MCB PROJECT SUMMARY OUTLINE

Community: Graham

Name of Project: **Christmas Lighting Contest**

Project Coordinator: Terri Vogel, Lions Club Members Day Phone: 660-935-2410

Type of Project: Long Term Short Term Ongoing [x] Annual

Time Frame: Date Begun 12-1-07 Date Completed 12-31-07

Number of Volunteers? 36 Age Range of Volunteers? 30-75

Cost of Project:		
	Materials	$ 450.00
	Labor	$ 600.00
	Total Cost	$1,050.00

Sources of Funding:		
	Grants:	$
	Donations: (Money, Materials, and Labor)	$850.00
	Other: (Explain) Prizes for Lighting Contest from CB funds.	$200.00

Narrative Summary of the Project

A Christmas Lighting Contest is sponsored by the Community Betterment organization and judged during the third week of December. The contest has become popular with members of the community and lighting displays throughout the community have increased yearly--even outside city limits. Cash prizes are given to the top three winners in each category and this encourages the purchase of more decorations for the next year. Judges are brought in from other communities.

Activities held during the Christmas season are traditional in Graham and their origin goes back many years. The Hobby Club originally purchased large lighted Christmas ornaments which are hung throughout the town by the Graham Lions Club usually the first week of December. Ladies in the community prepare a turkey dinner with all of the fixings for Lions Club members and the light company as a thank you for their work on that day. Troop 68 Boy Scouts decorate the Community Building.

Along with the lighting contest, the Graham Lions Club bring Santa Claus to town. Members and wives sack up candy and fruit to give to the kids that come to visit with Santa. They also prepare baskets of fruit, which they deliver to shut-ins and senior citizens within the community. Naturally, as is a tradition in Graham when more than half a dozen people get together there is usually food served. The Lions each bring a can of oysters and quart of milk (some bring relish trays or dessert) and a supper is enjoyed before the work begins.