

# About the Territorial Governor's Race

**Guthrie's favorite fundraiser tends to get a bit...competitive.**

Each year the Guthrie Territorial Christmas Foundation nominates a few citizens to run for Territorial Governor. Votes are sold for \$1 each, and candidates each compete to buy their way to the title. All proceeds are donated to the non-profit and help fund the yearly Christmas events.

It isn't easy to convince upstanding citizens to part with their pocket money.

Campaigners have been known to garner votes with brilliant costumes, yummy baked goods, social media crusades, custom Christmas card photo shoots, door-to-door tactics, campaign teams, and general merriment.

It's all in good fun and last year, for the first time ever, the good times were broadened to include a Junior Territorial Governor seat. Forevermore, Guthrie shall have twice the revelry—and twice the rivalry! Candidates shall give it their all, and then be whisked along the Lighted Christmas Parade route—in finest Victorian garb—to discover if all of the "hard" work pays off.

## **INAUGURATION CEREMONY & TREE LIGHTING**

Following the Lighted Christmas Parade, the contenders await their fate. Each candidate is introduced to the crowd before the sealed letter is opened. The new Governors receive—along with the thrill of overcoming the competition and lighting the tree—a signed certificate, a special medal, and an honorary "key to the city".

Then, as their first act, the Governors will LIGHT-THE-TREE! Honor Park is the home of our Territorial Tree which, wrapped in thousands of lights, will then stay illuminated for the rest of the Christmas season. Even after the Opening Night festivities, the thrill of winning lives on! Governors also receive an article in the newspaper, and during their term appear on the GTCF website and social media pages. They also are featured guests of honor at the Annual 89ers Parade, held in April of each year. The Guthrie, OK 89ers Parade is the largest and oldest parade in Oklahoma.

The candidates will be announced in early October. Vote early, vote often!



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