



APPLICATION FOR ENTRY

ATTENTION: Prospective 2017 Robins Regional Christmas Parade Participants

PLEASE READ ALL INFORMATION PRIOR TO COMPLETING THE FORMS. INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. EACH PAGE HAS A SPACE FOR YOUR INITIALS CONFIRMING YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND EACH PAGE.

On behalf of the Robins Regional Chamber we are pleased to announce one of the biggest parades in the Southeast: The 2017 Robins Regional Christmas Parade! The Parade will be held on Saturday, December 2, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. beginning at the parking lot of McConnell-Talbert Stadium on South Davis Drive across from Warner Robins High School.

- This is the official 2017 Robins Regional Chamber Christmas Parade packet. **PLEASE NOTE ALL DATES AND DEADLINES AS THEY WILL BE ENFORCED.**
- Incomplete applications or those without payment will **NOT** be accepted.
- Read **ALL** Rules and Regulations – even if you believe they don't apply to you, your group or unit.
- Parade packets are available October 2 through November 3, 2017 with deadlines and costs. Early bird discount valid through October 18th. **NOTE: ENTRY FEES INCREASE WITH EACH DEADLINE.** The deadlines and costs are listed on the application. **ABSOLUTELY NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER November 1st.** The earlier you submit your packet the better the opportunity for participation!

In honor of the 60th anniversary of the Robins Regional Christmas Parade, we're celebrating by turning back the clock to the year of our first parade - 1957. In 1957 the United States was the world's strongest military power. Its economy was booming, and the fruits of this prosperity – new cars, suburban houses and other consumer goods—were available to more people than ever before. Classic cars, planes, and crooners dot the pages of history defining the era.

Our theme for this year's Christmas Parade is "Come Fly with Me" – celebrating the best of the era that marked our beginnings, and our most-fitting grand marshal for this year's parade will be none other than the Museum of Aviation featuring a truly one-of-a-kind parade entry. This popular classic written in '57 was made famous the following year by Frank Sinatra as the title track of his latest album. "Come Fly with Me" is still one of the most recognizable tunes Sinatra ever sang. The all-too-familiar tune was featured prominently in the 1963 feature film Come Fly with Me sung by Frankie Avalon. The song also appears in numerous films, including Raging Bull (1980), Catch Me If You Can (2002), and PanAm (2011), and another dozen movies and TV-series.

Parade participants are encouraged to incorporate popular tunes of the era, themed décor and attire with classic, late 50s-early 60s elements and a nod to our military in celebration of this year's event. Be creative and most importantly have fun with your unit design. Feel free to include theme-related music and decorations. This is the time to really be a "show off." The Judging Criteria information is also included on the last page of this packet. .

CHRISTMAS PARADE
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 201

RULES, REGULATIONS, & GUIDELINES

APPLICATIONS: Entry forms MUST be completed and submitted according to the following guidelines.

- Early Bird Discount (\$50 off) good thru **October 18, 2017**
 - Automatically applied to COMPLETED online & paper apps received by deadline
- Deadline for Registration is **Friday, November 3, 2017**
- There will be NO exceptions for applications received after registration deadline. No cancellations on leased floats after November 1, 2016
- **CANCELLATION POLICY (For all units EXCEPT Leased Floats): Full Refund given until November 3, 2017. After November 3, 2017, partial refund will be given, with a charge of \$25.00 for processing fee, until November 17, 2017. No Refunds will be issued after November 17, 2017.**
- Applications will be reviewed by the Parade Committee. Applicants will receive a second mailing confirming their acceptance and line-up details after November 18th.

Vehicles: Any self-propelled conveyance, not otherwise defined as float, upon which a set or display may be constructed and/or within which participants may ride, all motorized units of less than two (2) ton capacity shall be defined as "vehicles." (Note: All trailers and/or towed vehicles shall be defined as "floats." See Creative Float Section below.) Vehicles shall be limited to pick-up trucks of less than two (2) ton capacity, convertibles, antique autos or any VIP auto. **Cars, jeeps or any other vehicle club shall be limited to 10 units per applicant.**

Marching Unit: Marching units shall be limited to bands and to units which show unusual or colorful displays of costume and drill or performance routines. The Chamber encourages as much color and excitement as possible throughout the parade.

Creative Float: A free-standing, self-supporting and stable platform on which an appropriate set or display is constructed. If designed to be towed by a vehicle, the float should have two or more wheels, a stable connecting device or hitch, with positioning beneath the float to provide stability for the display and passengers. The applicant is responsible for the stability of the float (whether moving or at rest) and for ensuring the placement of the display and passengers upon the float provide a stable, safe platform. If self-propelled, the float shall be a truck of no less than two (2) ton capacity, having a suitable bed or platform upon which a set or display may be constructed. ***Maximum trailer length of 20 feet unless disclosed on application. Additional fee for extended trailer will be assessed. Once the parade has begun, no one is allowed to get on or off the float until the float has reached the termination zone.**

Float Leased From Chamber: Floats may be leased from the Chamber at a cost of \$500.00. Leased floats are supplied with a driver and a towing vehicle. Decorations can be added to enhance the float to the parade theme, which is **"Come Fly With Me."** Signage fee is included in the lease price. For more information, call the Chamber at 478.922.8585. **Only 12 Leased Floats are available. Once the parade has begun, no one is allowed to get on or off the float until the float has reached the termination zone.**

Unit Safety Officer: Each parade unit sponsor, regardless of the type, must designate at least one person of mature judgment to be their "Unit Safety Officer" and supervise the safety and conduct of everyone associated with that unit. The unit's driver may not be designated as the Unit Safety Officer; although the driver is ultimately responsible for the safety and conduct of his passengers. The Unit Safety Officer briefs all participants, and accompanies the unit throughout the parade. The Unit Safety Officer insures that children are never left alone or unsupervised; permitted to wander about the staging areas; or permitted to leave the staging area without adult supervision. **Unit Safety Officer MUST attend a mandatory Safety Briefing or the unit will be disqualified with NO refund.**

Stay Put/Hold On: Passengers on a float or vehicle must remain seated at all times during the parade. There will be no dangling of legs over the side or sitting on the edge of a float or vehicle. Passengers must be able to hold onto something substantial to protect them from sudden acceleration, stopping or turning corners. **Once the parade has begun, no one is allowed to get on or off the float until the float has reached the termination zone.**

Give-Away Items: **NO** items of any description whatsoever will be thrown, tossed or distributed in any manner from any person, float, vehicle, towing vehicle or marching unit to or toward or within the spectators. There will be no physical contact between the parade participants and the spectators during the parade.

Drivers: **All drivers must be licensed, willing to accept responsibility for the safety and conduct of their passengers and attend a safety briefing.** Drivers should drive at a steady speed, maintaining a 25-50 foot interval, and not exceed 4 miles per hour. They should be particularly careful when turning, stopping or starting to avoid injuring their passengers.

Safety Briefings: Three Safety Briefings have been scheduled for your convenience. The designated safety officer **MUST** attend one of the briefings. The **MANDATORY** Safety Briefings are scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 28th at 3:30p.m.; Tuesday, Nov. 28th at 5:30 p.m.; and Wednesday, Nov. 29th at 7:30 a.m. All briefings will be held at the **Flint Energies Member Service Center at Carl Vinson and Russell Parkway**. Space is limited and registration is required (see application form). Zone line up cards will be assigned at these meetings. If your unit does not have a card, you **MAY NOT** be allowed to participate in the parade.

Cooperation of Participants: Prompt and full cooperation is essential to assemble and coordinate a parade of this magnitude. **The unit sponsor will ensure their Unit Safety Officer and Driver are briefed and given copies of these rules.** Units are expected to arrive at their designated assembly areas between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. on the morning of the parade and follow the instruction of their guides. They will be directed to their assigned location and will not move until directed to do so. Failure to be in place and ready to go at the appointed time or disruptive, unsafe or non-cooperative conduct will result in the unit being eliminated from the parade.



CHRISTMAS PARADE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2017

Prohibited Units: With the exception of Masonic or Shrine units and formally organized vehicle clubs, the following are prohibited from entry and will not be accepted: three-wheeled and four-wheeled "all-terrain" vehicles; dune buggies, race cars, go-carts and all other off-road vehicles; campers, camper trailers; non-motorized bicycles, tricycles and the like; skateboards; and any other vehicle judged by the Chamber as being unsuitable or inappropriate for the parade. Horses, whether ridden or draft animals, will be permitted only if provisions are made to clean-up immediately after them and will be staged at the end of the Parade following Santa Claus.

Prohibited Display: All displays will be in good taste and inoffensive to the community at large. There will be **only one "Santa Claus"** in the parade, and this will be reserved for the Official Chamber of Commerce unit at the end of the parade. No other person(s) fully or partially costumed in such a way as to create the impression of "Santa Claus" will be permitted to enter the parade and the vehicle or float upon which he/she would have ridden may also be barred.

Preparation: Floats should be completed prior to arriving at the assembly area. Cosmetic repairs or touch-ups are expected after floats arrive, but major construction work will not be allowed and may cause the float to be eliminated from the parade.

Signage: All Vehicle and Float Entries will be provided with two official parade signs. Please complete the sign form with your application. Fewer words allows for larger type size and better legibility.

Decorations: Decorations, costumes and signs will conform to the spirit of the season, and generally accepted community standards of good taste and decorum. The Chamber reserves the right to rule on their acceptability, and may direct they be changed, eliminated, or the unit be disqualified from participation. The Chamber strongly encourages participants to wear Christmas costumes and/or colors.

Music: Units are strongly encouraged to provide music of the season with their entries. Special exceptions may be made for Marching Band units and other school affiliated performance groups to play non-Christmas selections, but **all other units providing music must play music that supports the Parade theme of "Come Fly With Me" or be Christmas/Seasonal related.**

Pickup Areas: Pickup areas for parade participants are still being determined as adjustments have been made from last year's route. The Parade will end at the intersection of Watson Blvd. and Houston Road. Your unit will be assigned an area by the time of the safety briefings for the safety officer to notify participants.

NOTE: In the event of inclement weather, the parade WILL go on. No cancellation or refund of payments will be made.



CHRISTMAS PARADE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2017

SAFETY BRIEFING SCHEDULE

Safety Briefing for Unit Safety Officers and/or Drivers at Flint Energies

- Tuesday, November 28th | 3:30 pm
- Tuesday, November 28th | 5:30 pm
- Wednesday, November 29th | 7:30 am

PARADE DAY | Saturday, December 2, 2017

7:00 am	Official Chamber Parade Volunteers report to their zones.
7:30 am	Meeting of all Parade Unit Safety Officers and Volunteers at their assembly areas at McConnell-Talbert Stadium.
8:00 am.	All vehicles, floats, and marching units begin to report to their designated assembly areas and are guided into position.
9:00 am	Davis Drive closed to traffic. Deadline for all units to be in their assembly areas.
9:30 am	30-minute warning. Units arriving after this time lose their place in the parade. All units must be ready to go. On order, floats leave assembly area and are guided to departure line at Davis Road. On order, vehicles leave assembly area and are guided to departure line at Davis Rd. On order, marching units move to their departure lines.
9:45 am	15-minute warning. On order, units begin moving in numerical sequence to start point.
10:00 am	Parade begins.
11:15 am	(Estimated) Lead elements reach termination point at Watson Blvd. & Houston Rd. Follow instructions of guides. Once stopped, vehicles remain in place until the end of the parade.
12:00 noon	(Estimated) Parade is completed.



CHRISTMAS PARADE
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2017

JUDGING CRITERIA

Please carefully read the following information concerning the judging criteria for the 2016 Robins Regional Christmas Parade.

1. The floats in the Chamber's Christmas parade are judged according to a set of criteria as follows:

- Represent Theme: "Come Fly With Me"
- Costuming
- Originality
- Overall Appearance

2. Each category is given points from 1-10 with a possible total of 40 points. Floats are judged while going through the parade route to be critiqued. Judges turn in their sheets to the Chamber staff. Winners will be contacted and an announcement will be made by the Chamber for newspaper/media.

3. Trophies judged by Chamber Members are given to winners in the following groups:

- (1) Religious
- (2) Business
- (3) Civic (Non-Profit Organizations)
- (4) Best Band (performance)
- (5) School Spirit (dance, jump rope, musical art, etc.)

4. There will be an extra special award once again this year, known as "The Grand Marshal Award." This will be awarded to the unit dubbed "Best in Show." This award will be judged by the 2017 Parade Committee and awarded by the Robins Regional Chamber. The winner of this award will have priority placement in the 2018 Christmas Parade!

Best Wishes to ALL participants...don't forget to BE CREATIVE!!!