

JANET S. HUGHES
WEEKLY REPORT
March 14, 1990

ALABAMA GROUPS

Huntsville: No activity this week. Next meeting is scheduled for 3/26/90, 7:30 pm, Shoney's. I have called and talked with Lynda Konency, alerting her that Jeff Schmidt is the new State Coordinator for AL and that he will be attending her meeting on 3/26. No signatures received yet. Lynda keeps telling me the signatures are in the mail. We'll see.

Mobile: Jeff Schmidt attended this group's meeting on 3/7. Have received 1030 signatures on petitions from Mobile group.

Decatur/Athens: No activity this week. Received 150 signatures on petitions today from Decatur.

Florence: Next meeting is scheduled for 3/15/90, Thursday, at 7:00 pm, at Glenda Rickard's house. Mary Lou Lamb and Glenda Rickards were both alerted that Jeff Schmidt is the new State Coordinator for AL and that he plans to attend their next meeting on 3/15. Talked to Glenda this week and she has not received any word from Senator Heflin's office. She plans to write again and call his office the later part of this week to find out why she had not heard about her request for an appointment. Glenda did receive a letter from Rep. Flipppo (mega) which stated he would not be in the area during Easter break; however, to call and make an appointment with his top aide, Oliver Jones. Glenda plans to call for an appointment this week. Have received 555 signatures on petitions from Florence.

SOUTH CAROLINA GROUPS

Columbia: Columbia group met 3/13 at 7:00 pm at Shoney's Restaurant at Two Notch. 5 folks attended this meeting. Betty Starnes, Leader, reported that she had written a letter to her house member, Tim Rogers, and took the letter opposing the 5 cents tax increase and 350 names on petitions to his office and met with Tim. Rep. Rogers reported to Betty that he also opposed this tax increase and had his secretary make copies of the letter and petitions and had her distribute both to all members of the house. Marlene Anderson reported that she had written Senators Thurmond (mega), Hollings (secondary) and Rep. Spence on 3/11 requesting a 15 minute appointment with them during their Easter break. So far, I have received 707 signatures on petitions. During this meeting, the group discussed putting an ad in the classified section of the newspaper and an ad in one of the free publications about joining a smokers' rights group. Betty will call and find out how much the ad will cost and will determine if this is something that is affordable for the group to do. Cindy Anderson will also write a letter to the editor about the unfairness of the FET and place the 800# in the article in hopes that more folks can be recruited to

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this group. This is a very hard group to get and keep going, a lot of apathy. I pleaded with two of the group members at this meeting (oh, yes, I do beg!) to spend a day or at least a half of day at the local flea markets getting signatures. Hopefully, they will do this, we'll see. Next meeting scheduled for 4/10, Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Shoney's.

The proposed 5 cents tax increase was killed by the House yesterday. A fax of the newspaper article was sent to RJR this morning. I plan to write the active members in all of the SC group and thank them for their help, hopefully, this will re-motivate some folks.

Greenville: Last meeting on 3/1/90. Next meeting is scheduled for 4/5, 7:00 pm, at Shoney's. Received 320 signatures so far.

Spartanburg: Last meeting on 3/5. Next meeting scheduled for 4/2, 7:00 pm at Shoney's Restaurant. Received 475 signatures from group.

GEORGIA GROUPS

Gainesville: This group meets intermittently. Bob Kriner, leader, sent in 85 signatures this week. Bob reported that he had just recently sent out postcards to the active members of his group encouraging them to work on getting signatures on petitions.

Dalton: No activity this week. The group last met on 2/17. This group continues to write letters to the editor each week. Their next meeting is scheduled for March 17, Saturday, at Edna Porter's house at 5:00 pm. Have received 1006 signatures on petitions. A small, but very effective group.

Duluth/Kennesaw: Group last met on 2/10. Received 260 signatures on petitions from this group. Originally, this group had planned to meet again on 3/7 with the Center for Disease and Control employees at the CDC building; however, the meeting was cancelled. Since this is a health care agency, management is trying to get rid of all designated smoking areas in their buildings by April 1. They are not only trying to do this in Atlanta but also in Cincinnati. The union leaders and smokers in Cinn. are right now negotiating to keep this designated smoking area space and the Atlanta folks feel whatever happens in Cinn. will also be made policy in Atlanta. So, this group has decided to hold off meeting until they see what happens in Cinn. However, Duane Holstrom, an employee of CDC and a member of the Duluth Smokers' Rights Group, reported that he has several employees at CDC gathering petitions and he will be collecting these petitions by the end of the month. These petitions oppose all cigarette tax increases and all smoking restrictions. Duane also reported he hopes that the CDC in Cinn. will make their decisions by Apr. 1.

Macon: Group met on 3/13/, 11 folks attended the meeting. Max Montgomery, Leader, reported that he collected several more signatures from the group, he has not counted them yet, but he

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predicts it looks like over 500. This group has already collected 1500 signatures. Max also reported that he has not heard from Senators Nunn, Fowler or Rep. Rowland. He plans to call their offices this week to find out why. Their next meeting is scheduled for April 10, Tuesday.

Waycross: No activity this week. Group last met on January 16. Received 230 signatures on petitions this week from Waycross group. Their next meeting is scheduled for March 21, Wednesday, at the King Edward Cigar Conference Room, at 6:00 pm.

Milledgeville: Group met on 3/7, 11 folks attended this meeting. Received 720 signatures from group so far. Libby Jackson, Leader of the group, reported that she had received a response from Senator Nunn's office stating he would not be in the area during Easter recess; however, she could contact his top aide and make an appointment with him, which Libby plans to do. Next meeting is scheduled for 4/4, Wednesday.

Jonesboro: No activity this week. Their next meeting is scheduled for 4/3, at 7:00 pm, at Lube America. Have collected 132 signatures so far.

Carrollton: No activity this week. Their next meeting is scheduled for April 24, Tuesday, at 7:00 pm at Willie Mae's Tax Service. Have collected 250 signatures so far.

FLORIDA

Orlando: SRM held on 3/7/90, 46 folks attended this meeting. This group, for me, was a very riled group. They are really upset about this proposed 19 cents tax increase. On 3/21/90, Wednesday, there will be a legislative dinner hosted by RJR for 15 - 20 folks from this group to mix and mingle with their house and senate members. The follow-up meeting is scheduled for 3/29/90, Thursday, at the Park Inn International.

SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

March 14, Wednesday	SRM Saginaw, Michigan
March 15, Thursday	Travel back to Columbia
March 16, Friday	In Office
March 19, Monday	Jacksonville, FL, Legislative Dinner
March 20, Tuesday	Waycross, GA meeting
March 21, Wednesday	Orlando, FL, Legislative dinner

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