

2016 Blessing of the Fleet

BOAT PARADE ENTRY FORM



Owners Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone # _____ Office Phone #: _____

Email _____

Boat Name _____ Captain's Name _____

Class (check one): Commercial Fishing / Shrimp _____ Commercial Charter _____

Pleasure Craft _____ Personal Water Craft _____

Type of Power (check one): Diesel _____ Gas _____ Sail _____ Electric _____ Human _____ Other _____

Length _____ Year _____ Make/Builder _____ Model _____

All paid entries will receive one free "2016 Blessing of the Fleet" T-Shirt. Additional shirts may be ordered for \$15.00 apiece. Please write in quantity of each size requested.

XXXL _____ XXL _____ XL _____ L _____ M _____ S _____ Additional Shirts X \$15: \$ _____.

Make Checks Payable to: "Clear Lake Elks Lodge 2322" Parade Entry Fee: \$ 50.00
Entry fee is \$50.00 per vessel if before April 15th, \$70 for late registration

Paid Cash _____ Paid Check # _____ Total \$ _____.

I CERTIFY THAT MY VESSEL MEETS ALL U.S. COAST GUARD REGULATIONS AND THAT AS CAPTAIN I WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR IT, MY CREW AND PASSENGERS. I UNDERSTAND THAT I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR MY ACTIONS AND THOSE OF ANY PERSON ON MY VESSEL. I ALSO AGREE THAT AS CAPTAIN OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED VESSEL I WILL BE HELD IN ACCOUNT FOR ANY INJURY OF ACCIDENTS ARISING FROM MY PARTICIPATION.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please type or print and return with entry fee to: Elks Lodge, 623 Hanson Rd, Kemah or Mail To: Blessing of the Fleet, C/O, B.P.O. Elks Lodge, P.O. Box 608, Kemah, TX 77565, the Kemah Boardwalk Marina (281-334-2284). Boat numbers may be picked up at the Captain's Meeting on Saturday. For additional information, please call 832-794-8637 or 281-733-7184 visit our Facebook Page Blessing Of The Fleet Kemah or website at: www.kemah.net

Please provide biographical and historical information for the Owner, Captain and the Boat itself on a separate sheet of paper or on the back of this form.

2016 Blessing of the Fleet

BOAT PARADE

Go Texas! Theme

INSTRUCTIONS AND ITINERARY

CAPTAIN'S MEETING:

Saturday April 30th, 5:00 PM, at the Elk's Lodge. (\$10 cash deposit required to pick up boat number, which will be refunded when number is returned at the Awards ceremony)

PARADE RENDEZVOUS TIME AND LOCATION:

Sunday May 1th, 1:15 PM on Clear Lake at the entrance of the Clear Creek channel.

BOAT ORDER & APPROXIMATE DEPARTURE TIME:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Grand Marshal - | 1:45 PM |
| 2) "Color Guard" - | 2:10 PM |
| 3) Commercial Shrimpers - | 2:20 PM |
| 4) Other Commercial - | 2:40 PM |
| 5) Pleasure Yachts - | 3:00 PM |
| 6) Wrangler (final boat in parade) - | 3:30 PM |

AWARDS CEREMONY:

Sunday May 1th, 4:30 PM at the Boardwalk Events Plaza. Winners will be announced and trophies, prizes or awards will be presented at this time. All Captains, crews and guests are invited and encouraged to attend.

RADIO CHANNELS:

All boats - Shrimpers, other Commercial and Pleasure Yachts – #72, Coast Guard #83A, #16

ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO:

- 1) Start and stay with their designated group.
- 2) Wait until all vessels in the prior group have departed before entering the parade.
- 3) Maintain a minimum of 200 yards spacing between other boats in the parade.
- 4) Obey all instructions from the Parade Wrangler during the course of the parade.

BOATS WILL BE JUDGED ON:

- 1) Originality of Go Texas! Theme
- 2) Costumes
- 3) Time and Effort
- 4) Decorations - Quality and Quantity
- 5) Enthusiasm of Captain and Crew

ONLY BOATS THAT HAVE REGISTERED FOR THE PARADE AND ARE DISPLAYING THEIR OFFICIAL NUMBER, WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE FOR TROPHIES, PRIZES AND / OR CASH AWARDS.



Blessing of the Fleet History & Purpose

The first Blessing of the Fleet occurred in 325AD. During the Council of Nicaea, a mass assembly of prestigious Christian clergymen, the Blessing was included as an auxiliary event. The first Blessing was for a bountiful catch, the safety of the men and boats, and that there would be enough fish left in the ocean to reproduce for the following catch.

The Blessing was a joyous occasion.

Here in Kemah, the event has been going on for 48 years. After Hurricane Carla severely damaged the area in 1961, the fishing business revived. In 1965 Kemah formally became a city, and with this fresh "Wind in the Face" the Blessing of the Fleet began in 1968. We continue this tradition this year by not only thanking the fishing/shrimping industry that helped revitalize the Kemah area, but by remembering the other maritime industries that have built our area into a tourist hot spot for pleasure boaters who enjoy the events, facilities and services in our area.



This Year's Theme – Go Texas!

From when the first Spanish conquistadors met the Caddo in 1519 to La Salle in Matagorda, Independence from Mexico in 1836 to when Texas allowed the lesser 27 states to join us in 1845; Texans have always been fiercely independent. Through the Civil War, Galveston Hurricane of 1900, Spindletop in 1901, two world wars to the present day, Texas has had a very colorful history. Though six flags have flown over this great land, our Lone Star reminds us of the one great state that we are today.

Spanish, Scots, German, Czech and others have made Texas the ultimate melting pot!

So get your creative juices flowing! Bonus points for unique verifiable Texas history. Where else do you get "Two Governors for the price of one"? Do you recall the six Pro Football teams that called Texas home? Alamo! Goliad! 50 years of Kemah, NASA; there is so much to pull from for this great event.

But if you think you're going to get the First Place trophy... just **Come and Take It!**