

The Pinkerton Christmas Spectacular

The Christmas pageant is a well established part of the holiday mythos. Every year, children the world over recite the Christmas story while dressed as shepherds, angels, and wise men. They sing carols and popular holiday songs while parents watch with unrestrained pride.

For Janis Arthur, born in 1957, Mrs. Faye Pinkerton's annual Christmas Show remains one of her strongest memories of the holidays in Coppell. The show was held in the old gym at Coppell Elementary, now known as Pinkerton Elementary.

"We practiced one day a week for several weeks," Arthur says. "We sang all the favorites, funny and religious. The high school choir performed also, and there were other solos and skits."

Mrs. Pinkerton, who taught music and choir for grades one through twelve, directed the show. Arthur recalls that Mrs. Pinkerton would mouth the words to the songs as she conducted.

At the beginning of the show the performers entered the darkened gym carrying burning candles. White paper doilies protected their hands from the dripping wax. Each student was dressed in their finest. They also wore red capes with white bows that were provided for the performance.

"I'm sure these had been worn by many students before us!" Arthur says. "We really felt special because everyone in our small town was there. I can't tell you that we sounded great, but we sure felt important that night!"

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