CarmelFest 4th of July Parade

July 4, 2017

Hats Off to America

Parade Rules and Regulations - Please note very IMPORTANT CHANGES

The parade steps off at 10:30 a.m. on July 4th at AAA Way and Carmel Drive. The parade travels west on Carmel Drive to Rangeline Road, turning North to Main Street, travelling east on Main and ending at Carmel High School.

All parade entries will be evaluated before being accepted, including sports, recreation and children's organizations. Entry will be based upon the entertainment value of the entry and the execution of the theme. There will be entries selected that are not tied to the theme such as elected officials, bands, and other entries specifically brought in for their entertainment value. Creative floats are encouraged. The CarmelFest Parade Committee reserves the right to accept or decline any entry.

Registration Rules and Procedures:

Application deadline is May 19, 2017

IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR LARGE WALKING ENTRIES. There will be a limit of 25 walking participants per unit. Clubs for dance, cheer, athletics, etc must limit their participants!

IMPORTANT CHANGE in 2016 --NO CANDY MAY BE DISTRIBUTED ALONG THE PARADE ROUTE.
• No items of any kind may be distributed from the parade unit to the audience – This is a safety concern for our audience.
• The parade will be limited to **75 units** plus the Grand Finale

*CarmelFest Parade Waiver Forms* MUST be completed by each entrant. Please print the form, and make copies for each member of your unit. You will find the form on the "Parade" page of the CarmelFest website near the greeting. Waiver forms will be picked up by Parade Marshals before the parade begins on July 4th.
• Strictly commercial entries will not be allowed. Entries MUST either reflect the theme or have an entertaining appeal for the spectators. Vehicles wrapped with advertising will not be accepted. Driving billboards will not be permitted.
• All parade participants will receive instructions regarding proper parade conduct by a Parade Marshal the morning of the 4th. Failure to comply with these instructions will lead to non participation in future parades. Distribution of candy or other items from a unit to the audience will also lead to non participation in future parades. We reserve the right to remove an entry during the parade for violation of these policies.
• Absolutely NO water guns or soakers.
• Parade units must maintain a forward motion and keep pace throughout the parade route. Performances must take place while moving, unless an exception is granted by the Parade Committee. This will be strictly enforced
• The unit and all advertising must be approved by the Parade Committee. This is a “G Rated” family event.
• Any change to the unit must be approved by the Parade Committee. Changes made to a unit after application approval will cause the entry to be eliminated from the parade.
• All children that participate in the parade must have direct adult supervision while in a car, on a float or walking in the street.
• It is the responsibility of each unit to provide water for their participants.
• Only vehicles pulling floats or providing transportation for entrants will be allowed in the parade. Extra vehicles will be removed at lineup unless approved prior to the parade, in writing, by the CarmelFest Parade Committee. The registration profile page must indicate the exact number of feet needed for line-up and the exact number of vehicles.
• **Car clubs may have up to 20 vehicles** and these vehicles will be in 10 rows of 2 vehicles each. The registration profile page must indicate the exact number of vehicles that will be driving in the parade.
• Equestrian units must include a grounds person to provide immediate clean-up for the animals in the unit.
• Dogs should not walk in the parade to prevent overheating and damage to the animal from the hot pavement.
• Drugs, alcohol and tobacco use are not permitted.
• All drivers must hold a valid driver's license and be 21 years of age.
Application Checklist:

- The application must be filled out completely. Only on-line applications will be considered.
- A sketch or photograph complete with lettering and advertising must be emailed to the appropriate coordinator for your unit. A list of coordinators may be found on the greetings page or mailed to the address listed below. Photographs may be uploaded on the profile page of the registration. Entries without a sketch or photograph will not be considered.
- Checks must be made payable to CarmelFest and mailed to the following address:

  CarmelFest Parade Committee - P.O. Box 3953 - Carmel, IN 46082-3953

Parade rules, final instruction packets and unit numbers will be mailed to the contact person approximately one week prior to the parade. Please make sure that the correct contact person is named on the registration form and that the address on the registration is correct for mailing. Line-up information will be published in the local newspaper.

Pricing:

NO FEE

- Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts
- School Groups such as clubs, cheerleaders, etc.
- City of Carmel Elected Officials
- Invited Guests
- Military Groups

$75 FEE

- Candidates and Elected Officials outside of the City of Carmel
- Not-for-Profit Organizations

$125 FEE

- Commercial Entries

Parade Float Contest:

The 2017 CarmelFest Parade will again feature a contest for the float entries in the parade. The entries will be judged in three categories:

- Judges Favorite - Commercial and Not-For-Profit
- Most Patriotic - Commercial and Not-For-Profit

Judging will be based on execution of the theme, originality of design and spectator appeal.
Indicate, in the space provided on your application, that you would like to be a part of the float contest.

There will be one set of awards for commercial entries and another for Not-for-Profit entries. Judging will take place between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. prior to the start of the parade. All participants who would like to be in the contest need to be in their respective line-up position by 8:30AM on July 4, 2017.

Winning floats will have a display banner carried in front of their unit and they will be announced at the Review Stand, where the parade is televised. They will also be announced at the Gazebo before the fireworks that evening. Awards will be given at a later date.

Please share these rules with all participants as a violation of these rules will result in forfeiture of future participation in the parade. Let's follow good parade conduct and have a wonderful time.

We look forward to receiving your application to participate in the

CarmelFest 4th of July Parade!