



January 2018

Krewe of Orion Parade and Masquerade
Saturday, February 3, 2018
"Orion Time Travels"

- * Float Loading (4-7 p.m., Tuesday, January 30 or Wednesday, January 31)**
- * Pub Crawl Downtown Baton Rouge, see info on page 2 (Friday Night, February 2)

Just a few days to go to our parade and *Masquerade*! Here are information/reminders that may be helpful to you and your guests as we get close to float loading, our parade, *Masquerade*, and other krewe activities.

Our **float load day** is coming up at the den*** on Tuesday or Wednesday, January 30 or 31, at 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. The den will close promptly at 7:00 p.m., so plan your arrival to allow yourself enough time to get on the float, load your throws from home, check any Orion ordered items, and then be out by 7:00 p.m. **Your place on the float should be marked with an index card with your name on it.** Any krewe beads/throws that you ordered are already loaded there. Please make sure that you **ride in the place assigned to you and don't trade places** with anyone. You don't want your people looking for you in the wrong place.

No boxes are to be brought into the den. Your throws need to be in bags (bead bags, crawfish sacks, duffle bags, etc.) when you arrive. Do not hang up any beads, as you will have time to hang beads on the float before the parade.

On float load day when you get on your float, you will find that there may be hooks in some spots on the floats. If you want to add hooks, you may bring and install more hooks on your load day. A cordless drill is helpful to drill a pilot hole to start your hook. Make sure you are putting your hooks in solid wood. **Do not use nails!** Nails can be dangerous and are prohibited.

FLOAT LOAD NOTES:

***The Krewe of Orion Den is located one block off of Hwy 74, at 3535 Cypress St. in Saint Gabriel, LA 70776.)

**To find your float's specific load day, see the list below or go to <https://kreweoforion.com/>, then click "MEMBER PORTAL" and login; then click the "ORION INFO" tab and then scroll down and click on "2018 Float Line Up & Load Dates for Member". Again, load dates are Tuesday, January 30 or Wednesday, January 31.

<u>Load Day</u>	<u>Float #</u>	<u>Title (Float Lieutenants)</u>
Wednesday	Float VI	Title Float "Orion Time Travels" (Banta/Brown/Fromenthal)
Wednesday	Float VII	"Carnival Cats" (Morris/Sadler/Maranto/Sonnier)
Tuesday	Float VIII	"Mexican Revolution" (E. Guerin/R. Guerin)
Tuesday	Float IX	"Piracy in the Caribbean" (Vaught/Horn)
Wednesday	Float X	"Roman Times" (Johnston/Dunlap/Carlton)
Wednesday	Float XI	"Sword and Shield – A" (Hill/Hunsucker/Kutz)
Wednesday	Float XII	"Sword and Shield – B" (LeBouef/Foreman/Havrilla)
	Float XIII	"Families Helping Families"
Tuesday	Float XIV	"Golden Age of Hollywood" (Denoux/Rhodes)
Tuesday	Float XV	"Industrial Revolution" (Smith/Warren/Lanehart)
Wednesday	Float XVI	"Age of the Vikings" (Coppola/Jeansonne/L. Rosendahl/C. Rosendahl)
Tuesday	Float XVII	"Orion's Last in Line" (Reynolds/Sellers/Houston)

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A pub crawl for Krewe of Orion members will be held in downtown Baton Rouge on Friday evening, February 2, from 5:30-11:00 p.m. Come see the Krewe of Artemis parade and do the pub crawl. Poker run rules will be followed and monies collected from team entry fees will be returned as winnings. Downtown Baton Rouge has many great locations, so get your team together and join the fun. The crawl will start and end at Happy's at 136 Third Street. Pub crawl stops will be listed on the signup sheet. For more information, contact krewe member and pub crawl coordinator, Bobby Hilburn at [225 317-2080](tel:2253172080).

Now, here are some parade day information and a few tips, dos, and don'ts for the parade and *Masquerade*. First, be sure that all of your guests know that *Masquerade is a formal event*. Tuxes are required for men and floor length evening gowns are required for women. Those not appropriately dressed will be turned away. Also, each person **must have a ticket and be at least 21 years old**. We don't want any of our guests to be disappointed or embarrassed when turned away, so make sure they know these requirements.

Also, let your guests know that there will be barricades at *Masquerade* set up along both sides of the parade route inside of the Exhibition Hall. The barricades are used to keep guests and others back for safety while our floats roll through. River Center personnel and police will control those barricades, closing the barricades a few minutes before the floats roll through. This means that **guests may not be able to get from Side A to Side B and back once the indoor parade starts**. While there may be a brief opportunity to cross between floats if police permit, guests shouldn't count on it. There should be a warning announcement of this closing about five minutes before the parade rolls through. (See the Orion website under "ORION INFO" for the table seating layout. Then check your ticket number on Side A or Side B to locate your table.)

On parade day, the River Center Exhibition Hall will be open from 1:00 – 4:30 p.m., at which time you or your representative can bring your food/drinks/decorations and place those items at your *Masquerade* table (use the River Road entrance). After that time, it will be locked until 6:00 p.m. Remember, **Styrofoam containers, Sterno or other flamed items, and balloons are not allowed** by the River Center (they **will** confiscate those items). Please allow plenty of time and be patient when coming in, as the krewe has been told that for your safety, security will be checking bags, ice chests, and other containers as you come in the River Center.

An afternoon buffet with water and soft drinks will be served for Orion krewe members only upstairs at the River Center Exhibition Hall from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Wear or bring your costume and don't forget to bring your mask, gloves, hat, and *Masquerade* ticket. Then, just before 5:00 p.m., I'll give the entire krewe last minute instructions. We will then proceed to the floats and get on board when given the green light by the marshals. The first unit in the parade will begin to roll at 6:30 p.m.

And as always, **you must wear your costume, gloves, hat, and mask** from the time we roll until the time you get off of the float. That means that you must have your mask on during your ride through the River Center Exhibition Hall. If for some reason you need to remove your mask during the ride, you must squat down where none of the crowd can see you.

Remember, **no glass** on the float, **no smoking** on the float, and **no Styrofoam** on the float. You may bring an ice chest on the float, just not a Styrofoam one and no glass anything. Team up and bring one ice chest for a number of riders. You will want water or something to drink during the ride.

As further reminders, you may not throw items with advertising or materials with company names/logos, spears, dead or live animals, or pornographic/suggestive materials. Do not throw trash (boxes, paper, bags, etc.) off of the float while parked or riding in the parade. There is a no throw zone (beads or throws) on St. Philip Street from the point where you get on the float until your float turns onto Government Street. Be sure to always follow instructions given by our marshals and the police.

You will not be able to get off of the float in the River Center. When you get to the unloading point on St. Philip Street, **get off of the float as soon as possible**. Be sure to take with you everything that you want to keep (extra throws, ice chest, cell phones, clothing, etc.), as **when the floats pull out, everything will be gone and will no longer be available to the krewe**. A small flashlight may be helpful, as at times it can be dark on the float, particularly when you are looking for something on the floor or in a bag. After getting off of your float, proceed to the River Center and go in the front door on River Road. You must wear either your costume or a tux to be admitted to *Masquerade*. You will need to have your ticket with you.

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Guys, in the coming days, be sure to **ask your friends, family, neighbors, people at work, and others who you see every day to bring their family and come out and see our parade.** Tell everyone your float number, title, and where on your float you'll be riding (e.g., second person on the driver's side on the top, etc.) so that as you pass by on the parade route they can yell at you for throws. Our parade will be fun and exciting for them and they make it special and fun for us. And please be friendly and courteous to our *Masquerade* and parade crowd, as many of those folks are our friends, family, and neighbors.

Check with your float lieutenants if you have any questions.

Happy Mardi Gras and have a great ride and *Masquerade!*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Darren".

Darren Coates, Captain