

Meet the President

Although Janice Carroll is a sixth generation Texan, she didn't get to Irving until 1995, but it has become her home. In 1995 she was hired by the Irving Mayor and Council as the City Secretary. She has told many people that Irving is the biggest little town in the metroplex. She was astounded at the richness of the history and the warmth of people in this city that she, among many others, had "driven through" first on SH 183 and later on all of the other highways that cut through Irving. Those that keep driving don't know what they are missing.

Janice was born in Dallas, but for the majority of her life grew up in Waco. She stayed in Waco and worked her way through Baylor University, receiving a BA in history and English and a minor in Secondary Education. She noted that in her day women generally only thought they could be a teacher, a nurse, or a secretary! She taught in junior high for only two years and then started to move about the state. She worked in the private sector for many years before she stumbled into the role of City Secretary in 1977 as the first employee for the newly incorporated Fox & Jacobs subdivision named The Colony. This was more than a job; it was a unique experience. She learned so much about the formation of a municipal government in those ten years as she served as City Secretary, Interim City Manager several times, and City Manager. Carrollton was her next City Secretary position, and she left to come to our city to work and live.

Being retired now for three plus years has given her the opportunity to give back to her community. During her working days she enjoyed the fellowship of the Irving Rotary Club and has long been a member of the Heritage Society, the League of Women Voters, and has been on the Irving HealthCare Foundation board for six years.

At the installation of officers which was held on May 2 – a cold evening, but a warm small gathering inside the Heritage—she told her friends that her Mother taught her to love history and to value her heritage. Janice noted that her "four greats" grandfather led the Nacogdoches Company into the Battle of San Jacinto. She emphasized that while our ancestors do not define us and what we can accomplish in our lives, acknowledging those that came before us and the sacrifices that they made help us all appreciate the quality of life that we enjoy today. As President, Janice looks forward to working with the board and the members of the Irving Heritage Society in the preserving, the recording, and the celebrating of the history of the founders of the City of Irving that call this community home.

Fifth Annual Treasures and Oddities Sale Set for September 14

The fifth annual treasures and oddities (T & O) promises to be better than ever this year with a new place and time. This year's sale will be a part of the City's *Main Street Days and Manifolds on the Main Street Car Show* on **Saturday, Sept. 14**. Thanks to owner Jo Ann Goin, the sale will be at the Glory House Bistro, 109 S. Main. The sale kicks off at 10 am and goes until 3 pm.

Several Heritage Society members have been working since the first of the year, collecting and pricing all types of items for the big sale. The T & O committee reports that this year's event will have more varied items than ever before at reasonable prices. Sale items include golf clubs, original art work, costume jewelry, vintage ceramic boxes, a bread and dough maker, holiday decorations, and much more.

Proceeds from the sale will be used for the re-building of Mary's Playhouse. To donate items or to volunteer to work at the sale, please call 972-252-3838 or contact co-chair Patty Landers Caperton (pcaperton@tx.rr.com) or Kathy Howard (kchoward@verizon.net).

Bush Library Director Will Speak
by Kaye Ward

The next general meeting will be held on Monday, September 30. We are honored to have Alan C. Lowe, Director of the George W. Bush Presidential Library & Museum as our guest speaker. He will speak on the opening of the new library and his presentation will follow a brief business meeting at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Lowe joined the staff of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library as an archivist in 1989. Later he moved to the Office of Presidential Libraries at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. where he helped to oversee the presidential libraries located throughout the nation. Mr. Lowe also served as interim Director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library in Hyde Park, New York. He served as the founding Executive Director of the Howard Baker, Jr. Center for Public Policy at the University of Tennessee and in April 2009 began serving as Director of the George W. Bush Presidential Library & Museum.

Mr. Lowe received his BA and MA in history from the University of Kentucky.
The location of the September meeting will be finalized this month.

Recognition of Pete Fernandez
by Mary Higbie

A standing ovation was given to artist Pete Fernandez by the 110 guest attendees during the reception on June 17th of the unveiling of the Old Red Schoolhouse exhibit at the Central Library. Mrs. Fernandez has been a long time advocate for the arts and history in the city in so many different ways. Her art work as well as her volunteer effort has benefited a number of different organizations and projects within the Irving and Dallas area, including the Irving Heritage Society, the Irving Art Association, the Entertainment Series of Irving, the development of Heritage Park, Main Street projects, and the Frank Reaugh Art Club to name just a few.

Seventeen former Old Red students were identified and recognized during the evening. Built in 1913 by the Irving Independent School District, this school remains a special memory in the hearts of many. A painting of the Old Red Schoolhouse by Mrs. Fernandez is currently the centerpiece of the display at the Central Library, 901 West Irving Blvd. The evening was hosted by the Irving Heritage Society and the Irving Archives.

For more information, visit www.irvingheritage.com or call 972-252-3838.

4th of July Activities

The Irving Heritage Society joined with the Greater Irving Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce for the 4th of July parade. Among the many representatives riding the float that day was Ed Seay, Jr., owner of the MAL Hobby Shop. Ed had prepared 70 plus balsa wood gliders to toss out to the crowds along the way. Twenty of them were marked to be redeemed for a prize at MAL's, located at 108 South Lee Street. The hobby shop was established in 1948 by Ed's family.