

JANET S. HUGHES
WEEKLY REPORT
April 10, 1991

SOUTH CAROLINA GROUPS

SC Senate Finance Committee deleted \$.05 cigarette tax increase from budget bill 4/3/91.

Columbia: Group met on 3/26/91. Next meeting 5/7/91.

Greenville: Group met 4/2, seven persons attended. Pat Childs, Leader, reported he was real disappointed in his group's turnout for this meeting. All of the members attending this meeting reported that none of them had received responses from writing the House and Senate members regarding the \$.05 cigarette excise tax increase. Group discussed upcoming Drag Boat Races in Lyman, SC, on June 2. Lori will had some flyers printed and distributed announcing the race around town. Group plans to use a canopy tent and set-up petitions and handouts for folks at the races. Next meeting scheduled for 5/7.

Spartanburg: Group met 3/5. Next meeting scheduled for 4/2. Have been unable to reach leader this week.

Florence: George Abbott, Tom Ogburn and I will be attending S. C. Warehouse Association Meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC, 4/30 and 5/1/91.

Anderson: Group met on 3/14/91. Next meeting is scheduled for 4/11.

Laurens/Clinton: Follow-up meeting held on 4/9, sixteen persons out of 24 attending the first meeting attended this meeting. A good group. They had already collected 110 signatures; had placed a letter to the editor in two local newspapers; had spoken with Rep. Marion Carnell (proposed the \$.05 increase) over the telephone; and had written letters to their House and Senate members. Several of the folks attending were retired. Officers were elected at the first meeting in March. This is the group that Carol Banister started; however, at this meeting Carol was not able to be as involved since she had just gone to the doctor and was reported to be suffering from vertigo. But, she made the meeting anyway and obviously "fired" these folks up at the first meeting. At the end of the meeting, they were all discussing various projects the group could undertake i.e., booth space at some of the local county festivals etc. One of the attenders, Gene, works for Dennison Corp., which makes cigarette labels for Philip Morris, and reported that this company was discussing the idea of banning all designated smoking areas. The group plans to work with this attender by collecting signatures and helping him write letters to the management of the company insisting that they maintain their designated smoking areas. Group decided to meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month; however, they need to find a place to meet first.

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Martha Rice, Leader, will locate a place in the next couple of days.

Greenwood/Abbeville: Follow-up meeting scheduled for 4/16.

Charleston: Group met on 3/25/91. Next meeting is scheduled for April 22.

Beaufort: Group met on 3/28. Have been unable to contact leader regarding meeting.

Sumter: Group's first meeting was held on 4/1. Next meeting scheduled for 5/13/91.

GEORGIA GROUPS

Macon/Milledgeville: Group met on 3/12.

Jonesboro: Group met on 4/2/91. Leader has been out-of-town for last two weeks.

Savannah: Group met on 4/1/91. Have been unable to contact leader.

Gainesville: The next public forum on a proposed citywide smoking ban is scheduled for 4/23 at 7:00 pm at the GA Mountain Center. A copy of the most recent article concerning the article was faxed Mike Phillips 4/9/91. Will send a letter with copy of the article to Gainesville Smokers' Rights Group so they can attend the forum.

Columbus: Group met 3/19. Leader prefers not to hold another meeting at this time until he finds out why only 4 folks attended the meeting on 3/19.

Valdosta: Group's first organized meeting held on 3/25. Next meeting scheduled for 4/22.

Albany: First organized meeting held on 3/20. Next meeting which is scheduled for 4/17 at 7:30 pm at the Thornateeka Museum.

FLORIDA

Update on FL LTS 4/20/91: 32 folks have registered to attend this seminar.

RJR Regional Manager, Roy Dotson from Apopka, FL, sent me a list of all his Division Managers and Reps for the FL area. He has asked that I place these folk's names on the smokers' rights group's mailing list so they will be aware of when each of these groups meet during the month.

Orlando: Presently group in-active.

Ocala: Group met on 3/21. Group's next meeting is scheduled for 4/18/91. Sent out Ocala's Smokers' Rights Newsletter this week to 99 persons.

Jacksonville: Follow-up meeting held on 3/20. Group's first meeting is scheduled for 4/24, Wednesday, at 7:30 pm at Shoney's.

Lake City: Follow-up meeting held on 3/21. Group's first meeting is scheduled for 4/18, 7:00 pm at Shoney's.

Gainesville: Group planning a petition drive one weekend in April. They have not set a date yet.

SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

April 10	Personal Business/out of office till 4:00 pm
April 11 - 12	Office
April 15	Office
April 16	Attend Greenwood FU Meeting
April 17 - 18	Office
April 19 - 20	Central FL LTS Ocala Hilton