to which this form applies:

_ First Quarter (10/1-12/31) _ Second Quarter (1/1-3/31) X Third Quarter (4/1-6/30)

_ Fourth Quarter (7/1-9/30)

5.Name of person completing this report: Clarence Finley

6.Position of person completing this report: AmeriCorps Project Director

7.Telephone number: 601-686-3163

8.Fax number: 601-686-3198

9.e-mail address (if available): none

10. Members and Service Hours **[Insert data into table]**

	FULL TIME	PART TIME
No. of Members allotted to your sites	10	0
No. of Members enrolled on last day of 3rd Qtr.	6	0
No. of Members who served entire 3rd Qtr.	6	0
No. of Members who left sites during the 3rd Qtr.	1	0
No. of Members who joined sites during 3rd Qtr.	0	0
Total Members service hours during the 3rd Qtr.	3,120	0
Total Members service hours to date	10,532	0

11. Please provide estimates of the following:

(a) Total **number** of non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers who were involved in AmeriCorps service activities this quarter: 75

(b) Total **hours** of AmeriCorps service activities completed by non-AmeriCorps Member volunteers this quarter: 7,500

12. Summary of Progress this Reporting Quarter Toward Accomplishing Annual Objectives:

In each section below, **briefly restate your objectives and describe progress toward them this quarter.** Where available, describe relevant evaluation data. Note evaluation activities in which you have engaged.

(a) Direct Service Objectives: Cassandra McClure
Outdoor Classroom

The O'Bannon Elementary School was awarded $10,500 in federal funds to assis assist in constructing an Education and Conservation Outdoor Classroom. The project will be directed by the O'Bannon plaanning committee composed of teachers, parents, and resource professionals. The outdoor classroom will provide teachers with valuable natural resources educational training tools to use during and after school. AmeriCorps members, Cassandra McClure will be working directly with the planning committee to implement the project.

Arnell Patterson
Community Wide Educational and Recreational Program

The city of Indianola was awarded $15,000 in federal funds to assist in deve developing a community wide recreation and education program. This city bas base program will provide youths and adults in the county a place to go and participate in structured recreational activities and receive specific job training skills. The city recreation and education steering committee will be responsbile for project implementation.

Donna Barnes
Community Park Project

The city of Belzoni was awarded $10,000 in federal funds to improve the for forestry resources in the downtown area and increase business economic opportunity through tourism. For years our county has been known as the "CATFISH CAPITOL" of the world because of the large amounts of commercial catfish grown. Tourist from all over the world travel to our city thousand of dollars to our city. However these tourist do not remain in our town lo long because we lack the necessary accommodations. Our plan is to create a Centennial Park Plaza and Green that will attract tourists and residents. Also, provide a safe, comfortable and aesthetically pleasing resting area w while at the same time providign direct access to local businessess.

(b) AmeriCorps Member Development Objectives: Briefly restate your objectives and describe progress toward them this quarter.

Outdoor Classroom
Greenville is located in the lower Delta region in western Mississippi on t the Mississippi River. Greenville is Mississippi's third largest city. Greenville is located in Washington County and has a population of about 46,000. O'Bannon Elementary is located in Washington County about 1/2 mi mile outside of the city limits. The area has a high poverty rate.

Community Wide Education and Recreation Program
Indianola has a population of 11,750m and Sunflower County has a population

of 37,000. Most of our people work in the fish plant, which is unskilled l labor. There is one tool and dye shop located in Indianola and several far farm equipment manufacturing shops on a small basis. Indianola has a larg large welfare and low income population. Our employable in the factories b because of a lcak of necessary skills. Our persisitent problem is that we do not have the programs or resources to keep the youths busy after school and during summer months.

Community Park
Belzoni is in the heart of the Mississippi Delta. The town has a populatio population of 2,536 and an unemployment rate of 20%. The city presently do does not have a city park where residnece can go and carry outdoor activiti activities. This is what lead the community to developing a Centennial Par Park Plaza and Green. Like most Mississippi Delta towns the city lacks adequate forestry resources and this problem was recently compounded with t the ice storm of 1194. During this storm most of the large trees were seve severly damaged and thus were removed.

(c) Community Building/Strengthening Objectives: Briefl restate your objectives and describe progress toward them this quarter.

Outdoor Classroom
The O'Bannon Elementary Planning committee will direct this educational project that will allow approximately 660 students to gain a better underst understanding of our natural resources. Following this sketch and the plan of work for the classroom the committee will construct the classroom and teacher conservation education lessons.

Community Wide Educational and REcreational Program
The City of Indianola is developing a Comprehensive Recreation and Developm ment Program. This program will provide the youths a facility to receive specific job training skills and enjoy recreational activities. Although the city will be responsible for the administrative end of the program the CRDP{ streering will set the program direction. This committee is made up of city officials, teachers, police officers and many other concerned resid residents.

Community Park
The city of Belzoni is developing an entire city block inn the downtown bus business district into a Centennial Park Plaza and Green (CPPG). The CPPG wold be a place for tourist and residnets to gather while shopping downtown touring the Catfish Museum, visitors center and the Depot Theater. The CPPG is a joint project of the Belzoni Garden Club, the Belzoni Humphreys Development Foundation, Mississippi Power and Light Company and many individuals.

13. **Other Accomplishments this Quarter:** (Make note of any accomplishments or things gotten done not described above.)

NONE

14. **Unique successes or great stories :** (Include stories that would best communicate to the public how AmeriCorps service gets things done. Particularly helpful are stories that include numerical results and creative solutions.)Community Park
The purpose of this project is to increase tourism and enhance economic opp opportunity of businessess downtown. This project will promote a strong se sense of community sprite the local citizens by adding to the quality of li life of our small rural community. We have three objectives: (1) to attrac t additional tourist to the downtown area by showcasing our unique economic and technical accomplishments in catfish production. (2) To assist busiens businesses with improving the downtown appearance. (3) To develop a Centenn Centennial Park Plaza and green that would allow tourist and residents the opporunity to spend greater periods of time in the downtown area.

Outdoor Classroom
The purpose of the project is to link natural resource specialists and loca businesses with the school. These professionals will enhance established o outdoor classroom lesson plans designed to improve academic grades in scien science. Students will ahve an opportunity to communicate with these profes professionals which will provide "hands on" experience in learning about nature.

Community Wide Recreational Education Program
A city wide recreational program would provide the youths a safe location t to conjugate. During this time they will be under constant adult supervisi supervision. With help of community volunteers more youths will have the opportunity to participate in structured community activities. The overall purpose of this project will be to design a city wide program that will cur curb teenage crime and at the same time provide valuable job training skill s.

15. **Primary Challenges Encountered this Quarter**: (Report on problems resolved and unresolved, obstacles to achieving program objectives, significant sources of delay, program elements not meeting expectations, events or incidents that caused concern.) Primary Training and Technical Assistance Needs this Quarter:

Attached to this quarterly report form is a separate Training and Technical Assistance Request form. Should you have training or technical assistance needs, complete the attached form and submit it along with your quarterly report. It will be directed to the Training and Technical Assistance Office.

Technical assistance is available in many program-related areas, including, among others, organizational development and management issues, fundraising, diversity, and best practices in site-specific skills.

Outdoor Classroom
The most significant impact will be a new and innovative approach to educat ting our youths about the environment. Students, teachers, parents, and v volunteers will have a sense of pride and accomplishments gained from the success of such a project. Another major benefit would be the amount of learning which take place in teh Outdoor Classroom. Some problems that O'Bannon has now are (1) low science scores and (2) low participation int the classroom. Most studnets have a fear of science, and this casuses low

science scores. The students need to understand that science does not have to be boring but can be fun and challenging. That is why funds are needed to address this issue.

Community Park
Completion of this project will result in increase economic activity downtown, resulting in additional tax revenues collected by the city. The CPPG is a part of the county long development plan. Representatives from t the Humphrey County Economic Development Foundation fully endorses the p project. The project has been discussed with the total community including minorities, women and persons with disablities. Our desire is to involve all areas of the community by allowing participation in clean-up and fund raising activities.

Community Wide Recreational and Educational Project
The primary challenges encountered when I was trying to get the community t to work with me to start this Recreational park and trying to find a facili facility to help these young people stay off the streets and out of trouble There is a committee made up of both blacks and whites individuals from the public, private, and industrial sector. We are confident that a well struc structured recreational and educaitonal facility will instill a sense of pr pride that would be beneficial to all our residents.
National Identity Activities this Quarter: (Report on activities this quarter that fostered the national identity of AmeriCorps. Examples could include new uniforms, signage or publicity materials; projects with other AmeriCorps programs; coordination with State Commissions or Corporation state offices; training members in national skill areas (communication/conflict resolution or CPR/first aid); participation in national service projects (HIV/AIDS awareness training, environmental audits, or citizenship education); graduations or swearing-in ceremonies, use of national recruitment, use of AmeriCorps Member Handbook.)
Total Quality Management April-May 1995 - Cleveland, Yazoo, Indianola, MS

Volunteer Conference May 8-12 1995 - Jackson, MS

AmeriCorps Training June 26-30 1995 - Atlanta, GA

Project funded: Centennial Park Plaza and Green
City of Belzoni, MS $10,000

O'Bannon Elementary Outdoor Conservation Classroom
Western Line School District
Greenville, MS $10,500

Community Wide Recreational and Educational Program
City of Indianola, MS $15,000

We have published article in the newspapers. (see attached)

**Attachments: Outdoor Classroom article, RC&D Northwest MS Newsletter
17. **Significant Program Changes this Quarter**: (Report staff turnover in management or supervisory positions, changes in partner/sponsor relationships, changes in board membership, AmeriCorps Member attrition etc.) NONE

SITE: PEARL

First Quarter Americorps Report
Lori Stewart
9/12/94-11/30/94

MS

3. Total number of hours of direct service performed: 384 hrs.

As of November 30th, I have worked 48-8 hour days and have had three days off for holidays.

4. Total number of hours in training:

Eleven 8 hour days were spent in training. Two of those eleven days were AmeriCorps training, one was Microsoft word training and the others were workshops, carnivals or training meetings.

5. Progress towards meeting community service objectives:

The main objectives in this job are to help develop arboretums and work with schools in environmental education for K-12 students. I will also use my skills in photojournalism to assist with RC&D newsletters and project publicity. Other projects include assisting with conservation carnivals, constructed wetlands, nature trail development and outdoor classrooms.

6. Primary accomplishments:

I have been working as a partner with NRCS district in Madison since the AmeriCorps job began. Together we have nearly completed two outdoor classrooms and a nature trail at Madison Ave. Elementary. The project is projected to be finished by summer '95. The goal is to educate children about the environment and to instill the importance of preserving nature. We also hope the activities outside the regular classroom will enrich the childrens learning in all subjects. David Finnegan, a 5th grader at MAE said, "I like it because I like the outdoors and how we are protecting trees. I think everyone likes it because its interesting." To emphisize the importance of trees in the environment, the children are involved in several projects. Trees on the school grounds were labeled by students and massive hallway displays on urban forestry were painted. Both events were recorded on film to use in news articles. I have written two articles in the Madison County Journal. One of the articles will be used in Madison districts' newsletter and one will be used in the Parent Magazine. About 1000 students a year will benifit from this outdoor project.

I have also written all but one article in our winter RC&D newsletter and taken photos to go along with the storys. 200 copies were printed and mailed in November. One fact sheet has been drawn up for the Simmons Arboretum mapping where different trees can be found in each of the three areas. The fact sheets will be used as a guide for anyone who might want to know this information as they stroll through the trails. Another fact sheet was produced for the MACD Speech Contest.

An update on the Mississippi Environmental Resource guide is off to a good start with the help of other PICA members. So far 25 agencies or organizations have responded to an inventory list of materials that were listed in the previous guide. Much of the information has changed including addresses and phone numbers. Now the job of sorting through and picking out the necessary materials begins. The main objective of the Resource Guide is to inform teachers about resources available to aid them in their classroom activities. We hope the booklet will be ready for press within the next two months.

7. Projected outcome for next quarter:

Still ahead is the summer RC&D newsletter, a slide production, and a brochure.

8. Primary challenges:

My biggest challenge so far has been learning Microsoft word and Pagemaker programs. Both have been fun and an asset to furthering my career. I can honestly say I have not encountered any problems so far.

9. Primary Training and Technical Assistance Needs:

I know of no training other than the assistance I am already receiving from our computer specialist, and my boss, RC&D coordinator Chuck Jepson, that I need. However, since this job is still new to me; there may be training that would be helpful that I am unaware of. If so, I feel sure Chuck will inform me of it.

10. Media Coverage:

Enclosed are two newspaper articles, a news letter, and several photos showing some of the work I've taked about in this report. Also enclosed is a photograph of a drawing that was used for the cover on a feasibility study on a civic center in Rankin County. The magazine article I spoke of will not come out until January. The Resource Guide will be completed in the next two months.

11. Other Creative Documentation:

Also enclosed are two letters of appreciation on some of the work accomplished thus far.

Dec 1

FIRST QUARTER AMERICORPS REPORT

TIME PERIOD: September 12 - November 30, 1994 — Answer thru Nov. 30

DUE DATE: December 15, 1994

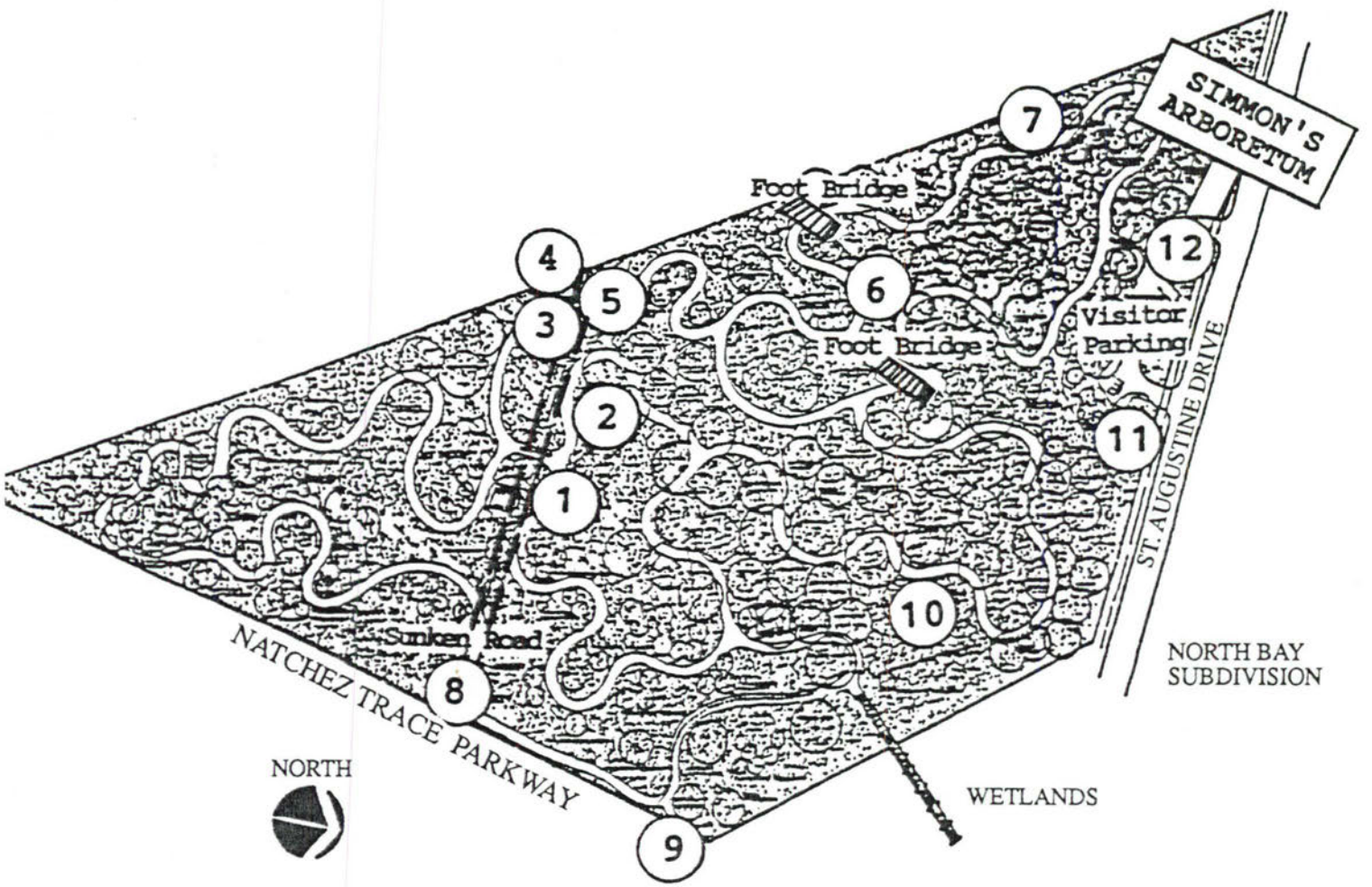
1. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE TIME OF THE LAUNCH
2. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE END OF THE QUARTER (NOV. 30)
3. ✓ TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED > from your time sheets AND DIARY
4. ✓ TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS IN TRAINING
5. ✓ PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
   This is the most important item in the quarterly report. Responses should be concise, quantifiable, measurable and show how much has been done towards the service objectives.
6. ✓ PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
   Expand on #5 above using narratives, quotes and stories to show how service your project has performed has begun meeting your community service objectives. Also specify, other important service you have performed that "gets things done" in your community. Tell what progress you havemade in boosting the personal development of the Members or helping local communities build their long-term infrastructures.
7. ✓ PROJECTED OUTCOMES FOR NEXT QUARTER
   We assume that the amount of work accomplished in subsequent quarters will exceed progress made during the program start up. What will you accomplish in the 2nd quarter that you were not able to to date?
8. ✓ PRIMARY CHALLENGES
   Please be candid in specifying any challenges, problems, or disappointments you have faced, as well as what steps you, your Members, NRCS, USDA, and/or the Corporation for National Service can take to either rectify the problems or at least ensure they do not recur in the future.
9. ✓ PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS
   Specify percisely what kind of staff or Member training, or other technical assistance can be provided by NRCS, USDA, CNCS or other sources to improve your project.
10. ✓ MEDIA COVERAGE
    Please provide all newspaper or magazine clippings, videotapes of TV news reports, and cassettes of radio news reports. Attach copies
11. ✓ OTHER CREATIVE DOCUMENTATION
    Look for other ways to creatively demonstrate the progress of your projects, such as:
    - "before and after: photographs and videotapes
    - excerpts from journal entries written by Members
    - letters of support from satisfied individuals or groups

    Attach

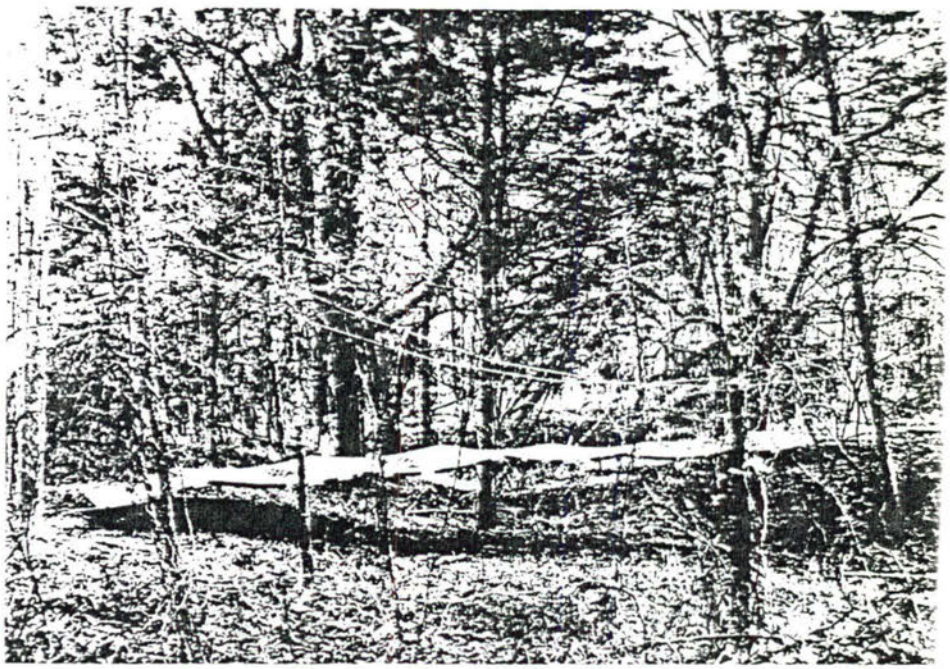
Answer questions checked

SIMMONS ARBORETUM

MADISON, MS



1. Pine Seedling
2. Osage Orange (Beau D' Arc)
3. Coral Bean
4. Native Pear
5. Indian Pinks
6. Redbud
7. Dogwood
8. Bee Tree
9. Bald Cypress
10. Green Dragon
11. Solomon's Seal
12. Petrified Log





OCT 11 1994

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206

IN REPLY REFER TO:

OCT - 7 1994

83 76 (020) FW

Ms. Lori Stewart
USDA SCS
311 Airport Road
Pearl, Mississippi 39208

Dear Ms. Stewart:

I want to thank you for your participation in the Adopt-a-Watershed Workshop held recently at the Piney Woods Campus. We are very excited about the opportunity to facilitate the implementation of an environmental education curriculum at the school, and your support will be an important element in the success of the program.

I have enclosed a list of the attendees, a summary of the Adopt-a-Watershed, and a price list for the curriculum binders. Please do not feel obligated to buy a binder. We will keep an extra set at our office, and you are welcome to borrow it for use at Piney Woods or other environmental education efforts as needed.

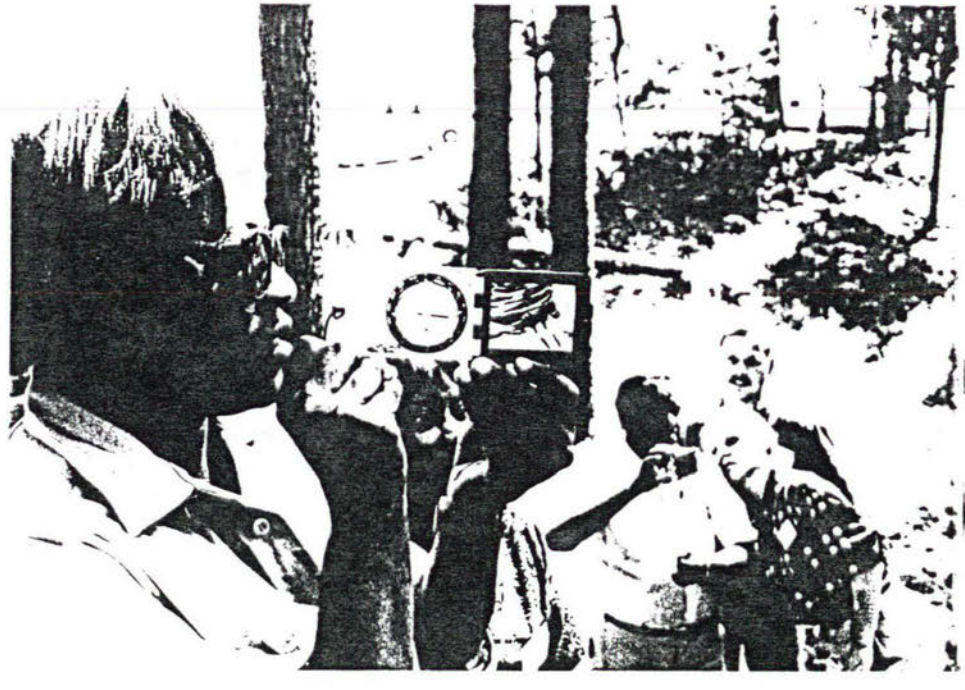
We will be putting together the material kits for each of the units for the school this week and helping, as needed, to customize portions of the units to fit our conditions in the southeast. Throughout the workshop, it became obvious that the Piney Woods Campus will provide a wonderful outdoor classroom. On Saturday we did water quality testing at a pond on the north side of campus adjacent to a producing gas well. There was a sour gas explosion at the well in the early 1970's, and it provides a ready-made case study for the middle school and high school students on the downstream residual impacts of such an explosion, including impacts to soil and water quality, erosion, succession, and how that affects the plants and animals using the watershed. There is also the opportunity for the students to learn more about the geology of the area and about drilling procedures for oil and gas. If anyone has information, newspaper clipping, etc. on the blow-out, would you let Faye Winters know so she can pass it on to Piney Woods.

Thank you again for your assistance and enthusiasm.

Sincerely,

Mark H. Davis
Assistant District Manager
Division of Lands and
Renewable Resources

Enclosures



United States Department of Agriculture
Soil Conservation Service
311 Airport Road
Pearl, MS 39208

November 29, 1994

Al Garner, Resource Conservationist
Steve Vodrazka, Agricultural Engineer
Robert Wimbish, Area Soil Scientist
Jeannine May, Public Affairs Specialist
Bessie Lewis, Computer Specialist
Gerry Hull, Area Administrative Coordinator
Chuck Jepsen, RC&D Coordinator
Lori Stewart, Americorps Volunteer

Dear Area Office Staff:

I am pleased to present you a time off award in the amount of eight hours, for your special achievements from October 1, 1993, to September 30, 1994.

Your outstanding contributions to the Pearl Area Office in assisting to carry out the overall FSA workload are highly commendable. The competent manner in which you have worked in this capacity is appreciated.

Your special efforts have contributed to the success of the overall resource conservation program in Mississippi.

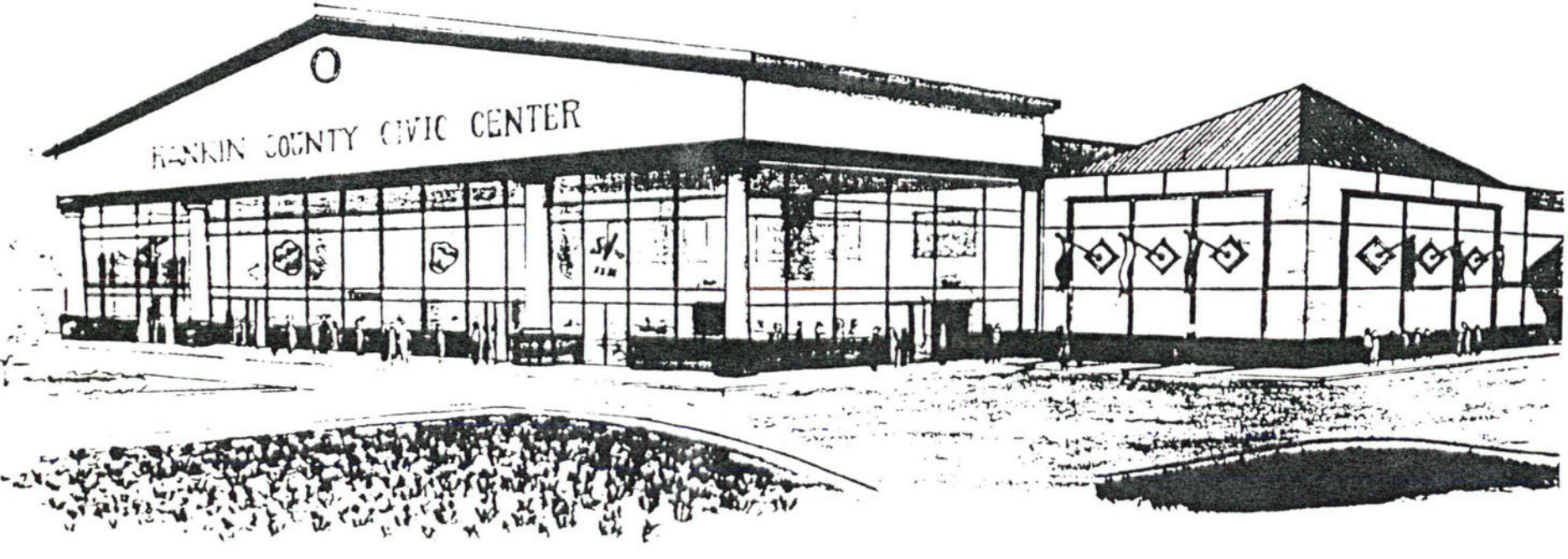
Sincerely,

Maurice

W. MAURICE MANNING
Area Conservationist

Attachment

Feasibility Study
for a
Civic Center
for
Rankin County



USDA-RECD/AMERICORPS MEMBERS SERVE IN CHAMPION COMMUNITY

The Charles Bannerman Family Development Center (CBFDC) is strategically located in Flora, Mississippi. Flora is located in Madison County, MS, a Champion community, which has a rural population of a approximately 1,500.

The Charles Bannerman Family Development Center and its 68 acres of land was founded in the late sixties by the Greenville, Mississippi based Mississippi Association of Community Educators (MACE). Approximately 20 years ago the CBFDC was closed down and has become totally dilapidated since its closure. Five years ago, MACE leased the CBFDC to the Madison County Human Resource Agency (MCHRA) in Canton, MS. The Executive Director of the MCHRA, Walter C. Jones, had a vision to reopen the CBFDC in order to institute the mentoring/recreational initiative that was proposed in the Agency's **Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community proposal.** The center will be used to house community meetings, recreational activities, family development projects, social services, conflict resolution, leadership development, drug-free and youth outreach programs.

During the past five years, Walter Jones has been successful at involving the community in clearing the building and the surrounding land area of debris and reopening the center's swimming pool to the community children. However, efforts to reopen the center itself was left undone until **AmeriCorps Members, Annie Rattler and Chanel Richards were placed with MCHRA**. Last year, Jones heard about the wonderful things that AmeriCorps Members were doing and decided to request two for his agency. Jones's primary purpose for requesting AmeriCorps Members was to assist community residents in renovating the center and developing the land for educational, and recreational use by the community (nature trails, outside study areas).

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Annie and Chanel have been performing outstanding service in the community of Flora, MS. They have truly been fulfilling there service in that they have already recruited 116 community volunteers ranging from ages 5 to 50 since they launched in October, 1995. **These AmeriCorps Members have engaged the volunteers in almost 1,400 hours of cleaning the center of debris, scraping, painting, and kiltzing the walls of the center.**

The mentorship the members have provided to the children has been an overwhelming experience. While engaging the children in renovating the center, **the members have been teaching the children the importance of hard work, determination, and responsibility.** For example, whenever the AmeriCorps Members are providing renovation services at the CBFDC, the community children will rush to the center begging for work to do. The community children participating in the renovations have reported the following: **(1) "We have been up since 6:00 a.m. waiting on Ms. Annie and Ms. Chanel to come up on the hill and start work." (2) "I'll rather come up on the hill and work than go to our Christmas parade." (3) "We want to help complete the center, so that we can have some place to have fun, swim, and meet our friends." (4)** When supplies have been limited, the children have made statements like, **"I'll give you some candy, if you let me use the paint roller."** By the end of the day, the members have to make them go home.

According to Walter Jones, the members and volunteers have helped the community in a tremendous way. **Not only have they given back to the community, but they have also helped MCHRA save an estimated $30,000-$45,000 that probably would have been paid to laborers, including contractors and maintenance workers. The money saved by MCHRA has been used towards supplying equipment and preparing for the center's reopening. Jones stated that**

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

the optimism and dedication that has been shown by Chanel and Annie has been the motivating force that has pulled the CBFDC out of total despair and into a ray of hope for a community that has so little.

Annie and Chanel hope that after renovating the center it will provide the community with the opportunity to utilize this facility which was once a vital part of the community. Because this will be the only facility of its kind in the community, the members also hope that the renovation efforts will start a chain reaction, whereas the citizens will take the responsibility to further build their community.

Due to the efforts of the AmeriCorps Members, the MCHRA, and the community, **the Charles Bannerman Family Development Center is about 85% complete.** It is scheduled to be reopened by March of this year.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

FIRST QUARTER AMERICORPS REPORT

TIME PERIOD: SEPTEMBER 12 - NOVEMBER 30, 1994

LARRY JEROME PARKER
AMERICORP MEMBER
GRENADA AREA OFFICE

1. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED
   361 hours

2. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS IN TRAINING
   48 hours

3. PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

   I feel I have made substantial progress towards meeting my community service objectives. When I first started the program on September 26, 1994, I began by collecting as much information as I could about the dry hydrant system. The reason for this was so I would feel comfortable talking to people such as the District Conservationists of the Area, the fire coordinators of the counties, and also any other interested party that may ask me questions. After studying this information, I decided that I should get the names of all the county government officials of each county, and also the fire coordinators of these counties.

   Once I received all of the names of the fire coordinators, I decided that I would call them. The reason I called them was to let them know who I was, and also let them know about the project that I am working on. While talking to them on the phone, this first time, I asked for their opinions and suggestions about the implementation of the dry fire hydrants in their counties. After I received this information, I asked them if it would be possible for me to meet with them so we could sit down and really talk about the possibility of implementing the project.

   I have met with three of the fire coordinators in my area. They are the fire coordinators of Grenada, Webster, and Choctaw counties. I feel very confident about these meetings because each one of them liked the idea and really wanted to see if we could get the project implemented in their counties. Therefore, as of now, they are in the process of meeting with the chiefs of each fire station in their counties and trying to come up with a plan of possible areas in the counties the dry hydrants will be of the best use.

The only other progress I have made in trying to meet my community service objectives is that I have visited the North Central Planning and Development District. The reason for this visit was to see if improved rural fire protection was one of their objectives for the following year, and if it was, I was trying to see of what assistance they could be to me and what assistance I could be to them. After talking to the Head Planner, he told me he would be glad to help me in any way he could. He also told me that he would help me look for possible grants and would even help with the grant-writing process if the need be. I was very glad that they were interested in what I was doing.

Overall, I feel that I have made a lot of progress in reaching my community service objectives. I just hope that I will be able to make further progress in the next quarter and the other quarters to come.

4. PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

I feel that I have made a few good accomplishments through the first quarter. First of all, I have gotten people in the counties aware of the need for an improved rural fire protection service. With this, the fire officials are working together with the Boards of Supervisors in the counties to at least try and get something done about the problem of poor rural fire services. Another accomplishment I have made is that Mrs. Ann Deloach, District Clerk of the Grenada Field Office, has agreed to let us, if we are able, put a dry hydrant on her pond. I feel that this pond would be an ideal location to be used as a demonstration site for other fire coordinators to come by and see. The only other accomplishment that I have made is the writing of a brochure. I must add that I did not write the brochure by myself, but it was a collaboration with Amy Belford, AmeriCorps member at the New Albany Area Office, and Shun Armstrong, AmeriCorps member of the Tupelo Field Office. However, one problem we have with it is that we do not have the funding to complete it. I feel that these are some pretty good accomplishments for the first quarter.

5. PROJECTED OUTCOMES FOR NEXT QUARTER

I have four things that I hope to accomplish in the next quarter. The first thing that I want to do is to meet with the fire coordinators that I have not yet personally met. Second, I want to locate and begin surveying lakes and ponds in the areas where the fire coordinators, in the counties I have already personally spoken with, have decided the dry fire hydrants need to be installed. The next thing that I will do is try to put a complete county-wide plan together which will show everything that should be known

about the dry fire hydrant in a particular county. Finally, I would like to locate any type of funds that I can to get the dry fire hydrant project implemented in my counties. I am going to be looking for every available grant application that I can find to see if we can get some money for funding, because there is not a lot you can do without funding. Hopefully, I will be able to accomplish these goals, and I am going to do everything in my power to get them done.

6. PRIMARY CHALLENGES

The main problem I am facing is coming up with funding for the implementation of the hydrants. I really feel funny going to these different counties and telling them about this great plan. At times, that is all that it seems to be, a great plan. All of these counties, for the most part, do not have a lot of money floating around to implement something of this nature. I feel that if the Corporation would have donated a little money just to get one demonstration site, then at least the people would be able to see a real need and they may even try harder about trying to get the hydrants installed.

Another problem I am facing is one with the list of objectives that the Corporation sent back to me. It is to my understanding, as of November 17, 1994 that I will not receive my educational stipend if 100% of the objectives are not met. I really don't have a problem with that, it is just that whoever sent the objectives in should have known that it is more than likely to get eight dry fire hydrants installed if there is no money readily available to do it with. Also, if I am able to get some grant applications submitted, it is highly probable that they will not be approved or disapproved during the ten months that I will be here. I feel that if I am able to get one demonstration site in, that I will be doing fine. The only other problem that I have is that the RC&D Co-ordinator appointed to me is about 90 miles away from where I am stationed. I know that it is not your fault but I am just saying that I don't have that leadership and guidance that I think I should have, being new to this program. Everything that I have done, even though it may not seem like much, has come from my ideas to get them done. I just wish I had a little more guidance so I would know which avenues to take that would be more time efficient for my tenure in the program. I really hope you will take these things into consideration, and possibly even change my objectives.

7. PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS

I feel that the only assistance that I need to complete this project is going to be good leadership from the supervisors. As I said above, I really think

that I could be farther along than I am if I had someone giving me options or hints, not necessarily telling me every move that I make. I feel that I have been fulfilling the objectives of the AMERICORPS member by demonstrating leadership on my own. Otherwise, I feel that everything else has been sufficient.

8. MEDIA COVERAGE
NONE

9. OTHER CREATIVE DOCUMENTATION
NONE

From: Amy M. Belford <ms0301!amb>
Subject: First Quarter Americorp Report
To: unix2!dvs (D. Victor Simpson)
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 94 9:36:41 GMT

FIRST QUARTER AMERICORPS REPORT

SITE: New Albany
Amy Belford, Member

3) 347

4) 53

5) The progress that has been made toward my projects have been positive. I have met with the county superintendents to inquire about their schools' waste systems and have received a every encouraging outlook. In fact, the project has been placed in a county school's budget.

6) I have provided a service to the community by promoting the AmeriCorp name. Participating in a variety of community events, such as Agriculture Day and Holiday Street has allowed me to show that the AmeriCorp group is all about "getting things done."

7) I am planning to accomplish a proposal and obtain funding for the implementation of this project for the schools in the rural district.

8) I think that the main challenge that I have been faced with is the prospect of trying to find funding for this project. Once we have the funding, I think that the production will be more of a success than it is at this point.

9) The kind of training that I can receive to better perform my job as an AmeriCorp member is more funding or grants for the people who are interested in improving their waste management systems. It would be helpful to me if I had a listing of the different kinds of grants that will cover the work that I am willing to promote for the community.

10) Media Coverage: None

11)

9/30/94

Today I started doing research on the projects I would be working in. There are three that I know of at this point: 1) dry fire hydrants, 2) placing wooden bridges in areas 3) waste management in schools.

Most of my efforts went to learning as much as I could about waste management for various schools. George Rowland gave me excellent information to use toward the project.

10/24/94
The majority of the morning was spent working with Doug Fluery informing me about the "red goat", which will be used for the waste management project for the rural schools. He gave me some valuable information about the bacteria and the disposal.

We visited two sites: Ingomar and West Union schools that have implemented different types of waste management procedures. Before leaving for these sites, Mr. Fluery gave me a two-hour briefing of the problems this system solves. He was very knowledgeable and answered all my questions thoroughly.

FIRST QUARTER AMERICORPS REPORT
PATRI ARMSTRONG-TUPELO AREA OFFICE

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED:
407.5

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS IN TRAINING
40.0

PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

Meetings have been held with the fire coordinators and District Conservationists in several counties. Maps illustrating potential water sources were distributed when available. Text for an informational brochure has been established. Pictures have also been taken to be included in the brochure.

PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

I have met with fire officials in Alcorn, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Clay, Kemper, Lowndes, Monroe, Noxubee, Tishomingo, and Webster counties on the dry fire hydrant project. We have provided maps of potential water sources in the counties for which we have completed maps. The maps have been generated by the Geographic Information Systems(GIS) at Mississippi State University. At present, we have completed maps for Alcorn, Clay, Kemper, Lowndes, Monroe, Noxubee, and Tishomingo counties. These maps were provided to assist officials in the determination of hydrant locations. GIS is in the process of completing maps for the remaining seven counties. Amy Belford, Larry Parker, and I have completed the outline for an informational brochure to be distributed throughout our RC&D areas.

Alcorn County has located a source of funding and has established a priority list for possible hydrant locations. We should have a meeting between Dec. 8-12.

Amy, Larry, and I have begun to have cluster meetings more often to help keep the project on track and do some problem solving. Amy and I went to Cleveland to meet with their members to get some ideas on how to proceed with her project which is similar to theirs.

PROJECTED OUTCOMES FOR NEXT QUARTER

I plan to meet with all of the remaining fire officials and District Conservationists. I want to get to know them on a personal basis, because they will be working with me primarily and not Robert. I'd like to have the information ready for GIS, so we can complete the maps. Based on the outcome of the Alcorn County meeting, I would like to begin survey and design on the

sites they have located.

PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Funding is my primary challenge. Alcorn County has found an individual who is willing to help get funding for the project. I feel it will take input from local individuals to get this thing off the ground. Right now, I'm encouraged by their progress.

PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS

None at the present time.

MEDIA COVERAGE

None at the present time.

FIRST QUARTER AMERICORPS REPORT
MARGARET TIER, STAFF COORDINATOR
SOUTHEAST MS RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI

3. **TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED** The total direct service hours performed, to date, are 360 hours.

4. **TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS IN TRAINING** A total of 20 hours have been spent in training.

5. **PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES**

(a) Development of an inventory of the tourism activities in the 18 county area of Southeast Mississippi. Primary visits have already been made to thirteen of the 18 counties. Teams of five to ten people are organizing in each county to work on the inventory. Jasper county is the first to schedule a tentative date for the week of January 9th to begin the inventory process.

(b) Development of a regional tourism brochure. A preliminary outline of two types of brochures are on the table and the grant writing process has been explored for supplemental funding of this brochure project. Additionally, a grant writing seminar is scheduled for December 19 and I will be attending this seminar in order to learn more about the grant process and the available funds.

(c) Development and distribution of a bimonthly newsletter. The collection of tourism information and a calender of events is being organized for the first SMTA newsletter which is planned for production during the first week of January 1995. Newsletters will be mailed to all current members of the Southeast Mississippi Tourism Association (SMTA).

(d) Development and coordination of a regional tourism conference. Mr. Gale Trussell, with the Tennessee Valley Authority, is the proposed keynote speaker for the regional tourism conference. Rick Taylor, Executive Director of the Hattiesburg Convention and Visitors Bureau, has offered to contact Mr. Trussell and tentatively schedule a date convenient for all parties to hold the conference. The suggested date for this conference is sometime in late Spring, preferably during April or May, 1995. Another member of SMTA, Annette Jones has identified an individual that is very interested in assisting in the coordination of this conference via the production of announcements and arranging an appropriate meeting facility.

6. **PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS** The primary/initial visits to the different counties has been very productive. The response from the various groups and individuals that I have met with has been outstanding. The persons in this area have a good idea of the impact that tourism could have on their county, and are more than willing to assist in the effort. Others have the impression that our goal is to create urban tourism rather than promote rural tourism. This misunderstanding is usually cleared up in no time and the townspeople then become very excited to show and tell some of the interesting, historic and even unusual aspects of their county.

The bimonthly newsletter is in the development stage and no complications are foreseen. We have had very good feedback concerning this newsletter and the networking possibilities that are there for all members.

Feedback on the upcoming conference has been very good as we have had many volunteers to help with the organization and development of such a conference.

I feel that the organization of SMTA has helped the smaller communities see that, even though they do not have a theme park or casino, they still have a great many attractions to offer visitors. The idea of the inventory, just the idea, starts to spin the wheels in the minds of the people as to what they have that someone from a large metropolitan area has never seen before. Better yet, what that person has not seen in many years and would dearly love to see again and especially show it to their children. SMTA is an opportunity for the smaller towns and communities to realize that they have things very important to offer, things like history, hospitality, and nostalgia that they will not have to sell their souls to have, it is in their own backyards. Another benefit of SMTA is the awareness that is being created among the locals of this 18 county area. Most of the people that live here have no concept of the variety of attractions that they have in their own backyards. Our organization and the publicity that we are receiving concerning all there is to do and see in Southeast Mississippi, even thus far and through word of mouth, has been an eye-opening experience for the residents.

7. **PROJECTED OUTCOMES FOR NEXT QUARTER** The projected outcome for the 2nd quarter should represent the fruits of our efforts. The initial visits, while absolutely essential, are very time consuming and arduous. Most of the counties will have completed their inventory and as coordinator, I personally expect to be in the midst of processing and analyzing the data. Also in the 2nd quarter, more concrete plans concerning the brochure and grant money are expected, the bimonthly newsletter will be in print, and the coordination of the tourism conference will be well under way with exact dates and arrangements scheduled.

AGENDA

SOUTHEAST MISSISSIPPI RC&D COUNCIL

Hattiesburg Police & Fire Academy
Bobby Chain Municipal Airport
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

December 6, 1994
10:00 AM

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	Herlon Pierce Council Chair
BUSINESS SESSION	
a. Election of Council members-at-large	Emma Jane Wilkerson Council Secretary
b. Election of Officers, Executive Committee members, and Council member to serve on Board of Directors of the SE MS Tourism Association	J. B. Brown, Chair Nominating Committee
c. Financial report	Bob Wales Council treasurer
d. Update on USDA Reorganization & RC&D	Bob Wales
e. Coordinator's Report	Glen Powell
SOUTHEAST MISSISSIPPI TOURISM INITIATIVE:	Bob Wales, Moderator
a. Regional Tourism Opportunities	Rick Taylor, Executive Director, Hattiesburg Convention & Visitors Bureau
b. Organization of a Regional Association - Who, What & When?	Paul Ferrell, Business Services Director, Pat Harrison Waterway District
c. Coordinator's Report	Margaret Tier, Coordinator, Southeast MS Tourism Association, Inc.
LUNCH	Prepared by Pat Harrison Waterway District

MISSISSIPPI CLUSTER #3 SCS
CLUSTER SITE: Brookhaven
WORK SITE: Brookhaven, MS
First Quarter AmeriCorps Report

3. **Total number of hours of direct service performed**
388.5

4. **Total number of hours in training**
60

5. **Progress towards community service objectives**
Widescale public information campaign completed to solicit volunteer to "Adopt" stream and to inform of water quality problems and concerns in the area

6. **Primary accomplishments**
-AmeriCorps member attended 3 day workshop on Stream Monitoring
-Direct mail to potential sponsors completed: Bass Clubs, 4-H clubs, Biology and Science teachers, more that 400 corporation, etc.

7. **Projected outcomes for next quarter**
-Funds to be solicited for scholarships for volunteers to attend workshops ($50 each) and to pay for special equipment needed ($45 each) for sampling.
-Coordinate project with animal waste project to accomplish a total watershed-based management approach

8. **Primary challenges**
-Obtaining support money needed
-Getting volunteers that can attend workshops

9. **Primary training and technical assistance needs**
Volunteers to attend 3-day workshop conducted by Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

10. **Media coverage**
News coverage has been excellent. Copies attached

11. **Other creative documentation**
none

MISSISSIPPI CLUSTER #3 SCS
CLUSTER SITE: Brookhaven
WORK SITE: Liberty, MS
First Quarter AmeriCorps Report

3. **Total number of hours of direct service performed**
309.5

4. **Total number of hours in training**
24

5. **Progress towards community service objectives**
Regional meeting held to introduce project to county fire coordinators, county leadership, and volunteer firemen and fire chiefs, 11 of 13 counties represented and enthusiasm high!

6. **Primary accomplishments**
Area meeting-kickoff
4 county working group meeting (Pike, Amite, Walthall, and Pearl River) Topographic planning maps purchased, State grants funds received ($4600)

7. **Projected outcomes for next quarter**
Working group meetings to be held in remaining 9 counties-work with local groups on acquiring landowner easements

8. **Primary challenges**
Organinzing local support to sell county supervisors on need to provide access to waste sources

9. **Primary training and technical assistance needs**
Training in data collection and certification of water sources

10. **Media coverage**
Copy attached

11. **Other creative documentation**
none

MISSISSIPPI CLUSTER #3 SCS
CLUSTER SITE: Brookhaven
WORK SITE: Magnolia, MS
First Quarter AmeriCorps Report

3. **Total number of hours of direct service performed**
424

4. **Total number of hours in training**
40

5. **Progress towards community service objectives**
-Attended and participated 4 area and county meetings promoting forestry and secondary manufacturing of forest products.
Natchez Seminar on Wood Waste Utilization
Lincoln County Woodworking Association meeting
Wilkinson County Forestry Field Day
Louisana Furniture Industry Association Board Meeting
-Submitted onmarketing proposal to Wal-Mart
-Numerous contacts with economic development leadership in area, including planning meeting on project.
-Four meeting on CRP incentive project
-Numerous contacts with key woodworkers in area in planning for first association meeting

6. **Primary accomplishments**
-Computer Database established for area woodworkers
-Numerous key contacts and networking as identified in #5 above

7. **Projected outcomes for next quarter**
-Organizational meeting of woodworkers association to be held
-Questionaire to be mailed to CRP landowners and response evaulated
-Bus tour of economic development leadership to be conducted to a regional furniture manufacturing center in Alabama
-Several news releases on progress

8. **Primary challenges**
-Hard to identify targeted clientelle
-Specific needs of clientelle not yet fully identified
-Area leadership still not aware nor fully appreciated economic development potential of secondary forest products manufacturing

9. **Primary training and technical assistance needs**
No training needed, only supervisory guidance from RC&D coordinator

10. **Media coverage**
Attached is a summary releases of all AmeriCorps projects

11. **Other creative documentation**
none

MISSISSIPPI CLUSTER #3 SCS
CLUSTER SITE: Brookhaven
WORK SITE: Brookhaven, MS- Area Office
First Quarter AmeriCorps Report

3. **Total number of hours of direct service performed**
392.75

4. **Total number of hours in training**
40

5. **Progress towards community service objectives**
-General public and targeted leadership made aware of AmeriCorps projects objectives through several news releases and numerous direct mailouts.
-Approximately 800 schools across informed of SWCS based conservation education booklets and teachers guides available.

6. **Primary accomplishments**
-Numerous direct mailouts and new releases in support of 4 AmeriCorps projects completed along with several computer databases set up.
-Introductory packets delivered to every elementary school in Mississippi (approximately 800)
-Orders received on above from 200 schools for over 2.5 million booklets! $8500 in grant funds received to support project.

7. **Projected outcomes for next quarter**
-Educational booklets delivered to schools
-Support and public relations activities for AmeriCorps to continue

8. **Primary challenges**
-Shortage of funds to fill all conservation education booklets ordered

9. **Primary training and technical assistance needs**
none

10. **Media coverage**
all in support of other AmeriCorps projects

11. **Other creative documentation**
none, except for fact that response for conservation booklets was overwhelming (50 times funds available)

MISSISSIPPI CLUSTER #3 SCS
CLUSTER SITE: Brookhaven
WORK SITE: Monticello, MS
First Quarter AmeriCorps Report

3. **Total number of hours of direct service performed**
412

4. **Total number of hours in training**
80

5. **Progress towards community service objectives**
-Targeted clientele now aware of lagoon pumpout services being provided
-3 farmer meetings held to provide input into project planning
-Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service leadership brought in planning and now filling support implementation of project

6. **Primary accomplishments**
-One lagoon pumped out, 7 on waiting list, one in progress
-Environmental self-evaluation form prepared and ready for distribution upon request
-Direct mail to 130 lagoon operators completed
-Policy on equipment use and contract prepared and sponsored by RC&D Council
-Coordination with another AmeriCorps directed project (Adopt-A-Stream) now being planned

7. **Projected outcomes for next quarter**
-8 lagoons pumped out
-20 environmental evaluations requested

8. **Primary challenges**
-To get landowners to request evaluation forms
-To sell lagoon owners/operators on need to use equipment
-To refine system for use by small operators without large tractors (7100Hp) needed

9. **Primary training and technical assistance needs**
-Continued training on conducting environmental analysis
-Training on engineering aspects of lagoon design, construction, and operation

10. **Media coverage**
1 article attached

11. **Other creative documentation**
none

AmeriCorps
Second Quarter Reports
Mississippi

USDA/RECD

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SITE: Indianola, MS (Sunflower County)· Delta Housing Development Corporation
MEMBER: Margaret Allen

1) Progress Toward Meeting Community Service Objective

Delta Housing Development Corporation (DHDC) Counselor, Fredrick Spencer and I have held two (2) Home Buyer's Education Program meetings during the second quarter. The first meeting was held on January 31, 1995 and the second meeting was held on February 8, 1995.

Mr. Spencer and I made field visits to assist the applicants in identifying needed repairs or a new structure.

Mr. Spencer and I visited the RECD office in Drew to review participants files for eligibility update.

All activities for Historically Black College and University (HBCU) Program has been stopped until the agreement or contract has been signed.

Mr. Clarence Finley, Project Director of Stoneville area, South Delta, Kelly Buford (AmeriCorps Member) and myself help provide community to Mound Bayou in Bolivar County. The City of Mound Bayou is trying to meet a deadline for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application meet a deadline for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application submittal date of August, 1995. The purpose of the CDBG is to provide rehabilitation service on the water and sewage systems because these utilities are not functioning properly. One stated problem is that the volume of water is inadequately measured.

5.) Primary Accomplishments

In Sunflower County the applicants have been counseled in the areas of planning for home ownership which include:

--Key Terms and phrases in Financing
--Sources of Financing
--Conventional Lending Institutions
--Government Agencies and Owner Financing

There were 17 of the 23 applicants in the Home Buyer's Education Program (HEP) that attended the counseling sessions.

There were nine (9) applicant's loans approved since they have received counseling.

8) Media Coverage

None

9) Other Creative Documentation

None

SITE: Jackson, MS (Hinds County) Hinds County Administrative Office
MEMBER: Charlet Meredith

Progress towards meeting community service objective

I have acquired the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively communicate the Rural Economic and Community Development procedures of becoming a successful home owner. My community service objectives was easier to accomplish, because I am physically located in a county office and receive hands on experience when I am not in the field. I can now assist with determining the eligibility of the applications.

I conducted a "Home Ownership and Home Improvement" Seminar in Bolton MS, with guest speaker Barbara Hyshaw. She is the project director for the Self-Help Housing Program in Bolton. She assists low-income families with obtaining modest low cost housing. The Self-Help Housing Program help reduce the cost of housing by 30%. I educated rural residents on the availability of housing assistance. Workshops to motivate them to apply for housing assistance. Workshops are also set up for individuals who need assistance in completing the application. Approximately 15 people attended and 5% needed help with the application.

Total number of direct service performed and total number of hours in training.

I have performed a total of 1027 hours of community service and approximately 205.4 of those hours were spent in training.

Primary Accomplishments

As an AmeriCorps member the primary accomplishment that I feel great about is that I have helped over 50% of the families that I have spoke with about owning a home. If its helping with an application, speaking to them by phone on problems that current or going out to talk to them. I feel great that I can contribute to my community.

Primary Challenges

I'm still finding it somewhat difficult to reach some families about the housing problems that they face. But with hard work and determination I'm willing to keep trying.

Media Coverage

At this time I do not have any media coverage to report.

SITE: Yazoo City, MS (Yazoo County) Yazoo Community Action
MEMBER: LaDonna Gulley

Progress Towards Meeting Community Service Objective.

Microenterprise Program

The Yazoo Microenterprise Program started March 1, 1995 with a press conference to explain the program in detail to local media. All partners, Band Plus, Bank of Yazoo City, Deposit Guaranty National Bank, MS Department of Community and Economic Development (DECD), MS Department of Human Authority, Yazoo County Chamber of Commerce and Yazoo Housing Resident Council participated in the initial kick-off of the program.

The Yazoo Microenterprise Program is designed to assist low-income residents establish self-sufficiency through entrepreneurship. After the article in "The Yazoo Herald", the local newspaper was published, the program had a total of 40 inquires, with about 30 people coming to the first class held at The Prevention Center, 347 N. Mound Street in Yazoo City at 5:00 p.m. A total of 20 people completed the first session of classes required for one-on-one assistance.

Van Evans from DECD has been teaching the class on cash flow and pro forma concepts, while myself and Mr. James have been teaching the other components needed to start a small business.

Objectives for Third Quarter

- Second Business Development Series Classes Begin
- One-on-one assistance for clients begin
- First two microbusinesses started
  -Meeting with Yazoo Microenterprise Program Committee for clients begin
- Proposal for business incubator written and sent off
- 25 inquires made for Third

Number of Members Enrolled at End of Quarter vs. Number Who Enrolled At Time of the Launch.

Microenterprise Program

10 enrolled after first published article
40 actual inquiries after kick-off article
30 at first class meeting
20 completed two-week course

Total Numbers of Direct Service Performed and Total Number of Hours in Training.

520 - 01 Hours
104.00 Training Hours

Any Major Staff or Structural Changes You Have Made? None.

Primary Accomplishments

Initially, no one knew for sure how the Yazoo Microenterprise Program would benefit the community. Because Yazoo City is a small town of 12,506 people, new and innovative programs often go unnoticed. These program has managed to overcome the many obstacles that were presented to the consultant and executive director of Yazoo Community Action, Inc. with the assistance of an AmeriCorps Member. The Program has managed to capture the city and motivate a youthful group of movers and shakers of all backgrounds and ethnicities to start their own business. The program's main objective at this time is to locate potential entrepreneurs, assist with their business plan and other essential facets when starting a business, prepare them for the interview with the Yazoo Microenterprise Committee, and the bank interview.

Primary Challenges

One of our main challenges will be to convince the banks in this community to loan the money. The Yazoo Microenterprise Program aims to serve as a liaison between the banks and our clients. Funding of the first business will be crucial if the program's reputation is to survive and be long-term.

SITE: Lexington, MS (Holmes County) County Office Holmes County
MEMBER:Charles E. Osborn

I.

Various Project updates From First Quarter Project I: Durant Electric Corporation:

Their major project was a total success in all respects.

1. Mission: To reduce Holmes County residents located on the welfare rolls. (Successful)
2. Situation: To releave this company from closing and thus eliminating $8,000,000 in annual employee payroll benefits. (Successful).
   *700 jobs were saved and an additional 300 were added.
   *The major problem (rapid employee turnover)
   was reduced by 68% (see attached letter).
3. Objectives:
   A.) Tasks to be done:
      *Participate in company meeting to try and identivy why the rate of rapid employment is so high.
      *Conduct my own survey to identify the total reason for this problem.
   B.) Result of work:
      *Conducted survey of former employees.
      *Identivied the problem (management/personnel problem).
   C.) How to Quantify:
      *700 jobs would remain IF I could salvage the company/plant from closing.
   E.) Number of people impacted:
      *Company remained open
      *This was as a result of (a) my recommending a specific new personnel director.
      *700 jobs were saved
      *300 new positions were created
      *Total number of Holmes County residents effected (including employees family member) approximately 5,000.

4. Resources required:
   *My time and travel expenditures to meet with various relevant business oriented individuals.
5. Diversity (Spin-off effects)
   *See new projects section to review a spin-off project to be implemented on a larger scale.
6.) Timetable:
   *This major project took exactly three months to complete.

Project II: Elderly Fraud Town Meetings/Workshops:

This project has been completely successful.

1. Mission:
   *To educate the rural elderly regarding current scams/fraud technique that are presently being directed at this segment of our population.
   * Specific emphasis was placed on the techniques now being utilized by a group of GYPSIES within the state.
2. Specific Need:
   *Before I came to Holmes County, there were several incidents of elderly people "yielding" to the pressures of dollars from their meager savings accounts.
3. Objectives:
   * To inform myself as to these fraudulent tactics so that I may educate the rural d elderly.
   I also worked closely with the Sheriff's Department.
   (A) Tasks to be done:
      *To coordinate my efforts with the Mississippi attorney Generals Office (Office of Consumer Fraud).
      *To devise and actually conduct town meetings and workshops regarding this crime.
   (B) Result of Work:
      *Received all positive feedback from both the Holmes County participants and the Sheriff's Department.
   (C) How to Quantify:
      *Conducted four successful workshops where 118 townspeople attended.
      *Appeared on a local radio "talk-show" four times that reached a projected audience of approximately 35,00 Holmes County residents (and other counties).
   (D) Standard used:
      *Number of actual workshop participants (to date).
      *Projected audience listens and their "on-air feedback". WAGR-FM Radio Station had 35,000 listeners at the time of my shows.
   (E) Number of people impacted:
      *Over 5,000 Holmes County residents (and other counties)

(4) Resources:
   *WAGR-FM Radio Station (free)
   *City Hall workshops (free)
   *Travel to Jackson several times to meet with officials of Office of Consumer Fraud (particularly Mattie Stephens).

(5) Diversity: (Spin-off-effects)
   *I plan to continue both the town workshops as well as the radio shows.

(6) Timetable:
   *Ongoing

Note: Since my efforts began, the Sheriffs Office has informed me that literally NO elderly fraud has been reported in this county.

Project III: Holmes County Resource Center Project.

*This project progressed well However, it is temporarily delayed until the National Guard Unit actually moves from the Armory Building (Sept. 30, 1995).

*Once completed, the entire county will finally have the only all-purpose Community Resource Center in its history.

Project IV: Holmes County Industrial Park Project:

1. Mission: When I was assigned to Holmes County, I was awaiting the approval of the Mid--Delta Empowerment Zone from Washington. This approval was finally obtained in late December (94) and did include Holmes County. Since that time I have been working with many facets of the EZ Commission.

2. Situation: Three sections of Holmes County are included in the EZ. (a) City of Durant, (b) City of West, (c) Holmes County Industrial Park (just recently completed).

3. Objectives:

(a) To continue to attend regular EZ meetings so that my three areas of the county are updated as to current policy and entitlements for each area.

(b) To maintain close working relationships wit the mayors (and aldermen) of both Durant and West.

* Note: a Durant-West EZ "office" of information is in the process of being initiated by me at Durant.

(c) To cooperate closely with the Holmes Count Chamber of Commerce regarding the developing and attracting new industry to the Industrial Park.

*Note: I am currently conversing with two nationally known corporations (located in St. Louis) that are very interested in building a "branch at the "Park" to take advantage of the tax incentives for the next ten years.

*Note: this would be quantified by the total number of new employees (and their families)to be hired at the Industrial Park.

(d) Standard to used:

*The actual amount of financial assistance granted through the EZ to both West and Durant. (e) Number of People Impacted:

*5,500 residents of both West and Durant

*2,00 new employees (including employees families) at Holmes Co. Industrial Park.

5. Resources required:

*Once new industry elects to locate at the new Industrial Park ---we foresee new (a)motels, (b) new eating establishments (c) new housing (Fanny Mae Housing).

7. Timetable:

* The Holmes County Chamber of Commerce projects that the first "plants" will be completed and open for operation in January of 1997.

Project V: Taylors Sewing Industry (Tchula, MS)

*Due to total mis-management of the very small business, it now appears that they will be closing their operation within the next three months.

"New " Projects Adopted By This AmeriCorps Member For The Second Quarter (Jan-March).

New Project #3: New baseball throwing machine for Durant Public School District.

*I was able to secure (free of charge) a much needed baseball throwing machine for this school district. With my assistance, the school now- has a new baseball team which constitute just one more healthy outlet for school aged kid to participate in rather than being "on the streets".

*Number to be impacted: 700 Durant School students.

New Project #4: City of Tchula Grant Proposal to improve the only city park/recreational area.

*I have assisted the mayor of Tchula in writing a grant proposal (through MP&L) to further enhance the current city park. The grant will be awarded on April 21st.

*Number to be impacted: All 2,000 Tchula city residents

*Note: See attached letter of appreciation from Mayor Banks.

New Project #5: Holmes County College Tuition assistance Program/Foundation.

*This is a Major Effort that will benefit all eligible county college-bound residents.

*The adjourning county (Attala) is one county that has initiated it's own "foundation" for ONLY residents of tat county . Under its rules all county residents can go to one of five colleges/universities in Mississippi tuition free.

*With my assistance, I am presently pursuing the construction of a similar foundation for Holmes County residents. This would provide tremendous motivation for High School students to improve their grades to try to become eligible for the free college tuition program.

*Number to be inspected: All 22,000 Holmes County residents.

New Project #6: Honor Loft bought:

*Totally completed and very successful as of this date

*To build "honor Lofts" inside Durant Public School classrooms (grades K-3). These are used to encourage young children to excel in reading so that they may occupy the "elevated honor loft" in their classrooms.

*Number to be impacted: all school children (K-3) approximately 125.

Total number of direct service hours performed and total number of hours in training.

I have completed 226 hours of training related activities and completed a total of 1134 communtiy service hours.

SITE: Jackson, MS (Hinds County) RECD State Office
MEMBER: LaDonna James

Progress toward meeting community service objectives:

Objective 1: Effective execution of the position of team leader for Mississippi's USDA/RECD team.

I have received excellent ratings from all team members in response to the second quarter evaluation of my team leader abilities. The anonymous response to the ratings averaged 4.3 on a scale of 1 to 5. Additional comments given indicate that two members feel that I give the members on the team too little leadership and that I need to improve on my team leader abilities.

Objective 2: Research opportunities and actively seek grants for the Edwards/Hinds County Community.

I have been successful in convincing organizations in the town of Edwards to apply for funds from the drug free schools and communities grant. The intent to apply notification was given to me by a municipal official who felt the citizens of Edwards would not accept his suggestion to apply for any federal grant or aid programs.

Objective 3: Organize Town Meetings between elected officials, grassroots community leadership, and the town's general population.

The first of several town meetings has been scheduled for April 6, 1995. The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens to voice their concerns about the future of their town; while allowing community leaders to reassure their constituency that they are trying to work within "the system" to accomplish those same goals.

Objective 4: Organize, supervise and participate in the clean up and beautification of downtown Edwards, MS.

A concerned citizens group has been organized to assist in the preliminary planning of the cleanup activity (contacting local property owners, locating farm machinery and large trucks to assist in hauling debris and rubble, securing business sponsors for the event).
Contact has been made with two of the five property owners with fire debris remaining on their property. I have secured two flat bed trailers and three tractors to assist in the clean up effort. Further planning is being hindered because consent must be given by the property owners in order for the volunteers to be on the property.

Objective 5: Assist in the development of activities and training sessions which will help Edwards community leaders reach the goal of lowering crime by 50% in the next five (5) years.

25 students at Hinds County Agricultural High School received two days of intensive training on passive listening skills, peer mediation, and effective communication in a Peer Helpers workshop. These students will serve as counselors for their peers in an effort to combat the problems in their school. The desired effect of the program will be to neutralize the contribution to crime made by teenagers in the Edwards Community.

Planning has begun on an project which will use an abandoned horse arena and adjoining stables into a recreation and learning center for at risk youths. The stables will be cleaned, renovated, and leased by the city in order to fund the on site youth center. The youth center not only provide an activity center for the young people of the community but it is hoped that the center will also provide educational enrichment (community leaders hope to have students from neighboring colleges and universities educate children on the proper care and nutrition for farm animals in return for classroom hours and/or a small stipend).

Total number of direct service hours performed and total number of hours in training:
I have performed 741.5 hours of community service; approximately 185 of those hours were spent in training. Giving me a total of 926.5 hours worked.

Primary Accomplishments:
My primary accomplishment has been in the area of education. The Hinds A.H.S. Peer Helpers has become an organization of such respect and influence that it has completely exceeded even my expectations of the project.

Morale on the Peer Helpers Team has increased for each member. One of the team sophomores came to me during the training and said that she was proud to have been chosen by her classmates as someone who they would most like to talk to if they had a problem. This same student later confided in me that two days prior to her being selected a Peer Helper she had spoken to her mother because she wanted to drop out of school. Her primary reason: she felt like an outsider at her school and felt that no one liked her. **Based on the confidence shown to her by her peers she has decided to remain in school and is looking into the possibility of pursuing a career in counseling and social work in the future.**

Primary Challenges:
During this quarter my only challenge, though reoccurring, was conflict between elected governmental officials and the constituency they represent. After talking to leaders on both sides of the fence I discovered that many projects that could be of great benefit to the community were never completed because of the feud which exists between government and grassroots leadership.

Community leaders are convinced that government officials are being paid off by the business leaders in the community. Meanwhile, governmental leaders are withholding authority and funding to certain community based groups that they feel are trying to scare them into doing what a small group wants to have done.

This situation has presented itself as a challenge because I was previously unaware of the situation. Town Meetings are being scheduled in the town and small conferences are being developed with key leaders in both the elected and grassroots camps in an effort to neutralize the problem.

Media Coverage:
There is no significant media coverage to report at this time.

Other Creative Documentation:
Enclosed is a copy of a video taped announcement made to the student body of Hinds A.H.S. to educate them on the Peer Helpers Project.

SITE: Madison, MS (Rankin County) RECD County Office
MEMBER: Brenda F. Joyner

The second quarter of me service, January - March 1995 has been a continuation of the first quarter. My task is to seek out and help rural housing applicant and borrowers become successful homeowners by helping to evaluate their financial situation. I provided applicants and borrowers with assistance and information on RECD services and informed them of services provided by other agencies.

I completed, with the help of our County Home Economist, a series of four meetings entitled "Your Money Matters." Meetings were held weekly in the month of February. At each meeting, we had a total of five community residents (four women and one man). Our "Brown Bag" meetings were short and informative. The following topics were discussed, "Organization of Our Papers and Records", "Looking at Our Financial Goals", "Analyzing Our Cash Flow", and "Making a Spending Plan." Everyone attending decided to make some changes in their spending habits and record keeping. We hope that these meetings will help people achieve their goals. If we can make a financial difference in the lives of these residents, our goals of making them better financial managers will be achieved.

I also assisted my county supervisor in preparing a news release to be published in the newspaper and aired over the radio. The article was entitled, "Services Available to RECD (formerly FmHA) Housing Customers Who are Financially Depressed." In this article, we explained that the delinquent borrowers are offered to options to help them become successful homeowners. The options are: Moratorium on payment and a delinquency workout agreement. Radio announcements were frequently aired the week of March 13, 1995. We had three responses to the radio announcement. The news article appeared in the Madison County Herald on April 6, 1995.

In March, I worked with one young lady who came by the office and expressed and interest in owning her own home. I talked with her regarding the requirements. The first requirement was her need to find employment. I have talked with her on several occasions. She is now employed. This young lady is trying to get into school so that she can make a better living for herself and her family.

In summary, for the second quarter of my service I have successfully aided approximately four persons with delinquency problems, assisted ten persons with applications for rural housing, and have had five community residents attend "Your Money Matters" seminars.

My outreach plan is to work with about 25 - 30 percent of our 129 delinquent borrowers through home visits and telephone calls to get them into the office to work out their delinquency problems. I will continue working individually and make home visits with applicants who have trouble completing applications with hopes of them becoming home owners as soon as available.

At the conclusion of my service to this community and this agency, it is my hope that many people will be able to say that they learned ways to improve the quality of their lives.

The total number of hours of my direct service performed as of March 31, 1995 is 917.50 and the total hours in training is 183.5

SITE: Natchez, MS (Adams County) RECD County Office
MEMBER: Daphane Covington

This is the second quarter report and quite a few things have changed. first, my project is still going well even though I have good days and definitely my share of bad. Attending the training sessions in February which had a nice turn out, I expected more people because I did it on a person to person basis. The purpose of the seminar was to make people aware of the different tactics used for saving money and also how to spend it. The turnout could have been better, but now I know the different tactics to use, where I can get a large group, be it borrowers or non-borrowers. Mr. Gibson gave me these ideas and I plan to take his advice when conducting the next seminar. I am in the process of getting one of the 504 applicant funding for repairs on her home, and one subsequent loan. I have learned that it's hard to help the elderly when it comes to a 20 year payback period. Also if something were to happen to them, FmHA will take their home if their children or closest relative doesn't pay. The subsequent loans are different because the borrowers already own a home through the agency. I have started going out in the community more from door to door, which so far has been a challenge. Susan Foutz-Lowe and I have spoken with Natchez's Civitan International Club about the programs that we are working on, we also told them about AmeriCorps, and how the programs that we are working on are affecting a lot of people. We have a lot of support from the members, and they also told us if we ever needed to talk about problems we're having.

I talked about in my first report how things were kind of slow, they have picked up a lot especially after the meetings. I have trained a total of 181.2 hours, and it has been beneficial when dealing with the community and learning what they want. I an in the process of getting funds for an elderly woman by the name of Effie Woods.

SITE: Natchez, MS (Adams County) Natchez City Planning Office
MEMBER: Susan M. Foutz-Lowe

Progress towards meeting community service objectives:

Objective 1: Teenage Pregnancy
I will be working on my sexuality survey which in itself is a slow process but it is needed. I have spoken to the private and public school principals and administrators about working together to curb teenage pregnancy. I held a meeting for 49 educators and physicians. Of the 49 who were invited to attend the meeting, 17 showed. The superintendent, Dr. Willie Hoskins, public relations, Carol Mowen, the school nurse, Anna Elizabeth Brown, several school board members, Dr., David Steckler, Alcorn State University's nursing director, Dr. Henderson, local physician and all the principals from middle school to high school.

The meeting targeted the growing problem of teenage pregnancy in Natchez. The group addressed situations that can lead to teenage pregnancy. For example, many young girls are getting pregnant by men in their late teens (18) on into their twenties and thirties. Males usually do not take a responsible role when these girls get pregnant. Many young men abandon the young girls or deny they are the fathers. Another issue addressed is the girls self-esteem and family life. Many of these pregnant teens were born to teenage mothers. The meeting lasted two and one half hours.

I did some research on my own about what type of statistics have been gathered on teenage pregnancy in Mississippi and Natchez. I found very little research has been conducted on teenage pregnancy on Mississippi and there has not been any research conducted in Natchez. The only way Natchez can know what type of programs need to be implemented, it is necessary to do a scientific survey that would test the attitudes, knowledge, values and behavior of teenagers middle school through high school.

I went to the University of Southern Mississippi to get help with formulating an intelligent survey and distributing the survey. I talked to four departments, the Psychology, Social Work , Community Health and Marriage and Family Counseling. the only department that really took and interest was the Social Work department. A graduate student, Mike Lowe, has asked 5 undergraduate students working with him on several experiments, to go to the library and look up the statistics on teenage pregnancy in the United States, Mississippi and Natchez.

I called the University of South Carolina's leading teen sexuality expert, Dr. Cole and asked him to send me some information on doing a sexuality survey based on attitudes, knowledge, behavior, and values. I also called ETR, a research firm in California, to get information on teenage sexuality surveys. Both the University of South Carolina and ETR agreed to send me the information.

Dr. Tim Rehiner, 6 social work graduate students and I will be working on the sexuality survey. Dr. Rehiner has now pointed out that the survey may not be completed by the end of April. I stressed the importance of getting measurable results. The survey may not be completed until next school year.

The progress made in developing the teen rally has gone a lot better than the sexuality survey. Chief Ruben Greenburg of Charleston, SC, and Maggie Wade of WLBT-TV3 in Jackson, have both been confirmed as speakers at the teen rally. Coca Cola, McDonald's and the Fraternal Order of Police have all agreed to donate food and drinks. The local Coca Cola company has agreed to donate all the coke products that we need. McDonald's agreed to donate 100 hamburgers and the Fraternal Order of Police agreed to donate 200 hot dogs.

I went to several businesses in Natchez seeking donations for door prizes to be given away at the teen rally. McRae's, a local department store, will be donating a perfume tester. The Natchez mall manager was so impressed with the AmeriCorps program and what AmeriCorps is doing in Natchez that he not only agreed to donate gift certificates but also said the mall would like to help promote the teen rally and the AmeriCorps program. Art, the mall manager, asked that I speak to the mall models about the AmeriCorps program. The mall models represent central Mississippi- Louisiana. I will also be seeking donations from video stores, Wal-Mart, K-Mart, and other businesses.

On March 30, I spoke to the Natchez High School drama class. The class of 26 consisted of sophomores, juniors and seniors of whom many were already pregnant or parents. Television Fox 48 was there filming. The class was extremely interested in how they could get involved with AmeriCorps. Some were actually concerned about the programs existence when they graduate from high school. Several teens who are parents wanted tot know more about the child care allowance. I explained that I did not know but I could put them in touch with Ms. Bettye Oliver, Mississippi's State Contact, or another member on my team who knew more about the child care allowance.

Many civic organizations were interested in the AmeriCorps program. I spoke to a group of 26 Civitans who pledge their support for the AmeriCorps program. Many of the Civitan Members took part in the Peace Corps during their college days. One Civitan member stood up during my speech to praise the program and encourage others to keep the program alive.

The mayor of Natchez is extremely supportive of the AmeriCorps program. Mayor Brown wanted me to write the president of the Mayors of America about the Americorps program in Natchez. Mr. Brown also put me in touch with a CNN correspondent to try and get some coverage for the teen rally. I do plan to set up and information table for AmeriCorps members to sit and try to explain what type of service they are doing in their community.

The following has committed to covering the teen rally, WLBT-TV3 Jackson, MS, Fox 48 Alexandria, LA-Natchez, and the Natchez Democrat Newspaper.

Although I went into the AmeriCorps program with the intent of implementing programs and getting things done, I have realized that it is not that easy. In order to implement programs, one must know the community's needs. A survey will be an excellent way to determine what programs need to be implemented.

Objective 2: The YMCA

The YMCA is moving along smoothly. The task force which includes Natchez's "movers and shakers" meets each month to determine what steps are next in getting a YMCA. A arrange a meeting with Mr. Shaddock, the regional director from Atlanta, GA, to come to Mississippi to meet with the task force. The meeting was a success. Mr. Shaddock gave us many ideas on how to get the community motivate and involved with the process to determine whether a YMCA would be right for Natchez.

After the meeting with Mr. Shaddock, the task force met to determine what would be the next step. We determined the best step in knowing what would Natchez wants or needs, is to do a survey. Before a survey could be conducted, we needed to puck out groups that would make up the majority of the population. The task force has picked four groups, the senior citizens center, teenagers, churches, and the recreation board.

The task force was assigned to one group and have a meeting explaining what we hope to accomplish front the survey. After the four groups agreed to help with the survey, I got in touch with Dr. Tony Henthorn, professor and chairman of the Link program at the University of Southern Mississippi. The Link program is a marketing tool used by the USM to help communities conduct needs assessment surveys. The cost is $6,000 compared to $15-20,000 a private firm in Jackson wanted to charge. Dr. Bob Taylor and Ralph Tedder will be paying the $6,000.

Total number of direct service hours performed and total number of hours in training:

The total number of direct service hours performed is 928.5 and of this amount 185.7 was in training .

Primary accomplishments:

A major accomplishment for this quarter is getting the community leaders and businesses working together, donating time and prizes to make sure this teen rally is a success.

Primary challenges:

The challenges I face in Natchez is always the same. Egos. Everyone want to take credit for something they id not do. People in Natchez are lethargic. There is no motivation.

Media Coverage:

I did an interview with Fox 48 and requested a copy of the video. I received word that Senator Lott will not be coming to my teen rally. This comes as no surprise.

Addendum:

My goals and objectives will be changed. I will no be implementing any teenage pregnancy prevention programs. I will continue to work on the sexuality survey for the public schools until August. The teen rally is still set to happen May 27, 1995. The YMCA is moving along rapidly. The survey should be complete by the end of July.

SITE: Jackson, MS (Hinds County) RECD State Office
MEMBER: Chanel Richards

Progress Towards Meeting Community Service Objectives

The implementation of my community service objectives have been picking up at a slow but steady pace. I have been performing outreach in both counties of Hinds and Yazoo. First of all, I helped plan and implement a seminar on home ownership and home improvement on January 31, 1995 in Bolton, Mississippi. I performed outreach for this seminar by passing out fliers to residents, and posting them in public and private facilities, as well as talking to area citizens about attending the seminar. I also worked with city employees to generate response from residents to attend the seminar.

Presently, I am helping to plan another AmeriCorps, "Home Ownership and Home Improvement Seminar" in Edwards, MS. Although, plans have not been finalized for the seminar, I have been helping to prepare radio, television and church announcements, news articles. have also met with several citizens, the Mayor and Board of Alderman to discuss plans for the seminar.

I have also made considerable progress in implementing my objectives for Yazoo County's Home Buyer's Education Program to reach a diversity of low income, and low income minority residents to attend the classes it offers. I have prepared and distributed public flyers and questionnaires for the Home Buyer's Education Program. I have released public announcements for radio, television, and community churches for the Program. And I have also prepared a brochure that will be distributed to residents by way of payroll at different public and private entities, by mail, and at several drop locations, etc.

Total Number of Directed Services Performed and Total Number of Hours In Training

I have worked a total of 968 hours of which 194 were spent in training.

Primary Accomplishments

My primary accomplishment has been the open response I have received from the residents of Yazoo County, while performing rural housing outreach services at a community center in Yazoo City for the Home Buyers Education Program. I was able to directly arouse the interest of five low income mothers in Yazoo City to attend the Home Buyer's Education classes. These women expressed a need for adequate housing and their interest in buying a new home.

Primary Challenges

I have two primary challenges that I have experienced since I took the position as an AmeriCorps Team Member. My first primary challenge is the absent supervisory and staff assistance I have received in my office, as well other USDA/RECD offices. My second challenge is the fact that I have not been able to use neither of the three vacant computers in my office. I can not get into the word-processing mode on any of the "three, vacant, much needed computers" without a password. I am very tired of having to leave my office of "three, vacant, and much needed computers," only to walk across the street into another building to stand in line to use a computer there.

Media Coverage

I have attached a Public Service Announcement for radio, television and community churches. I have also attached a flyer that was used for the AmeriCorps, "Home Ownership and Home Improvement Seminar on January 31, 1995.

Other creative documents

I have attached two surveys, one is for the Hinds County "Home Ownership and Home Improvement Seminars", and the other is for the Home Buyer's Education Classes in Yazoo County. I have also attached the information that is to appear on the Home Buyer's Education Program pamphlet I am preparing.

SITE: Greenville, MS (Washington County) RECD District Office
MEMBER: Kelly Buford

This program is designed to provide technical assistance to individuals who apply for RECD affordable housing within District IV. Which include: Bolivar County, Sharkey: City of Issaquena, Sunflower County: Cities of Drew, Indianola and Washington.

I began training as indicated in my earlier report on this year's Program Objective. I have spent approximately 193 hours in training. This training consisted of sitting in on planned office visits while RECD employees received Rural Housing Applications. I have also received "The Home Buyers Education Handbook," which will be used as the training manual for this program as indicated by Mr. Anthony McCarty (Training Facilitator)

To meet the goal that I have established, I have contacted all of the counties within District-IV to see how many applicants are eligible to receive funds to buy or build a home and to find our why they are still on the waiting list. In doing so, I have designated on day out of a week to visit a county to help speed up the process for home buyers and builders.

On March 8, 1995 MS Delta wide AmeriCorps (NRCS, US Forest Service, RDA) Community Development workday was planned in Mound Bayou. The City of Mound Bayou were applying for a Housing Rehabilitation grant through South Delta Planning and Development. the grant package required a door to door survey on Public Facilities and Individual Housing. MS Delta AmeriCorps members assisted the town with completing 175 surveys. Our surveys found that the City of Mound Bayou water and sewage systems were in need of improvements. The grant package deadline was March 10th. The survey was aimed at individual housing to determine the income and the number of people in the households, race and disabilities. As of today the proposal has been completed.

Soil Conservation AmeriCorps Members have also worked with me on the project Lift Us Up! (which means: Let Our Community Stand as One). The slogan reads Improve your Community, In the process you will have Improved Yourself. this program deals with a series of Outreach Work for the entire community. Wards Recreational center in Greenville, MS. is the facility that was designated for the young and old to rally. This center was basically a facility that young men gathered to play basketball. Since the AmeriCorps members have been involved with this project, the center has opened up new doors. The Center has implemented a number of new things to attract the elderly. Good examples of this would be the Bingo Games and the Health classes that are held on Saturday evenings just for the elderly. I have talked with several of them and they have told me how much they have enjoyed the changes Wards Recreational Center has made.

SITE: Cleveland, MS (Bolivar County) Delta State University
MEMBER: Charles O'Donnell

Progress towards meeting community service objectives:

Community Service Objective 1: To help community leaders in Bolivar and adjacent counties understand the mission of the B.F. Smith Chair and Center for Economic and Community Development

Since the begining of October I have made site visits to thirteen Bolivar County Rural communities: Merigold, Mound Bayou, Winstonville, Shelby, Duncan, Alligator, Gunnison, Rosedale, Pace, Beulah, Benoit, Shaw, and Boyle. These visits continue during the second quarter and expanded to communities in Sunflower, Washingotn, Coahoma, Yazoo, and Tunica Counties. During these visits I sought out and spoke with the mayour sof these towns about economic and ocmmunity development and specifically about what activities were going on in their locale to promote economic and community development.

My goal was to visit four to six communities in the second quarter of the AmeriCorps term; this goal was achieved and an additional seven communities were visited. Surign the second quarter, the area for this goal was expanded to include the eighteen counties of the Delta. This is the actual service area of the Center for Economic and community Development at Delta State University. The goa itself was to inform communities in five additional counties; Sunflower, Washington, Tunica, Yazoo, and Coahoma. This goal was achieved.

My goal was to visit 20-40 community leaders; 25 leaders were contacted and visited and these leaders now know of the mission and current and planned programs of the Center for Economic and Community Developement at Delta State University.

Community Service Objective 2: To identify community leaders in Bolivar County, especially new and emerging ones, who will be playing significant roles in the community and economic developmentof Bolivar county.

This is an ongoing project. I have identified leaders through individual meetings and contact. The plan for this project has progressed in two ways. First, new and emerging leaders that have already been idenbtified will be interviewed and profiled. Secondly, a number of graduate students from a leadership development coarse a t Delta State University will be directed in afield research project designed for identifying new leaders and we will conduct this research project in one locality in Bolivar County. The younger half of this gifted and talented group can be seen as moving into new careers and seriously considering moving away from the area because of better opportunities elsewhere or because of communtiy conflict.

The communty to be surveyed for emerging leaders has been identified. The survey of leadership in Cleveland, MS will be conducted during April and May, 1995 and is projected to include 60-70 culturally diverse participants.

The final goal of this project is a report an devalyation of new and emerging leadership in Cleveland by the summer of 1995.

Communtiy Service Objective 3: To recruit and facilitate the participation of existing and emerging community leaders and organizations in the B.F. Smith Chair's leadership and community development workshops and courses.

To recruit and invite the participation of betwee 4-6 rural communities and organizations in programs and projects of the B.F. Smith Chair. A process for funding possible leadership development, communty developemnt, and economic adevelopemnt projects has begun. This process will culminate in the identification of several rural communities and development projents suited to the particular needs and current capacity of each community.

In addition to the leadership workshops it was determined by Dr. Robinson and myself as well as through the encouragement of several of the mayors that I visited, that a meeting of mayors might benefit the economic and community development of some of the communities in Bolivar county. The idea behind this being that smaller rural communities need to work together especiall on projects that they can not acomplish alone.

The succes of these meetings was readily apparent and it was deemed appropriate and necessary to expand this program to include other counties which the Center for Economic and Community serves. During January and February, meeting were successfully held in Washington County, Sunflower County, Yazoo County, Coahoma County, and Tunica County.

Total number of direct service performed and total number of hours in training

For the period betwee December 1st 1994 and February 28, 1995 a total of 480 hours of service as an AmeriCorps member was spent in direct service of acomplishing the goals and objectives of this AmeriCorps/USDA Project.

Primary Accomplishments

A number of small rural communities were contacted and local leaders were informed about the existance of the new B.F, Smith Center for Economic and Community Development.

The idea was formed of bringing mayors together for the first time in history of Bolivar County, not on the basis of race but rather for a meeting about commonconcerns in regard to economic and community development and this became a new objective. These meetings were carried out in Tunica, Coahoma, Washington, Sunflower, Bolivar, and Yazoo Counties. A listing of needs and areas where assistnace is needed was compiled for each of these counties. A second round of meetings is scheduled begining in April, 1995 that will include a broader representation of community leaders.

The first series of leadership workshops were conducted over an eight week period with 29 participants finishing the course.

A soon to be implemented field research project to survey the leaders of Cleveland community was designed and planned.

The 25 leaders contacted, represent 18 individual rural communities. Approximately 8,000-10,000 persons below the poverty level are in these communitiesa and represented through these leaders. Four of the census tracts within the Mid-Delta Emopwerment Zone are also represented.

Primary Challenges

Scheduling and reports

Listening to facts about the personal effoerts of local leaders struggling rural communities from the leaders themselves.

Finding appropriate ways to deal with cultural mistrust which exists in the area and impedes rural community development and rural intracommunity cooperation.

Dealing with conflict between members of the same community groups and between different community groups. An easy mistate is to assume that there is no conflict when things seem to move smoothly. Another mistake is to avoid conflict because conflict is generally seen as one of the first stages of development.

Efficient use fo time and energy, development of teamwork skill needed to plan and coordinate efforts to work with a nuimber of rural communities spread out over a wide geographical area.

Media Coverage

There are no significant developments to report.

SITE: Lorman, MS (Claiborne County) Alcorn State University
MEMBER: Stephani Barnes

My second quarter as an AmeriCorps member was exciting and productive. During this time I had an opportunity to expand my objectives while still focusing on the main concern of the residents of Jefferson and Claiborne counties which is education.

My first objective was to serve as a resource person in the After School Tutorial and Enrichment Program. As a resource person I work with youths in grades K-5 helping them with their homework and reading skills. During the second quarter I have spent Tuesdays and Thursdays working with the students as well as working with one of the staff members writing a proposal. If the proposal is funded it will provide transportation in order to increase attendance of the program.

My second objective was to hold HIV/AIDS workshops for high school students in order to increase their knowledge. The first workshop was held for 25 males ages 11-19. This group had a lot of misconceptions about how a person contracts the Human Imuno Deficiency Virus. My second workshop was given to 21, 9th-12th graders in a Health class at Port Gibson High School. And the third workshop was given to 11 males at Port Gibson Middle School. At the beginning of each workshop the students were given a Pre-Test and at the end of each workshop the students were given a Post-Test. The test consisted of ten questions and the average score before the workshop was 65. The average Post-Test score was 80.

My third objective was to hold some basic study skill workshops. To date I've held 6 workshops for the 107 9th grade students at Port Gibson High School. Each workshop lasted 45 minutes, the students saw two 15 minute tapes one on how to study and note taking skills and the other was on test taking skills. Each student was given a packet at the end of the workshop to carry home. These students were given a Pre-Test and a Post-Test, with the average increasing from 70 on the Pretest to 80 on the Post-test.

My fourth objective was to become a resource person for the Rultan Boys Club in Hermanville, MS. I spent the beginning of the second quarter attending the Saturday program, which was attended by 25 at risk males ages 11-19. During these meetings I held an HIV/AIDS workshop and I've helped the males with their reading and math skills. Unfortunately the founder and director of this program died and the program has been put on hold. In place of this objective I have started a tutorial program at Port Gibson Middle School. The program consists of 14 male 6th and 7th graders, all of the males have repeated the 6th or 7th grade once and they're failing now. These males spend 2 hours on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays working on there Math, Reading, and English skills. The goal of this program is to help the students pass the final exam so that they can be promoted to the next grade.

My first objective was to work with the AG-Hope (Agriculture Helps Our People Earn). This is a six week work study program for students to acquire a greater appreciation for food and agricultural science and take advantage of the many available opportunities. As of now I haven't worked on this objective, because the program begins in June.

In addition to the objectives listed in my site plan, I've added another objective. This objective is to work close with the principals and counselors in Claiborne County. Since, I've been working with the Claiborne County School System I've held 6 financial aide workshops for the seniors at Port Gibson High School. During each workshop the counselor explained the seven major financial aid programs, then I help the students fill out their federal financial aide application. Also I held an ACT workshop at Port Gibson High School that consisted for 19 juniors and seniors (9 females and 10 males). Dr. Glen Eich covered sample questions from English, Science Reasoning, Math and Reading. The students had all taken the ACT once (average score 17) and all the students will be taking the ACT in April.

Finally, I've had several meetings with the Private Child Care Associates in Jefferson, Franklin, and Adams Counties. The child care workers would like for me to hold some HIV/AIDS workshops for the parents of the students attending the various centers.

SITE: Webb, MS (Tallahatchie County) Tallahatchie Housing Incorporated
MEMBER: Roshella Cole

Progress towards meeting Community Service Objectives

Objective 1
Construction of 13 self-help houses in one year, then seven the next year. The result will be 20 new home owners, and the success for the project being that the homes are occupied. Evaluation is measured by the homes meeting the federal requirements for Rural Economic and Community Development.

Progress
O the first group of 6 houses 2 are completed and occupied; one is 85% finished and another 65% finished. The AmeriCorps member supervised the staining of the inside doors and the molding of the two completed homes, and hanging of sheet rock of the 85% finished house. There are two other houses still under contractor, that are approximately 50% completed. RECD is in the process of closing out the next 7 loan applications, which are scheduled to start construction in April 1995.

Objective 2
Construction of the 32 unit apartment complex has begun in Sumner. It is a FmHA 515 multi-family housing program and the projected date of completion is June 1995. It is just a matter now, of checking on the contractor's work and keeping good records. The 24 apartment units in Glendora has not yet begun. It is in the HOME Partnership Program, however the new water/sewage system is operational and we are yet pursuing ways and means to commit the money to build them without needing to use the tax credits. We have sent off two proposals to that effect.

Number of members enrolled at end of quarter vs. number enrolled at the time of launch
1 : 1

Total number of direct service performed an total number of hours in training
35 hours in training and 487 hours of direct service

Any major staff of structural changes you have made
Tallahatchie Housing, Inc. has added another staff person a recruiter/program director.

Primary Accomplishments
The fact that 2 of the mew home owners are actually living in their new homes through the combined efforts of THI staff and that of the families.

That through the staff of THI providing technical assistance to the town of Glendora, that the town has paid its $5000.00 electric bill, and now there is a new water/sewage system in operation.

Training in the areas for grant writing and community development by the AmeriCorps member and staff gives THI the capacity to help other organizations and communities.

Primary challenges
Problems: Funding. Especially the Glendora Project. Infrastructure is being put in place, but there is no commitment to build yet. Tallahatchie Housing, Inc. really wants to see these 24 apartment units in place.

Solution: In such poor communities as Glendora, let whatever governmental agencies that grant partial finances waive the match requirements. The lack for Infrastructure and funds is what made Glendora eligible for funding to build the apartment complex--yet this same thing has been keeping both local and national syndicators-- which would bring needed capital--from wanting to invest any money in the town.

Primary training and technical assistance needs
Knowledge for how to ask for money without begging, whining or crying, and get the money.

Computer and computer training

Conflict management training

Leadership training

Media Coverage
There are two video tapes of the AmeriCorps member speaking about Joel Berg's visit and her role as a member with THI. However, the tapes have not been received from the TV stations, copies will be sent upon arrival.

Other creative documentation
There are before and after photographs of self-help houses and the ongoing apartment housing project in Sumner. the photographs of the apartment complex will be sent at a later date.

Project V: Taylors Sewing Industry (Tchula, MS)

*Due to total mis-management of the very small business, it now appears that they will be closing their operation within the next three months.

II.

"New " Projects Adopted By This AmeriCorps Member For The Second Quarter (Jan-March).

New Project #3: New baseball throwing machine for Durant Public School District.

*I was able to secure (free of charge) a much needed baseball throwing machine for this school district. With my assistance, the school now- has a new baseball team which constitute just one more healthy outlet for school aged kid to participate in rather than being "on the streets".

*Number to be impacted: 700 Durant School students.

New Project #4: City of Tchula Grant Proposal to improve the only city park/recreational area.

*I have assisted the mayor of Tchula in writing a grant proposal (through MP&L) to further enhance the current city park. The grant will be awarded on April 21st.

*Number to be impacted: All 2,000 Tchula city residents

*Note: See attached letter of appreciation from Mayor Banks.

New Project #5: Holmes County College Tuition assistance Program/Foundation.

*This is a Major Effort that will benefit all eligible county college-bound residents.

*The adjourning county (Attala) is one county that has initiated it's own "foundation" for ONLY residents of tat county . Under its rules all county residents can go to one of five colleges/universities in Mississippi tuition free.

*With my assistance, I am presently pursuing the construction of a similar foundation for Holmes County residents. This would provide tremendous motivation for High School students to improve their grades to try to become eligible for the free college tuition program.

*Number to be inspected: All 22,000 Holmes County residents.

New Project #6: Honor Loft bought:

*Totally completed and very successful as of this date

*To build "honor Lofts" inside Durant Public School classrooms (grades K-3). These are used to encourage young children to excel in reading so that they may occupy the "elevated honor loft" in their classrooms.

*Number to be impacted: all school children (K-3) approximately 125.

Total number of direct service hours performed and total number of hours in training.

I have completed 226 hours of training related activities and completed a total of 1134 communtiy service hours.

SITE: Jackson, MS (Hinds County) RECD State Office
MEMBER: LaDonna James

Progress toward meeting community service objectives:

Objective 1: Effective execution of the position of team leader for Mississippi's USDA/RECD team.

I have received excellent ratings from all team members in response to the second quarter evaluation of my team leader abilities. The anonymous response to the ratings averaged 4.3 on a scale of 1 to 5. Additional comments given indicate that two members feel that I give the members on the team too little leadership and that I need to improve on my team leader abilities.

Objective 2: Research opportunities and actively seek grants for the Edwards/Hinds County Community.

I have been successful in convincing organizations in the town of Edwards to apply for funds from the drug free schools and communities grant. The intent to apply notification was given to me by a municipal official who felt the citizens of Edwards would not accept his suggestion to apply for any federal grant or aid programs.

Objective 3: Organize Town Meetings between elected officials, grassroots community leadership, and the town's general population.

The first of several town meetings has been scheduled for April 6, 1995. The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens to voice their concerns about the future of their town; while allowing community leaders to reassure their constituency that they are trying to work within "the system" to accomplish those same goals.

Objective 4: Organize, supervise and participate in the clean up and beautification of downtown Edwards, MS.

A concerned citizens group has been organized to assist in the preliminary planning of the cleanup activity (contacting local property owners, locating farm machinery and large trucks to assist in hauling debris and rubble, securing business sponsors for the event). Contact has been made with two of the five property owners with fire debris remaining on their property. I have secured two flat bed trailers and three tractors to assist in the clean up effort. Further planning is being hindered because consent must be given by the property owners in order for the volunteers to be on the property.

Objective 5: Assist in the development of activities and training sessions which will help Edwards community leaders reach the goal of lowering crime by 50% in the next five (5) years.

25 students at Hinds County Agricultural High School received two days of intensive training on passive listening skills, peer mediation, and effective communication in a Peer Helpers workshop. These students will serve as counselors for their peers in an effort to combat the problems in their school. The desired effect of the program will be to neutralize the contribution to crime made by teenagers in the Edwards Community.

Planning has begun on an project which will use an abandoned horse arena and adjoining stables into a recreation and learning center for at risk youths. The stables will be cleaned, renovated, and leased by the city in order to fund the on site youth center. The youth center not only provide an activity center for the young people of the community but it is hoped that the center will also provide educational enrichment (community leaders hope to have students from neighboring colleges and universities educate children on the proper care and nutrition for farm animals in return for classroom hours and/or a small stipend).

Total number of direct service hours performed and total number of hours in training:
I have performed 741.5 hours of community service; approximately 185 of those hours were spent in training. Giving me a total of 926.5 hours worked.

Primary Accomplishments:
My primary accomplishment has been in the area of education. The Hinds A.H.S. Peer Helpers has become an organization of such respect and influence that it has completely exceeded even my expectations of the project.

Morale on the Peer Helpers Team has increased for each member. One of the team sophomores came to me during the training and said that she was proud to have been chosen by her classmates as someone who they would most like to talk to if they had a problem. This same student later confided in me that two days prior to her being selected a Peer Helper she had spoken to her mother because she wanted to drop out of school. Her primary reason: she felt like an outsider at her school and felt that no one liked her. **Based on the confidence shown to her by her peers she has decided to remain in school and is looking into the possibility of pursuing a career in counseling and social work in the future.**

Primary Challenges:
During this quarter my only challenge, though reoccurring, was conflict between elected governmental officials and the

constituency they represent. After talking to leaders on both sides of the fence I discovered that many projects that could be of great benefit to the community were never completed because of the feud which exists between government and grassroots leadership.

Community leaders are convinced that government officials are being paid off by the business leaders in the community. Meanwhile, governmental leaders are withholding authority and funding to certain community based groups that they feel are trying to scare them into doing what a small group wants to have done.

This situation has presented itself as a challenge because I was previously unaware of the situation. Town Meetings are being scheduled in the town and small conferences are being developed with key leaders in both the elected and grassroots camps in an effort to neutralize the problem.

Media Coverage:
There is no significant media coverage to report at this time.

Other Creative Documentation:
Enclosed is a copy of a video taped announcement made to the student body of Hinds A.H.S. to educate them on the Peer Helpers Project.

SITE: Madison, MS (Rankin County) RECD County Office
MEMBER: Brenda F. Joyner

The second quarter of me service, January - March 1995 has been a continuation of the first quarter. My task is to seek out and help rural housing applicant and borrowers become successful homeowners by helping to evaluate their financial situation. I provided applicants and borrowers with assistance and information on RECD services and informed them of services provided by other agencies.

I completed, with the help of our County Home Economist, a series of four meetings entitled "Your Money Matters." Meetings were held weekly in the month of February. At each meeting, we had a total of five community residents (four women and one man). Our "Brown Bag" meetings were short and informative. The following topics were discussed, "Organization of Our Papers and Records", "Looking at Our Financial Goals", "Analyzing Our Cash Flow", and "Making a Spending Plan." Everyone attending decided to make some changes in their spending habits and record keeping. We hope that these meetings will help people achieve their goals. If we can make a financial difference in the lives of these residents, our goals of making them better financial managers will be achieved.

I also assisted my county supervisor in preparing a news release to be published in the newspaper and aired over the radio. The article was entitled, "Services Available to RECD (formerly FmHA) Housing Customers Who are Financially Depressed." In this article, we explained that the delinquent borrowers are offered to options to help them become successful homeowners. The options are: Moratorium on payment and a delinquency workout agreement. Radio announcements were frequently aired the week of March 13, 1995. We had three responses to the radio announcement. The news article appeared in the Madison County Herald on April 6, 1995.

In March, I worked with one young lady who came by the office and expressed and interest in owning her own home. I talked with her regarding the requirements. The first requirement was her need to find employment. I have talked with her on several occasions. She is now employed. This young lady is trying to get into school so that she can make a better living for herself and her family.

In summary, for the second quarter of my service I have successfully aided approximately four persons with delinquency problems, assisted ten persons with applications for rural housing, and have had five community residents attend "Your Money Matters" seminars.

My outreach plan is to work with about 25 - 30 percent of our 129 delinquent borrowers through home visits and

telephone calls to get them into the office to work out their delinquency problems. I will continue working individually and make home visits with applicants who have trouble completing applications with hopes of them becoming home owners as soon as available.

At the conclusion of my service to this community and this agency, it is my hope that many people will be able to say that they learned ways to improve the quality of their lives.

The total number of hours of my direct service performed as of March 31, 1995 is 917.50 and the total hours in training is 183.5

SITE: Natchez, MS (Adams County) RECD County Office
MEMBER: Daphane Covington

This is the second quarter report and quite a few things have changed. first, my project is still going well even though I have good days and definitely my share of bad. Attending the training sessions in February which had a nice turn out, I expected more people because I did it on a person to person basis. The purpose of the seminar was to make people aware of the different tactics used for saving money and also how to spend it. The turnout could have been better, but now I know the different tactics to use, where I can get a large group, be it borrowers or non-borrowers. Mr. Gibson gave me these ideas and I plan to take his advice when conducting the next seminar. I am in the process of getting one of the 504 applicant funding for repairs on her home, and one subsequent loan. I have learned that it's hard to help the elderly when it comes to a 20 year payback period. Also if something were to happen to them, FmHA will take their home if their children or closest relative doesn't pay. The subsequent loans are different because the borrowers already own a home through the agency. I have started going out in the community more from door to door, which so far has been a challenge. Susan Foutz-Lowe and I have spoken with Natchez's Civitan International Club about the programs that we are working on, we also told them about AmeriCorps, and how the programs that we are working on are affecting a lot of people. We have a lot of support from the members, and they also told us if we ever needed to talk about problems we're having.

I talked about in my first report how things were kind of slow, they have picked up a lot especially after the meetings. I have trained a total of 181.2 hours, and it has been beneficial when dealing with the community and learning what they want. I an in the process of getting funds for an elderly woman by the name of Effie Woods.

SITE: Natchez, MS (Adams County) Natchez City Planning Office
MEMBER: Susan M. Foutz-Lowe

Progress towards meeting community service objectives:

Objective 1: Teenage Pregnancy
I will be working on my sexuality survey which in itself is a slow process but it is needed. I have spoken to the private and public school principals and administrators about working together to curb teenage pregnancy. I held a meeting for 49 educators and physicians. Of the 49 who were invited to attend the meeting, 17 showed. The superintendent, Dr. Willie Hoskins, public relations, Carol Mowen, the school nurse, Anna Elizabeth Brown, several school board members, Dr., David Steckler, Alcorn State University's nursing director, Dr. Henderson, local physician and all the principals from middle school to high school.

The meeting targeted the growing problem of teenage pregnancy in Natchez. The group addressed situations that can lead to teenage pregnancy. For example, many young girls are getting pregnant by men in their late teens (18) on into their twenties and thirties. Males usually do not take a responsible role when these girls get pregnant. Many young men abandon the young girls or deny they are the fathers. Another issue addressed is the girls self-esteem and family life. Many of these pregnant teens were born to teenage mothers. The meeting lasted two and one half hours.

I did some research on my own about what type of statistics have been gathered on teenage pregnancy in Mississippi and Natchez. I found very little research has been conducted on teenage pregnancy on Mississippi and there has not been any research conducted in Natchez. The only way Natchez can know what type of programs need to be implemented, it is necessary to do a scientific survey that would test the attitudes, knowledge, values and behavior of teenagers middle school through high school.

I went to the University of Southern Mississippi to get help with formulating an intelligent survey and distributing the survey. I talked to four departments, the Psychology, Social Work , Community Health and Marriage and Family Counseling. the only department that really took and interest was the Social Work department. A graduate student, Mike Lowe, has asked 5 undergraduate students working with him on several experiments, to go to the library and look up the statistics on teenage pregnancy in the United States, Mississippi and Natchez.

I called the University of South Carolina's leading teen sexuality expert, Dr. Cole and asked him to send me some

information on doing a sexuality survey based on attitudes, knowledge, behavior, and values. I also called ETR, a research firm in California, to get information on teenage sexuality surveys. Both the University of South Carolina and ETR agreed to send me the information.

Dr. Tim Rehiner, 6 social work graduate students and I will be working on the sexuality survey. Dr. Rehiner has now pointed out that the survey may not be completed by the end of April. I stressed the importance of getting measurable results. The survey may not be completed until next school year.

The progress made in developing the teen rally has gone a lot better than the sexuality survey. Chief Ruben Greenburg of Charleston, SC, and Maggie Wade of WLBT-TV3 in Jackson, have both been confirmed as speakers at the teen rally. Coca Cola, McDonald's and the Fraternal Order of Police have all agreed to donate food and drinks. The local Coca Cola company has agreed to donate all the coke products that we need. McDonald's agreed to donate 100 hamburgers and the Fraternal Order of Police agreed to donate 200 hot dogs.

I went to several businesses in Natchez seeking donations for door prizes to be given away at the teen rally. McRae's, a local department store, will be donating a perfume tester. The Natchez mall manager was so impressed with the AmeriCorps program and what AmeriCorps is doing in Natchez that he not only agreed to donate gift certificates but also said the mall would like to help promote the teen rally and the AmeriCorps program. Art, the mall manager, asked that I speak to the mall models about the AmeriCorps program. The mall models represent central Mississippi-Louisiana. I will also be seeking donations from video stores, Wal-Mart, K-Mart, and other businesses.

On March 30, I spoke to the Natchez High School drama class. The class of 26 consisted of sophomores, juniors and seniors of whom many were already pregnant or parents. Television Fox 48 was there filming. The class was extremely interested in how they could get involved with AmeriCorps. Some were actually concerned about the programs existence when they graduate from high school. Several teens who are parents wanted tot know more about the child care allowance. I explained that I did not know but I could put them in touch with Ms. Bettye Oliver, Mississippi's State Contact, or another member on my team who knew more about the child care allowance.

Many civic organizations were interested in the AmeriCorps program. I spoke to a group of 26 Civitans who pledge their support for the AmeriCorps program. Many of the Civitan Members took part in the Peace Corps during their college days. One Civitan member stood up during my speech to praise the program and encourage others to keep the program alive.

The mayor of Natchez is extremely supportive of the AmeriCorps program. Mayor Brown wanted me to write the president of the Mayors of America about the Americorps program in Natchez. Mr. Brown also put me in touch with a CNN correspondent to try and get some coverage for the teen rally. I do plan to set up and information table for AmeriCorps members to sit and try to explain what type of service they are doing in their community.

The following has committed to covering the teen rally, WLBT-TV3 Jackson, MS, Fox 48 Alexandria, LA-Natchez, and the Natchez Democrat Newspaper.

Although I went into the AmeriCorps program with the intent of implementing programs and getting things done, I have realized that it is not that easy. In order to implement programs, one must know the community's needs. A survey will be an excellent way to determine what programs need to be implemented.

Objective 2: The YMCA

The YMCA is moving along smoothly. The task force which includes Natchez's "movers and shakers" meets each month to determine what steps are next in getting a YMCA. A arrange a meeting with Mr. Shaddock, the regional director from Atlanta, GA, to come to Mississippi to meet with the task force. The meeting was a success. Mr. Shaddock gave us many ideas on how to get the community motivate and involved with the process to determine whether a YMCA would be right for Natchez.

After the meeting with Mr. Shaddock, the task force met to determine what would be the next step. We determined the best step in knowing what would Natchez wants or needs, is to do a survey. Before a survey could be conducted, we needed to puck out groups that would make up the majority of the population. The task force has picked four groups, the senior citizens center, teenagers, churches, and the recreation board.

The task force was assigned to one group and have a meeting explaining what we hope to accomplish front the survey. After the four groups agreed to help with the survey, I got in touch with Dr. Tony Henthorn, professor and chairman of the Link program at the University of Southern Mississippi. The Link program is a marketing tool used by the USM to help communities conduct needs assessment surveys. The cost is $6,000 compared to $15-20,000 a private firm in Jackson wanted to charge. Dr. Bob Taylor and Ralph Tedder will be paying the $6,000.

Total number of direct service hours performed and total number of hours in training:

The total number of direct service hours performed is 928.5 and of this amount 185.7 was in training .

Primary accomplishments:

A major accomplishment for this quarter is getting the community leaders and businesses working together, donating time and prizes to make sure this teen rally is a success.

Primary challenges:

The challenges I face in Natchez is always the same. Egos. Everyone want to take credit for something they id not do. People in Natchez are lethargic. There is no motivation.

Media Coverage:

I did an interview with Fox 48 and requested a copy of the video. I received word that Senator Lott will not be coming to my teen rally. This comes as no surprise.

Addendum:

My goals and objectives will be changed. I will no be implementing any teenage pregnancy prevention programs. I will continue to work on the sexuality survey for the public schools until August. The teen rally is still set to happen May 27, 1995. The YMCA is moving along rapidly. The survey should be complete by the end of July.

SITE: Jackson, MS (Hinds County) RECD State Office
MEMBER: Chanel Richards

Progress Towards Meeting Community Service Objectives

The implementation of my community service objectives have been picking up at a slow but steady pace. I have been performing outreach in both counties of Hinds and Yazoo. First of all, I helped plan and implement a seminar on home ownership and home improvement on January 31, 1995 in Bolton, Mississippi. I performed outreach for this seminar by passing out fliers to residents, and posting them in public and private facilities, as well as talking to area citizens about attending the seminar. I also worked with city employees to generate response from residents to attend the seminar.

Presently, I am helping to plan another AmeriCorps, "Home Ownership and Home Improvement Seminar" in Edwards, MS. Although, plans have not been finalized for the seminar, I have been helping to prepare radio, television and church announcements, news articles. have also met with several citizens, the Mayor and Board of Alderman to discuss plans for the seminar.

I have also made considerable progress in implementing my objectives for Yazoo County's Home Buyer's Education Program to reach a diversity of low income, and low income minority residents to attend the classes it offers. I have prepared and distributed public flyers and questionnaires for the Home Buyer's Education Program. I have released public announcements for radio, television, and community churches for the Program. And I have also prepared a brochure that will be distributed to residents by way of payroll at different public and private entities, by mail, and at several drop locations, etc.

Total Number of Directed Services Performed and Total Number of Hours In Training

I have worked a total of 968 hours of which 194 were spent in training.

Primary Accomplishments

My primary accomplishment has been the open response I have received from the residents of Yazoo County, while performing rural housing outreach services at a community center in Yazoo City for the Home Buyers Education Program. I was able to directly arouse the interest of five low income mothers in Yazoo City to attend the Home Buyer's Education classes. These women expressed a need for

adequate housing and their interest in buying a new home.

Primary Challenges

I have two primary challenges that I have experienced since I took the position as an AmeriCorps Team Member. My first primary challenge is the absent supervisory and staff assistance I have received in my office, as well other USDA/RECD offices. My second challenge is the fact that I have not been able to use neither of the three vacant computers in my office. I can not get into the word-processing mode on any of the "three, vacant, much needed computers" without a password. I am very tired of having to leave my office of "three, vacant, and much needed computers," only to walk across the street into another building to stand in line to use a computer there.

Media Coverage

I have attached a Public Service Announcement for radio, television and community churches. I have also attached a flyer that was used for the AmeriCorps, "Home Ownership and Home Improvement Seminar on January 31, 1995.

Other creative documents

I have attached two surveys, one is for the Hinds County "Home Ownership and Home Improvement Seminars", and the other is for the Home Buyer's Education Classes in Yazoo County. I have also attached the information that is to appear on the Home Buyer's Education Program pamphlet I am preparing.

SITE: Greenville, MS (Washington County) RECD District Office
MEMBER: Kelly Buford

This program is designed to provide technical assistance to individuals who apply for RECD affordable housing within District IV. Which include: Bolivar County, Sharkey: City of Issaquena, Sunflower County: Cities of Drew, Indianola and Washington.

I began training as indicated in my earlier report on this year's Program Objective. I have spent approximately 193 hours in training. This training consisted of sitting in on planned office visits while RECD employees received Rural Housing Applications. I have also received "The Home Buyers Education Handbook," which will be used as the training manual for this program as indicated by Mr. Anthony McCarty (Training Facilitator)

To meet the goal that I have established, I have contacted all of the counties within District-IV to see how many applicants are eligible to receive funds to buy or build a home and to find our why they are still on the waiting list. In doing so, I have designated on day out of a week to visit a county to help speed up the process for home buyers and builders.

On March 8, 1995 MS Delta wide AmeriCorps (NRCS, US Forest Service, RDA) Community Development workday was planned in Mound Bayou. The City of Mound Bayou were applying for a Housing Rehabilitation grant through South Delta Planning and Development. the grant package required a door to door survey on Public Facilities and Individual Housing. MS Delta AmeriCorps members assisted the town with completing 175 surveys. Our surveys found that the City of Mound Bayou water and sewage systems were in need of improvements. The grant package deadline was March 10th. The survey was aimed at individual housing to determine the income and the number of people in the households, race and disabilities. As of today the proposal has been completed.

Soil Conservation AmeriCorps Members have also worked with me on the project Lift Us Up! (which means: Let Our Community Stand as One). The slogan reads Improve your Community, In the process you will have Improved Yourself. this program deals with a series of Outreach Work for the entire community. Wards Recreational center in Greenville, MS. is the facility that was designated for the young and old to rally. This center was basically a facility that young men gathered to play basketball. Since the AmeriCorps members have been involved with this project, the center has opened up new doors. The Center has implemented a number of new things to attract the elderly. Good examples of this would be the Bingo Games and the Health classes that are held on Saturday evenings just for the elderly. I have

talked with several of them and they have told me how much they have enjoyed the changes Wards Recreational Center has made.

SITE: Cleveland, MS (Bolivar County) Delta State University
MEMBER: Charles O'Donnell

Progress towards meeting community service objectives:

Community Service Objective 1: To help community leaders in Bolivar and adjacent counties understand the mission of the B.F. Smith Chair and Center for Economic and Community Development

Since the begining of October I have made site visits to thirteen Bolivar County Rural communities: Merigold, Mound Bayou, Winstonville, Shelby, Duncan, Alligator, Gunnison, Rosedale, Pace, Beulah, Benoit, Shaw, and Boyle. These visits continue during the second quarter and expanded to communities in Sunflower, Washingotn, Coahoma, Yazoo, and Tunica Counties. During these visits I sought out and spoke with the mayour sof these towns about economic and ocmmunity development and specifically about what activities were going on in their locale to promote economic and community development.

My goal was to visit four to six communities in the second quarter of the AmeriCorps term; this goal was achieved and an additional seven communities were visited. Surign the second quarter, the area for this goal was expanded to include the eighteen counties of the Delta. This is the actual service area of the Center for Economic and community Development at Delta State University. The goa itself was to inform communities in five additional counties; Sunflower, Washington, Tunica, Yazoo, and Coahoma. This goal was achieved.

My goal was to visit 20-40 community leaders; 25 leaders were contacted and visited and these leaders now know of the mission and current and planned programs of the Center for Economic and Community Developement at Delta State University.

Community Service Objective 2: To identify community leaders in Bolivar County, especially new and emerging ones, who will be playing significant roles in the community and economic developmentof Bolivar county.

This is an ongoing project. I have identified leaders through individual meetings and contact. The plan for this project has progressed in two ways. First, new and emerging leaders that have already been idenbtified will be interviewed and profiled. Secondly, a number of graduate students from a leadership development coarse a t Delta State University will be directed in afield research project designed for identifying new leaders and we will conduct this research project in one locality in Bolivar County.

The younger half of this gifted and talented group can be seen as moving into new careers and seriously considering moving away from the area because of better opportunities elsewhere or because of communtiy conflict.

The communty to be surveyed for emerging leaders has been identified. The survey of leadership in Cleveland, MS will be conducted during April and May, 1995 and is projected to include 60-70 culturally diverse participants.

The final goal of this project is a report an devalyation of new and emerging leadership in Cleveland by the summer of 1995.

Communtiy Service Objective 3: To recruit and facilitate the participation of existing and emerging community leaders and organizations in the B.F. Smith Chair's leadership and community development workshops and courses.

To recruit and invite the participation of betwee 4-6 rural communities and organizations in programs and projects of the B.F. Smith Chair. A process for funding possible leadership development, communty developemnt, and economic adevelopemnt projects has begun. This process will culminate in the identification of several rural communities and development projents suited to the particular needs and current capacity of each community.

In addition to the leadership workshops it was determined by Dr. Robinson and myself as well as through the encouragement of several of the mayors that I visited, that a meeting of mayors might benefit the economic and community development of some of the communities in Bolivar county. The idea behind this being that smaller rural communities need to work together especiall on projects that they can not acomplish alone.

The succes of these meetings was readily apparent and it was deemed appropriate and necessary to expand this program to include other counties which the Center for Economic and Community serves. During January and February, meeting were successfully held in Washington County, Sunflower County, Yazoo County, Coahoma County, and Tunica County.

Total number of direct service performed and total number of hours in training

For the period betwee December 1st 1994 and February 28, 1995 a total of 480 hours of service as an AmeriCorps member was spent in direct service of acomplishing the goals and objectives of this AmeriCorps/USDA Project.

Primary Accomplishments

A number of small rural communities were contacted and local leaders were informed about the existance of the new B.F, Smith Center for Economic and Community Development.

The idea was formed of bringing mayors together for the first time in history of Bolivar County, not on the basis of race but rather for a meeting about commonconcerns in regard to economic and community development and this became a new objective. These meetings were carried out in Tunica, Coahoma, Washington, Sunflower, Bolivar, and Yazoo Counties. A listing of needs and areas where assistnace is needed was compiled for each of these counties. A second round of meetings is scheduled begining in April, 1995 that will include a broader representation of community leaders.

The first series of leadership workshops were conducted over an eight week period with 29 participants finishing the

course.

A soon to be implemented field research project to survey the leaders of Cleveland community was designed and planned.

The 25 leaders contacted, represent 18 individual rural communities. Approximately 8,000-10,000 persons below the poverty level are in these communitiesa and represented through these leaders. Four of the census tracts within the Mid-Delta Emopwerment Zone are also represented.

Primary Challenges

Scheduling and reports

Listening to facts about the personal effoerts of local leaders struggling rural communities from the leaders themselves.

Finding appropriate ways to deal with cultural mistrust which exists in the area and impedes rural community development and rural intracommunity cooperation.

Dealing with conflict between members of the same community groups and between different community groups. An easy mistate is to assume that there is no conflict when things seem to move smoothly. Another mistake is to avoid conflict because conflict is generally seen as one of the first stages of development.

Efficient use fo time and energy, development of teamwork skill needed to plan and coordinate efforts to work with a nuimber of rural communities spread out over a wide geographical area.

Media Coverage

There are no significant developments to report.

SITE: Lorman, MS (Claiborne County) Alcorn State University
MEMBER: Stephani Barnes

My second quarter as an AmeriCorps member was exciting and productive. During this time I had an opportunity to expand my objectives while still focusing on the main concern of the residents of Jefferson and Claiborne counties which is education.

My first objective was to serve as a resource person in the After School Tutorial and Enrichment Program. As a resource person I work with youths in grades K-5 helping them with their homework and reading skills. During the second quarter I have spent Tuesdays and Thursdays working with the students as well as working with one of the staff members writing a proposal. If the proposal is funded it will provide transportation in order to increase attendance of the program.

My second objective was to hold HIV/AIDS workshops for high school students in order to increase their knowledge. The first workshop was held for 25 males ages 11-19. This group had a lot of misconceptions about how a person contracts the Human Imuno Deficiency Virus. My second workshop was given to 21, 9th-12th graders in a Health class at Port Gibson High School. And the third workshop was given to 11 males at Port Gibson Middle School. At the beginning of each workshop the students were given a Pre-Test and at the end of each workshop the students were given a Post-Test. The test consisted of ten questions and the average score before the workshop was 65. The average Post-Test score was 80.

My third objective was to hold some basic study skill workshops. To date I've held 6 workshops for the 107 9th grade students at Port Gibson High School. Each workshop lasted 45 minutes, the students saw two 15 minute tapes one on how to study and note taking skills and the other was on test taking skills. Each student was given a packet at the end of the workshop to carry home. These students were given a Pre-Test and a Post-Test, with the average increasing from 70 on the Pretest to 80 on the Post-test.

My fourth objective was to become a resource person for the Rultan Boys Club in Hermanville, MS. I spent the beginning of the second quarter attending the Saturday program, which was attended by 25 at risk males ages 11-19. During these meetings I held an HIV/AIDS workshop and I've helped the males with their reading and math skills. Unfortunately the founder and director of this program died and the program has been put on hold. In place of this objective I have started a tutorial program at Port Gibson Middle School. The program consists of 14 male 6th and 7th graders, all of the males have repeated the 6th or 7th grade once and they're failing now. These males spend 2 hours on Mondays,

Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays working on there Math, Reading, and English skills. The goal of this program is to help the students pass the final exam so that they can be promoted to the next grade.

My first objective was to work with the AG-Hope (Agriculture Helps Our People Earn). This is a six week work study program for students to acquire a greater appreciation for food and agricultural science and take advantage of the many available opportunities. As of now I haven't worked on this objective, because the program begins in June.

In addition to the objectives listed in my site plan, I've added another objective. This objective is to work close with the principals and counselors in Claiborne County. Since, I've been working with the Claiborne County School System I've held 6 financial aide workshops for the seniors at Port Gibson High School. During each workshop the counselor explained the seven major financial aid programs, then I help the students fill out their federal financial aide application. Also I held an ACT workshop at Port Gibson High School that consisted for 19 juniors and seniors (9 females and 10 males). Dr. Glen Eich covered sample questions from English, Science Reasoning, Math and Reading. The students had all taken the ACT once (average score 17) and all the students will be taking the ACT in April.

Finally, I've had several meetings with the Private Child Care Associates in Jefferson, Franklin, and Adams Counties. The child care workers would like for me to hold some HIV/AIDS workshops for the parents of the students attending the various centers.

SITE: Webb, MS (Tallahatchie County) Tallahatchie Housing Incorporated
MEMBER: Roshella Cole

Progress towards meeting Community Service Objectives

Objective 1
Construction of 13 self-help houses in one year, then seven the next year. The result will be 20 new home owners, and the success for the project being that the homes are occupied. Evaluation is measured by the homes meeting the federal requirements for Rural Economic and Community Development.

Progress
O the first group of 6 houses 2 are completed and occupied; one is 85% finished and another 65% finished. The AmeriCorps member supervised the staining of the inside doors and the molding of the two completed homes, and hanging of sheet rock of the 85% finished house. There are two other houses still under contractor, that are approximately 50% completed. RECD is in the process of

closing out the next 7 loan applications, which are scheduled to start construction in April 1995.

Objective 2
Construction of the 32 unit apartment complex has begun in Sumner. It is a FmHA 515 multi-family housing program and the projected date of completion is June 1995. It is just a matter now, of checking on the contractor's work and keeping good records. The 24 apartment units in Glendora has not yet begun. It is in the HOME Partnership Program, however the new water/sewage system is operational and we are yet pursuing ways and means to commit the money to build them without needing to use the tax credits. We have sent off two proposals to that effect.

Number of members enrolled at end of quarter vs. number enrolled at the time of launch
1 : 1

Total number of direct service performed an total number of hours in training
35 hours in training and 487 hours of direct service

Any major staff of structural changes you have made
Tallahatchie Housing, Inc. has added another staff person a recruiter/program director.

Primary Accomplishments
The fact that 2 of the mew home owners are actually living in their new homes through the combined efforts of THI staff and that of the families.

That through the staff of THI providing technical assistance to the town of Glendora, that the town has paid its $5000.00 electric bill, and now there is a new water/sewage system in operation.

Training in the areas for grant writing and community development by the AmeriCorps member and staff gives THI the capacity to help other organizations and communities.

Primary challenges
Problems: Funding. Especially the Glendora Project. Infrastructure is being put in place, but there is no commitment to build yet. Tallahatchie Housing, Inc. really wants to see these 24 apartment units in place.

Solution: In such poor communities as Glendora, let whatever governmental agencies that grant partial finances waive the match requirements. The lack for Infrastructure

and funds is what made Glendora eligible for funding to build the apartment complex--yet this same thing has been keeping both local and national syndicators-- which would bring needed capital---from wanting to invest any money in the town.

Primary training and technical assistance needs
Knowledge for how to ask for money without begging, whining or crying, and get the money.

Computer and computer training

Conflict management training

Leadership training

Media Coverage
There are two video tapes of the AmeriCorps member speaking about Joel Berg's visit and her role as a member with THI. However, the tapes have not been received from the TV stations, copies will be sent upon arrival.

Other creative documentation
There are before and after photographs of self-help houses and the ongoing apartment housing project in Sumner. the photographs of the apartment complex will be sent at a later date.

MISSISSIPPI{PRIVATE }
AMERICORPS SECOND QUARTER REPORT

1. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE TIME OF THE LAUNCH
   10

2. NUMBER OF MEMBERS ENROLLED AT THE END OF THE QUARTER
   10

3. NUMBER OF MEMBERS TERMINATED FROM THIS PROGRAM
   0

4. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE PERFORMED
   Hattiesburg Site - 1,068
   Pearl Site - 682
   New Albany Site - 676
   Grenada Site - 676
   Tupelo Site - 656
   Monticello Site - 448
   Liberty Site - 457
   Magnolia Site - 449
   Brookhaven Area Office Site - 352
   Brookhaven Field Office Site - 401

   TOTAL HOURS - 5,865

5. TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS IN TRAINING
   Hattiesburg Site - 84
   Pearl Site - 24
   New Albany Site - 24
   Grenada Site - 88
   Tupelo Site - 15
   Monticello Site - 48
   Liberty Site - 48
   Magnolia Site - 48
   Brookhaven Area Office Site - 48
   Brookhaven Field Office Site - 48

   TOTAL HOURS - 475

6. PROGRESS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
   Tupelo Site -
   At this point, the brochure on the dry hydrant has been completed. It has been distributed to several of the counties in this area. A grant proposal to fund 10 hydrants in each of the counties has been submitted. Alcorn County has received $700 from its Alliance to help fund several sites. Right now, they will be installing 2 sites, and they have a commitment to install 4 additional sites.

They also have a commitment from their Board of Supervisors to pave any necessary access roads for this project.

Grenada Site -

The Americorps member, Larry Parker, has performed very well with the approved objectives, Rural Fire Protection .

Larry has worked with all nine (9) county fire coordinators in his assigned work area. He has assisted with the development of a master fire plan that states goals and objectives for rural fire protection.

He is working with three (3) counties, Tallahatchie, Grenada, and Holmes, in obtaining grants for the installations of dry-hydrant.

Tallahatchie County has qualified for the Empowerment Zone, which makes it easier for obtaining funds to secure the installations of dry-hydrants. Applications are being developed for funds to implement this project to the Board of Supervisors.

Grenada County has applied for grant funds to install five (5) dry-hydrants as a demonstration project. Larry assisted with the development of the grant request for Grenada County, Mississippi. He is working with the District Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, in locating lakes that will qualify for the installation of a dry-hydrant.

Holmes County has an active drainage district, Black Creek Watershed, that is building a Flood Water Retarding Structure next to a 400 unit sub-division that is under construction. The drainage district is installing a dry-hydrant and a road for the local fire fighting vehicles to use during emergencies.

Larry is doing an excellent job working with local volunteer fire departments.

New Albany Site -

The Americorps member, Amy Belford, has performed very well with the approved objective, Water Quality Improvement Project.

Amy has inventoried all schools waste management programs in the nine (9) county area which has resulted in the following findings:

Marshall County has two (2) schools that are in need of updating waste management problems, Galena and Byers Elementary School. There is no interest or funds. The three (3) other schools systems are tied in with city waste management programs.

Benton County has one school, Ole Salem Elementary School, that has a problem with waste management. Amy is working with a private consultant planner who is developing plans and grant application for funds to correct the problem at the school. The other two (2) school systems are tied in with city waste management programs.

Pontotoc County has one (1) school, South Pontotoc, that has a waste management problem. At present the school has over spent because of law suits about school prayer. There will be no activity this year.

DeSoto County, Lafayette County, and Tate County have no problems with water quality.

Panola County has two (2) schools, Crenshaw and Como Elementary Schools, that have problems. Amy is working under the special grant program, Empowerment Zone, to secure funds to make necessary corrections at each site.

Tippah County has one school, Pine Grove School, but plans to consolidate the school with other school systems.

Union County has completed all four (4) schools with their development and corrections. This project was started prior to the Americorps program.

It appears we are at a point with water quality that very little will we be able to do until we receive grants or funds to begin developing the plans and start installation.

Amy Belford is taking a very active part in the cluster meeting for the north central part of the State of Mississippi. The other members of the cluster are Larry Parker, Grenada, Mississippi, and Shun Armstrong, Tupelo, Mississippi.

Pearl Site -
Public meetings and conferences have been conducted to develop adequate needs assessment. Other agencies, business men and public officials have assisted.

Hattiesburg Site -
(a) Development of an inventory of the tourism activities in the 18 county area of Southeast Mississippi. Sixteen of the counties have undergone an initial visit. Several of the counties are in the process of completing the workbook inventory, while two counties have completed this workbook.

(b) Development of a regional tourism brochure. The format for the brochure is under consideration by the Southeast Mississippi Tourism Association (SMTA) Executive Committee. A member of SMTA, Patrick Bell, who has had numerous experiences in writing grants, has volunteered his services to assist us with the actual grant proposal.

(c) Development and distribution of a bimonthly newsletter. The SMTA newsletter (SMTA News) is in its third issue and is a valuable asset to this program. The newsletter is used to promote SMTA and to provide one member

a month with a feature article. Additionally, we are able to extensively promote upcoming events in our organization.

(d) Development and coordination of a regional tourism conference. Mr. Gale Trussell, with the Tennessee Valley Authority, is the confirmed speaker for the first SMTA tourism conference. This conference will be held on May 25, 1995, in the conference room at Cloverleaf Mall in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Mr. Lamar Evans, a member of SMTA, has volunteered his services as a conference organizer to help us in the formation of this conference.

Monticello Work Site
One lagoon pumpout and animal waste management field day held with television coverage. Area lagoon owners now more aware of services available as demonstrated by threefold increase in requests during second quarter.

Liberty Work Site
Rural Fire protection leadership in ten of thirteen counties now more aware of how alternative water sources can improve rural fire protection capabilities.

Magnolia Work Site
Community and economic development leadership gaining greater appreciation of the economic development potential through promotion and development of forest products processing.

Brookhaven (Area Office) Work Site
Nearly 50,000 elementary students in 200 schools across the state now have access to conservation education booklets on conservation of natural resources.

Brookhaven (Field Office) Work Site
Continuing to recruit volunteers for Adopt-A-Stream and Adopt-A-Watershed Programs.

7. PRIMARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Tupelo Site -
The following accomplishments have been achieved in providing community service to enhance rural fire protection in Northeast Mississippi:

- area counties have been provided planning maps with color-coded fire districts, potential water sources, and roads within 500 feet and 1,000 feet.

- area fire officials have received assistance in the promotion of the use of dry hydrants in fire suppression.

- an informational brochure on the dry hydrant has been developed to promote community awareness.

- a grant proposal has been submitted to help secure funding for the project the Mississippi Forestry Commission.

Grenada Site -
Larry has been selected by the Natural Resources Conservation Service to be a Total Quality Management Facilitator within the State of Mississippi.

He has received training in using learning techniques obtained at the Total Quality Management training sessions .

He will also serve as a consultant to Quality Improvement Process Teams to provide guidance on quality improvement during improvement during the work process.

Pearl Site -
Production of a resource guide containing educational material for teachers to promote environmental education is one stage in the conservation awareness project which is now 90% complete.

Hattiesburg Site -
The primary/initial visits to the different counties were very productive and identified several individuals that are interested in the promotion of their area through tourism. They simply did not know that the market was there nor did they know how to go about creating a sellable product. The response from the various groups and individuals that I have met with has been outstanding. The individuals in the towns are very excited to show and tell some of the interesting, historic and even unusual aspects of their county.

The bimonthly newsletter appears to have made a good impression. The organizations that are featured appreciate the "free publicity" and we are getting a good response to the Upcoming Events section where members can list what they have to promote.

Feedback on the upcoming conference has been very good as we have had many volunteers to help with the organization and development of the conference.

SMTA is an opportunity for the smaller towns and communities to realize that they have very important places and events to offer the public; events like history, hospitality, and nostalgia in their own backyards. Another benefit of SMTA is the awareness that is being created among the locals of this 18 county area. Most of the people that live here have no concept of the variety of attractions that they have. Our organization and the publicity that we are receiving concerning all there is to do and see in Southeast Mississippi has been an eye-opening experience for the residents.

<u>Monticello Work Site</u>
Five lagoons pump out; six on waiting list; one in progress. One field day held. Programs held at schools.

Liberty Work Site
Six county working group meetings held, topographic maps distributed for planning purposes. Ten counties actively identifying alternative water sources.

Magnolia Work Site
Programs presented to ten civic clubs on forest products promotion. Organizational meeting held for Southwest Mississippi Woodworkers Association Promotional tour being planned for May 2-3. Dozens of contacts made with state and local officials promoting forest products and the concept of a wood products technology center.

Brookhaven (Area Office) Work Site
Over 50,000 conservation booklets were distributed to 200 elementary schools across the state

Brookhaven (Field Office) Work Site
Two Americorps members attended a 3-day Adopt-A-Stream workshop. Four volunteers recruited and attended same workshop. Six area streams now being monitored for water quality.

8. PROJECTED OUTCOMES FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

Tupelo Site -
We expect to hold a field day in Alcorn County once the initial sites have been installed. We will invite area fire coordinators and possibly a sales rep from Schlumberger, a major supplier of hydrant equipment.

Grenada Site -
If funds become available we will be installing dry-hydrants in two (2) counties.

New Albany Site -
Achieve a grant for Ole Salem School in Benton County, Mississippi to correct the Water quality problem.

Achieve grants for five (5) Dry-hydrant demonstrations in each Tate and Pontotoc Counties.

Pearl Site -
The Resource guide will be distributed to teachers and libraries across Mississippi. To follow up on this project, teachers will be visited and monitoring of activities will be conducted to determine success. Assistance to 2 additional schools for outdoor classroom facilities including nature trails, picnic tables, classroom sitting areas along with distribution of educational material for teachers to promote environmental education projects such as gardens, recycling and composting bins is being discussed.

A study of these two schools plus Madison Elementary which has just began using their outdoor facilities could be done over the next year to determine if children learn better, have higher test scores and a better understanding of

environmental issues as a result of outdoor classrooms. One way to determine this would be for teachers to teach environmental education with overheads and written information and then compare those test sites with test scores from knowledge learned out-of-doors using hands on activities.

Plans to beautify the entrance of the Simmons Arboretum located in Madison, Mississippi, is underway with homemakers of Madison. The arboretum bas been constructed for the purpose of outdoor education. Trail signs are in place and program guides are being devised for future use as well as trail guides.

Photos and footage continue to accumulate for a slide/video production. Its content will show outdoor classrooms, trails and arboretums in use in the Jackson, Mississippi, area for the purpose of promoting conservation awareness and environmental education in other schools or counties across the state.

Hattiesburg Site -
The projected outcome for the 3rd quarter should represent the fruits of our efforts. The initial visits and the inventories, while absolutely essential, were very time consuming and arduous. Also in the 3rd quarter, a rough draft of the brochure is expected to be completed as well as the submittal of the grant for that brochure. We will also have an outcome from the sale Trussell conference.

Brookhaven Cluster Site -
Six more lagoons to be pumped out. Eight volunteers to be recruited for Adopt-A-Stream program. Four more county working-group meetings to be held for rural fire protection. Two counties to complete identification of alternative water sources. Forest products promotion tour to be held for 50 area leaders. Americorps newsletter to be prepared and distributed.

9. PRIMARY CHALLENGES

Tupelo Site -
Again, funding is the primary challenge. Training is another obstacle, particularly in grant writing. The objectives themselves pose a problem in that they are not realistic in this time frame. At present, we are working to change them to make them more reflective of what is practical for the length of the program.

Grenada Site -
Securing funds to purchase and/or install equipment to meet objectives as set forth in plan.

Pearl Site -
Certainly the biggest challenge has been finding the funding for projects and building community volunteerism as well as cooperation with schools and agencies to help in implementing conservation awareness in schools.

Hattiesburg Site -

Presently, I have had a delay in the inventorying of the counties as I have taken up the additional duties involved with being a Total Quality Management facilitator. This responsibility was extremely time consuming particularly during the month of March. We are again, back on track and moving forward. The people that I have been working with are both knowledgeable and extremely helpful. The receptions that I have received from the counties and all individuals and groups involved remain outstanding.

Brookhaven Cluster Site -
Obtaining local funds for non-federal expenses of some activities is a challenge. Questions about future of Americorps concern some members.

10. PRIMARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS

Tupelo Site -
Training in grant writing is needed for Americorps members AND supervisors.

Grenada Site -
Need training in personal leadership application for the Americorps member.

New Albany Site -
Need training in personal leadership application for the Americorps member.

Pearl Site -
NRCS can provide me with training in environmental education programs such as Project Learning Tree or Project Wild so that I may assist the teachers in better utilizing their outdoor facilities.

Hattiesburg Site -
The Governors Conference on Tourism was a valuable asset to SMTA. Additionally, the President's Conference on Travel and Tourism could help to ensure the success of SMTA. The knowledge and ideas that will be generated, as well as the pitfalls to avoid, will all be shared and utilized.

Brookhaven Cluster Site -
No off-site or special training needed except that are learned through day-today activities on the job.

11. MEDIA COVERAGE

Tupelo Site -
An article about the Alcorn County project was written in the Corinth newspaper. No mention of Americorps was made. See attachment - newspaper clipping.

Grenada Site -
No media coverage has been achieved at this time.

New Albany Site -
No media coverage has been achieved at this time .

Pearl Site -
Continued media coverage has been given to a school in Madison, Mississippi. I have written an article and submitted photos to Mississippi Gardens magazine for their May-June issue on Madison Ave. Elementary's outdoor classroom facilities.

Hattiesburg Site -
A television interview was held by WDAM TV-7 in February 1995 and is recorded on a personal VCR tape.

Brookhaven Cluster Site -
Attached are 8 news releases published during second quarter. Local TV Station aired segments on the lagoon pumpout system and the Adopt-A-Stream program that ran on the popular "Look Around Mississippi" segment of a Jackson TV Station.

12. OTHER CREATIVE DOCUMENTATION

Tupelo Site -
See attachment - Dry Fire Hydrants for Rural Fire Protection brochure.

Pearl Site -
Teachers are being monitored to see how each grade is utilizing the facilities and n w the children are responding to them. One 5th grade teacher at Madison Ave. Elem. said she uses the outdoor facilities as a reward for good behavior. If the children can behave themselves through part of a lesson taught outdoors then, Ms. Patrick said she will allow them to finish the lesson out of doors. "The children will do almost anything to get outside," Patrick said.

Hattiesburg Site -
Please see the attached items in Attachment 1. (pages 1-3)

Brookhaven Cluster Site -
"Americorps has allowed our RC&D Council to undertake new projects and to accomplish things on some initiatives that would not have been possible without the members' participation, (Bennie Hutchins, RC&D Coordinator) SW Mississippi RC&D, INC.