



National Memorial Day Parade



Lions of DC, DE, MD, VA, ETAL,

Yes! The Lions of Maryland, Delaware, Virginia and the District of Columbia are again going to participate in the National Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 27, 2024. This is the 16th consecutive year in which we as Lions have participated.

The Float will continue to stress our more than 100 years of service and feature our areas of service and so we want our participation to be at a maximum this year. The float will feature our anniversary logo and the current President's theme. We plan to have with us on the float, Lion Veterans (identified by their Red, White and blue sashes) special Lion VIPs and other Celebrities that may enhance the image of our float. (IPP Brian Sheehan & Lion Lori Sheehan have expressed plans to attend again this year, we hope their schedule will allow)

We are normally seen by over 300,000 people lining the parade route which extends from 7th Street to 18th Street along Washington's famous Constitution Avenue. We are seen by millions on several cable networks and streaming on websites. Those of you who have participated in previous years will remember that there were many onlookers who waved and cheered for us as we passed by, and many received miniature flags from marching Lions who left the ranks to present them. We will be encouraged to pass out miniature Flags to onlookers this year. To say this is the greatest Lions PR event of the year on the east coast is an understatement. Who wouldn't want to participate?

Unfortunately, this year we will be missing one of our stalwarts, Lion Bill Strauss. Lion Bill was there from the start and has participated in every parade since. He was our Registrar for many years, including last year, 2023. Lion Bill passed last year at the age of 99, and we are planning to honor his memory on the Float.

It is a solemn honor to participate in honoring all those who have given their life for their country, along with all who are still serving (retired or Active). You will also be amazed as the thousands gathered along the Parade Route yell out their thanks to Lions for their service, or for having helped them or relatives. Definitely a solemn and prideful moment for the Lions.

To cap it off, all parade participants are invited to a fantastic BBQ at the Virginia home of PDG "Woody" Woodard immediately after the parade. It's located in northern Virginia and is easily and quickly reached from the parade route.

Please accept this as our invitation for you to join us as a marcher if you are able, or on the float if you are unable to walk the route. Limited space available on Float, so please sign up early. We hope you are able to attend. Further details about sign-up and logistics will be furnished as they are received.

Sincerely,

Woody

PDG Woody Woodard National Memorial Day Parade Committee Co-Chair