

# GOOD NEIGHBORS FRIENDS TIMES



his year's theme truly expresses my personal feelings about this remarkable organization! Carnival has always been special to me and my family and it has always been about good neighbors, good friends and good times! I consider it a great privilege to serve as President of the sixty-fifth anniversary edition of Carnival and encourage everyone to take an active role in the celebration of the region's retail industry and its many contributions to our economy.

Carnival is only as strong as those who participate in its events and activities. I am happy to report that Carnival is as strong as ever and *'the best is yet to come'*! We have excellent long term leadership and the greatest volunteers in the entire world.

I would like to welcome the Princesses, Ladies of the Realm and their parents to Carnival. This year's Royal Court represents neighbors and friends from six Mid-South states. I hope that you will make Carnival an annual tradition in your families and that you will return in the coming years.

When we talk about Good Friends, the Grand Krewes come

to mind. The eleven Grand Krewes have long been an exciting and vibrant part of Carnival and they have activities and memberships as varied as the Mid-South! Grand Krewes are an ideal place to make Good Friends of Good Neighbors and share Good Times!

Carnival has given much to our community from the shopkeepers and caterers who have heard cash registers jingling with Carnival purchases to the hotels and banquet facilities, entertainers, and the list goes on!

This year we will take an army of Carnival volunteers to make lunches for the needy served by the Final Net Ministry at First Methodist Church. We will also be cleaning wheelchairs for the residents at the King's Daughters and Sons Home. If you want to help, let us know!

I want to congratulate the members of the Krewes who have done an outstanding job of community service this year.

RaMet held a huge event in the Pinch district to benefit the American Cancer Society and Sphinx sponsored a run in honor of their Queen, Brenda Sanders to benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Sadly, Brenda



Lewis C. Williamson, Jr.  
President of Carnival

passed away in April. We extend our deepest sympathy to her husband, family and the members of Sphinx.

Ennead funded two wishes for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Cotton Makers Jubilee funds the R.Q. Venson Scholarship awards. The Boll Weevils make appearances and assist charitable events all year long!

There's a lot going on and Barbara and I hope that you enjoy all of the exciting events of this Carnival season. We invite you to make the annual celebration of Carnival part of your life. We assure you that the friends and memories that you make during each Carnival season will become some of your fondest treasures. Have a great time and thanks for becoming part of our fondest treasures!

**L**ewis said that *'the best is yet to come'* and encouraged everyone to join the fun and celebrate Good Neighbors, Good Friends & Good Times!