

The Krewe of Bowlegs
Presents



**THOSE MAGNIFICENT MEN
AND
THEIR FLYING MACHINES** or

Thirty Seconds to Takeoff

JUNE 7, 1980

**F.W.B. HIGH
AUDITORIUM**



Society of Bowlegs Society of Queens

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



History of the Festival

.....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 -- Bowlegs being a pirate of controversial authenticity whose alleged dastardly activities were widely spread throughout the Playground Area

"Beards were grown and soon the townspeople began to get the festival fever. Sewing shops were swamped with orders for exotic costumes and mothers and wives spent their days designing and making "pirate" garb. The local yacht club was the scene of feverish activity. Thousands of local people and visitors alike enjoyed the gaily decorated dance that night and went home vowing to return again next year"... a few of the Jaycees who worked day and night to insure its success were Bob Markham, Jim Kendrick, Basil Boles, Harry Buchanan, Jerry Melvin ... Nathan Fleet was the first Billy Bowlegs. (In later years, his son, Judge Erwin Fleet, reigned as Billy Bowlegs XIV).

Due to the growing popularity of the Festival, the Jaycees decided to make a three-day affair of the event in 1956 and called on the City fathers to help ... they responded whole-heartedly and over \$2800.00 was raised in one night! Events were added such as, treasure hunts for the children, parades, bigger and more elaborate pirate landing, burning of the Fort, plus a gigantic fireworks display - beards were again grown, the town gaily decorated and the first three-day festival began. The Jaycees at this time numbered 30 members: Roger Clary was Billy Bowlegs this year - the first Billy to reign under organized and recognized jurisdiction).

The Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce 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 that year of 1956 the Billy Bowlegs' theme. A 1957 program lists 68 Krewe members with a 5-man Board of Directors. The Krewe's present active membership is limited to 165, plus members of the Society of Bowlegs (made up of all active past-Captain Billy Bowlegs) and is governed by a 13-man Board.

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 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 Festival Week, a Coronation Pageant discloses, with the unmasking of a new Captain Billy Bowlegs, his Queen, First Mate, Honor Guard and the Children of the Court. (Jim Kendrick, Captain Billy Bowlegs XVI, conceived this open-to-the-public event). The "Billy" is selected by secret ballot early each year - he, in turn, chooses his Queen, First Mate and Court.

..... and the Krewe

In keeping with our trip down memory lane, the theme chosen by Captain Billy Bowlegs XXVI is "THOSE MAGNIFICENT MEN AND THEIR FLYING MACHINES", bringing to you a pot pourri of song and dance popular during the years America's "ships of the air" came into their own - from Lindberg's lonely flight across the Atlantic to man's landing on the moon!

The 1957 Billy Bowlegs' Pirate Festival Souvenir Program included an advertisement which reads, in part ... "Air travel comes to the Playground Area. Within days, Southern Airways will inaugurate daily airline service to the Playground Area. Two round-trip flights to Atlanta daily departing at 6:40 A.M. and 3:35 P.M. Both flights will connect with flights to every part of the country ... in addition to passenger service, Southern will provide air mail, air express and air parcel post and special charter service to groups who want to attend sporting events and conventions. Southern Airways has also selected the Playground Area to entertain the millionth passenger to fly the airline. The vacation for the lucky family will include complete accommodations, plus all entertainment facilities the Playground has to offer ..." The price for these flights with connections anywhere - only \$16.60, plus tax!

The famous Tokyo Raiders, lead by Jimmy Doolittle, brave men and true who first demonstrated to the Japanese in World War II that their island was not invulnerable (another milestone in the history of the fly-boy), trained in the Playground Area for this historic air mission - their 15th Anniversary was held here in 1956 at the old Shalimar Club and was hosted by radio and TV star, Arthur Godfrey. Special guests were the then Governor, LeRoy Collins, and Congressman Bob Sikes. With Eglin AFB, Hurlburt Field and near-by Pensacola Naval Air Station a vital part of our community, we are constantly reminded of "those magnificent men in their flying machines".

As the glittering anniversary reign of CAPTAIN BILLY BOWLEGS XXV and his Queen, Blanche, come to a close, we would like to remind those assembled here that 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 or air pirates of the skies ... 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 aboard FLIGHT #26 we hope you will all be "on board" once again next year when we can be your hosts for the pageantry of the BILLY BOWLEGS' FESTIVAL!

... Fasten your seatbelts and let the entertainment begin ...



Twenty-Sixth

OVERTURE Okaloosa Community Band
Mike Jones, Conductor

PROLOGUE FLIGHT CREW

Mike Bridges, Nancy Kruzek
& Cap'n Billy Bowlegs XXV,
R.C. "Bob" Blizzard



Fort Walton Beach Ballet "Nostalgia Pot pourri"

GREETINGS Mike Bridges, Nancy Kruzek,
Pat Morar, Jane Hamby

* * * * * COURT OF 1979/1980 * * * * *

As the glittering anniversary year of DISCO 25 draws to a close, the motley Krewe and their comely wenches take to the sky aboard FLIGHT #26 ... come fly with us on a nostalgic trip through the past with "Those Magnificent Men and Their Flying Machines"!

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

"The Act" "Alexander's Ragtime Band"
medley

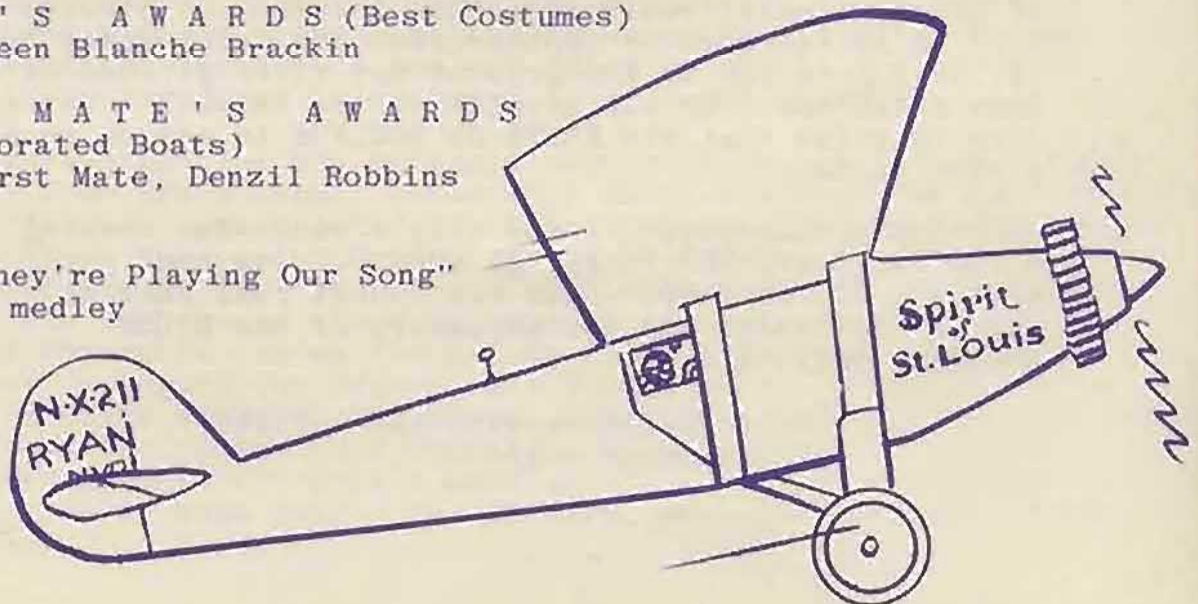
* * * * * 1979/1980 HONOR GUARD * * * * *

Barbie Linnen "You Made Me Love You"
medley

QUEEN'S AWARDS (Best Costumes)
. . . Queen Blanche Brackin

FIRST MATE'S AWARDS
(Best Decorated Boats)
. . . First Mate, Denzil Robbins

"The Act"
. . . "They're Playing Our Song"
medley



Coronation



PARADE AWARDS . . . Fort Walton Beach
(Parade Chairman) Mayor, Bob Gates

Barbie Linnen Gershwin Medley

INTRODUCTION OF 1980/81 COURT

The HONOR GUARD

"The Act" "Thoroughly Modern
Millie" medley

** **** * PRESENTATION OF THE PRINCESSES * **** ** **** **

M I S S K A T H E R I N E A N N A T K I N S O N

..... daughter of Dr. & Mrs. Samuel M. Atkinson, Jr.

M I S S G E N E S E M O O R E G I B S O N

..... daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Gibson

M I S S E L I Z A B E T H A N N M I C H A S

..... daughter of Dr. & Mrs. George A. Michas

M I S S R H O N D A R E N E E T H O M P S O N

..... daughter of Dr. & Mrs. William W. Thompson

M I S S K A T H L E E N E L I Z A B E T H W A R R I N E R

..... daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Allen Warriner

M I S S S A N D R A D E E B L I Z Z A R D

..... daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Blizzard

Barbie Linnen "Blue Moon" medley

CHILDREN OF THE COURT

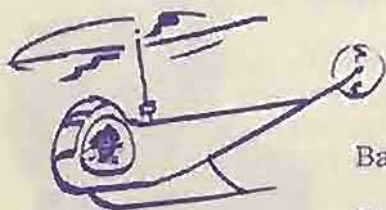
FIRST MATE & MISTRESS

Barbie Linnen & "The Act" "Fly-Boy" medley

Finale Ensemble "Boogie-Woogie Bugle Boy"

P R E S E N T I N G

... CAPTAIN BILLY BOWLEGS XXVI & HIS QUEEN



Court of 1980

Billy Bowlegs

XXV



Robert C. "Bob" Blizzard

the Twenty-Fifth Captain

Billy Bowlegs grew up in West Palm Beach, Florida, and attended Drake University. For thirty-three years, he was an associate and manager of J.C. Penney Co. He retired from this position in 1963 and since that time, has owned Florida Fabrics.

He has been active in the Krewe since 1970, serving on the Honor Guard, the Executive Board as Vice-President and member and as First Mate in 1972. Bob has also assisted with several coronation pageants.

Bob is active in many local business organizations ... the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce, the Shrine Club, Elks Club and the Fort Walton Yacht Club.

His hobby is deer hunting and he is one of the original members of the "Crazy Eight" hunter's club. He also enjoys deep sea fishing.

Bob attends Cinco Baptist Church and lives on Beachview Drive with wife, Dot, and daughter, Sandee who is one of this year's Princesses. He and Dot also have four grown married children, Tom, Patti, Ronnie and Sara.

Queen



Blanche Brackin

is a longtime resident of Fort Walton Beach. She is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John H. Tatum who were active members of the Krewe from its beginning.

Before her marriage to Clerk of the Circuit Court, Newman C. Brackin, she attended Belhaven College. She is active in the Junior Woman's Club, Democratic Woman's Club, Gulf Coast Democratic Club and was a provisional in Junior Service League.

Blanche is an artist and an avid tennis player.

The Brackins have two sons, Mark and Bryan.



First Mate



Denzil Robbins is a native of Opp, Alabama, and a graduate of Auburn University with a degree in Building Construction. He is a member of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity. Robbins is President, Robbins-Kirkland Contractors.

He has served on the Krewe Honor Guard and on the Executive Board, as well as assisting with several coronation pageants.

Denzil is a member of the First United Methodist Church and has lived in the Fort Walton Beach area for the past twenty years. He and his wife, Merle, live at Wynn Haven Beach with their two children, Clay and Deana.

Honor Guard



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

... DR. SAMUEL M. ATKINSON, JR. has been practicing obstetrics and gynecology in Fort Walton Beach since 1971. Before that, he was an Air Force physician for thirteen years. His last military assignment was as Chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology at USAF Regional Hospital, Eglin AFB.

He is a native of South Carolina, educated at Wofford College, where he received a degree in History. His medical degree is from Duke University. He has been Board Certified in obstetrics and gynecology since 1968.

He and his wife, Betty Ann, are parents of three children ... Katherine (one of this year's Princesses), Sandra and Elizabeth. Betty Ann is employed as a nurse and is active locally in gymnastics judging.

... GORDON L. BLENIS is a native of Waterloo, Iowa, who entered military duty as an aviation cadet at the beginning of World War II. Most of his military career was spent in the Pacific and Far East, with assignments to such places as Okinawa, Saipan, Tinian, Guam, Peking and Shanghai. He flew bombers and came to Eglin in 1959 to help organize a Strategic Air Command Wing.

Blenis retired from active duty in 1965 and is currently employed by the State of Florida as an industrial safety representative. He lives in the local area with his wife, Kitty, to whom he has been married for thirty-eight years.

... FRED C. COOKE is a native of Tennessee, received his B.A. degree from Lincoln Memorial University and served in the Southwest Pacific during World War II. He flew many combat missions and received many decorations. Later he served in various stateside assignments and also in Cuba, south of Havana.

After World War II, he settled in Pensacola until recalled during the Korean War.

Cooke met his wife Pamela in Australia. They have four children, Gary, David, Pamela Ann and Alexander; and they live at 354 Sudduth Circle.

Fred has been a realtor in Fort Walton Beach for twenty-four years. He has held numerous offices with the local Board of Realtors and with the state organization. He has just been elected to a national director which organization has over 750,000 membership.

He is also active in Civitans, with the Fort Walton Power Squadron, and has just been elected President, Men of St Simons-on-the-Sound. He has also served with the West Florida Heart Association and the Krewe of Bowlegs. He was a founding member and served on the first court. He was also a founding member of the local Jaycees. Fred's hobbies include boating and gardening.

... JUDGE BEN GORDON, a native of Montgomery, Alabama, received his bachelor's degree from Huntington College. His law degree is from Cumberland School of Law at Samford University, where he was vice-president of his class.

He opened the first State Attorney's office in Okaloosa County, later entering private practice.

In September of 1976, he was elected to the office of County Judge. In October of 1977, he was appointed Acting Circuit Judge to handle juvenile, mental health and alcohol commitment cases in addition to his county court duties.

Ben is a member of several bar associations and a part-time instructor in criminal law at Troy State University, Eglin Extension. He is Past-President, Guidance Clinic Board, and a member of Okaloosa Association for Retarded Citizens. He is a member of the Shalimar United Methodist Church where he teaches Sunday School.

The Judge and his wife, the former Carole Anchors, have three children, Dawn, Benji and Heather. The family lives in Shalimar.

... MICHAEL C. HORGAN was born in Minnesota. He attended military colleges, the University of Maryland and graduated from the University of West Florida. His military service include three wars and duties in many parts of the world.

Mike is immediate Past-President of the Fort Walton Beach Kiwanis Club, member United Way Board of Directors and a Lay Eucharistic Minister at the Hurlburt Field Chapel. He is also a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Air Force Association, Retired Officers' Club, local Dadaelian Chapter and the Air Commando Association. He is volunteer co-chairman of the Okaloosa County Red Cross blood program.

He and his wife, Joan, are parents of two girls and six boys. The family home is at 301 Yacht Club Drive in Fort Walton Beach.

... DON A MADDEN, a native of Arkansas, attended Georgia Military Academy and received his B.S. degree in Marketing from the University of Arkansas.

He joined his father in LP gas and building materials and supplies stores located throughout Arkansas. At age 33, he became the youngest Holiday Inn franchise holder at that time. Since then, he has owned and operated six Holiday Inn franchises and presently owns the Holiday Inn of Okaloosa Island.

While living in Hot Springs, Arkansas, he was a charter member of the board of the Grand National Bank and on various boards of civic and business organizations. He is a life-time member of the University of Arkansas Alumni Association and Wild Hog Club.

Don and his family are members of Cinco Baptist Church. He and his wife, Judy, and sons John, Rickey and Robert and his mother live at 229 Mooney Road in Fort Walton Beach. Son Don, Jr. and his wife, Lisa, live at 535 Pocahontas. He has joined his father in business.

... "MAC" McCOSKRIE, a native of Oregon, has lived in Fort Walton Beach for the past eleven years. He served in the United States Air Force for thirty-one years, retiring as a colonel at Hurlburt Field in 1971. He is a past-president of the Air Commando Association.

McCoskrie is presently President, Ports of Asia, Inc. and owns and manages the Ports of Asia Rattan Gallery in downtown Fort Walton Beach. He is past-president of the Downtown Merchants Association, a member of the Planning Committee of the Fort Walton Beach Redevelopment Agency and a member of the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce.

Mac and his wife, Mary Lou, live on Pleasant Street in Bayou Woods. They have three daughters, Maile, Marsha and Sandra and one son, John.

... JOHN C. MCGEE, born in Pensacola, grew up in Fort Walton Beach. He graduated from Auburn University and the School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University. He also served in the U.S. Air Force.

John is President, First City Bank and is a member of several civic organizations including the Playground Area, YMCA.

John is on the board of directors of the Independent Bankers of Florida and is a commissioner on the Fort Walton Beach Redevelopment Agency. He served four terms as Treasurer, Krewe of Bowlegs.

He and his wife, Pamela, live in the local area. She is a native of Salt Lake City, Utah, and has lived here for eight years.

... WILLIAM D. NELSON is a native of Mobile and has lived here for twelve years. He is Chief of Environmental and Contract Planning Branch at Eglin AFB.

Bill received his degree in Civil Engineering from Auburn University in 1962, after which he spent four years in the U.S. Air Force, including a tour in Korea.

He is a member of Alpha Lodge No. 172; Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in Panama City; currently serves on the Divan as First Ceremonial Master of Hadji Shrine Temple and is a member of the Fort Walton Beach Shrine Club. Bill is also an Elk. He is founder and past-president of the Jubileers Hospitality Unit of the local Shrine Club and past-president of CBC Property Owners Association.

Nelson is a member of the Shalimar Methodist Church and a member of the County Planning and Zoning Board.

Bill's hobbies are golf, swimming and fishing. He and his wife, Tina, have two children, Teresa and Doug.

... ED TACONI, a native of Ocean Springs, Mississippi, has lived in Fort Walton Beach for twelve years. He received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from Mississippi State University and his Master of Business Administration from the University of West Florida. He is a scientist employed by the Air Force Armament Laboratory, Eglin AFB.

Ed is a veteran of the U.S. Army, having served as a guided missile officer in the Ordnance Corps.

His special interests are water sports and golf.

He and his wife, Sylvia, are parents of two children, Ned and Angela, and attend St Mary's Catholic Church. The family lives at 8 Pembroke Place, Fort Walton Beach.

Children of the Court

MICHAEL DORRIS

... Capt'n Billy's Sword Bearer

ALANA DAVIS

... Queen's Crown Bearer

ASHLEY MILLER

... Capt'n Billy's Medallion
Bearer

KAY-LYNNE KERR

... Queen's Medallion
Bearer

LAURA LEE & CATHERINE CHURCH ... Queen's Attendants

CREDITS

Coronation Pageant Coordinator Johnny Johnson
Coronation Pageant Director/Script Jane Hamby
Theme Coordinator/Advisor Bob Blizzard
Set Design Johnny Johnson
Set Design Special Consultant Jim Kendrick
Music Arrangements Mike Jones, Jim Lee
Musical Ensemble "The Combo" Jim Lee, Daniel Vicker,
Tom Church
Soloist Barbie Linnen
"The Act" Mike Bridges, Jane
Hamby, Nancy Kruzek,
Pat Morar
Dance Production Fort Walton Beach Ballet
Bernadette Clements, Director
Make Up Silva Berry
Hair Styles Michael Knight of "A Different Stroke"
Costumes Krewe Costumes: Murray Himmler of New
Orleans, Designs by Clarence
Queens' Costumes; Ladies of the Court;
Children of the Court; Barbie Linnen;
"The Act" - all by J.C. Hamby of
"Rags & Riches"
Fabrics: "Florida Fabrics"
Stage Manager/Lights & Sound Joe Crews
Set Construction/Stage Crew: Philip Blumer, George Jones, Dutch
Kleinhalter, Darrell Ankney, Keith Amiel,
George Doolin, Charles Mathews, Harry Barr,
Gordon Blenis, Bob Hunt, Charlie Born
Program Alyce & Darrell Ankney
Program Cover Carolyn Taylor
Ushers: Fort Walton Beach High School Air Force Junior ROTC Cadets;
Krewe members, Gervais Guidry, Hal Haskins, Carl Matthews,
Bob Mills, Charlie Roth, Bill Fagan

The KREWE OF BOWLEGS and the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce PUBLIC EVENTS COMMITTEE (Chairman, Charlie Born, Bob Blizzard, John McGee, Bob Gates, Richard Long, Dutch Kleinhalter, with Claudine Reed as Coordinator) are grateful to the City of Fort Walton Beach for their continuing support and assistance and to the many unsung individuals that have played a part in making the Krewe's TWENTY-FIFTH ANNI-VERSARY such a memorable one!



