

2012 Tulip Time “Celebrating Decades of Mills”

To: All Tulip Time Float entries

We look forward to having your entry in the 2012 annual “Volks Parade” on May 3-5! The theme for this year’s festival is “Celebrating Decades of Mills.” In preparing for the festival there are some guidelines that you need to follow to ensure an enjoyable parade for all ages focusing on Pella’s Dutch heritage.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MUST BE PROVIDED EACH YEAR. EVEN IF YOU ARE ENTERING THE SAME FLOAT AS PREVIOUS YEARS.

- A primary contact name, phone number and cell number for your float/unit.
- An updated/new script for your float (by April 1st), please return to Historical Office, PO Box 145, Pella or info@pellatuliptime.com.

Guidelines for new/revamped floats:

If you are planning a new or revamped design for your parade entry please follow these guidelines:

- Float must have a Dutch or children’s theme such as cartoon/nursery rhyme characters or children’s movie character (proper authorization must be obtained if character is copyrighted).
- A written description is to be submitted to the Tulip Time Steering Committee explaining how the changes or new float relate to our theme and guidelines. Sketches of new and updated designs must be approved by the Tulip Time Steering Committee (design sketches can be submitted to Tulip Time Steering Committee, PO Box 145, Pella IA 50219).
- Maximum height of float must be less than 15.5 feet. No more than 14 feet wide. No more than 35 feet long
- No advertisement is allowed on the float, other than the business name and logo, size restricted to no larger than 48” x 36”.
- Financial assistance is available for float covering or decorating materials for non-profit organizations only. One-half of expenses up to \$500 per organization will be reimbursed by submitting receipts to the Historical Office (PO Box 145, Pella) by May 30, 2012.
- All floats and entries built before Jan 1, 2009 are grand-fathered from these policies. If changes are made to the existing float, they would have to adhere to the new policies.

Other Information:

- Each unit must maintain the distance between units as set by the parade starters. Units may not stop to perform unless a written proposal is submitted to the Tulip Time Steering Committee, no later than April 15, 2012. If a gap develops please re-establish the correct distance between you and the unit in front of you.
- For the safety of our parade spectators, NO candy throwing is allowed from the floats. Items may be passed out along the parade route providing there are costumed adults and/or costumed children with adult supervision walking beside the unit handing items out. Absolutely no flyers, brochures, pamphlets, propaganda, advertisements, coupons may be

handed or thrown out before, during or after the parade. Members of the steering committee will confiscate any such material during the parade.

- Riders will not be allowed to leave the float once it is in motion! This rule will be strictly enforced for safety reasons. If a rider is asked to leave the float by a parade official, they will remain with the parade official until the parade has finished. Please meet them at the corner of East 3rd and Franklin immediately following the parade.
- No alcohol beverages may be consumed or displayed before or during the parade on the floats.
- Equestrian units must have prior parade experience and verification in writing that the horses are parade safe. Each horse must have its own catch bag.

Pull Vehicles:

Pella Historical floats will be pulled by the same organization/person that pulled them the previous year if they choose to do so and if their performance the previous year was satisfactory to the Tulip Time Steering Committee. All other floats may be pulled with your own private vehicle as long as it meets the following requirements:

- Drivers of vehicles need to be dressed in a Dutch costume or something resembling a Dutch costume (i.e. plaid shirt and Dutch hat).
- All vehicles must be clean (no rust) and in good running condition (no loud mufflers).
- No after market graphics are allowed on vehicles.
- No advertising license plates will be allowed on the pull vehicles (front or back) when pulling floats in the parades. This includes dealer plates.
- All riders/drivers must stay inside the vehicle throughout the entire route of the parade.
- Throwing of candy, promotional items, and flyers is prohibited from pull vehicle.
- Any vehicle deemed unacceptable by the Tulip Time Steering Committee, will result in the pull vehicle and float being dismissed from that parade.
- No alcoholic beverages are allowed.
- All drivers must have a valid driver's license.

Float Judging:

Five awards will be handed out to winning entries. The awards are

- Originality
- Best use of lights
- Best use of Tulips/Dutch elements
- Wow! Factor
- Queen's Choice

Floats are judged by non-steering committee members or members of the Pella Historical Society board. They are judged of their originality, use of color and lighting, use of Dutch elements or this year's theme and overall appeal.

Entries other than floats are required to follow the same guidelines as changed or new floats.

Thank you for your involvement with our Tulip Time festival and your cooperation with these guidelines is very much appreciated!

Sincerely,
Tulip Time Steering Committee