

**ANNIE'S CAFÉ  
1375 BENTON STREET  
CRETE IL 60417**

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**Dear Parade Participant:**

**Our community has been celebrating the holiday season with the annual Christmas *Parade of Lights* for many years.**

**The *Parade of Lights* occurs the first full weekend in December in conjunction with the Crete Country Christmas weekend and is one of the highlights of the celebration.**

**The parade will take place through Downtown Crete on the evening of Saturday, December 3, 2011 at 6:30 pm. Line up will begin at 5:30 pm on Crete Boulevard. From Main Street in Crete, turn east on Burrville Road (by Smokey Jo's) and parade officials will direct you toward your line up spot on Crete Boulevard. Please do not turn onto Crete Boulevard directly. Parking will be available on surrounding streets.**

**We look forward to your participation in this year's *Parade of Lights*. If you have any questions, please call Nancy Johnson at Annie's Café at 708 672-5270.**

Kind regards,



Nancy Johnson



# Recipe for a Successful Christmas Float

**Line Up:** 5:30 PM  
**Parade Starts:** 6:30 PM

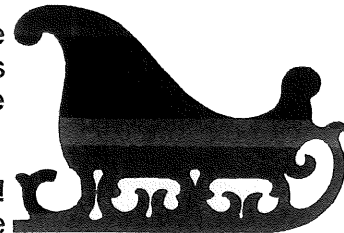
*Watch the mail — more information will follow!*



Watch for  
information on  
other exciting and  
fun events during  
**Crete's Country  
Christmas Weekend!**



The following FLOAT TIPS are based on the experiences of past participants. These tips include helpful suggestions and highlight some of the “rules” of our holiday parade:



- ▶ **IT'S NIGHTTIME - YOU NEED LIGHTS!** Lights will greatly increase the attractiveness of your float and enable everyone to see you or your business' name. If you use a lot of lights (this looks the best), you might consider the use of a small gas-powered generator. This is easy and simple to use. You can rent a small generator cheaply at any area rental store (don't forget extra gas!).
- ▶ **MUSIC** makes a great addition to your float, hopefully of the holiday variety. Since you're already using a generator, why not plug in a big speaker?
- ▶ If you choose to have only a few lights or music, you might consider using a cigarette light adapter to plug-in your holiday lights on your float. These can be purchased at stores like Pep Boys.
- ▶ Make your float with sturdy materials. Remember, there could be strong wind, rain, or snow due to the time of year — don't let your float melt away!
- ▶ If you're making costumes — **MAKE THEM BIG!** Your participants will appreciate the extra room for lots of warm clothes underneath!
- ▶ What do I build my float on? This is the easiest part. There are lots of choices: hay wagon, snow mobile cart, open pick-up truck, flat bed truck, etc.
- ▶ Make sure your name (business name or organization name) is clearly visible. Let everyone know who you are!!
- ▶ For everyone's safety, try to reduce the amount of people you have walking around your float — it's dark out there!
- ▶ For the safety of little children, we **DO NOT ALLOW** candy to be thrown.
- ▶ **NO SANTAS!!!!** He is our guest of honor at the **END** of the parade.

