

# Historic Delano News January - February 2013

### Promoting Delano's past, present & future

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Howdy,

Welcome to the new year! We hope everyone's holiday season turned out well. There seemed to be a definite trend toward shopping local this year. Christmas in Delano certainly turned out well, and the new lighted trees around the clock tower looked great!

Along with the new year come some changes.

After 22 years of living in the heart of downtown Jim has moved west of Seneca. After renting for so many years, the combination of a low housing market and gentrification in Delano's downtown now make it much cheaper to own a house.

A move brings a new focus. Apart from all the work to be done on the house, there are other things to be done and other interests to pursue. This often means that prior things are laid aside.

The **News** will probably not continue in this form or if so, infrequently. **HistoricDelano.com** is getting a makeover and will become our primary outlet for news about the district. Our **E-mail list** will receive occasional notices and updates.

We will have three events this year - the parade, the **Ghost Tour** & **Christmas in Delano**. Nancy has those covered by now. (*parade info pg. 2*)

Jim's main project for **Historic Delano** this year is the **2013 Visitors Guide** *(information soon)*.

Jim will continue to be involved with the **Delano Community Garden** and the **Farmers Market** and will work with **IGO** on local food initiatives.

See you at the parade! - Jim & Nancy

## Calendar

#### Planning for St. Patrick's Day

Tuesday, February 12, 2013 6:00 p.m. Central Plains Novelty 905 W. Douglas

St. Patrick's Day in Delano just keeps getting bigger every year. This year we will be having our event on *Saturday, March 16th, 2013* 

Once again, it will be a day-long event starting with breakfast in the morning followed by the parade, Beef & Guinness Stew for lunch and entertainment into the evening.

We also have some ideas about ways to get people into the businesses.

We'll finalize plans for the event at our February meeting. Please attend.

Coming up - 2013 Visitors Guide

#### Contact us

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The 7th Annual St. Patrick's Parade in Historic Delano will be Saturday, March 16th and begins at High Noon.

This parade has become the <u>2nd largest parade</u> <u>in Wichita!</u> Yea!! Last year the police estimated the crowd to be about 10,000 people... and there were over 1,000 more in the parade!

The parade route is the same as in years past along Douglas Avenue from McLean to Walnut. Be aware that streets in that area will be closed beginning at 11:30 a.m. and opened back up after the parade at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Just think of all of the new potential customers about to be at your front door. I encourage all of you to promote your business in a special way. Have a sale, give out samples or coupons, host a face painter or musician. Get creative!!! Entice these visitors to stay a little longer to shop and get something to eat while they are here.

Several activities are already planned:

The **Downtown Senior Center** will once again have their **St. Patrick's Breakfast** to benefit the Civitan club.

The **Shamrock Lounge** is also having their **Pre-Parade Party**, **Beef & Guinness Stew** for lunch and Bagpipes and Celtic music all weekend. Sunday will be their **10th Annual Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner**.

New Covenant Church will be having food and activities for the kiddos after the parade.

For more information about these activities, go to historicdelano.com/StPats

If you are planning an activity for parade day, and want it listed on the web site, please send your information to Jim@historicdelano.com There is always room for you in the parade. The entry fee is \$30 this year. Download an entry or enter online at <u>historicdelano.com/parade</u> or stop in to Central Plains Novelty, 905 W. Douglas and pick one up.

If you can't parade with us, be sure and step outside and watch. Since I am busy with getting paraders lined up, Zandra at our shop asks the customers to step outside with her so she can lock the door and watch. When the parade is over, the doors are unlocked again and the customers follow her back in.

There has been some concern about customers asking to use your toilets. Every year, we rent 10-12 toilets and place them along the parade route for visitors to use.

I am always open for suggestions, so if you have any other concerns please contact me so that I can address them.

For the first time ever, St. Patrick Parade T-shirts are available for \$10.00 each for Child and Adult sizes. These should be available in 2-3 weeks. To be sure to get your size, you can preorder now. I will gladly take your order... contact me.

The cost of the St. Patrick's Parade continues to increase. Entry fees help to cover the cost of security, but donations & sponsors are needed to cover the rest. Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated. A Sponsorship of \$250.00 or more will get your company name and logo on the poster, the Historic Delano web site, and on the T-shirts. Hurry, the deadline for this is Feb 1.

The Eagle has been contacted for a Delano page in the GO! section, please consider being included in this. Everything we do to promote helps us all.

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