

As We Said Earlier, To Close Down The Place Wouldn't Stop The Real Problem Because People Would Only Move To Other Neighborhoods. Instead Of Closing The Clubs Down, Renovate Them, Make It A Place Where You Wouldn't Mind You Or Your Children Going.

So We Ask Again, Why The Sudden Change Of Heart About The "Strip". We'll Tell You...The Sheriff Is Tired And Worn Out And Has Even Said Himself That He Is Not Seeking Re-Election Next Term. He Wants To Leave A Good Impression Of Himself In The Minds Of The Citizens. You Know...Go Out With A Bang, So He Can Keep His "Hero" Image. Isn't It Obvious That Rameses Social Club Was Closed Down Without Just Cause? The Sheriff Made It Clear That It Was An Issue Of Public Safety. We've Shown You Pictures Of Rameses And You With Your Very Own Eyes Have Seen That It's Not A "Red Infested, Filthy, Fire Trap Reeking Of Urine," As He Describes The Clubs On "The Strip."

Yet The "Strip" Still Remains Open Three Months After He Said It Was To Be Closed Down And A Year After He Ran Out To Rameses With An Unstamped Paper And Closed Our Club, Turned Off Our Electric Meter Without Going To Gray, GA Which Would Have Been The Proper Procedures. The Head Operator Of Tri-County Electric Company In Gray, Georgia Named Chuck Lynette Would Be The Only Person Able To Give Anyone Authorization To Turn Off The Electricity, Not A Stamped Or Unstamped Court Order. Officiate Legal Papers, They Must Be Filed And Stamped Before Any Physical Action Can Be Taken, And That Wasn't Done. These Legal Procedures Were Not Filed Because For One, Chuck Lynette Was Out On Field On April 20, 1998 And There Was A Fill-In Who Did Not Have The Authority.

Let's Just Stop Right Here And Make A Small Comparison. On The Last Day Of Victor Greig's Hearing In Reference To The Supposed Violations In Rameses Social Club, On April 20, 1998, Judge Sylvia S. Huskins Suggested That The Electricity Be Turned Off In The Social Club. 20-30 Minutes Later The Sheriff Was Out There With The Tri County EMC To Shut Off The Lights In Rameses. Why Didn't He React So Quickly When It Came To The "Strip", That Houses Clubs That He Himself Called "Fire Traps."

Did We Not Tell You That This Too Could And Now Has Happened To You? In The *Nuwaubian Newsletter*, *Why A Conspiracy To Defame The Pyramid People?*, Edition 1 Vol. 19, Page 9 Under The Subtitle Warning: *Eatonton Beware!* It States "...There Is A Lot Of Goings On. This Applies To All Poor People In Eatonton The Plan Is To Start With Us, Then They Are Moving On To You. What Bothers Them About Us, Is They Are Trying To Figure Out How We Do What We Do So Successfully. That's Why The Board Is Giving Us The Run

Around And Harassing Us...They Are Using Us To Rally You, Be Aware. You Are Now Being Controlled By Someone Who Is Going To Tell Good Old Country Folks What To Do. You Will Not Be Able To Do Anything Without Their Permission. That's Big Brother Taking Over This Small Town And County."

Read These Newsletters With An Open Mind And A Realistic Mind. Although You May Not Agree With Their Teachings And Beliefs, The Information That Are In These Newsletter Are Factual And Food For Thought. However, Getting Back To The Point, The Sheriff Is Even Trying To Set A Curfew That Would Impose Upon Your Liberties To Move Around And Go Where You Please, When You Please. This Is What We Mean When We Say Abuse Of Power. He Is Trying To Control Your Life And Take Your Freedoms Right From Under You.

And If The Juvenile Curfew Is Allowed To Stand, Then What Are Students Who Are Trying To Attend The Prom, Homecoming Parties And High School Football Games Supposed To Do? Just Miss Out On All Of Their Teenage Years, The Time In Their Lives When They Are Supposed To Be Having The Most Fun? Is That What The Halloween Rally That Was Held In Front Of The Courthouse Was All About? To Prep The Community For His New Crime Prevention, Drug Free Proposal?

Why Wait Until Halloween, A Day That Was Set Aside For Children To Have Fun And Go Trick Or Treating, To Gather Approximately 70 People Together Just So That The People Who "Support" You Could Boast About All The Wonderful Things You're Doing. Once Again, The "Supercop" Scenario. Meanwhile, On Egypt Of The West, Over 900 People From Several Different Counties, Enjoyed A Fun Filled Evening. The Proof Of This Festive Evening Can Be Seen In The Various Thank-You Letters That Were Published In The Local Newspapers. This Goes To Show That We Are People Of Action!!! We Talk The Talk And We Walk The Walk. We Are Doing Our Best To Prevent Crime, Because An Ounce Of Prevention Is Worth A Pound Of Cure.

Listen, We Think That Mr. Sills' Idea Is Great And We Have Been Saying That Something Needs To Be Done About The "Strip" For A Long Time (Because It's The Real Problem, Not Rameses Social Club). Even Some Of The Other Officials See The Proposal As A Good Idea Yet They Too Question The Integrity Of Mr. Sills Because It Was Said In This Same Article In The Union Recorder, "Some Of The Ideas Sound Like Something We Can Do, But We're Going To Make Sure Their Legal." Wouldn't A "Code Enforcer" Only Propose Something That Is Legal?

ORGANIZATION:
C.C. Of E
Concerned Citizens Of Eatonton

15

We Told You That You'd Be Next, And Now They're Coming For You.



We Told You This Too Could Be You!!

These Flyers That Are Put Forth By The Concerned Citizens Of Eatonton Are Making An Obvious Impact On Our Community And County As A Whole. Anyone Who Thinks That People Are Not Reading These Flyers Are Wrong!!! The C.C. Of E-Concerned Citizens Of Eatonton, Has Circulated Tens Of Thousands Of Flyers Over The Last Three Weeks And Is Reaching People All Across America. The Response That We've Received Has Been Unbelievable. People From All Walks Of Life, Have Been Writing Letters And Expressing Their Support Of Us Concerning What Is Happening In The Little Town Of Eatonton. This Just Goes To Show You That The People Do Count And When Unified Can Get The Job Done.

We Formed This Organization To Speak Out Against Those Who Take The Law Into Their Own Hands And Misuse And Abuse Their Power In Office. We Urged People To Get Involved And Make A Difference By Writing Letters To The Governor, Lt. Governor, Senators, Congressmen, Other Elected Officials And Even Local And Neighboring Newspapers. To Date, Several Letters Have Been Printed In The Newspapers And Individuals Are Receiving Responses From State Officials. And In Doing So, We Contacted The Governor In Reference To These Abuses And Harassment By Elected Officials And They Told Us To Contact **POST (Georgia Peace Officer Standards And Training Council)** At 2175 Northlake Parkway, Suite 144, Tucker, Georgia 30084, If You Have Any Legitimate Complaints On An Officer, Sheriff Or Detective, You Can Write To **POST**.

We Got A Lot Of Ideas From The Nuwaubian Newsletters And Personal Testimonies From Non-Members Who Wanted To Take Action And Stop The Injustice That They Have Been Living With For Years. It Was Flyers Such As "Super Cop" And "Rameses Social Club Illegally Closed?" That Gave People The Courage To Finally Speak Out And Make Complaints. **If We Unite, We Can Make These Elected Officials Do The Job That We, The Citizens, Pay Them To Do.** Here's A Perfect Example. As Of November 5, 1998, It Stated In *The Eatonton Messenger*, That Sheriff Howard R. Sills, Has "Outlined A Strict Plan Of Action That Includes Shutting Down Three Night Clubs, Imposing A Juvenile Curfew And Declaring The "Strip" A Drug Free Commercial Zone."

Flyer Number 8, "Rameses Social Club Illegally Closed?" Was Circulated On Thursday And Friday, Right Before The Successful Halloween Party At Tama-Re, Egypt Of The West And By The Next City Council Meeting, He Had All These "Bright Ideas" To Make The Town A Peaceful Environment For Its Residents. Why The Sudden Concern? He Claims "His Proposal Was Spurred By The Outrageous Number Of Complaints He Was Receiving From Residents In The Area." (I Wonder If The Number Of Complaints Increased After The Concerned Citizens Of Eatonton Started Releasing The Series Of Flyers Because People Have Been Complaining Since He's Been In Office And Only Now Is Action Taken??) "They Were Terrified And Were Wearing Me Out," As Sheriff Sills Puts It In The Union Recorder Article "Putnam Sheriff Lays Plan To Shut Down Eatonton's Strip" By Reporter Jena Frazier Dated November 4, 1998.

Why Did It Have To Get To The Point That He Is Worn Out Or Sick And Tired Of Complaints Before Something Was Done? We Are Sure The Residence Of This Crime-Ridden Neighborhood Have Been Tired And Worn Out, Asking For Help And Now Out Of The Blue, After 2 Years On The Job, Do You Decide To Crack Down On The Problem. Let's Just Take A

Quick Look At The Rise In Crime Since The Sheriff Has Been In Office.

The Information That You Are About To Read Comes Directly From The *Eatonton-Putnam Family Connection Community Orientation/Informational Forum Putnam County High School Theater October 27, 1998* Program. On Page 4 Of This Program On The Page Titled "State Court Of Putnam County Number Of Cases" It Shows That In 1996 (Since The Sheriff Has Been In Office) The Total Number Court Cases Was 1,467. It Steadily Rose To 2,011 In 1997 And Increased To An Overwhelming 2,519 In 1998, Over 1,000 Additional Cases In The Past 2 Years. Is This Fighting Crime? We Don't Think So. And Most Of These Crimes Come From The Area Where The "Strip" Is Located. The Sheriff's Office Has Been Receiving Complaints From People That Live Near The "Strip" For Years.

Criminal Activity On The "Strip" Has Been Going On For Years, So Why Has Mr. Sills Now Said Or Decided To Do Something About Their Complaints? It Was Just Three Months Ago, August 13, 1998 To Be Exact, That The Sheriff Stated In *The Eatonton Messenger* That He Was Going To Close Down The "Strip", On East Marion Street, Because Of The Drug And Alcohol Problems? Why Didn't He Make An Effort To Do Something About The "Strip" When He First Made The Statement? Now, Three Months Later, He's Proposing A Plan To The Eatonton City Council Who Are Not Giving Him An Immediate Response.

Now That Brings Up Another Question, Why Did He Take Measures In His Own Hands When It Came To The Nuwaubians, Yet When It Came To The "Strip", He Had To Sit Down And Actually Think Of A Proposal And Then Present It To The City Council? It Sounds Like A Double Standard To Me. Also, Why Did It Take 3 Months For The Sheriff To Act On Attempting To Close Down The "Strip" And Is This The Kind Of Response Time That The Citizens Of Eatonton, Whose Tax Dollars Are Paying Their Salary, Want When It Comes To Dealing With Crime?

Why Close Them Down The "Strip" Why Not Renovate And Make It Of Good Use? Being That Closing Down The Place Would Just Move The People From One Area To Another And Make That The New Crime-Ridden, Drug Area. If You Are Going To Take Care Of The Problem Then Do It 100%, Not A Half Job. Why Not Just Renew The Neighborhood And Make A Community That People Can Be Proud Of Like They Once Were? This Has Successfully Been Done Hundreds Of Times In Larger Cities, So It Can Definitely Work In Eatonton. The "Strip" Was Not Always A Bad Place To Live. It Was A Productive Community Before Drugs Became The Order Of The Day.

As A Part Of The Sheriff's Proposal, He Wants To Stiffen The Penalties For A First Time Offender Who Is Caught Selling Drugs. As It Stands Now, "The Law Now Allows Anyone On The First Offense Of Possession Of Crack Cocaine With Intent To Distribute To Go To Jail For 20 Years." However, "If That Person Is Arrested In A Commercial Drug Free Zone, The Sentence Could Be Doubled-An Additional 20 Years To Be Served Consecutively." (Quotes Taken From The Eatonton Messenger, Nov. 5, 1998)

This Is The Plan That The Sheriff Is Trying To Impose. We By No Means Condone Drug Activity Or Abuse. However, What Sense Would It Make To Send An 18 Year Old To Prison For 40 Years Because Of One Bad Decision? Why Not Try To Rehabilitate That Person Because By The Time They Get Out Of Jail, He Will Be 58 Years Old And By That Time It Is Too Late To Turn Your Life Around.

The October 22, 1998 Edition Of *The Eatonton Messenger* There Was An Article Titled *State Court Case-Load Continues To Increase-Increase Means More Money For County*. Getting More Money Is Not Going To Stop The Crime. You Don't Need More Money, You Need A Solution To The Problem. Getting More Money To Handle A Case Won't Stop The Problem. If There Was No Crime There Would Be No Cases. Getting Rid Of The Drugs Will Help Stop The Crime. Stopping The Flow Of Drugs Into The County-Itself, Would Put A Big Stop To One Of The Problems. But Just Simply Arresting People And Giving Them Harsher Jail Time Is Not The Answer.

Yet, In *The Eatonton Messenger*, November 5, 1998 Sheriff Sill Is Quoted As Saying "We're Not Going To Get Rid Of Illegal Drugs, But We Can Get Rid Of The Strip". This Statement Speaks For Itself And Just Lets You Know That There Is Nothing Going To Be Done About The Drugs, He Is Just Trying To Close Down People's Place Of Business, Their Livelihood.

We Hate To Say It, But We Told You All That Once He Finished Harassing The Nuwaubians Whose Club Was Drug And Alcohol Free, He Was Going To Come After You.

Now Do You See The Big Picture And What Is Really Going On? Creating A Program That Would Stop The Pre-Teens From Becoming Drug Peddlers Because They Are The Future. So If You Grab Them Now And Show Them A Better Way, You Won't Have To Worry About There Being Any Future "Strips" And It Would Eliminate That Kind Of Mentality.

It Would Create Productive, Law-Abiding Citizens. This Too Should Have Been A Part Of The Proposal. At The Same Time, You Can't Take All Of Their Fun Away Because They Are Children.