

Bel Air Independence Day Committee, Inc.

P.O. Box 724 • Bel Air, Maryland 21014 • 410-879-4245

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED and/or SENT BY JUNE 10, 2008 (see Entry Rules)

ENTRANT _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Day Telephone _____ Evening Telephone _____

ENTRANT CATEGORY (Check **one**): [] **Business or Institution*** [] **Club, Group, Pack or Personal**

Please check **one only** of the following (call 410-879-4245 if any questions):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Unit — musical | <input type="checkbox"/> Float (definition on Rules & Regulations pages) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Unit — non-musical | <input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian Unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wheeling or Rolling non-motorized unit (such as Cub Scouts on bikes) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Company |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comic/Novelty Act | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Unit (car, truck, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Color Guard | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Antique Vehicle | |

Description of Unit (# participants, # & type of vehicles **actually in the parade**); this **MUST** be completed:

Number of vehicles you will use to transport participants to the staging area, if more than above: _____
(this information helps us send you staging area passes).

IF POSSIBLE, ATTACH DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION ABOUT YOU FOR REVIEWING STAND!

Required Entry Fee Enclosed: \$ _____ (See Entry Fee Instructions on Rules & Regulations pages).
Make checks payable to the **Bel Air Independence Day Committee, Inc.**

BY SIGNING THIS ENTRY FORM, THE UNDERSIGNED ACKNOWLEDGES THAT:

1. He/she is authorized to sign this entry form on behalf of the entrant and the information provided is true and correct.
2. He/she has read and understands the Parade Rules and Regulations, especially the Entry Rules, and agrees to comply with said Rules and Regulations, and has read and understands the Waiver of Liability set forth in Section 3 below.
3. Waiver of Liability: Entrant waives any and all demands, suits, actions, or claims of any kind whatsoever it has ever had in the past or will have in the future against the Bel Air Independence Day Committee, Inc., and the Board of Town Commissioners of the Town of Bel Air and their respective servants, agents or employees for any and all losses, damages, claims, costs or charges of any kind suffered by entrant as a result, either direct or indirect, of participating in the Town of Bel Air 4th of July Parade on July 4, 2008. Furthermore, entrant shall indemnify and hold harmless Bel Air Independence Day Committee, Inc., and its servants, agents or employees against any and all claims, suits, actions, costs and demands of any kind made against the Bel Air Independence Day Committee, Inc., as a result of entrant's participation in the Town of Bel Air 4th of July Parade to be held July 4, 2008.

Signed by _____ (SEAL) Date _____
Authorized Signature

**MAIL THIS FORM TO THE ADDRESS AT THE TOP OF THIS PAGE, ATTN.: MICHAEL BLUM
YOU MAY FAX THIS FORM TO 410-893-2598 OR YOU MAY USE THE INTERNET – SEE ENTRY RULES
ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES. SEND THIS ONE PAGE IN ONLY!**

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- A. Date and Time:** Friday, July 4, 2008, from approx. 6 pm to approx. 8 pm.
- B. Theme of Parade:** A Salute to Those Who Serve Our Nation.
- C. Entrants Description:** The Bel Air Independence Day Parade includes many different sorts of units, including color guards, floats, marching units, wheeling or riding units ("scouts on bikes"), motorized units, emergency vehicles, military vehicles, comic acts, car clubs, novelty units, commercial or business entries, etc. The Bel Air Independence Day Committee, Inc., welcomes any and all groups and individuals to participate as entrants so long as they conform to the parade rules listed below. In the interests of presenting the finest entertainment value to the spectators, all groups are encouraged to enter as Organizational and/or Commercial floats, decorated in accordance with the theme of the parade.
- D. PARADE ROUTE:** The Starting Point for the 2008 Parade is the intersection of Gordon Street, Bond Street and North Main Street, at the "Welcome to the Town of Bel Air" sign. After leaving the starting point, the parade will proceed south-eastward down Bond Street and cross Baltimore Pike. The parade then will proceed on Kenmore to South Main Street until the intersection of Idlewild and S. Main, which is the Parade end. Marching units will be directed right onto Idlewild Street into the Middle/High School Complex, where they will be directed to designated dispersal areas; mobile units will be directed straight through towards MacPhail Road, where they may disperse and proceed as they wish.
- E. Parade Staging:** Staging for the parade will occur on Gordon Street, North Main Street, Broadway, and/or other streets in the area, as well as in parking lots and designated spaces; specific staging instructions will be mailed to participants, following acceptance by the Committee of the entrant. These instructions also include dispersal information.
- F. Staging Times:** Staging is from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm. Specific locations for various units, how the parade is organized, and other important information will be mailed under separate cover following acceptance by the Committee of the entrant.
- G. ENTRY FEES:**
- 1. Business or commercial entrants** (including non-profit associations) are required to pay a non-refundable Entry Fee of **\$175.00**, payable with the application; this includes floats, mobile units, marching units, etc.
 - 2. Units sponsored by civic organizations, churches or clubs** (including scout packs, car clubs, etc.), or personal entries, are required to pay a non-refundable Entry Fee of **\$10.00**, payable with the application.
 - 3. Municipal entrants such as Police and Fire Departments, Elected Officials of Harford County municipalities**, and official representatives of Harford Governmental Agencies or Departments, pay no entry fee.
 - 4. Elected Officials of non-Harford County municipalities** MUST submit an application and are required to pay a non-refundable Entry Fee of **\$175.00**, payable with the application.

H. ENTRY RULES FOR APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE INTO THE PARADE:

1. **ENTRY APPLICATION FORMS MAY ONLY BE TRAFFICKED THE FOLLOWING WAYS:**
 - a. **BY US MAIL** to the official address of the Committee:
P.O. Box 724
Bel Air, MD 21014
 - b. **BY E-MAIL** from the official Committee web site, using the Entry Application Form available at <http://www.belairjuly4.org>
 - c. **BY FAX** to 410-893-2598.
 - d. **IN PERSON** by dropping off the entry application at the offices of Clifton, Gunderson LLC, in Bel Air. **APPLICATIONS MAY NOT BE DROPPED OFF AT THE TOWN OF BEL AIR TOWN HALL.**
2. **ALL ENTRY APPLICATION FORMS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JUNE 10, 2008**, in the case of those sent via US Mail; **or RECEIVED by JUNE 10, 2008** in the case of those faxed or sent via E-mail. The Committee reserves the right to extend this deadline if, in the sole opinion of the Committee, such an extension is warranted.
3. Incomplete or late Entry Application Forms are subject to rejection and/or non-inclusion in judging.
4. Only the Entry Form as printed by the Committee and included on its web site may be used; however, this form may be photocopied or otherwise reproduced at will.
5. Since the Entry Fee is a necessary part of the application, failure to include the Entry Fee will result in the Entry Form being rejected without notice.
6. **THE ENTRY FEE MAY NOT BE SENT VIA FAX OR E-MAIL.** It is the responsibility of the entrant to make sure the fee is received by the deadline, or the entry application form will be deemed **INCOMPLETE**. For questions, please call 410-879-4245.
7. Entries to the parade will be accepted on a **FIRST COME BASIS**. The Bel Air Independence Day Committee, Inc., reserves the right to reject or accept any parade unit for any reason whatsoever, and to determine participation based on diversity, suitability for the occasion and prior participation. The Committee's and the Judges' decisions as to classification of parade units are final.
8. Parade officials may deny any entrant entry to the parade on the day of the parade if, in the opinion of the parade officials or parade marshals, the entrant has misrepresented any information on the Entry Application Form.

I. RULES FOR PARADE PARTICIPATION

1. **PARADE MARSHALS MUST BE OBEYED.** The parade marshals control the units, enforce parade rules and will arrange entrants to pace the parade in a manner deemed most suitable; their instructions **MUST** be obeyed at all times. Failure to obey a parade marshal's order will result in immediate ejection from the parade and may possibly subject the offender to arrest.
2. **NO ENTRANT IS PERMITTED TO THROW OR HAND OUT ANY ITEM TO SPECTATORS.**
THIS RULE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

3. THE PARADE IS A NON-SECTARIAN, NON-PARTISAN EVENT.

- a. Elected officials of Harford County municipalities are invited to participate in the parade free of charge out of respect for their offices; this includes the Town of Bel Air Commissioners; Elected Administration and Court Officers of Harford County; Maryland State Senators and Delegates with Harford County constituents; Maryland State Government elected officials with Harford County constituents; and United States elected officials with Harford County constituents.
- b. Political clubs or organizations may NOT participate, since they are by definition partisan. Candidates for elected office may NOT participate for the same reason.
- c. Elected officials of municipalities outside Harford County are welcome to participate, but must formally apply to enter and pay a \$175 non-refundable Entry Fee.
- d. No participant will be permitted to display material advertising any candidate for public office, nor shall there be any campaigning along the parade route. **THIS RULE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.**

4. SIGNAGE RULES

- a. Signs or banners are NOT required for entrants in the parade but are encouraged in that they help spectators identify the entrant.
 - b. Signs or banners may carry the name of the unit, sponsor, patriotic statement or title, preferably in keeping with the theme of the parade.
 - c. Units and marchers may not display signs or banners which promote a cause or could be considered by the average person to be picket signs or banners.
5. If a vehicle should become disabled during the parade, a parade marshal will direct the vehicle to be pushed to one side or off the route (whichever is easiest and causes the least disruption of the event), if the vehicle fails to restart after 30 seconds.
6. No airborne or flying objects will be permitted near the parade, with the exception of a fly-over by United States Armed Forces.
7. No demonstrations or performances that are deemed dangerous to the spectators and participants will be permitted. This includes motorized units, which **MUST** drive in a straight line unless specific permission has been received in advance (subject to safety checks and verification of safety procedures). **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.** The Town of Bel Air Police Department will uphold the public safety and enforce safe operation rules to the fullest extent of the law.

8. HEIGHT AND WIDTH RESTRICTION

No units may exceed fourteen (14) feet in height measured from road surface, due to utility wires along the route. All units must be able to fit within a one-lane-wide space when necessary (there is one narrow space on the route at S. Main Street).

J. PRIZES TO BE AWARDED.

The Official Parade Judges have sole authority to reward or not to reward all prizes. Prizes may be changed without notice. Prizes may be awarded as follows:

1. Floats*
 - a. Organizational or Personal Entries
 - 1st Prize: \$300
 - 2nd Prize: \$200
 - 3rd Prize: \$100
 - 4th - 10th Prizes (if any): Plaques awarded at the discretion of the Judges
 - b. Commercial or Business Entries
 - 1st Prize: \$300
 - 2nd Prize: \$200
 - 3rd Prize: \$100
 - 4th - 10th Prizes (if any): Plaques awarded at the discretion of the Judges
2. Equestrian Units
 - a. Group or Club
 - 1st Prize: \$100
 - 2nd Prize: \$75
 - 3rd Prize: \$50
 - b. Individual Units
 - 1st Prize: \$100
 - 2nd Prize: \$75
 - 3rd Prize: \$50
3. Antique Cars (1st through 3rd place plaques)
4. Color Guards (1st through 3rd place plaques)
5. Mobile Units (1st through 5th place plaques)
6. Marching Units (1st through 5th place plaques) (“rolling” units count as marching)
7. Fire Companies (1st through 3rd place plaques)
8. Comic/Novelty Acts (1st through 3rd place plaques)
9. Most Unique Entry (plaque)
10. Other Awards: Judges’ Awards, honorable mentions, other awards of cash, trophies and/or plaques will be awarded if, in the opinion of the judges, they are merited.

K. The Judges’ decisions as to prize or award winners are final.

L. VERY IMPORTANT: The Judges urge all participants to consider the theme of the parade in decorating their float or other entry; consistency with the theme of the parade is a significant factor in awarding prizes!

*** FLOATS MUST BE EITHER TOWED BY A VEHICLE OR MUST BE SELF-PROPELLED, AND SHALL BE DECORATED WITH CREPE PAPER, FLOWERS, BUNTING, ETC., TO EFFECT A UNIFIED THEME AND A DESIGN SCHEME. A CAR OR TRUCK WITH A SIGN IS NOT A FLOAT. THE JUDGES’ DECISION AS TO WHAT CONSTITUTES A FLOAT IS FINAL.**