
**Guide to the
Carolyn Jeter Kelly Collection
1944 – 2003
(bulk 1948 – 1967)**

1 cubic ft.

Accession Numbers: 0001-008, 0001-084, 0102-097

Collection: 77

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Biographical Sketch

Carolyn Jeter, born in 1934, was raised in Irving, Texas. She attended the Irving schools and graduated from Irving High School in 1951. Carolyn was a member of the Irving High School drill team and played forward on the district champion Irving High School girls' basketball team in 1950. After high school, she attended North Texas State University (today University of North Texas) graduating in 1955 with a B.A in Art Education. Upon returning to Irving, Carolyn married her high school sweetheart, John Kelly, on July 9, 1955.

The Kelly's settled in Irving where they had two children: a son born in 1958 and daughter born in 1961. They were involved in a number of Irving's civic and social organization with the Irving Junior Chamber of Commerce (Jaycees) being their primary interest. John Kelly served as Jaycee president in 1963 and Carolyn was president of the Jaycee-ettes in 1967-68. The Irving Jaycee-ettes, organized in 1954, assisted their Jaycee husbands in their activities serving the community.

Beginning in 1955, Carolyn taught art in the Grand Prairie schools before moving on to teach art at the middle school and high school levels in the Irving Independent School District. She spent the bulk of her career, 16 years, at Stephen F. Austin Junior High School in Irving. She retired in 1993.

Sources: conversations with Carolyn Jeter Kelly; The Caroline Jeter Kelly Collection.

Scope and Content

The Carolyn Jeter Kelly Collection is made up of material relating to Carolyn Jeter's childhood and her family life in Irving; her career as an art teacher; and her involvement in civic and social organizations. Included in the collection is information about life as an Irving High School student, 1947-1951, as well as material about the Irving Jaycees and Jaycee-ettes, 1963-1969. The Carolyn Jeter Kelly Collection is arranged in five series and

housed in one manuscript box and two flat boxes.

Series I consists of items from Carolyn Jeter Kelly's childhood and family life including material relating to her membership in the Rainbow Girls, school certificates, and her engagement announcement, 1955.

Also in this series are a variety of documents pertaining to Carolyn's father W. C (Clay) Jeter and his career in Irving. Among these are newspaper clippings about Jeter Motors and the Continental Trailways Bus Station in Irving which the Jeter family operated during the 1940's. Also included are articles relating to Mr. Jeter's opening of North Texas Glass Co. in 1956, and his job working in the maintenance department at the Irving Independent School District.

Series II is made up of documents from Carolyn's years as a student in the Irving schools with the focus on her years in Irving High School, 1947-1951. A scrapbook documenting the Irving High School football team of 1949 and photos of the cheerleaders, drill team, football teams, and other similar subjects are of particular note in this series. The scrapbook is in fair condition but the pages are somewhat brittle so they have been removed from the bindings as a preservation measure.

Other school related items in the series are Carolyn Jeter Kelly's high school diploma, 1951, and a commemorative plate given to members of the graduating class of 1951 by the Irving State Bank. Also included is a set of pages titled "Tiger Memories" which contain photographs of 1940's high school events as well as photos of classmates, friends, family and events in which Carolyn took part. Another item of interest is a reunion book put together in 1982 for the 30th reunion of the Irving High School class of 1951. Also of interest is a letter from Guy Deel, class of 1950 and noted western artist, sending his regrets that he cannot attend a class reunion.

Series III consists of newspaper articles and documents relating to Carolyn Jeter Kelly's time as an art teacher at MacArthur High School. Among the articles is information on developing the school's mascot, "Big Mac": the school's first prom, 1967; and the school's first graduating class, 1967. Included in the series is the MacArthur High School senior class photo, 1967.

Series IV consists of newspaper articles about a variety of civic organizations in Irving in which the Kelly's played a role. The articles pertain to Carolyn and John Kelly's activities in the Elks' Club and the Irving Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Jaycee-ettes during the mid-to-late 1960s. Also included are two Jaycee sponsored coloring books for which Carolyn did the illustrations.

Series V consists of a wide range of artifacts. Among other items are an Irving Telephone Directory, 1954; a cheerleader's cowbell decorated by Carolyn for her daughter Kim, who was a cheerleader at Irving High School in the late 1970s; and a commemorative plate given to the Irving High School graduates of 1951 by Irving State Bank.

Provenance and Statement

The Carolyn Jeter Kelly Collection was donated to the Irving Archives in three accessions

from 2000-2002. Accession 0001-008 was donated October 13, 2000; accession 0001-084 was donated March 13, 2001; and accession 0102-097 was donated January 20, 2002. Prior to its donation to the Archives, the material in this collection was in the possession of Carolyn Jeter Kelly.

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish from the Carolyn Jeter Kelly Collection must be obtained from the Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

Note to Researcher

Accessioned among these personal records are records relating to the Irving Jaycee-ettes. The items; a club scrapbook, a meeting minute book; and a club orientation guide are records of the Irving Jaycee-ette organization and have been removed from this collection and placed in the Jaycee-ette collection.

An April 18, 1964, issue of the Daily News Texan has been removed from the collection. A special insert was created for the celebration pertaining to Irving's 50th year of incorporation. This is a duplicate and can be found in other locations in the archives. Please consult with the archivist.

Container List

Series I. Personal Documents

Box 1

Folder Title, Dates and Descriptions

1 Carolyn Jeter, 1938-2003 (bulk 1947-1949)

Contains documents relating to Carolyn Jeter Kelly's years growing up: a Ritual Order of the Rainbow for Girls manual, 1939; membership cards to the Order of the Rainbow for Girls and to the Dallas Historical Society, 1947-1949. Also included are Carolyn and John Kelly's engagement announcement, 1955; and Kim Kelly's obituary, 2003.

2 W. C. (Clay) Jeter, 1949-1964

Contains newspaper articles about W. C. (Clay) Jeter, Carolyn's father, relating to his work at Jeter Motors, North Texas Glass Co., and the Irving Independent School District.

Series II. Student Life

3 Documents, 1947-1982 (bulk 1949-1951)

Contains a variety of school related items such as penmanship certificates, 1945 and 1947; report card, 1946-47; Irving Elementary School graduation program, 1947; invitations to Irving High School graduations, 1943 and 1950; football programs; Carolyn Jeter's Irving High School diploma, 1951; scrapbook pages and other material relating to the class of 1950-1951.

4 Newspapers, 1949-1951

Contains newspaper articles relating to student activities such as girls basketball and drama club; a graduation issue of the student newspaper, The Tiger Rag, May 28, 1951. The newspaper has been moved to Box 2.

5 Photographs, 1944-1964

Contains photographs relating to Carolyn's years at Irving High School, 1947-1951. Some of the photos included are of: majorettes, the drill team, cheerleaders, members of the girls' basketball team, 1950, and a photo of the Irving High School graduating class, 1950.

6 Reunion Book, 1982

Contains a memory book put together for the 30th anniversary of the Irving High School graduating class, 1950-1951. The book is made up of newspaper articles from 1950-1951 relating to class activities.

Series III. Teaching Career

7 Newspapers, 1964-1985, (bulk 1964-1967)

Contains articles relating to Carolyn's teaching career at MacArthur High School: a prom program, 1967; a MacArthur High School PTA yearbook, 1964-65; as well as an issue of The Tale Feather, the MacArthur High School student newspaper, May 19, 1967. The paper contains articles about MacArthur's first prom. The paper has been placed in Box 2.

Photograph, 1967

A panoramic photograph of the MacArthur High School graduating class of 1967 has been encapsulated and placed in the Flat File Cabinet, Drawer 3.

Series IV. Civic Organizations

8 Jaycee-ettes, 1963-1969

Contains newspaper articles relating to the Irving Jaycee-ettes. Carolyn Jeter Kelly was president of the Jaycee-ettes, 1967-68.

9 Jaycees, 1963-1967

Contains newspaper articles relating to the Irving Jaycees; a Jaycee coloring book with drawings done by Carolyn Kelly; and photographs taken at Jaycee meetings and events, 1965-1967.

10 Elks Lodge, 1967-1969

Contains newspaper articles about Elk Lodge events and John Kelly's badge from the Texas delegation to the national convention in New York City, 1968.

Series II. Student Life - Oversize Items

Box 2

Folder Title, Dates and Descriptions

1 School Newspapers, 1951 and 1967

Contains the May, 28, 1951, issue of the Irving High School student newspaper, The Tiger

Rag, and the May, 19, 1967 issue of the MacArthur High School student newspaper, The Tale Feather.

Football Scrapbook, 1949

Contains a scrapbook pertaining to the Irving High School football season, 1949. The scrapbook is made up of newspaper articles about the football team and game-day programs from various games during the season.

Series V. Artifacts

Box 3

Artifacts, 1951-1979

Contains an Irving High School commemorative plate given to member of the class of 1951 by Irving State Bank; a cheerleader's cowbell decorated by Carolyn Kelly for her daughter Kim, who was a cheerleader at Irving High School; a pioneer dress and bonnet worn for a Pioneer Day event in Irving, 1964; an S&H Green Stamps catalog, c. 1950's; an Irving telephone directory, 1954; and a postcard from an event celebrating the Apollo 11 moon landing, 1969.