

# 7 HABITS for Citizen Leaders

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## Goal: More 7 Habits Graduates In Leadership

In extending the *7 Habits* grant, The Riley Foundation seeks to engage *7 Habits* participants in community leadership. To do this, the EMBDC, The Montgomery Institute, MCC, and Leadership Lauderdale will sponsor the first annual *Volunteer Leadership Fair and Symposium* in August 2003.

The *Symposium* will serve as the Leadership Lauderdale graduation event. It will feature a motivational speaker on volunteer leadership. The *Volunteer Leadership Fair* will feature displays from public boards and community non-profit organizations and provide their representatives the opportunity to recruit leaders/volunteers. All *7 Habits* participants, Leadership Lauderdale graduates, and other leadership program participants will be invited to this event.

“By directly connecting potential volunteer leaders with organizations needing their help, we hope to greatly increase the engagement of *7 Habits* and other leadership program graduates in community activities,” said Bill Crawford, president of The Montgomery Institute.

## Do You Have a Story?

Joe Hulin shared his *7 Habits* story. Will you share your story with your *7 Habits* fellows?

If so, please call or e-mail us. (See contact information at the bottom of page 4.)

## (Reflections continued)

session would have on my personal and professional lives.

As a result of attending the course I committed myself to earnestly applying the 7 Habits “principles” to situations associated with my life. The course provided just the right stimulus to motivate me to renew my belief in the importance of being proactive. Furthermore, I acquired a clearer image of the interdependent relationship between personal decision making and my ability to influence the circumstances associated with many of my life’s situations.

Consequently, I began anew to move more proactively towards goals that I desired to achieve. By intensifying my application of Habits 3, 4, 6 and 7, I was able to achieve my end-of-course declared commitments. My goals were to: (1) Make a contribution to Kemper County’s youth development efforts via our church’s outreach program; and (2) Help improve the county’s fire protection capability by helping to establish a fire department within our community.

The most satisfying experience of my efforts was the gleam of hope noticed in the eyes of the economically deprived children that we were able to help. Aided by my wife and with God’s help, we helped establish a Sunday school and set up a lending library for the children within their community. Additionally, we acquired needed children’s clothing for children that were members of the Sunday school and began mentoring for the children. As time passed the children began to attain a greater spiritual awareness and became more academically focused. My efforts to help improve Kemper

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## (Reflections continued)

County's fire protection capability culminated in assembling the resources to acquire a fire truck, build a fire station and obtaining a \$34,000 FEMA grant to outfit 10 firefighters within approximately a year's time frame.

Today and throughout the entire process I have always felt that I am indeed blessed and I have been granted much more than I have given of myself. My life, or at bear minimum, the manner in which I make decisions that affect my life, has indeed changed as a result of my exposure to your course on the "7 Habits of Highly Effective People". Summarily my appreciation for family and loved ones has improved, and I now experience a more intense feeling of an inner peace as a result of helping others. I genuinely feel as if my overall quality of life is great, and furthermore, I believe it will continue to improve.

## Nominations Wanted For April 7 Habits

The *7 Habits* Committee invites you to nominate participants for the spring retreat to be held April, 29, 30, and May 1 at Meridian Community College.

"We want to reach all across the community to attract participants," said *7 Habits* Committee chairman Donnie Smith. "The best way to do this is through the folk who have already participated."

To nominate a participant call Dorothy Allen at the EMBDC or Beverly Bryson at The Montgomery Institute. Or, contact a member of the committee: Donnie Smith, Suzanne Monk, Cecil Johnson, Mary Perry, Ron Harper, and Belinda Bonner.

## Leadership Lauderdale Youth Graduation Will Fête *7 Habits* Role Models

At their April 10<sup>th</sup> graduation ceremony, 11<sup>th</sup> grade students participating in the Leadership Lauderdale Youth program will bring as special guests citizens they believe best model the *7 Habits*. "This makes the *7 Habits* real," said program leader Wayne Edwards.



MSU Dean, Dr. Nick Nichols, Circuit Clerk Donna Jill Johnson, and attorney Ralph Young pay rapt attention to Jerry Aull.



Coca Cola's John Summers makes a point to his table teammates.



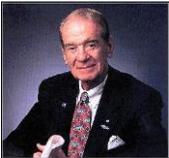
USM Nursing Instructor Cindy Luther and Supervisor Joe Norwood listen closely at the January 2003 *7 Habits* retreat.

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G.  
V. "Sonny"  
Montgomery

7 Habits for Citizen Leaders is an information newsletter published by The Montgomery Institute, a charitable, tax-exempt, organization and a certified provider of 7 Habits of Highly Effective People training. Named to honor and sustain the leadership legacy of former Congressman G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery, the Institute serves as a think tank to provide important information to citizen leaders and seeks to spur regional cooperation and enhance leadership in an eight county region of East Mississippi and West Alabama. The Riley Foundation committed \$1.455 million to start-up the Institute. Other major commitments have come from The Phil Hardin Foundation, Rush Health Systems, the Regional Medical Support Group, and BellSouth.

**Upcoming Events:** Leadership Lauderdale Youth graduation April 10th; *An Evening with Jerry Aull* April 28<sup>th</sup>; *7 Habits of Highly Effective People* workshop April 29<sup>th</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup>; Annual Volunteer Leadership Fair and Symposium August 27th.

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For further information, please call 601-483-2661, e-mail [Bill@TheMontgomeryInstitute.com](mailto:Bill@TheMontgomeryInstitute.com) or check our web site: [www.TheMontgomeryInstitute.com](http://www.TheMontgomeryInstitute.com)



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The Montgomery Institute

February 2003



*7 Habits of Highly Effective People* participants enjoy some of Jerry Aull's humor at the January 2003 retreat at Meridian Community College. From left: Tal Braddock, Ralph Young, Linda Neal, Leon Harris, Kent Darsey, Linda Waters, Shirley Nell Goodman, John Summers, Craig Hitt, Pam Gray, and Dennis Florreich.

## Riley Foundation Continues 7 Habits With Jerry Aull

The Riley Foundation will continue to sponsor *7 Habits of Highly Effective People* retreats featuring celebrated facilitator Jerry Aull.

At its January meeting, the foundation board authorized an additional \$67,755 grant to The Montgomery Institute. The grant provides for Jerry Aull to conduct *7 Habits* workshops in April, July and October of 2003 (pending submission of final grant documents). This comes on top of the \$135,000 already provided by the foundation for the first five retreats.

"The Riley Foundation's commitment to improving leadership in our community is awesome," said *7 Habits* Committee chairman Donnie Smith.

## 7 Habits Reflections

### *My Life Has Changed*

By Kemper County Citizen of the Year  
Bernard T. "Joe" Hulin

*In June 2002, Joe Hulin attended a three-day 7 Habits workshop at Meridian Community College that was facilitated by The Montgomery Institute. In November, he and his wife Loretta were jointly named Citizens of the Year by the Kemper County Chamber of Commerce. Joe links his award directly to his 7 Habits experience.*



In June of last year I attended a 7 Habits of Highly Effective People training session along with several other faculty members from Northeast High School in Meridian. Little did I realize how significant an impact the training (See **Reflections** on next page)

