

Krewe of Bowlegs presents

**VENI
VIDI
VICI**



*or
A Night in Ol' Venice*

June 9, 1973

Ft. Walton Beach High Auditorium



pirate captain Billy Bowlegs

The Billy Bowlegs Festival has William Augustus Bowles, a notorious old boy, as its patron pirate. He arrived in what was to become Florida's Playground Area in 1778 when the Spanish, English and Americans were maneuvering for control of the Gulf shores and its shipping lanes. Believing himself destined to command instead of obeying, Captain Billy Bowlegs gathered a force of a "couple hundred plundering Indians, relics from the American Army and White Banditti," a rollicking piratical crew which grew to be the concern of all three of the power-hungry countries. Captain Bowlegs (Bowles) created his own throne and the three nations considered everything from murder to a general's commission to get him on the right side. Financed by loot from a Spanish ship and surrounded by a handful of Indians, Captain Billy invaded English society for support. He was rewarded with a flag of 'English and Indian colors mixed,' a silver pipe, tomahawk, a Chain of Friendship and trade supplies, with which he formed the State of Muskogee. The Spanish enticed him to New Orleans and grabbed the head of the State of Muskogee. He was shipped out to Madrid and then to the Philippines, but he jumped ship and returned to his 'state' and greater deeds of piracy. He raided on the Gulf and on shore. His schooners flew his pirate flag, except when they switched to the British flag to claim their 'salvaged' loot at international ports. But all good pirates must have an end, and Captain Bowlegs' came after he was seized when he was lured to peace talks in the presence of Spanish, American and English agents. The Spanish paid his disenchanted Indians a reward and took poor old Captain Bowlegs to Morro Castle, where he starved himself to death in 1803 rather than 'sink so low as to speak to the Cuban general.'



the history of bowlegs' festival

Back in 1953, a ski show was sponsored by the Fort Walton Beach City Recreation Department to give the local residents and tourists something to enjoy over the Labor Day weekend. It was a crowd pleaser, but the City decided it was too large for them to handle so they asked the Jaycees, then in its first year as an organization, to take it over.

The event became so popular that the following year the Jaycees decided to follow a pirate theme and name it after the infamous pirate, Billy Bowlegs, whose base of operations was the area waters. Each successive year the growing popularity of the festival reflects a co-operative community spirit and many man hours and dollars contributed to the success of an idea.

The Festival finally grew into a week-long affair and was moved to "open" the beginning of the summer tourist season. The Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce's Attractions Committee was asked to assume the responsibility of planning the events. Steady growth finally dictated an entirely separate Committee under the Chamber to operate the event. This active Committee is the Bowlegs' Festival Committee: G.V. Pardue, Jr., Chairman; Mal Ayres, Dr. Malcolm Crotzer, Don David, Jr., Chuck Shoff, Maurice McLaughlin, David Lee, Bill Webster, Dr. Gage Boyd and Bill Spain; Coordinator, Bonnie Sitko, and Iris Baughman, Executive Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

This Committee is grateful to the City of Fort Walton Beach, Florida, for their continuing support and assistance.

A Krewe is born...

Although the Krewe of Bowlegs in actuality is a fledging mystic order, under charter rules and regulations there is nothing occult in the minds of Miracle Strip residents and participants concerning its value as a lofty, social contribution and an invaluable publicity target.

The Krewe, currently active in its nineteenth year, is a direct and brilliantly promising multiple of the Billy Bowleg's Festival. The overwhelming acceptance and ensuing success of the early initial celebrations sparked vigourous local interest and resulted in some extremely gratifying publicity beyond its intended boundaries.

Cognisant of other Gulf Coast events such as Mardi Gras and its Krewe organizations, the Krewe of Bowlegs was conceived and born of a small group of area civic leaders. The Krewe's active membership consists of 179 and is governed by a President (the Captain Billy), Vice President and Board of Directors who meet at regular meetings to discuss policies, procedures and the general welfare of the group.

The Krewe is composed of prominent citizens and civic leaders whose business help form the foundation of the City and County's economical stabilization and are, therefore, invaluable as Festival supporters.

Visitors to and citizens of the area are annually in for many days of unprecedented fun and frolic during the celebration with the spotlight of pompous ceremony focused on the Krewe's participation. Hours of volunteered time and sizable sums of money are expended each year on colorful floats, impressive decorations and gaily colored costumes used by the Krewe during the Grand Torch-Light Parade and at the Coronation and Balls. The beautiful floats carrying out a "theme" which the masked Krewe ride allow the members to throw showers of souvenir trinkets and candies to the thousands lining the parade route.

The last evening of each Festival week a Coronation Ceremony discloses with the unmasking a new succeeding Captain Billy Bowlegs, his Queen, First Mate and the new Honor Guard. The Captain is selected by a secret committee and he in turn chooses his entire court.

The Krewe wishes you, one and all a very wonderful evening and ask that You be on board next year when they once again can be your host for the pageantry of the "Billy Bowlegs' Festival".



Venetian Krewes(s)

*West from China the Blackhawk sailed
to plunder and to menace
Then quietly dropped anchor
in a blue lagoon of Venice.*

*Beautiful women dressed in silk
carefree, singing gondoliers
And thoughts of priceless treasure
brought forth a round of cheers.*

*Venetians frightened and surprised,
not knowing what to do,
Prepared themselves to meet the wrath
of Bowlegs and his Krewe.*

*But frivolity, mirth (and some looting)
were the order of the day,
And the splendor that is Venice
beckoned them to stay.*

Susan Johnson

Coronation Pageant

Presentation of The Colors & National Anthem
Fort Walton Beach High School
A.F.J.R.O.T.C. Cadets

NATIONAL ANTHEM Cheryl Thompson

Selections are dedicated to our Nation and to those who
have served so proudly to preserve Freedom for others.

DEDICATION TO POW'S - Brigadier General John Flynn
Colonel Tom Sterling
Lt Colonel Douglas Peterson
Major Keith Hall
Captain Jeffrey Ellis
Captain Bruce Hinckley

MUSICA ITALIANO John Hutchcroft
Orchestra

Avanti

One year ago, Ol' Capn' Billy sailed from the "Flobidden
City" to seek out exciting new adventures ... after fruit-
less searching of the Seven Seas for 360 endless days, we
find a mutinous-minded, surly-scurvy and rum-ridden Krewe
on the decks of the BLACKHAWK ... somewhere East of Eden
and West of

Cast Director Nancy Kruzek

Krewe - 1st Pirate Sherman Miles
2nd Pirate Herb Illingworth

Cabin "Boy" Carol Gill

Marco Polo Mike Bates

Scena 1

"Underneath day's azure eyes, Ocean's nursing,
Venice lies".

VENICE - The "Queen City" of the Adriatic at the time of
a joyous Fiesta in the Piazza de San Marco
staged by the Citizenry to entertain the
notorious Captain Bowlegs.

Gypsy Dancers & Clowns - courtesy of Fort Walton Beach
Ballet Association ...
Bernadette Clements, Director

Princesses

PRESENTATION OF PRINCESSES OF 1973

Cathi Yvonne Fallin

Presented by Ralph Fallin

Frances Kathryn Fitzgerald

Presented by William E. Bagley

Jennifer Lynn Fortune

Presented by Johnny Fortune

Joann Guidry

Presented by Joe Guidry

Krewe of Bowlegs 1972 Court

CAPTAIN BILLY BOWLEGS Robert L. Morrison

HIS QUEEN Jo Fleet

FIRST MATE & WIFE Bob & Dot Blizzard

HONOR GUARD Charles & Barbara Born, III
John & Prissy Carrington, Jr.
Don & Madalon David, Jr.
Fred & Nita Estergren
Joe & Jane Harper, Jr.
Preston & Ann Hood
James & Dixie Huddleston
Hugh & Maureen Hudson
G.V. Pardue, Jr. & Miss Doris Parr
Don & Lee Raimey

CHILDREN - of - the - COURT

Sword Bearer David Boggess

Crown Bearer Michele Anchors

Billy's Medallion Bruce Alford

Queen's Medallion Judy Stokes

Pages Leslie & Sally
Morrison

Queen's Hand Maiden Sandy Blizzard

Queen's Coolie Brad Giesen

Naval Air Training Command Choir

Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida
Under the direction of Ensign Will Kesling

COMMAND PERFORMANCE

The men who go down to the sea in ships have long been known for their Sea Chantey singing. Today's modern Navy has Sailors who are equally known for their singing ability. It is the Krewe's extreme pleasure to have these talented men appearing this evening.

This all-volunteer group of Navy and Marine Corps Officer Flight Students, representing America's finest young men, is a most unique organization. Giving up their limited off-duty time for rehearsing and performing, the members must still maintain above average grades in all phases of their rigorous flight and academic training. As the Choir members progress into more advanced stages of Flight Training, they leave the Pensacola area and new students step in to take their place. This creates an entire turnover of singers within a 5-6 months period.

The Command Choir has performed on numerous radio and television programs including the Johnny Carson "Tonight" and "Ed Sullivan" shows. Most recently, the Choir had the singular honor of performing a concert before a joint session of the U.S. Congress.

The Choir Director, Ensign Will Kesling, is a Naval Officer who wears the Gold Wings of a Naval Flight Officer. He is the man who trains and upholds the national reputation of this group.

The Naval Air Training Command Choir is an institution which reflects the pride and dedication of all Navy men who wear, or will wear, the Gold Wings of a Naval Aviator.

Naval Aviation has many sounds, and this is just one of them - the Musical Sound of Naval Aviation - the singing of men whose entire aspiration is to serve their Country on - MIGHTY NAVY WINGS!



*Coronation
of
1973 Krewe of Bowlegs*

HONOR GUARD OF 1973

FIRST MATE

ATTENDANTS - of - the - COURT

QUEEN

and

CAPTAIN BILLY BOWLEGS XIX

CROWNING CEREMONY

Coronation guests are cordially invited to approach the new Captain and his Queen to exchange Greetings following the Ceremony.

Fine

Maestros de Discorso

Zo Rowley

Dick Petermann

the society of bowlegs and society of queens

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| I. Nathan Fleet | • Dian Lloat |
| II. John Cox | • unknown "Captive" |
| III. Roger Clary | • Miss Northwest Florida |
| IV. Thomas Brooks | • Bettye Williams |
| V. Finley Duncan | • Alex Patton |
| VI. Docie Bass | • Katherine Tringas |
| VII. William Roberts | • Jean Long |
| VIII. Hilary Stewart | • Agnes Bass |
| IX. Wilson Minger | • Carol Duncan |
| X. D ^r . H. C. White | • Ella Clary |
| XI. Winston Walker | • 'Pug' Brown |
| XII. D ^r . Malcolm Crotzer | • 'Boota' Walker |
| XIII. H. French Brown, Jr. | • Carolyn Crotzer |
| XIV. Erwin Fleet | • 'Neen' Gill |
| XV. Maurice M ^c Laughlin | • Mary Ellen Ricks |
| XVI. Jim Kendrick | • Lynne Mathews |
| XVII. Cliff Long | • Dot Buchanan |



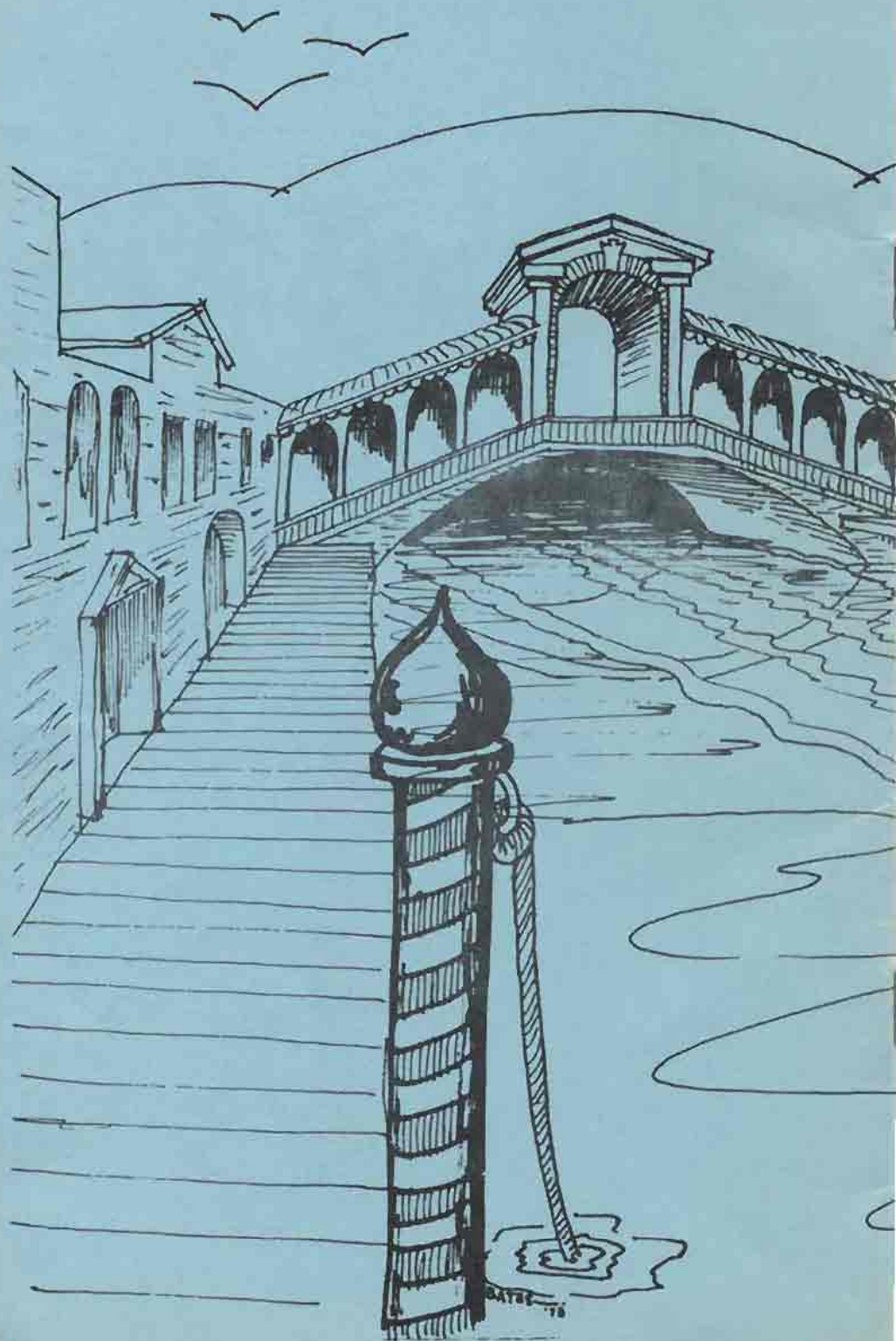
1972 Krewe Executive Boards

PRESIDENT	Robert L. Morrison
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT	Charles Born
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT	Frank Fisher
TREASURER	Chris Johnson
SECRETARY	Bill Alford
GENERAL BOARD:	Joe Guidry Erwin Fleet Jim Kendrick
EX OFFICIO	Clifford H. Long
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	Ann O'Connor

Arrivederci

Credits

BLACKHAWK SKIT SCRIP	Dick Petermann
MUSIC	John Hutchcroft Orchestra
LIGHTS & SOUND	V. Clements, Jr.
COSTUMES	Jo Fleet Florida Fabrics Mary Stover
QUEEN'S ROBES	Bea Jones
STAGE SET	Jim Kendrick Krewe of Bowlegs & 1972 Court
USHERS	Fort Walton Beach High School A.F.J.R.O.T.C. Cadets & Skyettes
PROGRAM PRODUCTION	Ricks/Kendrick/Stokes/David
Artwork	Mike Bates
Program	Alyce Ankney



BATES '78