

LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE TOURNAMENT OF ROSES ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER

JULY 2022

President's Message



Orchestration

I will continue my music-oriented theme of last month; but this time taking the proverbial 1,000-foot view from above.

We have all sat through and marveled at amazing orchestra performances. They cross all music genres, so we all have witnessed an orchestra at work. While we are entertained and amazed, the engineer side of me can't help but dive deeper into it. Here we witness a group of people, that largely don't "know" each other; all playing their respective instruments with dedication and skill -that is alone to be marveled at - sitting on a stage tightly next to one another. During the 'warm up' and/or rehearsal periods, it all sounds disjointed and noisy and, frankly, chaotic. Then the magic happens. They all stop, total silence, pages of music script open for each instrument (and I write computer code and I gotta say, music on paper... God bless you, I don't get it... amazing!) So, in this silence out walks an individual with nothing more than a twig in hand. And other than uttering words such as: 'Good Evening and thank you for coming', turns around and starts to rhythmically wave the aforementioned twig..., and behold from all that chaos, all that previous noise and distraction, comes perfectly aligned notes, tones, rhythm.... Music. All manner of music: soft, triumphant, urgent, melodic, and on and on.

It is truly wonderful. Individually, all these skilled talents are impressive instruments in and of themselves.... But together, with orchestration.... They are on a whole other plane of consciousness and create something far bigger than themselves.

How is this related to our Float, and the Parade? It's the same, but more. Let's start with just us and our Float. No one person can create this. It's all those instruments making noise individually; only our instruments are computers, welders, torches, saws, electrical components, hydraulic components, wheels, motors, etc. Each one of those has its own signature. But when orchestrated, look at the wonders we build.

OK, not stopping there, remember I said 1,000 ft. view. Take now - as the proverbial instrument- each float entry, each band entry, each equestrian entry, each specialty group entry, add in the logistics, the media and their cables, cameras, antennae and equipment, law enforcement, fire, emergency, the bleachers that need to be built and the sheer mass of

spectators on site. It should be chaos! But it's not. In this case the person with that "twig" is a bit larger, and is in fact the whole of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Assoc. And they don't say good evening thanks for coming. They say: 'Good Morning and Happy New Year'... and then proceed to amaze us all with an orchestration of talent, skill and feats of creativity, engineering, and stamina.

Who doesn't love a parade, and who doesn't want to be part of this global New Year's spectacle.

Bravo, Pasadena Tournament of Roses, we are proud to be one of the lucky ones, and we challenge ourselves each year to be a better and more amazing instrument for your orchestra.

Ernest Koeppen, President

President@lcftra.org

Fundraising



Everybody Loves a Parade!

We are proud of the forty-four floats that we have designed, constructed, decorated and navigated down Colorado Blvd. since 1978 winning an Award for our entry every year over this past decade.

We have a cadre of smart working people of all ages and abilities that spend endless hours volunteering their time to build our annual magic that yes, takes all year! We start with deconstruction in January, finalizing a new float design in February, adoption of that design by the Pasadena Tournament of Roses in March and then it's off to the races . . . with our final week of preparation earmarked as 'Under the Bridge Deco Week' when we have hundreds of volunteers gather together to decorate the float with a vast variety of flowers and the final judging by the Pasadena Tournament Team and then it's showtime as we make our way around TV corner for the world to see!

We are proud to represent our City of La Canada Flintridge in the New Year's Day Parade as an element of America's Celebration, but we are proudest of the community pride that is produced all focused on a common cause – to build an award-winning float!

And all of this costs us about \$150,000 a year and as a nonprofit we need to raise those funds each year so we need your help and this is how -

- Become a volunteer – call us at 818.790.3818
- Become a member – go to the website and join – www.lcftra.org
- Become a donor – go to the website or send us a check to PO Box 253
- Participate in a Fundraising Event – updates on our website
 - The Fall Classic Poker Tournament on September 21st
 - Our Signature Wine & Roses Celebration and meet the incoming LCF Court on November 5th at The Riding Club

Sounds simple – right?

We know that you love parades, we know that you love your community, we know that you are proud to see your City celebrated as we turn TV Corner in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade, and as you know, God doesn't do parades on Sunday, so this year the parade is on Monday, January 2nd.

Go to our website: lcftra.org.

Everybody loves a Parade!

Rich Boccia, VP Admin

News from Construction



We are prepping the chassis for inspection. The fuel lines have been replaced and servicing is complete (oil, lube and tune). MI and the brake inspection are being scheduled.

The four raccoon heads have been carved. We continue to discuss and plan for animation.

We are waiting on the final two scale drawings (front and back views) to complete our construction plan and put the call out for volunteers.

We are completing some general updates on the chassis configuration to make access to some controls easier and safer. Also continue getting the site and sheds organized and cleaned.

We are at float site every Saturday 9 am to at least noon (later once construction starts). Drop by to say hi and look at the site and float chassis.

Pam Gosso, James Herrington, John Wolhaupter
Co- Construction Chairs



Remember When:

Past Presidents Looks Back



Remembering Sharlyn French – The Queen of Screen



Sharlyn French passed away after months of trying to resume a more active life as the pandemic released us all from hibernation. She was dealing with many health issues and passed away peacefully in a recovery home.

The pandemic shutdown robbed many of our newest volunteers of the opportunity to know Sharlyn and to learn how she has contributed to the success of the organization since almost the beginning. Sharlyn was among the early founders of the organization and continued to step up right through the delivery of DoDo Bird Flight School. Although in later years she was mostly known for teaching new generations of screeners to cover our steel shapes with aluminum window screen so the polymer coating (cocooning) could be applied, Sharlyn was a two-time past President (1991 – Bearly Balanced : Founders Trophy, and 1992 – Sherlock Hounds).

After her stints as President, she put in many years as Deco Chair, Secretary and the organization's last official Historian. Sharlyn was a fixture at the float site and was well known for making sure that the coffee mugs got washed every week. She performed the thankless job of collecting weekly and Deco Week logs to make sure that Betty Jones (and later, I) could file the regular Workers Compensation reports. She was

also a regular attendee at Happy Hours, Dining Out and just about every fundraising event. I received my first annual meeting recognition from Sharlyn for 'Self Built Float'. Although she laughed the entire Saturday, I think she felt sorry for me as I spent that Saturday painting root beer drips so Dustin could animate them and tell me to do it over.

While Bob, Carol and Randy taught me to weld, Sharlyn taught me to screen the shapes so they could be cocooned and painted. "Nope – not right; take it off and do it again" was often heard during my early days as a screener. She taught me her deco secrets and shared the flower books with me. She suffered alongside me as we tried to make "Dino-Soar" more colorful and floral.

Sharlyn never missed an opportunity to support the organization both as a member and a frequent attendee at all the events. By the time the pandemic was done with us, Sharlyn could no longer handle the outdoor nature of our work. I know she missed the socialization as well as continuing to train new generations of screeners and decorators.



Picking T-Shirt Colors – 1990



Wine & Roses – 1990

Rest in peace, Sharlyn. You will be greatly missed.

Pam Wiedenbeck, Past President (2010 & 2011)

Ann Neilson, Past President (2012 - 2014)

Deco



The first call out was a success!

We've got a basic idea on the materials we will use on the racoons and have started working on the rest of the float. One thing we are looking for now is large pieces of natural redwood bark (strips, not chips).

This will make our tree trunk look realistic. Let us know if you have any sources. We previously used Redwood Bark on the log for Tree Frog Night!



Sara Wickersham, Jennifer Lazo, Deco Co-Chairs
Deco@lcftra.org



Floatique

We hope everyone is enjoying their summer adventures, vacation time and music at Memorial Park.

The design work for the 2023 Secondhand Shenanigans float is full steam ahead and we are looking forward to getting images from our Designer to spotlight our 2023 merchandise.

Wishing you all a wonderful, safe remainder of the summer.

Thanks to one and all for your amazing support!

Michele Bottrell (818-248-5440), *Chuck Hughes* (818-790-9597), **Floatique Co-Chairs**



Rewards for Members!

LCFTRA Members: Invite friends, family, co-workers and neighbors to join us in keeping the tradition alive. Earn a \$5.00 gift certificate for referring a new member. We'll reward you for the first 10 referrals!

The gift certificate is good for purchases at the Floatique. Contact Sarah Marshall at Membership@lcftra.org or 818-790-2732 to make sure you get credit for your referrals.



Membership Renewals

June 2022

Rose Circle

Tim and Melinda Rahtz

Patron (\$150)

James and Chrissy Herrington
Charlie Plowman

Sustainer (\$75)

Alice Perez
Karen Rice

Floater (\$35)

Roger Reynoso, Jr.

Parader (\$300)

Michael and Alison Davitt

Donations

Tim and Melinda Rahtz

Membership Renewals:

We will keep track of your renewal schedule for you. All members will receive email reminders of their membership renewal 30 days before their current membership expires. The email will contain a direct link for the renewal process online and allows payment by all major credit cards, PayPal, or by printing a form and mailing in a check.

Questions? Contact Sarah Marshall: Email Membership@lcftra.org or call 818-790-2732.

New Memberships:

Join online by clicking on this [New Member Signup](#) button. Using the online signup process is the easiest way to go and allows you to pay online (or by check).

No email or internet access? If you prefer to not use the online options for new memberships or renewals, print [this Mail-In Membership Form](#), and follow the instructions for mailing your information and check.

Sarah Marshall, Membership Chair

Membership@lcftra.org

Technical Support

If you have technical issues signing-in please contact our website provider's support folks toll-free at 1-866-HLP-CLUB (457-2582) from 4:30 AM to 7:00 PM, Mon-Fri, Pacific time (they are located in Chicago). Or you can email them at Support@clubexpress.com. For all other LCFTRA questions or help, feel free to contact Rich Boccia at VPAdmin@lcftra.org.

Thank you so much for your support. We are 100% donation supported, and your membership dues/donations make the float possible. Hopefully the new website will make that continued support easy for you!

See you next month!

Rich Boccia, VP - Administration

VPAdmin@lcftra.org
