



The New Hampshire Police Association Pipes & Drums, of the Parade's marching groups

The 300th Week of Celebration August 13-21, 2022: The Parade

Steve Soreff, MD

In Nottingham's year-long celebration of its 300th Anniversary, the week that starts on Saturday, August 13, and concludes on Sunday, August 21, features four major events. These are the following activities then: the Parade on Saturday, the 13th, the Nottingham Historical Society's Blueberry Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, the 14th, Nottingham's Talents Salutes the 300th, on Tuesday, the 16th, and a Revolutionary War Encampment and Reenactments Friday through Sunday, the 19th to the 21st. This is the first of four articles focusing on each one of these four events.

To get the full picture of the Parade, this reporter sat down with Steve Welch, Chair of the 300th Committee on Friday, June 16, in his kitchen to review the Parade plans. First, he talked about the Parade's lineup and route. Marchers and units will gather by 11 AM on Francesca Drive also known as Dunbarton Estates off of NH Route 152. At that site, folks will check in at the registration desk. There will be porta-potties available. The Parade kicks off at 12 noon. It will follow the 1.5 miles way on Route 152 and end at the Community Center. At its conclusion, there will be buses to return the participants to Francesca Drive. Spector parking will be on the only side of the road along the following thoroughfares: Flutter Street (between the Highway Garage and Deerfield Rad), Gerrish Drive, McCrillis Road (between Gerrish and NH 152), Camelot, Halls Way, and NH 152 (between Francesca Drive and McCrillis Road). There will be a reviewing stand next to the Library.



Part of the Parade route on NH 152 near the Library and where the reviewing stand will be.

Steve then went on to describe the sections of the actual Parade. An honor guard carrying the United States and New Hampshire flags will lead the procession. Next Members of the Nottingham Select Board will walk. This will be followed by a horse-drawn wagon conveying the holder of the Boston Post Cane for Nottingham and the Parade's Grand Marshall. That is, of course, [Ruth "Hike" Twombly](#). "Hike" received the Cane at the Second Annual Nottingham Earth Fest, on Saturday, September 21, 2019, from the Nottingham Historical Society as the town's oldest living resident of Nottingham.



Ruth Twombly, left, with the Boston Post Cane with Peggy Tucker who played the Oldest Person in the 300th production of the play, [The Town Meeting](#).

There will be a number of floats in the cavalcade. One will be a pontoon boat pulled on a trailer. This will be entered by the Pawtuckaway Lake Improvement Association ([PLIA](#)). There will be another one that features a 12-foot Birthday Cake to celebrate the 300th Anniversary. Steve Welch said that there is still room for others to enter floats in the parade. To do so, please email him at welchresortATmyfairpoint.net.

Steve indicated there will be marching bands in the Parade. One of them will be *the [New Hampshire Police Association Pipes & Drums](#)* as pictured above. “The New Hampshire Police Association Pipes and Drums was formed following the tragic death of New Hampshire State Police Sgt. James Noyes who was tragically killed in the line of duty in October of 1994... Since its inception, the band has grown to over thirty New Hampshire-based law enforcement and affiliate agency members. We are proud to volunteer our talents and time in this capacity to support and honor our law enforcement community during times of tragedy and triumph.” Another band performing will be the *[Piscataqua Rangers Jr Fife & Drum Corps](#)*. Out of Portsmouth, they will feature colonial-era music. And, then there are the *[Soggy Po Boys](#)*. They come from Dover and “serve their jazz messy, mixing bass-fueled mayhem with spirituals, Meters-style old-school funk, and the Caribbean side of the New Orleans tradition.”

There will be many contingents from the [Bektash Shriners of NH](#) as part of the Parade. One will be the *[Bektash Shriners Mini Kar Patrol](#)*. “We perform precision drills with 5 hp go-carts in parades...we drive is a 4 wheel 5 hp go-cart with a 1954 red Corvette body.” There be the *[Bektash High Rollers Mini Monstrer Truck Patrol](#)*. This is “a motorized mini monster truck patrol that was formed in 1992. We have fun parading around the area. And there then come the clowns with [Bektash Clown Kaleidoscope](#). These are clowns with “the purpose is to make kids laugh, participate in parades, perform skits, and perform at parties”.



Mini Kar Patrol

Steve next talked about antique cars as section of the Parade. One of them will be a 1939 LaSalle Opera Coupe sponsored by the Nottingham Historical Society.



1939 LaSalle Opera Coupe

And, there will be firetrucks. They will be from Nottingham Fire and Rescue Departments as well as other southern NH communities.

Finally, Steve adds that is still time for other Nottingham groups and organization to participate in the Parade. He asks you to contact him Steve Welch, email welchresortATmyfairpoint.net.

See you at the Pararde!