

BETTY PORTER

Mrs. Betty Porter is a shining light in Round Rock. She has spent years developing the cultural and historical resources of her community. When she and her husband Jim moved to Round Rock 25 years ago, they undertook the project of restoring the Barker House in Old Town. This structure, built circa 1860, is one of our oldest and most intact historic properties. More than a hundred years ago, it was home to Dudley Barker, a Texas Ranger and cattleman. Through the Porters' efforts, the home has been restored, and Mrs. Porter hopes to secure a State Historical marker for it.

Mrs. Porter has spent the better part of her life helping and teaching her neighbors. Her background as a teacher of history, art and drama has shaped her contributions. In Round Rock, she helped found and direct the Sam Bass Theater Association. She also directed the Sam Bass shootout at Frontier Days for 20 years. The murder mysteries she has directed at the Library have benefited the summer reading program. In fact, programs that assist handicapped children and teach child and adult literacy are nearest to Mrs. Porter's heart. She says she has a great compassion for people with learning problems. And experiences great joy by helping them. We are all grateful that she has opened her home and heart for many years, enriching our community.