

*THE
KREWE OF BOWLEGS
PRESENTS*



Anniversary

OR....



**CORONATION NIGHT
FEVER!**



Presenting

CAPTAIN

BILLY-

8 XXV

17 18 19 20

HISTORY of the FESTIVAL



" Shortly after midnight, Captain Billy Bowlegs and his pirate band melted into the night leaving Fort Walton Beach badly shaken, but not beyond repair, after a rollicking day of revelry following the landing of the crew Monday morning.

Fort Walton Beach's biggest Labor Day celebration in history was touched off when a two-masted schooner, escorted by a fleet of small boats, hove into sight in Santa Rosa Sound and a few minutes later, dumped its cargo of screaming pirates and wenches on the shore at Spin Drift Restaurant.

Nathan Fleet, as Bowlegs, headed the crew and was met at the water's edge by Mayor Thomas E. Brooks, who presented him with a large, gold-painted key to the City.

Mayor Brooks said (and we quote!) - "Captain Billy Bowlegs, your ladies and pirate crew or should I say, fellow pirates? As you can see by my sunken chest, I'm well-qualified to join your pirate band! As Mayor of Fort Walton Beach and on behalf of the Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce and residents of this area, it is my pleasure to present to you and your fellow pirates this key to the City with the hope that revelry, frivolity, fun and happiness will reign supreme until the dawn of Tuesday morn. Let there be no further delay. Be ye on your merry way"Bowlegs and his motley crew led a parade down Main Street to the east end of Brooks Bridge where an estimated 8,000 people watched a two-hour water ski carnival. Later in the afternoon, Choctawhatchee Bowmen's Club staged an exhibition of archery skill at Community Center grounds. Saturday night, Bowlegs selected Miss Diane Sloat of Slidell, Louisiana, as his "Captive Queen" to reign over the Bowlegs Ball with him members of the pirate band opened a large treasure chest and tossed favors to the crowd." (excerpt from front page story, PLAYGROUND NEWS, Sept 8, 1955)

Starting with a ski show sponsored by the Fort Walton Beach City Recreation Dept to give the local residents and tourists something to enjoy over the Labor Day weekend in 1953, 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. The Festival finally grew into a week-long affair and was moved to officially "open" the beginning of the summer tourist season.

The Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce's Attractions Committee (later a separate committee, the Billy Bowlegs Festival Committee), together with the Krewe of Bowlegs, a mystic order under charter rules and regulations conceived in 1956 around the idea of a Gasparilla-type observance, centered on a Billy Bowlegs' theme Bowlegs being a pirate of controversial authenticity whose alleged activities were widely spread through the Playground Area.

.....and The Krewe

The 1957 Souvenir Program and Guide for the 4th Annual Billy Bowlegs Pirate Festival, sponsored by the JAYCEES, featured an article on the Billy Bowlegs Costume Ball. For those who love a bit of nostalgia, we quote:

"Everybody loves to dress up once in awhile dress up in something really unusual. That's why the Billy Bowlegs Costume Ball has been such a success through the years. Last year, so many folks attended the one costume ball that three have been planned for this year. The first annual Krewe of Bowlegs' Ball will be held Friday night at the Shalimar Club. This strictly invitational affair is sponsored by the Krewe of Bowlegs, a group of local business and professional men. Cap'n Billy will appear at the Krewe of Bowlegs Ball, still masked his true identity will not be revealed until the JAYCEE-sponsored Captive Queen Ball Saturday night to be held at Tower Beach Casino Johnny Long's Orchestra will play for dancing"

This 1957 Program lists 68 Krewe members with a 5-man Board of Directors. (The first Billy under organized and recognized jurisdiction was Roger Clary). The Krewe's present active membership is limited to 165, plus members of the Society of Bowlegs, and is governed by a 13-man Board of Directors.

Visitors to and citizens of the area are usually in for many days of unprecedented fun and frolic during the celebration and the spotlight of pomp and ceremony focused on the Krewe's participation. Hours of volunteered time and sizeable sums of money (all Krewe events are paid for from Krewe annual membership dues) are expended each year on colorful floats, impressive decorations and gaily colored costumes used by the Krewe during the Grand Torchlight Parade and at the Coronation Pageant and Balls. The beautiful floats, depicting each year's "theme", which the masked Krewe ride, allow the members to throw showers of souvenir trinkets and coins to the thousands lining the parade route. The last evening of each Festival Week, a Coronation Pageant (this open-to-the-public event was conceived by Jim Kendrick, Captain Billy Bowlegs XVI in 1971) discloses, with the unmasking of a new Captain Billy Bowlegs, his Queen, First Mate, Honor Guard and the Children of the Court. The "Billy" is selected by secret ballot early each year - he, in turn, chooses his Queen and Court.

A complete history of the Krewe, like the history of piracy itself, would fill many volumes pirates have always been with us in one form or another from the prehistoric sea rovers of the Bronze Age to the present-day river pirates of some East Asian ports but we like to think that the KREWE OF BOWLEGS is unique among pirate bands!

The Krewe wishes you, one and all, a wonderful evening as we celebrate our SILVER ANNIVERSARY we hope you will all be "on board" once again next year when we can again be your hosts for the pageantry of the Bowlegs' Festival!

EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT	William E. Spain
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT.	Charles B. Mathews
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT	Woodard E. Davis
SECRETARY	Preston Hood
TREASURER	Richard H. Long
GENERAL BOARD	William A. Boggess George Jones Charles M. Shoff Robert A. Solberg Allen Warriner
FIRST MATE	Chris Johnson
EX OFFICIO	W.B. Harbeson III John W. Brooks
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	Alyce Ankney

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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, a tomahawk, a chain of friendship and trade supplies with which, he formed the State of Muskogee. The Spanish enticed him to New Orleans and there grabbed the new head of state. He was then shipped out to Madrid, Spain, 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 its shores. 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 lured to peace talks in the presence of Spanish, American and British agents where he was seized. The Spanish paid their disenchanting Indians a reward and took poor ol' Cap'n Bowlegs to Morro Castle. There, in 1803, he starved himself to death rather than to "sink so low as to speak to the Cuban general"!



SOCIETY OF BOWLEGS SOCIETY OF QUEENS

I	NATHAN FLEET	... Dian Sloat
II	JOHN COX	... Mellie Jo Peacock
III	ROGER CLARY	... Shelia Lewis
IV	DOCIE BASS	... Katherine Tringas
V	FINLEY DUNCAN	... Alex Patton
VI	THOMAS BROOKS (deceased)	... Bettye Williams
VII	WILLIAM ROBERTS	... Jean Long
VIII	HILARY STEWART (deceased)	... Agnes Bass
IX	WILSON MINGER	... Carol Duncan
X	DR. HENRY C. WHITE, JR.	... Ella Clary
XI	WINSTON WALKER	... "Sug" Brown
XII	DR. MALCOLM CROTZER	... Boota' Walker
XIII	H. FRENCH BROWN, JR.	... Carolyn Crotzer
XIV	JUDGE ERWIN FLEET	... "Neen" Gill
XV	MAURICE McLAUGHLIN	... Mary Ellen Ricks
XVI	JIM KENDRICK	... Lynne Mathews
XVII	CLIFFORD H. LONG	... Dot Buchanan
XVIII	ROBERT L. MORRISON (deceased)	... Jo Fleet
XIX	JOE GUIDRY	... Helen Kendrick
XX	G.V. PARDUE	... Tena McLaughlin
XXI	DR. WILLIAM WEST THOMPSON	... Mickey Harbeson
XXII	ROY L. RICKS	... Betty Eyrich
XXIII	WILLIAM B. HARBESON III	... Kay Stokes
XXIV	WILLIAM E. SPAIN	... Sara Brooks

TWENTY FIFTH CORONATION

OVERTURE Okaloosa Symphony Orchestra

William Creekmore, Conductor

PROLOGUE Society of Bowlegs

Introduction of Past-Captain Billy Bowlegs

Walton Beach Ballet "Got to be Real"

Jack Norris, Disc Jockey

GREETINGS Jane Hamby & Mike Bridges

* * * COURT OF 1978/79 * * *

Ending "close encounters of a Caribbean kind" with one last "Buccaneer's Bash", the motley Krewe and their wenches pulled anchor in the blue Caribbean and sailed due north to Manhattan Island and DISCO 25!

CHILDREN OF THE COURT

"The Act" "Ease on Down the Road"
Nancy Kruzek, Pat Morar, Jane Hamby, Mike Bridges

1978/79 HONOR GUARD

Barbie Linnen "Superman"

QUEEN'S AWARDS Queen Sara Brooks
(Best Costumes)

"The Act" "Heaven Knows "

FIRST MATE'S AWARD
. First Mate, Chris Johnson
(Best Decorated Boats)

Barbie Linnen "No Plans for the Future "

PARADE AWARDS Bob Gates, Festival Parade
Chairman

Fort Walton Beach Ballet "Here Comes the Night"
& Jack Norris, Disc Jockey



* * * INTRODUCTION OF 1979/80 COURT * * *

HONOR GUARD

"The Act"

" Staying Alive"

* * * PRESENTATION OF THE PRINCESSES * * *



MISS JOYCE CHRISTINE ABBOT

. daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Webb

MISS SUZANNE ELIZABETH BIXBY

. daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Richard G. Bixby

MISS EVE ANNE BOGGESS

. daughter of Mr. & Mrs. William A. Boggess

MISS DONNA GIBSON

. daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Gibson

MISS JAYME HASSON

. daughter of Mr. & Mrs. James Hasson

MISS DONNA LOUISE HOWELL

. daughter of Mr. & Mrs. David Howell

MISS MARY KATHLEEN LAUGHLIN

. daughter of Dr. & Mrs. Ted D. Laughlin

MISS SHELIA McLAUGHLIN

. daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Fred McLaughlin

MISS LESLIE ANN MORRISON & MISS SARA LANE MORRISON

. daughters of Mrs. Robert L. Morrison and the late Mr. Morrison (Capt Billy Bowlegs XVII)

Leslie Ann -- presented by her Uncle, Clifford H. Long

Sara Lane -- presented by her Cousin, Richard H. Long

MISS RHONDA SUE PEELE

. daughter of Colonel (USAF Retired) and Mrs. Melvin H. Bryant

Barbie Linnen " I Love You "



**TWENTY FIFTH
SOCIETY OF**



Nathan Fleet
I



John Cox
II



Roger Clary
III



Docie B
IV



Hillary Stewart
VIII



Wilson Minger
VIX



Henry C. White
X



Winston Walker
XI



Jim Kendrick
XVI



Cliff H. Long
XVII



Bob Morrison
XVIII

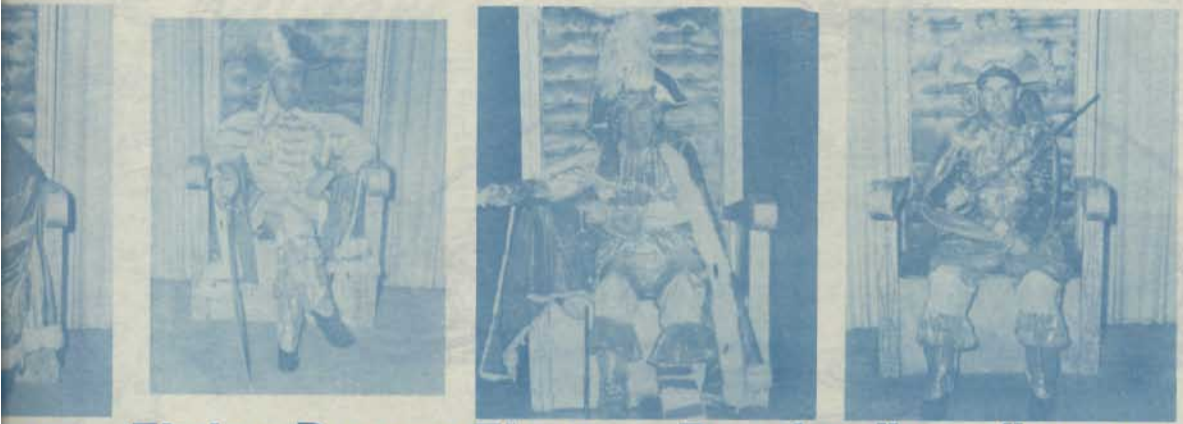


Joe Guidry
XIX

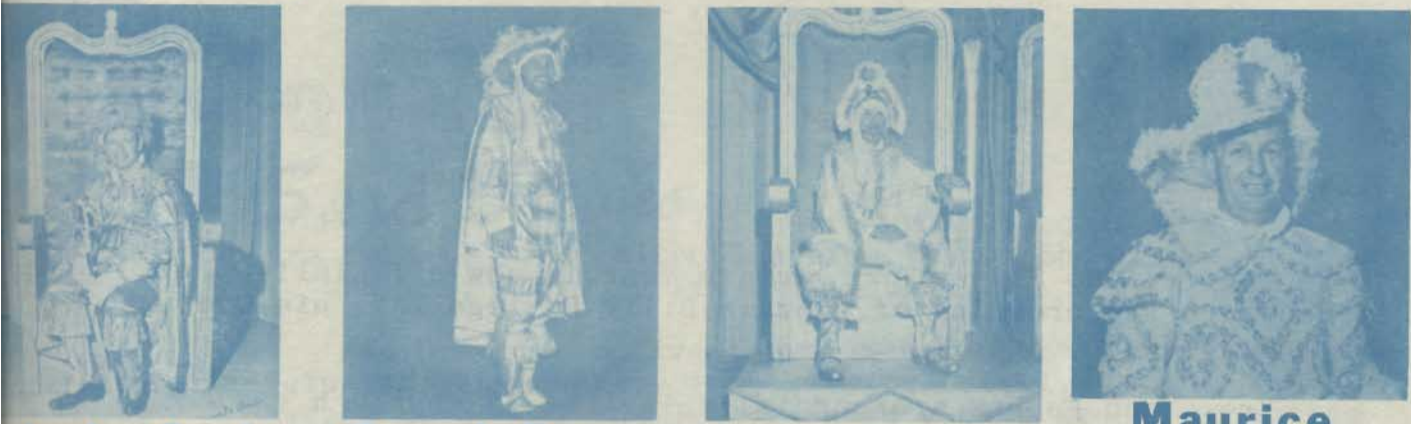


G.V. P
XX

ANNIVERSARY OF BOWLEGS



Class **Finley Duncan Thomas Brooks "Bill" Roberts**
V VI VII



Malcolm Crotzer French. Brown Erwin Fleet Maurice McLaughlin
XII XIII XIV XV



Hardue Bill Thompson Roy L. Ricks Bill Harbeson BILL SPAIN
XXI XXII XXIII XXIV

* * * * * CHILDREN OF THE COURT * * * * *

FIRST MATE & MISTRESS

Barbie Linnen & Mike Bridges. "You Don't Send Me Flowers"



Finale Ensemble " Last Dance "

..... The Silver Anniversary Year is now officially opened with the crowning of Captain Billy Bowlegs XXV, his Queen and the 1979/80 Court.

Krewe and guests are cordially invited to approach the new Captain Billy Bowlegs, his Queen and Court, to extend their congratulations following the ceremony and prior to the Coronation Ball.

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IN APPRECIATION

The Krewe of Bowlegs and the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce Public Events Committee & Billy Bowlegs Festival Committee are grateful to the City of Fort Walton Beach for their continuing support and assistance.

Chairman, Festival Committee Charles A. Born III
 Festival Coordinator Claudine Reed
 Committee: Bob Blizzard, John McGee,
 Bob Gates, Randy Stokes

COURT OF 1979

BILLY BOWLEGS XXIV

William E. "Bill" Spain

a native of Aliceville, Alabama came to Fort Walton Beach in 1958. A business administration graduate, he is owner of Auto-Sav of Fort Walton Beach and Florida Inspection Station. He is a past-director of Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce and Past-President of the Fort Walton Beach Housing Authority. He served in World War II and the Korean War. He is a member of the First Baptist Church, Lions Club, Lake Lorraine Golf and Tennis Club. He enjoys hunting, fishing and golf.

He and his wife, Hazel, live on Sudduth Circle and have one son, Randy, a 1979 graduate of the University of Alabama.

A former Krewe board member, Bill also served as First Mate in 1973-74.

QUEEN

Sara Brooks

Born and raised in Albany, Georgia, Sara came to Fort Walton Beach in 1953. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Floyd of Albany.

She has been active in volunteer work in the community, including many charity fund raising activities. She was a charter member of the Junior Woman's Club and is an active member of the General Hospital Auxiliary, a service organization. She is presently serving as Second Vice-President of the Auxiliary and is Chairman, Surgery Waiting Room Service. Her hobbies include art work and crafts. She is an avid bowler and also enjoys outdoor sports, including tennis, water and snow skiing and horseback riding.

Sara is a member of the First Baptist Church of Fort Walton Beach and a member of the church choir. Queen Sara is married to John W. Brooks, realtor and grandson of the late John Thomas Brooks, the founder of the City of Fort Walton Beach. The Brooks have one son, John III and two daughters, Patricia and Cynthia. The family lives in Mary Esther.

FIRST MATE-

Cris A. Johnson

..... is a native of Pensacola. He received his B.S. degree in accounting from Florida State University and is a member of the accounting firm of Saltmarsh, Cleaveland and Gund, CPAs. He opened their local office in 1964 and is now one of eight senior partners. He served in the U.S. Navy aboard Pacific Fleet destroyers.

Chris has been a Krewe member since 1965 and served eight consecutive years as Treasurer. He is a past Honor Guard member and general board member. He is a member of St Mary's Catholic Church, Past-President, Fort Walton Beach Rotary Club, a member of the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce, Fort Walton Yacht Club and many other civic organizations, as well as holding membership and offices in several CPA organizations. He is a member of AFA, FSU Alumni, Lake Lorraine Country Club, Indian Bayou Country Club, Alpha Kappa Psi and Sigma Chi.

His wife, Susan, is the current President, Fort Walton Beach Ballet Association and is a Past-President of the Junior Service League. Susan is a board member of the American Cancer Society and served two years as Public Education Chairman for Okaloosa County.

Chris and Susan have three children - David, Ginny Anne and Susan. Each child has been a member of the children's court in prior years. The Johnsons reside at 252 Yacht Club Drive in Fort Walton Beach.


Honor Guard

These salty, good and sturdy ten, the "inside men" of the Krewe, are listed alphabetically so that, among peers, all are equal and should be given recognition along with their wenches

... RICHARD BIXBY, a native of Michigan, has lived in Fort Walton Beach for 15 years. He is President of Bixby Enterprises and owns and manages the "Captain's Table", a restaurant on Eglin Parkway.

He holds a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from Duke University and holds a master's in Business Administration from the University of Michigan. He is a member of the Fort Walton Yacht Club, Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber Hosts Committee.





Dick is active in Florida Restaurant Association, having organized the local chapter which he serves as President. His hobbies are water sports and square dancing. He and his wife, Merle, have four daughters ... Jane, Nancy, Sue (one of this year's Princesses) and Pam. The family attends Shalimar Methodist Church.

... NEWMAN C. BRACKIN is a lifelong county resident who received his education at Auburn University and is a former Okaloosa County school teacher. He was associated with John Brooks Realty for four years and during that time, was an associate member of the Fort Walton Beach Board of Realtors. Other activities include member, Fort Walton Beach Shriners, Jaycees, Speech and Hearing Clinic and choir member, First Baptist Church. Elected Clerk of the Court of Okaloosa County in 1976, "Buddy" is presently serving in that capacity.

He and his wife, Blanche, a talented artist, have two sons, Mark and Bryan.

... DR. THOMAS C. CHURCH, also a native of the State of Michigan, received his B.S. degree from the University of Michigan and his M.D. from Wayne State University in Detroit. His specialty training in eye surgery was at Tulane University in New Orleans. He is certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology and a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

Tom is a member of the Lions Club and the Okaloosa Symphony Orchestra. His hobbies include quail hunting, sailing, music, skiing and restoration of historic landmarks.

He and his wife, Nancy, have lived in the area for seven years. They have three children ... Carolyn, Cathleen and Nancy Ann.

... JAMES G. ETHEREDGE, an attorney, has lived in the area for 24 years. He is a graduate of Choc-tawhatchee High School, Samford University and the University of Florida Law School. He practiced law in Miami before returning to Fort Walton Beach four years ago.

Jim is active in the Chamber of Commerce and United Way. He and his wife, Patty, are parents of Alison, Jay and Stephen. They attend the First Baptist Church in Fort Walton Beach.

... BROCK FISHER was born in Mississippi and attended Baylor University before his graduation from the American Flyers Institute where he studied commercial aviation. He came to Fort Walton eight years ago from Selma, Alabama, where he had been employed by Pittsburg Institute of Aeronautics under contract to the U.S. Air Force. He is currently employed by Jim Wilson Associates of Montgomery as General Manager of Santa Rosa Mall and of Westwood Mall in Pensacola.

Brock is President-elect, Air Force Association, past member, Krewe of Bowlegs Board of Directors, is currently on the Board of Directors of The Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce, United Way and the Mall Merchants' Association. He is also a member of Rotary, Fort Walton Beach and Niceville Host Committees and serves on the West Florida Regional Planning Council.

He and his wife, Donna, are parents of one son, Brock II, and the family home is at 8 Lakeshore Drive, Shalimar.

... CY HARRIS was born in Dothan, Alabama, and is married to the former Adelaide Devoy of Dublin, Ireland. They have three children, Whit, Gerard and Seamus.

Harris owns and is president of Harris Insurance, Inc. A local resident since 1952, he was educated at Choctawhatchee High School and the University of Mississippi. Cy is a Chamber member, past Kiwanis president, member of several insurance associations and of St Mary's Catholic Church.

His special interests are golf and water sports and he also enjoys gardening at the family home on Vaughn Street in Fort Walton Beach.

... ROBERT L. HUNT, formerly of Perry, Georgia, is President, Robert L. Hunt Builders, Inc. He is a third generation builder and developer and a Past-President, Okaloosa Homebuilders Association where he presently serves as State Director.

In 1975, Bob was the recipient of the Fort Walton Beach Jaycees Distinguished Service Award and also, elected to the Fort Walton Beach City Council. He served two consecutive terms as Mayor Protem.

He is active in many civic and professional organizations and is presently a member of the Okaloosa Development Committee. Bob and his wife, Kay, have lived here since 1964. They have two children, Kimberly and Loran. The family are members of Cinco Baptist Church.

... DR. GEORGE STAFFORD KERR was born in Houston, Texas, raised in Dalton, Georgia, and attended Emory-at-Oxford Junior College. He received his B.S. degree from the University of Georgia and his medical degree from the University of Tennessee Medical School. His internship and orthopedic residency was at Columbia Hospital, Columbia S.C. Post graduate work was at Tulane in New Orleans.

Kerr served two years in the U.S. Army at Fort Benning, Ga. before beginning his practice in orthopedics and orthopedic surgery here five years ago. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery. George is married to the former JoAnn Outler and they have five daughters. He is a communicant of St Simon's-on-the-Sound Episcopal Church.

... FRANK KING, JR., a former resident of Germantown, Tennessee and former Owner-President of King Sales, a wholesale farm implement company, moved to Destin seven years ago and went into the development and real estate business.

Frank is a graduate of Georgia Tech and holds a degree in engineering. His wife is Mary Starnes King and the couple are parents of one son, Starnes. The family lives on Joe's Bayou in Destin.

... JOSEPH C. WARE, JR., Colonel, USAF Retired, is a native of Birmingham, Alabama. He is a graduate of Auburn University where he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity. As a member of the U.S. Air Force, he served at various stateside bases and in Canada, India, Panama, Taiwan, Philippines, Hawaii. Retiring in 1966, he returned to Birmingham, where he was manager of Kent Personnel Services, Vice-President, Alabama Employment Association and President, Glenkel Co. Joe and his wife, the former Inez Robbins, have seven children. They moved to Mary Esther in 1971.

Colonel Ware has served as deacon and elder in the First Presbyterian Church. He is on the Board of Directors of Drydock Trailers, Inc. and a member of The Club and Vestavia Country Club of Birmingham and Indian Bayou Golf & Country Club in Destin.



JAMES TRAVIS TRINGAS

... Capt Billy's Sword Bearer

KATHLEEN MARIE GATES
& KIMBERLY LASKOFF

... Queen's Trainbearers

CHRISTOPHER LEALIS HALE

... Capt Billy's
Medallion Bearer

ELIZABETH FISCHER

... Queen's
Medallion Bearer

JAMIE LOUISE LEE

... Queen's Crown Bearer





Credits

CORONATION PAGEANT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN Bob Blizzard

CORONATION PAGEANT SCRIPT & DIRECTOR Jane Hamby

SET DESIGN, Jim Kendrick

PROGRAM DESIGN/ART WORK, Blanche Brackin

MUSICAL ARRENGEMENTS, William Creekmore
James Lee

DISCO MACHINE, Jack Norris

MUSICAL ENSEMBLE, "The Combo"
... Jim Lee, Daniel Vicker,
Tom Church

Songs by Barbie Linnen
"The Act"
... Nancy Kruzek, Pat Morar.
Jane Hamby, Mike Bridges

COSTUMERS Men: Murray Himmler, New Orleans
Designs by Clarence

New Queen: J.C. Hamby
(Design & Fabrication)
Fabrics by "Florida Fabrics"

Ladies of the Court & Children:
J.C. Hamby (Design & Fabrication)
Fabrics by "Florida Fabrics"

MAKE-UP, Sylvia of "Linda's Beauty Salon"

HAIR STYLES, Michael Knight of "Different Stroke"

STAGE MANAGER & CREW Dale Aguillard, Rhebert Harbison,
Francis Fitzgerald

LIGHTS & SOUND Bill Clements, Al Beach, Harry Barr
Bernadette Clements
Okaloosa Symphony
Stage Crafters' Community Theatre

STAGE SET, Construction & Crew: George Jones, Bob Hunt,
Bill Nelson, Charlie Born,
Robert "Dutch" Kleinhelter,
1978-79 Honor Guard, plus
"special Krewe members"

PROGRAM LAYOUT & TYPING Alyce Ankney

USHERS Fort Walton Beach
High School Air Force Jr. ROTC
Cadets

