

## Welcome to Carnival

Cheers! And Hip Hip Hooray to another Carnival Season! While it has been intensified and therefore a bit crazy, hectic, and sometimes a bit topsy turvy, I have loved every minute of it, and I have loved every bit of time spent with each of you. Being president has afforded me the opportunity to see Carnival from a different perspective and be involved in a more intimate way. I know the mechanics better, and I know all of you better. And for that I am grateful. I am also grateful that this organization, that I have enjoyed for many years, so readily embraces its members and I thank you all for embracing me and supporting in this role.

In our intensified year I am pleased to say that we were able to hold all of our coronations, and fundraisers! If I had to sum up the last few months, I would say it was marked by enthusiasm and energy backed by a lot of hard work and a lot of love. I am so impressed with all of the Grand Krewes and everyone who jumped in to make this season not only happen but to make it successful and filled with joy. King Buddy and Queen Sarah Clifton and their families wowed the crowds and have been a delight to be with. Each of the Grand Krewes worked very hard to roll off of Winter Carnival and move straight into a fresh year. They created exciting parties, selected three wonderful charities, raised money for the Children's Charities Initiative, and held our 13th annual Krewes for Kids. All of this was done, of course, with the fun and companionship that is signature to Carnival.

Also, signature to Carnival is the Business and Industry Salute which raised money for our charities while highlighting the Accounting Profession. While important it is not an industry known for its humor or being glamorous, but our panel of honorees were entertaining, gracious and often down-right funny! We were given a lot of positive feedback and I would say that most of us in attendance agree that it may have been the best B and I ever! Though I may be biased...

The hard work that went into these different events culminated in a fabulous evening of festivities, our "Party with a Purpose", that once again raised significant funds to be donated to the Children's Charity Initiative. I am beyond thrilled for our recipients: Memphis Child Advocacy Center, Compass Community Schools and Southern Reins for Equine Therapy. Visiting with and getting to know these organizations is always impressive. Seeing how they serve Memphis will change you, and one can't help but see the city in a new light. Working with our charities is what I love most about Carnival. This is where we come together and where our heart is.



Standing left to right: John, junior; Katherine, John III  
Seated: Hope and Stewart Dogs: Bella, Brook and Robin

We should be proud. We have come a long way, and I see our future as bright and growing. You have so graciously welcomed me, and I look forward to years of welcoming and supporting new members, and for the continued strengthening of this community that loves Memphis and wants to keep doing amazing things!

Thank you for all your enthusiasm, energy, hard work and love. I am honored to serve this community and more honored to call you friends.

And a very big thank you to my sweet family, Ex-Rex John, and my crazy, fun kiddos, John, Stewart, and Hope. I appreciate all of your love and support always and especially this year.

Thank you and Cheers to Carnival 2022!

*Katherine S. Dobbs*

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2022 President