

July 15, 2022

Dear Float Sponsors and Builders:

You are cordially invited to enter a float in **one or both** of our parades during the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Preston County Buckwheat Festival. Parade choices are: **FRIDAY, SCHOOL/COMMUNITY DAY, SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2022** (line-up at 12:00 noon DST and parade starting time at 2:00 P.M. DST), or **SATURDAY, FARMERS' DAY, OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2022** (line-up at 10:00 A.M. DST and parade starting time at 12:00 noon DST).

**2022 Festival Theme:** “80 Years of Memories”. You are not required to use this theme to design, build and decorate your float, but it may provide some inspiration for a float design and presentation.

**JUDGING:** Judging is executed by out of state professional float judges. Buckwheat Festival Royalty Floats **are not judged**. The decision of the judges is **FINAL**.

**PRIZES:** Four \$50.00 First Place Prizes per day, one in each of four competitive categories, provided each category has a valid competitive entry or entries.

**ENTRY DEADLINE: WRITTEN ENTRIES ONLY** are accepted and **MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2022** so pre-parade entry forms may be completed and distributed to the parade marshals for line-up sheet preparation, to the float judges for score sheet preparation and to the parade announcers for script preparation. **NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED BY PHONE.**

**INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS—GREEN FORM:** These **MUST BE FOLLOWED** for your successful participation in our parades. Please provide a copy of this letter and these regulations to the individual(s) submitting the float entry form **AND** to the individual(s) bringing your float to our parade(s).

**RESPONSE:**

If you plan to enter a float in our parade(s) submit the **YELLOW FLOAT ENTRY FORM** to me in the enclosed pre-addressed envelope.

**LINE-UP NUMBERS:** *Beginning Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup>*, you may check our website, [www.buckwheatfest.com](http://www.buckwheatfest.com), to obtain your line-up number and to access a map of the parade line-up area or call our Parades Coordinator/Parades Marshal, Mr. Leroy King (304)-698-4304 (C), (304) 441-2609 (H) to obtain your line-up number. Otherwise, you will be given your line-up number when you enter our parade line-up area at the East end of High Street.

Thanks to the float sponsors who are redesigning, rebuilding and redecorating floats this year.

We particularly welcome **all** first time entrants in our parade(s).  
We welcome and appreciate your participation/competition in our parade(s).

Sincerely appreciative,

William M. Lindley II  
2022 Float Entry/Competition Coordinator  
117 Parkview Drive  
Kingwood, West Virginia 26537-1351

(304)-329-1117 (H)

[williamlindley2@atlanticbb.net](mailto:williamlindley2@atlanticbb.net)

**ORIGINAL:**

2022 Float Invitation Cover Letter 7-15-22 = Computer Hard Drive Copy Until Saved to a Disc, or Deleted

**COPIES:**

**Electronic Copies Sent to the Following Individuals at the Time Invitations are Mailed:**

2022 Festival Secretary—Angela Marrara  
2022 Parades Coordinator/Parades Marshal—Leroy King  
2022 Bands/Bands and Float Judges Coordinator—Mike Shaffer

**Hard Copies Distributed to the Following Files and/or Individuals:**

**William M. Lindley II Use:**

Parades Three Ring Binder—2022 Reference & Model for 2023 Revisions

Any additional copies deemed necessary or requested by any Fire Department or Festival Steering Committee Members. Whenever possible, these requested copies will be provided electronically.

Encl:

2022 Float Entry Invitation Cover Letter 7-15-22  
2022 Float Entry Information, Criteria, Regulations & Procedures 7-15-22  
2022 Float Entry Response Form 7-15-22  
2022 Self-Addressed Return Envelope

(T 7-12-22 To Be Mailed 7-15-22 WML II)

2022 Float Invitations Cover Letter 7-15-22 (Revised 7-12-22)

**Kingwood Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.**

**Preston County Buckwheat Festival**

**Parade(s) Float Entries**

**2022 Float Entry Information, Criteria, Regulations and Procedures**

**[ONLY OUR ROYALTY FLOATS MAY PARTICIPATE IN OUR FIREMEN'S DAY PARADE]**

**The individual(s) submitting the entry form AND those bringing your float to our parade(s) MUST BE GIVEN A COPY OF THIS MATERIAL.**

## **CRITERIA FOR FLOATS AND PULLING VEHICLES:**

### **Floats:**

Dimensions: Length 40 feet, Width 12 feet, Height 15 feet and Ground Clearance **MUST BE** at least 15 inches.

Decorative materials **must be fire retardant**. Safety devices must be provided for the float riders and the individuals in the pulling vehicle including a currently certified ABC fire extinguisher.

**Not accepted as float entries in our parades:** Decorated cars, trucks, or other commercial vehicles. At the discretion of our Parades Coordinator/Parade Marshal(s), these units may participate in our parades. Application for participation is through our Parades Coordinator/Parade Marshal(s).

### **Pulling Vehicles:**

Float sponsors are to provide their own pulling vehicles. All motorized parade units, pulling vehicles, and/or floats participating in our parade(s) must be clean, in safe mechanical order, adequately fueled, operated in a safe manner in the parade line-up area and through the parade route, and make an appropriate presentation fitting for a family oriented festival parade.

Any parade entries, pulling vehicle and/or floats deemed inappropriate for family viewing, unsafe and/or inadequately protected will be disqualified and not allowed to participate in the parade(s).

Signage on the pulling vehicles shall be limited to the company name, the name of the sponsoring group, names and titles of float riders and acknowledgements such as "Vehicle Courtesy of.....".

## **CRITERIA FOR RIDERS AND FLOAT MESSAGES:**

### **Riders:**

Parade participants under 10 years of age **must be driven** through the parade(s). If children under the age of ten (10) are riding on a parade float, at least one adult **MUST** accompany the float driver in the towing

vehicle throughout the parade to insure the safety of the riders and to assist with any emergencies. Individual(s) riding in our parade(s) who currently hold, or are running for any type of political or public office **SHALL NOT** represent their candidacy, nor the political or public office held in any manner on any parade entry.

## **Float Messages:**

**NO** political or controversial issue(s) may be represented or alluded to in any way on any parade entry.

## **COMPLETING THE FLOAT ENTRY FORM:**

Written entries only are accepted and **MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2022. NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED BY PHONE.**

Floats may be entered in the Friday and/or Saturday parade(s), but **MUST** compete in the same competitive category each day. A Friday float winner **will not** be judged on Saturday, but float sponsors are encouraged to enter these prize winning floats in our Saturday parade.

## **Competition:**

### **DEFINITIONS:**

**PROFESSIONAL FLOAT:** The float is rented or purchased from a professional float builder.

**AMATEUR FLOAT:** The sponsoring group obtains the float superstructure, designs, builds and decorates their float.

### **COMPETITIVE CATEGORIES:**

**A. Category I Amateur Sponsors: (1) Youth Organizations or (2) Schools.**

**B. Category II Amateur Sponsors: (1) Adult Organizations, (2) Churches and Religious Organizations, or (3) Guest Fairs and Festivals.**

**C. Category III Amateur Sponsors: (1) Commercial Business Profit or Non-Profit, (2) Manufacturing or Industrial Business, or (2) Governmental Organizations or Entities.**

**D. Category IV Professional: ALL professionally built floats MUST compete in Category IV ONLY.**

## **PARADE DAY:**

### **Line-Up Logistics:**

Enter the parade line-up area on East High Street. East High Street intersects WV Route 7 East (Veterans Memorial Highway) at the Advance Auto Parts store which is near its intersection with WV Route 26 North (North Preston Highway) at the Kingwood Clear Mountain Bank building.

You will be assigned a line-up number when you enter the line-up area on East High Street. These numbers are painted on the pavement..

All floats **MUST** be on their line-up spots on East High Street at the designated parade line-up times.

### **LINE-UP TIMES:**

**12:00 noon DST** on Friday, School Community Day. The parade starts at 2:00 PM DST.

**10:00 AM DST** on Saturday, Farmers' Day. The parade starts at 12:00 Noon DST.

Once lined-up, a driver or a person in charge **MUST** remain with the float at all times.

The use of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and/or the misuse of prescription drugs by **any** parade participants before or during the parade(s) is **PROHIBITED** and may result in legal action by the local authorities. **NO** inappropriate language or behavior by **any** parade participant(s), intoxicated or otherwise, **WILL BE TOLERATED.**

Porta-Johns are available along the parade line-up area.

There are no facilities available within the parade line-up area for float riders to change clothes.

Food is available from the vendors on the Buckwheat Festival grounds.

### **Parade Route Procedures:**

**NO SOLICITING, THROWING OR HANDING OUT OF ANY ITEMS:** Because of the safety hazard it presents, the throwing from floats or other parade units and/or the handing out of any objects, (Candy, pennies, balloons, printed materials or any other such items.), or soliciting directly to parade spectators along the parade route before or during the parade(s) is **PROBIBITED.**

Any float or other parade unit intentionally stopping or slowing the forward movement of the parade(s) will be disqualified as a prize contender and/or asked to withdraw.

Float drivers are to maintain a distance of sixty (60) feet between the parade units while the parade(s) is in forward motion unless otherwise instructed by parade officials/firemen.

In case of mechanical difficulties, or other emergency on your unit or within the parade, the float or parade unit **MUST** move, or be moved to the right-hand curb if at all possible as quickly as possible so as not to impede the forward movement of the parade, or hinder emergency response individuals/vehicles.

Floats are judged as they transgress the parade route.

**A \$50.00 FIRST PLACE PRIZE ONLY** will be awarded in each competitive category provided sufficient eligible entries exist in that category.

**ALL float riders MUST REMAIN on the float throughout the entire parade route.** The parade(s) will end on South Price Street. KVFD firemen will direct float drivers to **A SPECIFIC SITE TO**

**PARK.** To avoid blocking the flow of the parade and emergency vehicles, **DO NOT PARK** until directed to do so by a KVFD fireman. Once parked, disembark riders as safely and quickly as possible and then quickly tear down your float or other parade unit. Once torn down, move out of this parade/festival congested area to make room for other floats and parade units to accomplish these same tasks. Pick-up trucks and other motorized parade units needing to disembark riders will be expected to follow these same procedures.

## **Post Parade Prize Presentations:**

Winners will be announced from the Festival Information Center once the judges have made their determinations, usually within two hours of the conclusion of the parade(s).

**FLOAT SCORE SHEETS:** You may request your float score sheet(s) at our Festival Information Center at the time float parade winners are announced.

Prizes to be awarded are at the discretion of the Kingwood Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. and are subject to change without prior notice. If used, trophies or plaques will be awarded from our Festival Information Center in conjunction with these parade winners' announcements.

Monetary prizes will be awarded by check and mailed following the Festival. **If no official recipient is listed as requested on the entry form, the prize will be forfeited.**

## **DISCLAIMER AND AGREEMENT:**

The board of directors of the Kingwood Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., or their designee, reserves the right to screen and approve or reject any or all requests or applications to participate in our parades. The right is further reserved by the above to exclude objectionable, or unsafe parade entries, or inappropriate, non-compliant participants once observed in the parade line-up area or during participation in the parade.

Failure to comply with any or all of these written regulations, verbal instructions, or requests made by our Parade Marshal(s), firemen and/or their designated parade staff could result in competitive disqualification, removal from participating in the parade(s), removal from our float and/or parade invitation mailing list or any combination of these consequences as determined by the appropriate designated Kingwood Volunteer Fire Department/Festival Official(s). These individuals have the authority to enforce these regulations and to issue additional instructions for the smooth execution of our parades for the safety of our parade participants and spectators.

We respectfully request that you and your group cooperatively comply with these instructions, requests, and any directives made by the Parade Marshal(s), parade staff, and/or firemen.

(T 7-12-22 To Be Mailed 7-15-22 WML II)

2022 Float Entry Information, Criteria, Regulations & Procedures 7-15-22 (Revised 7-12-22)

Kingwood Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Preston County Buckwheat Festival

2022 Float Entry Form

\_\_\_\_\_PARTICIPATION ONLY \_\_\_\_\_COMPETITIVE FLOAT ENTRY

[Check one of the above only. This entry information will be used to describe your float and to publicize your riders as your float passes the reviewing stand during the parade(s).]

1. We Plan to Enter The (Check One or Both):

\_\_\_\_\_School/Community Day Parade: Friday, SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_Farmers' Day Parade: Saturday, OCTOBER 1ST, 2022

2. Name of Sponsoring Group or Organization:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Sponsoring Group's Background Information and Organizational Purposes:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FLOATS MUST BE ENTERED IN THE SAME COMPETITIVE CATEGORIES BOTH DAYS

A Friday float winner will not be judged on Saturday, but float sponsors are encouraged to enter these prize winning floats in our Saturday parade.

ALL PROFESSIONALLY BUILT FLOATS MUST COMPETE IN CATEGORY IV ONLY---  
ALL SPONSORS!!

4. Our Construction Category Is (Check One): \_\_\_\_\_Amateur \_\_\_\_\_Professional

5. Our Competitive Category Is (Check One):

A.\_\_\_\_\_Category I--Amateur Sponsors--(1) Youth Organizations or (2) Schools

[COMPLETE THE BACK OF THIS PAGE]

B.\_\_\_\_\_Category II--Amateur Sponsors--(1) Adult Organizations, (2) Churches and Religious Organizations, or (3) Guest Fairs and Festivals

C.\_\_\_\_\_Category III--Amateur Sponsors--(1) Commercial Business Profit or Non-Profit, (2) Manufacturing or Industrial Business, or (3) Governmental Organizations or Entities

D. \_\_\_\_\_ Category IV--Professional—All professionally built floats MUST compete in Category IV ONLY.

6. Description and Theme of Your Float Entry: \_\_\_\_\_

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7. Riders Each Day (Give Names and Titles for All Riders):

A. Friday: \_\_\_\_\_

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B. Saturday: \_\_\_\_\_

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[COMPLETE THE NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM]

We have read and understand all of the information herein including the GREEN “Float Entry Information, Criteria, Regulations and Procedures” form. We certify that we will comply with all of these regulations as well as any additional requests and instructions issued by KVFD fire fighters, the Parade Marshal(s) and their designated parade staff.

We will not hold the Kingwood Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. nor the Preston County Buckwheat Festival or subdivisions thereof liable for any personal injuries or property damages caused to persons or objects participating in, or viewing either parade as a result of our parade participation. We understand that we are participating at our own risk.

Sponsoring Group or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Position:\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No.: (Day)\_\_\_\_\_ (Evening)\_\_\_\_\_

Complete Mailing address--P. O. Box, Route or Street:\_\_\_\_\_

City/State:\_\_\_\_\_ Zip:\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address, [Optional]:\_\_\_\_\_

Make Prize Check Payable To:\_\_\_\_\_

Mail The Prize Check To (Name and Complete Mailing Address in the Format Listed Above):

[SEE THE BACK OF THIS PAGE FOR SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS]

RETURN THIS ENTRY FORM IN THE ENCLOSED PRE-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE

WRITTEN ENTRIES ONLY are accepted and MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2022 so pre-parade entry forms may be completed and distributed to the parade marshals for line-up sheet preparation, to the float judges for score sheet preparation and to the parade announcers for script preparation.. NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED BY PHONE.

IF NOT USING THE ENCLOSED PRE-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE, SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY FORM TO:

Parade Float Entry

C/O Kingwood Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Preston County Buckwheat Festival

115 Brown Avenue

Kingwood, West Virginia 26537

Attention: William M. Lindley II

To assist us with preparing our 2023 float invitations mailing list, please:

Check the applicable response(s):

1. \_\_\_\_\_ We will not be entering a float in this year's Preston County Buckwheat Festival parade(s).
2. \_\_\_\_\_ In anticipation of being able to enter a float in the Preston County Buckwheat Festival parade(s) next year, please leave us on the 2023 float invitation mailing list.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Please remove our name from the KVFD float invitations mailing list.

(T 7-12-22 To be mailed 7-15-22 WML II)

2022 Float Entry Response Form 7-15-22 (Revised 7-12-2