

## PHF off to busy start in 2011

*By David Richbourg, PHF president*

It is an honor for me to be the newly elected president of the Pensacola Heritage Foundation. We were fortunate to gain two new board members at the Russian New Year's party - Adelene Lovelace and Nora Bailey.

Many, many thanks to Sue Nicholson for the excellent job she did for the past two years as our president and leader. I look forward to working with our energetic and talented board to reach a new level of service to this community.

Thanks to all of the board members who provided such wonderful food for yet another great party, which would have not been complete without our "toast" to Cook Cleland.

In January, the board voted to donate \$500 to West Florida Historic Preservation Inc. to help restore the Confederate flag that was carried during the battle of Santa Rosa Island at the beginning of the Civil War. To coordinate with the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, the flag will be displayed in the T.T. Wentworth Museum once restored.

Jim Green and Dan Kenan have been hard at work planning our 24th season of Evenings In Old Seville Square concerts. We will be helping the Navy celebrate the 100th anniversary of Naval Aviation with some special programming this season. Concert expenses continue to rise, so if you have a business and would consider being a concert sponsor, please contact Debbie (438-6505) at the foundation office.

We have added a new category and level of sponsorship, "Friends of the Concert" representing a \$500 donation. Please help us to continue bringing Pensacola 14 free weekly concerts per season in historic Seville Square by becoming a "Friend". We hope to see all of you at the concerts, beginning May 19th.

Our lecture series every other Thursday continues



**2011 President David Richbourg presents outgoing President Sue Nicholson with a Nina Fritz painting of Seville Square during the Russian New Year's party.**

to be informative and entertaining. Please check our Web site [www.pensacolaheritage.org](http://www.pensacolaheritage.org) for lecture topics and dates, continuing through May 26th in the Bowden Building. John Appleyard's stories are indeed a treasure to Pensacola.

It was our pleasure to help judge the Escambia County History Fair sponsored by the University of West Florida and West Florida Historic Preservation Inc. again this year. Sue Nicholson coordinated the judging for the Junior Heritage Keepers Award. On behalf of the Heritage Foundation, I presented the winner, Joanna Deng, a plaque and cash prize for her project "The Stamp Act".

It was amazing to see so many talented young people in this county excelling with their chosen history

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## Summer concert planning already underway

For more than 20 years, Pensacola Heritage Foundation has put on the popular weekly summer concert series, Evenings in Olde Seville Square. These free concerts draw thousands to the square each Thursday evening.

While the concerts are free to the public, the cost to put them on continues to rise each year. Not only do we have to pay the performers, there are numerous other costs: park rental, security, sanitation facilities, insurance, sound equipment. In all, it costs about \$5,000 for each concert.

How do we pay for it? First, we ask those who attend to join the Olde Seville Square Club, although membership is not a requirement to attend the concerts. Membership, which averages out to about \$1 per concert, has some special advantages. Members are automatically entered in drawings each week for a variety of gifts – everything from free dinners to gift packages from area businesses to concert tickets to a TV.

We also solicit sponsors for the concerts. There are a number of sponsorship levels available from series sponsor down to a new category called Friends of Evenings in Olde Seville Square for those individuals or businesses that want to help but elect not to sponsor an entire concert. Each level of sponsorship provides certain benefits. For more information about the sponsorship levels and benefits, please call the Heritage Foundation office at 438-6505.

Please consider being a sponsor of the Evenings in Olde Seville Square. Without our sponsors, we simply would not be able to continue to put on these concerts.

In case you are wondering how these concerts fit into our mission to preserve the heritage of our community – to paraphrase a great poet – let me list the ways.

It was through the efforts of the Pensacola Heritage Foundation more than 40 years ago that Seville Square, which had become something of a

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## Foundation supports County History Fair with award

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projects. The winners' exhibits will be on display this summer in the T.T. Wentworth Museum after traveling to regional and state competitions. Pensacola is well represented by these exceptional young students.

We continue to receive encouraging news pertaining to the foundation purchasing 417 East Government Street. As soon as clear title is achieved, we will be ready for help from our members on every level. Such a great project for us all to work on together. We continue to watch for other properties, but the location on Government Street seems to be perfect for us.

The Heritage Foundation will again host our annual July 4th picnic at the Barkley House. Invitations will be mailed to members, with details following in the next newsletter. This is absolutely the best place to see the fireworks in all of Pensacola, not to mention the wonderful food and beverages that will be provided.

Enjoy our beautiful spring, and we'll look forward to seeing all of you in Seville Square for great music beginning May 19th.

*Editor's note: In future editions, Board President David Richbourg, also known as "Dabo" will be writing a column called Dabo's Data.*



**PHF President David Richbourg presents the Junior Heritage Keepers award to Joanna Deng during the awards ceremony at the Museum of Commerce.**



## Welcome New Members:

Adelene and William Lovelace \* Elizabeth G. King \* Glynn and Judy McMillan  
Janice Anderson \* Ann Livingston

## Returning Members:

Martha Carroll \* M/M Scott Benson \* Joanne Andrews \*M/M Scott Mitchell  
Harriet Major \* Dr./Mrs. Dennis Peters\* M/M Thomas Jenkins  
Dana H. Fulford \* Robert Bellanova \* M/M Harold S. Moore  
Kenneth and Barbara Curtis

## Concerts help preserve Pensacola's heritage

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fenced off junk yard, became a viable part of our downtown community to provide an attractive venue for events such as Evenings in Olde Seville Square.

Not only do the concerts draw people to the square, they draw people to the historic district, giving them a chance to observe and be a part of activities in the historic district and discover what life in early Pensacola was like.

At least one concert each summer recognizes the military influence in our community's heritage and this year will be no exception as we recognize and participate in the Centennial celebration of Naval Aviation. After all, Pensacola is the "Cradle of Naval Aviation."

The Navy has been such a vital part of our community that it is fitting that we all join together to help celebrate this milestone of Naval History.

And, the concerts feature the many types of music that have had an influence on Pensacola's heritage – from jazz to classical, from soul to rock 'n' roll, from zydeco to dulcimer.

So, mark your calendars now. This year's season will kick off May 19 and continue every Thursday night until our last concert Aug. 18. The schedule will feature some of our all time favorites plus some new faces. We look forward to seeing you at the Park.



## *Coming events*

Several events are in the works for those history-minded people in our community.

First is the revival of Pensacola Heritage Foundation's Brunch B'twixt Buildings. Education Committee Chair Sue Nicholson, along with her very capable committee members Phyllis and Bill Williams and Debbie Adkins, are planning a special Brunch B'twixt Buildings for the Lenten season.

Although plans have not been finalized, the event is tentatively planned for Saturday, April 16, at several downtown churches. The event involves a tour of two or three locations, brunch at a nearby restaurant and then a tour of one more location.

Once details are finalized, they will be sent to PHF members and published in the newspaper.

On Saturday, April 9, the Pensacola Historical Society will be offering a chance to "Travel Back in Time" with a trip to Panhandle Pioneer Settlement for Panhandle Folklife Days Festival and a visit to Falling Waters State Park. Cost of the one-day bus trip is \$35 for Pensacola Historical Society members and \$45 for non-members. Lunch is included in the cost. For more information, call Wendi at 595-5985, ext. 111 or e-mail [wdavis4@uwf.edu](mailto:wdavis4@uwf.edu).

Also on April 9, St. Michael's Cemetery Foundation is inviting the public to "Get in the Spirit at Historic St. Michael's Cemetery." This event will be the unveiling of the Impact 100 St. Michael's Cemetery Conservation Project and is being held in conjunction with the National Council on Public History Conference being held in Pensacola that weekend.

## *Aunt Frannie thinks some Mardi Gras throws might be just a little too "twisted"*

All I can say is "Thank you, Punxsutawney Phil." For the first time in about forever, that weather prognosticating groundhog didn't see his shadow on Feb. 2, which meant winter was almost over.

Admitted, he didn't come through for the Northeast, but here in our little slice of heaven known as the Florida Panhandle or L.A. (Lower Alabama), the weather couldn't have been better the past few weeks. I didn't even need to don my long handles under my Mardi Gras finery this year.

Don't you just love Mardi Gras. It has to be one of the best parts of our heritage here along the Gulf Coast.

Between the parties and the parades, I've had a ball. Been to a few, too. However, I thought the economy was starting to rebound, but krewe members in a parade over in Alabama must not have gotten the message. Would you believe, one of the throws I caught over there was a package of Ramen noodles?!!

However, I did manage to snag more than my share of beads. I always take Jeeves, my chauffeur, along to the parades. The male krewe members just love me and throw me whole packages of beads, which Jeeves very sweetly picks up for me. And since Jeeves is young, handsome and very well built, the female krewe members shower him with beads, which he rightfully turns over to me. After all, I am his boss.

After I pick out the most elegant and unusual ones to go into my collection, I ship all the leftovers to ARC Gateway. They then sort and package the beads and resell them to the krewes to throw at next year's parades.

Now that's what I call a win-win situation. ARC clients make some money and the krewes save money by not having to buy brand new beads every year. I think that Alabama krewe needs to look into that. Then maybe they wouldn't have to throw Ramen noodles!



## *We welcome submissions to **The Heritage Times!***

### *"Unlocking Our Past"*

Pensacola Heritage Foundation  
(850) 438-6505  
P.O. Box 12424  
Pensacola, FL 32591

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