



**YOU are invited to  
JOIN the Portland Rose Festival's  
Grand Floral Parade  
HAM TEAM!**

## **Greetings!**

**Hello previous (and potential) Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade Amateur Radio volunteers!** Sincere thanks to so many of you who have helped with our legendary parade in the past. I hope to see all of you again, along with a few new faces among you this year, on **Saturday, June 8!**

Most of you know that HAM radio volunteers have helped with the Parade for several decades and remain an integral part of its continued success in keeping everyone safe and the parade running smoothly and on schedule.

It might seem early to recruit volunteers, but the parade comes up quickly, so please consult your calendars and let me know if you're available and want to participate in the parade this year. It's a fun way to practice your HAM skills while supporting a valuable, well-established, revered and much-loved Portland tradition.

This year, we're hoping to add several new HAM volunteers to our team, so I encourage you to alert your Amateur radio networks of the opportunity to join us in supporting the parade. We can never have too many HAMS along the parade route!

We're also seeking one of you to shadow Jim Schaeffer and the current NET control team to build some bench strength for future parades. NET control offers an entirely different experience, so please consider giving it a try.

## **Ready to volunteer?**

**Here are the details:**

**When:** 10 AM, Saturday June 8, 2024 (note that HAM shifts begin at specific assigned times.)

**Who:** YOU! Grand Floral Parade HAM Team. All that's required is a current Amateur Radio license and a hand-held radio, preferably with a headset.

**Where:** The two-mile-long parade begins at the Veteran's Memorial Coliseum and winds through Portland's East side (only), disbanding at Lloyd Center.

**What:** Besides having FUN and enjoying the parade...

Amateur radio operators are the eyes and ears for the parade director whose task is to ensure that the parade runs smoothly, safely and is aired in its entirety on TV.

**Why: Safety, safety, safety** and to keep the parade moving and on schedule. HAMS are integral to the parade's success which can be complicated by everything from TV commercial breaks and float breakdowns, to bucking horses and minor emergencies.

**HOW:** You'll receive an email packet of information the week of the parade that will include:

- A copy of the instructions with frequencies, HAM assignments and cell numbers
- Parade lineup, including planned stops for commercial breaks.
- Route map

**HAM Radio Volunteers are asked to:**

**ARRIVE AT YOUR ASSIGNED LOCATION ON TIME:**

- Plan to report to your assigned location by a specific "**no later than**" time. PARKING can be VERY DIFFICULT, so allow plenty of time to get there and consider that the later you arrive, the farther from your assigned site you may have to park. MAX may be a good option.
- Check in with NET Control at **147.04 MHz (+600, Tone 100.0) (MC6 repeater)** with your name, call sign and location i.e. "Rose 2, NE Weidler and Vancouver."
- After your initial check-in, always identify yourself to NET CONTROL by your location ID and position, i.e. "Rose 13...between 4th & 5th on Salmon."
- **Watch for:**
  - Gaps in excess of one block
  - Incidents near you that might affect the parade i.e. bucking horse, float delays, etc.
- **Listen to** all radio traffic and be aware of parade conditions at other locations
- **Contact NET control** with issues at **your location** that may affect the parade or its spectators.

**REPORT TO NET CONTROL - HOW AND WHEN:**

**HOW** to contact NET Control:

- **You arrive at your location and are ready for net operation:**
  - Use your call sign **and** location at your first check-in
- Once you're checked in, always break with your Location ID/tactical call sign (i.e. Rose 3).
  - Wait for NET control to respond, then state your business, keeping your transmissions short and to the point.

**WHEN** to contact NET Control:

- A gap of 1 block or more develops.
- When the parade comes to an \*unplanned stop near your location, or anything else happens that may affect the run of the parade. If in doubt, report it!

- \*Planned TV HOLDS for commercial breaks happen frequently throughout the parade. You'll receive a schedule of planned holds.

### WHY

If a gap in the parade develops due to an incident of some sort or a scheduled commercial break, once you relay the information, NET Control has the option to radio the Pace Car on another frequency and ask the driver to "HOLD" until the break has ended or the parade catches up, thus closing the gap.

### WHAT TO BRING:

#### Essentials:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name tag (with your name and call sign)</li> <li>• Your official Rose Festival badge (provided)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information packet that you'll receive via email the week of the parade that includes:</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handheld 2m radio with extra batteries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A copy of the instructions with HAM assignments and cell numbers</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ear phone/headset so you can hear net control at all times</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Parade lineup</li> <li>○ Route map</li> </ul>

#### Nice-to-haves

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small portable, lightweight chair</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Umbrella</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water and snacks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunscreen</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Light jacket</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Binoculars (may be helpful)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clip board and pen</li> </ul>	

### WHAT TO WEAR:

To assure a consistent look of parade officials, you are encouraged to wear the OFFICIAL UNIFORM of the GRAND FLORAL PARADE STAFF:

- White knit polo-style shirt with collar. Please, no tee shirts
- Tan or khaki casual pants or shorts
- Light weight windbreaker jacket (as conditions dictate)
- COMFORTABLE WALKING/standing shoes

### WE'RE A TEAM!

Once you've signed up, by replying to this message, you'll receive a packet of information the week of the parade that includes a map of the parade route, the Parade lineup, a list of HAM team locations, first aid stations, tow truck locations and (hopefully) available bathrooms.

**PLAN B:** We know that life happens, so if you're unable to attend the parade at the last minute, PLEASE LET US KNOW! The information you receive via email the week before the parade, will include the volunteers' phone numbers.

**MEET the HAM TEAM!** You're invited to meet Marilyn Clint, CEO of the Portland Rose Festival Foundation, aka "Parade Queen Marilyn", Grand Floral Parade command team members, and your fellow HAM Radio volunteers at this very informal (optional) meet and greet, where we'll review the schedule and your duties, answer your questions, tune our radios and talk about what we've learned from prior parades. And there is always a story to tell! I hope you're able to attend.

**Thursday May 30 at 5:30pm**  
Portland Rose Festival office  
1020 SW Naito Pkwy, Portland, OR 97204

To volunteer, simply respond to this message or email [tlclelen@gmail.com](mailto:tlclelen@gmail.com) with your:

- Name
- Email address
- Cell number (your # on parade day)
- Call sign
- 1<sup>st</sup> choice preferred location ID (see the list below)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> choice preferred location ID

Please submit this information for each volunteer.

**For those of you who are new:**

New volunteers can request to be assigned with HAMS who have previously volunteered for the parade. But don't worry! You'll be in great (and experienced) hands with NET controllers and other HAMS who are willing to help you throughout the experience.

You are welcome to contact me at 503.853.3861 with any questions or suggestions.

**Thank you again for supporting our Portland Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade!**

73

Terry Clelen

503-835-3861

[tlclelen@gmail.com](mailto:tlclelen@gmail.com)

KF7TLC