



Christmas Holiday Greetings 2019!

The Optimist Club of Belleville cordially invites you to participate in this year's Santa Parade on Friday, November 29th at 10:00 AM starting at the intersection of North 3rd and West A.

Please note the change in location due to the construction on West Main.

The parade route will begin at the intersection of North 3rd and West A Street and proceed on the route of the 2019 Shriner's Parade. The parade will disband at Union United Methodist Church, in the area of Forest Ave. Vehicles and floats must keep moving east on Main St. to disband. Any buses picking up bands, etc. will need to park on Forest Avenue.

Please complete the Entry/Announcer Form and return it by email or mail, as listed at the bottom of the form. The announcer form will be used to recognize your group as they pass the reviewing stands. **All responses are due by November 8th.** The parade will have a maximum number of 100 participants. Forms received after November 8th cannot be guaranteed entry. **Your parade unit location number and staging location will be mailed by USPS to the address you provided on your Entry Form on November 20th.** Please be sure to place your unit number placard on the rearview mirror of your vehicle before you enter the staging area.

Christmas holiday theme **floats** will be judged. Please be sure to check the box on the announcer sheet indicating that you want your float to be judged. Awards will be, **1st place-\$100, 2nd place-\$75, 3rd place-\$50.** The awards will be presented on November 29th at 6:00 pm on the square during the official "Lighting of the Fountain". A representative from your group is invited to attend the event to receive the award. **Parade photos will be available for purchase @ www.bellevilleoptimist.org**

Bands, Poms and Dance groups will receive a monetary stipend to help defray expenses, (mailed to address provided on the Entry Form).

Please join us for these festivities, visit Santa and welcome the Christmas Season to Belleville.

Cindy Hawkins
Optimist Santa Parade

For additional information contact Cindy @ 541-9930 or hawkinsr70@aol.com

Mail to:
Optimist Club of Belleville
PO Box 636
Belleville, IL 62222-0636

Optimist Santa Parade Entry Form

Name of Organization _____

Contact Person _____ Phone _____ Cell _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

(This is the mailing address to which your lineup information will be sent via USPS)

E-mail _____

Type of Entry (please check all that apply)

Vehicle No. of Vehicles _____ Type of Vehicle (auto, truck, fire truck, etc.) _____

Band No. of people _____

Pom Poms No. of people _____

Dance No. of people _____

Float Size of Float _____ feet long

Marchers w/no vehicle No. of people _____

Will your entry be playing music? Y or N

Do you wish your float to be judged? Y or N

Optimist Santa Parade Announcer Sheet

To help us describe your organization please fill out the form below.

Name of Organization _____

Achievements _____

Please complete and return no later than **November 8, 2019**

E-mail to: hawkinsr70@aol.com

Or

Mail to:

Optimist Club of Belleville

P. O. Box 636

Belleville, Illinois 62222-0636

2019 OPTIMIST SANTA PARADE GUIDELINES

- **Decoration:** All units (EXCLUDING EMERGENCY VEHICLES) *must be decorated* to follow the Christmas spirit.
- **Time:** All units must be in place absolutely no later than 9:00 AM.
- **Music:** All units are allowed to have music. If your unit is not a band or dance troupe, please note on the entry form that you will have music.
- **Marchers:** If your unit does not have an official uniform or special dress, please dress in the Christmas spirit.
- **Santa:** Santa is **NOT** permitted on or in any unit, vehicle etc. **except the official Optimist float.**
- **Candy:** For the safety of the children, candy must be handed out. Candy may not be thrown to the children or in the street from vehicles, floats or marchers. We suggest that hard candy not be given to small children. Due to peanut allergies, we request you do not distribute peanut products.
- **Support vehicles:** Trailers, vans, trucks etc **will not** be allowed on the parade route and must meet their units at the end of the route.
- **Live Animal Units:** All participants that include live animals **MUST** have a “Clean-up Crew” to remove the animal waste from the street. Please be kind to the other participants
- **Drop offs:** Drop off parade participants in approved areas only. Parking is **not allowed** in these areas. Please communicate this to your participants and parents dropping off children.