

DRIPS' PARADE DAY ACTIVITIES

Meeting Time: Saturday, February 7th at 3:00 pm. Music entertainment begins at 4:00; Parade lineup and Drips grope photo session at 5:45 pm. Parade starts at 6:30 pm - SHARP!

Meeting Place: The Studio at Colton School, 2300 St. Claude Avenue - it's a huge building, you can't miss it. This is the location of the parade lineup AND the KdV Doo following the parade. DO NOT go to the Den of Muses, the SDT trash palace, the Bridge Lounge or Blake & Susan Haney's house - cause we'll all just get a good laugh at your expense. And don't show up shit-faced drunk, there'll be plenty of opportunity for that later on.

Parking: Get a ride or take a taxi. There's very limited on-street parking available near the school. If you do bring a car, DO NOT park on the neutral ground/median, or you and it will end up in the pound. Drips Tip - leave your car home . . . we don't want anyone losing their cars or driving drunk. Why would you want to ruin a good buzz anyway? And, there's no money in our budget for a bailout this year.

Pre-parade party: The Drips are catering (as part of your dues) the pre-parade party, libations during the parade, and the Doo following our street stumble. We've ordered samiches and chicken (shhh - don't tell the little peckers), 2 kegs of beer, and our Camel Toe Ladies are making hundreds of jello shots! There will be a designated "krewe only" section at the school with a table & chairs for our krewe. The krewes will pah-ta inside until it's time to line up for the parade. This section is much larger than last year (what, no lap dances?) and will be secured at 5:45, so we can leave our food, alcohol, party favors, etc. there during the parade. There will be a krewe bar serving FREE beer and set ups, so let's save our beer on the float for the parade! This area will be locked from the time we begin lining up until we return following the parade. There will also be a gated yard just outside the krewe area where our float will be on display overnight. SMOKERS: The school is a smoke free environment. The mutha krewe is providing a tented area for smokers in the yard where the floats will be on display. Please be respectful, and use the designated smoking area only.

What to bring: Yourself, alcohol (beer and set ups are included with your membership), throws you plan to carry with you along the parade route, a roll of TP, a change of clothes/shoes if you like, and cash for a cab and any drinks or food you plan to purchase at the Doo. DO NOT bring anything you can't live without. REMEMBER - your dues covered your throws this year. There simply isn't room on our float for any more throws. Don't even think about shopping carts, golfbag carts, luggage carts, wheeled ice chests and wagons. Anything with small wheels will not make it over the streets in the Quarter - and if you're like me - you (or someone you love) will just trip over it anyway. Believe me, if you bring anything like this, you will live to regret it only slightly less than if you were to lose your wrist band.

Wristbands: See Amelie for your wristbands as soon as you get to the pre-parade party. We'll have 70 Drips with us this year, not including escorts, so the earlier you get there, the better. Let's give Amelie a break this year! You will need to be wearing your wristband to participate in the parade, to get into the Doo and krewe section following the parade, and to get FREE beer, soft drinks, etc. at the krewe bar. If you lose your wristband - you're screwed, and we get to drink your share of the beer - so guard it like it's yo mama!

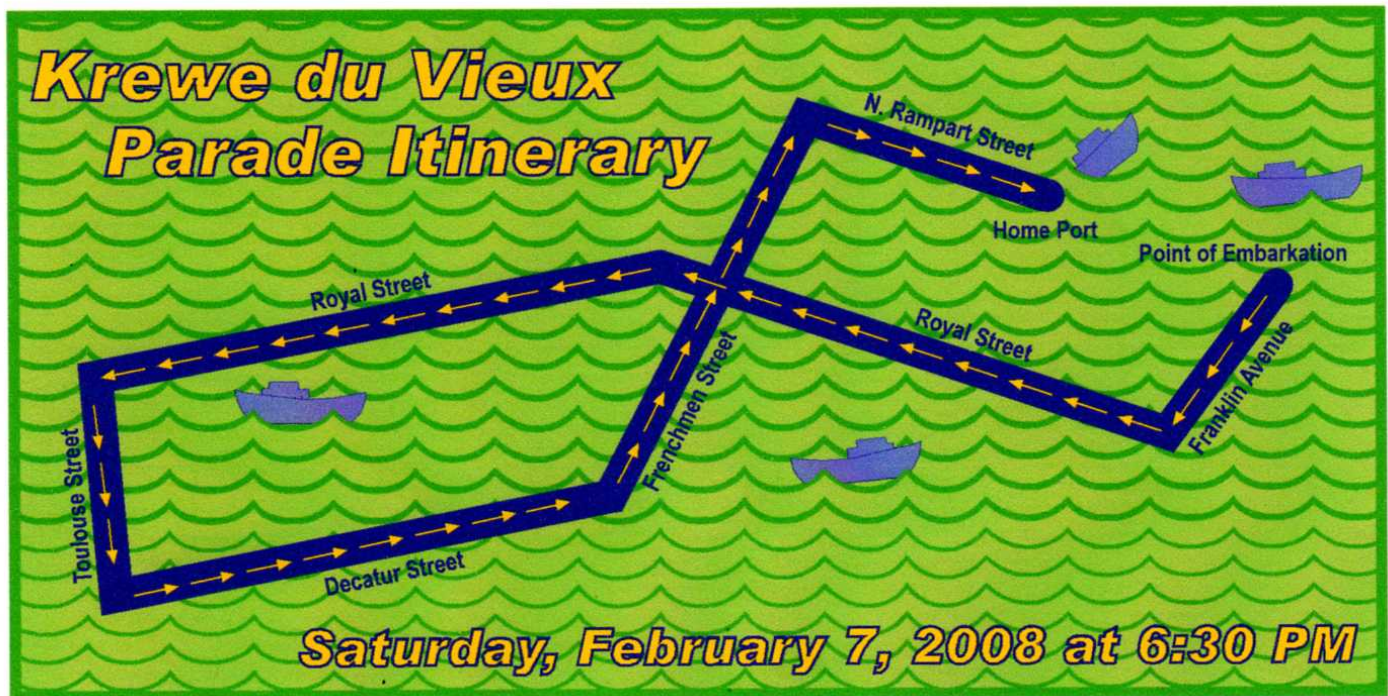
Lineup time: 5:45 pm

Parade starts: 6:30 pm - NOTE: THIS IS EARLIER THAN IN PRIOR YEARS

Da Parade: The parade route's changed again this year, and cars are being removed along the entire parade route. We'll be spending more time in the Marigny and less in the French Quarter. Beware of potholes and trouble spots that could cause you to trip and bust your schnauz. Since we're going to be LAST in the lineup, we'll have a little more of a challenge when it comes to using public facilities. Remember, if you leave the route during the parade, chances are good that we'll be long gone when you're finished, and police security will be non-existent. So, when you feel the urge - use the "buddy system" and move forward a few floats. Or, plan your stop somewhere on Royal Street, so you can cross over and meet up with us on Decatur. The mutha krewe has two stops planned (Pat O'Brien's/St. Peter & Royal, and Frenchman & Royal on the way back) but since we're last, we may not notice.

Da Band: Who ya gonna show your love to??? OUR STOOGES! We'll have bottled water and iced tea on the float - it's for our band. You might want to slip them a jello shot or two too! Please check on them and take care of them. When they rock - we rock. TreasureBob's got the tip already - that too was part of your dues too.

NEW Parade Route:



DRIPS' ESCORTS: The Drips will have 5 designated "escorts" parading with us this year. They will be easily identifiable by their yellow T-shirts. They will be wearing wristbands and will have all the benefits of paying members at the Doo following the parade. Their primary function is to keep the crowds back, away from the mule, float and our members during the parade. They will also be responsible for un-inviting "non-wristbanded" crashers to leave the parade route. Please let them know if you see any parade crashers. Get to know them - they are our friends and are technically "non-dues paying Drips". They will need to stay "functionally sober" during the parade, so please don't feed the bears. They will also handle any problems with the float or our mule during the parade (bite my tongue); and will get our float from the Den to the lineup before the parade. They do all the dirty work so we can have fun - take good care of them and each other!!!

Da Finale: When the parade reaches Colton, the mule will be unhitched before the float enters the school yard. We'll need a couple of able-bodied members to help our escorts get our float up a ramp and into the yard, but the rest of us should proceed immediately into the school. The gate will be locked behind our float and will not be unlocked until Sunday morning @ 10 am. We'll have access to the school yard through the krewe area during the Doo. KdV's providing power to our float so it can stay lit up (like the rest of us) throughout the night, and we'll be able to finish any leftover beer, and collect our belongings. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ANYTHING ON THE FLOAT AFTER THE PARADE THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO LOSE. We have no way of guaranteeing it will be there on Sunday morning.

DOO: Expected arrival time at the Colton School is approximately 9:30 pm. We will enter the school through a krewe only door fronting Rampart Street. Do not enter through the band entrance! Once the parade is over, that door will be closed and you will need to enter through the door on St. Claude Avenue, which will also be open to the general public. A public bar and food vendors will be set up the night of the parade at the school. You'll need to go to the krewe area for the FREE stuff. Bathroom facilities are co-ed . . . so leave your pride at home! And, please pace yourself once you get there. If you get falling down drunk or throw up on yourself, we'll just take pictures of you and post them on our site so we can all make fun of you next week.

Krewe section: We'll have a designated krewe section for our 939 KdV members - non-accessible to the general public - at the Doo. There will be a table and chairs set up for each krewe. The mutha krewe has promised that this section is much larger than last year. There will also be a bar in this area with beer and set ups for krewe members ONLY. Please note - Your friends are not your friends if they ask you to get them free drinks. You'll need your wristband to get into this section and to get drinks at the krewe bar. It's in a different section from the stage and dance floor, so there will be a "big screen" that will project video and sound from the main room. There is also a large yard area where our floats will be on display. There will be a tented section in the yard where smokers are invited to "enjoy". Some port-o-lets will also be in this outside yard area.

The last one to leave: If you are one of the last ones to leave the DOO following the parade, please pick up any valuables left on our table or in our krewe section. We'll have access to the Studio at Colton on Sunday morning after 10 am for retrieval of valuables, clean up, and to get our float back to the Den. BUT, there are no guarantees your things will be there. Rule of Thumb - if you can't live without it - don't bring it!!!

Please take a few minutes to review the **2009 Krewe du Vieux Safety Policy** below - it's important!

1. **Mules:** Keep a safe distance from any mule and beware of unexpected mule behaviors such as stampeding, biting, or kicking. Do not make sudden or aggressive actions around the mules and follow all mule handler instructions. All members must be off the float and away from the mule when the mule is hitched to the float.

2. **Medical:** Captains should define a procedure to respond to a medical emergency by members of their sub-Krewe trained in first aid or CPR. Procedures should include who will direct the members, when will they be relieved, who will notify the trailing Krewe and security personnel, and who will clear a pathway for public safety vehicles.

3. **Fire:** All members must be shown the location of the fire extinguisher and its operation. With a fire on the float, the first priority is to notify the mule handler. Simultaneously, spray the unobstructed base of the fire with the fire extinguisher. All nearby Krewes must respond with their fire extinguishers to any Krewe's float fire.

4. **Throws and parade crashers:** Membership will be immediately revoked for the following activities:

1. Throwing any liquids, caustics, powders, sharp objects, or fireworks. Other banned throws include commercial advertisements, hate-oriented materials, or any throw deemed inappropriate or potentially injurious by the Officers of KdV or the Captain of the offending member's Sub-krewe.
2. Aggressively throwing in a manner intended to injure.
3. Throwing at band members, mules, or the authorities.
4. Distribution of throws prohibited by law or common sense.

Members should also point out to the police or to the Sub-krewe's private security personnel (1) non-members marching with the parade; (2) spectators grabbing marchers; or (3) any other unreasonable spectator activity.

5. **Be reasonable:** Intoxicants must be used responsibly. Any actions that will lead to injuries such as fighting, falling, driving a vehicle, unreasonable inciting of spectators, non-compliance with KdV or public authorities, etc. is grounds for immediate removal from both the parade and ball. There will be no appeal or refund of membership dues.

6. **Walking Surfaces:** The streets along the parade route are uneven and the floor of the Colton may be uneven and/or slippery. You must assume that these hazards will not be marked and caution is your best protection. All members are required to notify the ball venue staff (Colton) of spilled liquids or other hazards.

7. **Floats:** Beware of being swept or pushed beneath the float. Beware also of float construction that may include protruding sharp objects, electrical hazards, and structural deficiencies.