

# George Washington Birthday Parade

## PARADE ROUTE

Route



Assembly Area



300 North

200 North

100 North

100 South

200 South

300 South

400 South

500 South

600 South

700 South

800 South

900 South

Queen Street

Cameron Street

King Street

Prince Street

Duke Street

Wolfe Street

Wilkes Street

Gibbon Street

"VIP" PARKING THIS BLOCK

Reviewing Stand

"DASH" free Shuttle Bus STOP

Visitor Info.

Dignitaries

American Legion  
Gadsby's Tavern

City Hall  
Market Square

Carlyle House  
Ramsay House

Old Presbyterian Meeting House

Lyles-Crouch School

START

END

Alfred Street

Columbus Street

Washington Street

St. Asaph Street

Pitt Street

Royal Street

Fairfax Street

Lee Street

900

800

700

600

500

400

300

200

100

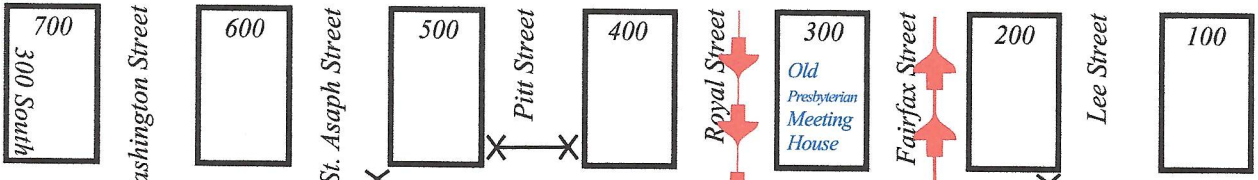
ARSON 2

ARSON 3

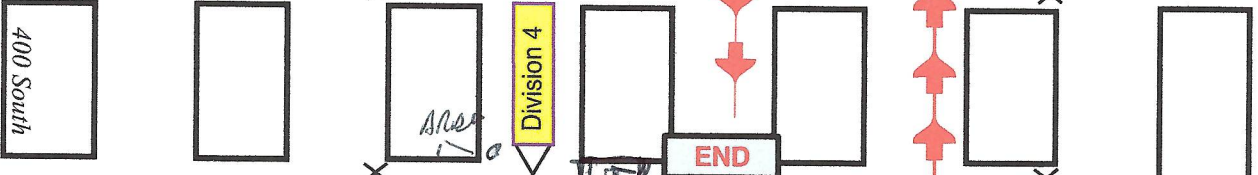
ARSON

TRAILER

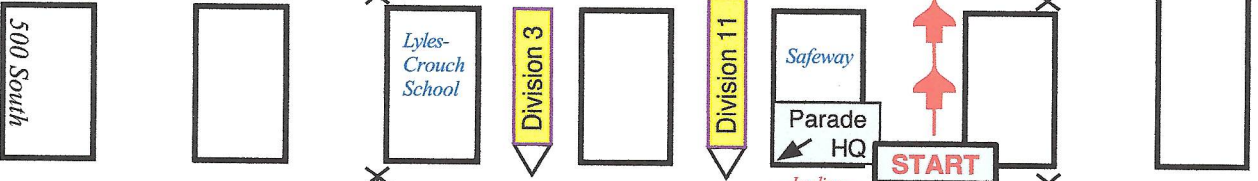
Duke Street



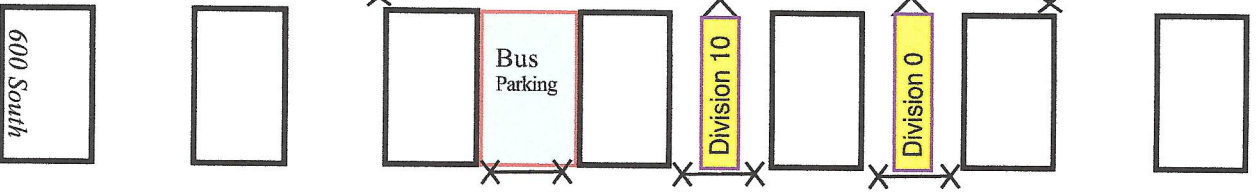
Wolfe Street



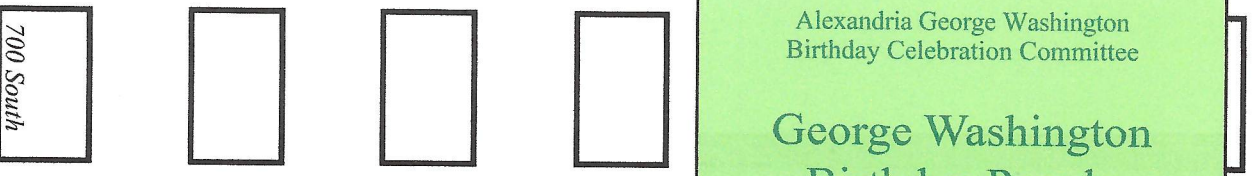
Wilkes Street



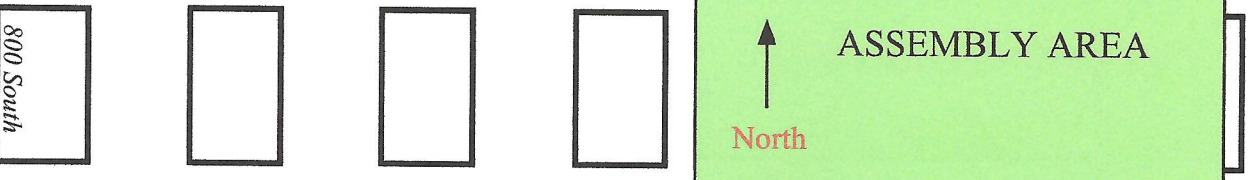
Gibbon Street



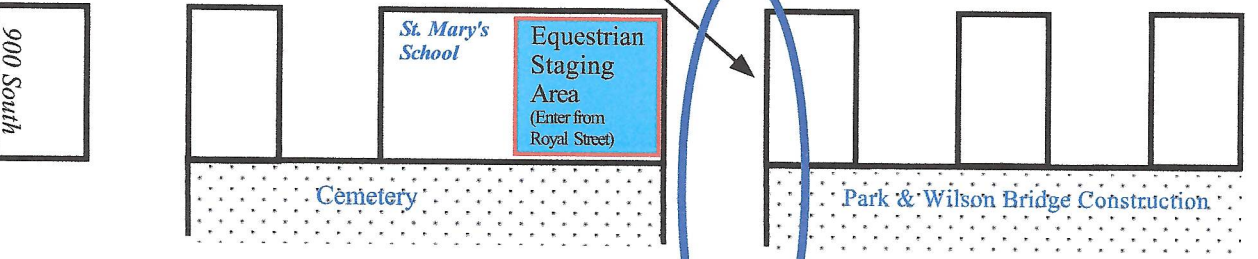
Franklin Street



Jefferson Street



Green Street



**Weather Forecast.** We do want to keep watch on the weather. I like the Capital Weather Gang at the Washington Post. Their latest weather update for the days ahead is [HERE](#).

Please note **Special Orders for Equestrian Units:** Each horse shall be required to wear a horse manure catching bag (sometimes called a “diaper”) to help keep streets clean.

## Message to all Units on February 2, 2020:

This message will confirm that your group is registered as a marching unit in the George Washington Birthday Parade scheduled to begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, February 17, 2020. I especially want to be certain that we have a correct e-mail address for you as the primary contact person and that the e-mail address I am using today will reach you over the weekend prior to the Parade. Please let me know of any changes in your e-mail address.

**You are invited** to have Chocolate with Gen. Washington. Children (and accompanying adults) are invited to spend an hour with Gen. Washington talking about the events of the revolution, asking questions of our first citizen, and enjoying hot chocolate and delicious comestibles. Date: Saturday, February 8, 2020; Time: 2 p.m. Location: George Washington Masonic National Memorial (101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria 22301). Free for everyone, so bring you friends and family!

**Explore the Website.** If you have not already done so, please explore our website, especially the Parade Web Page at <http://washingtonbirthday.com/parade/>. I encourage you to review the Rules & Procedures as well as other Parade Logistical information via the links on this page. Almost every question you can think of (like what time to line up, how we handle parking, and equestrian requirements) is in the 2-page Rules & Procedures document. *more...*

**WhatsApp.** We have added another communication tool this year: WhatsApp. We encourage you to use it and join our group "ALX GW Parade" via <https://chat.whatsapp.com/C05XQJKAd4UL6wlSo8HLYi>. Using WatsApp you can ask questions, give feedback, and get the latest information, especially on Parade Day! My goal is to get someone in every parade unit to join our group. If you don't have a smart phone or don't want to download the app,

please find someone in your unit that will join our group and carry their smart phone on Parade Day.

**Orders of March.** On February 10, 2020 the final Order of March will be made. Orders will be posted via a link on the Parade Web Page and WhatsApp to "Orders of March". This will show you where to line up and what your order will be in the Parade. All Vehicle and Parking Passes will be available on this date.

**Weather and Parade Cancellation.** Overall, even if the weather is rainy or there is light snow, the Parade will go on. If we judge that it is not safe, the Parade will be cancelled. Although we will be sending you an e-mail message directly in case weather or other events cause the delay or cancellation of the Parade, members of your group should be encouraged to go to the WhatsApp group "ALX GW Parade," to the Status section of the website via <http://washingtonbirthday.com/status/> or to call 703-829-6640 for up-to-date information.

That is all for now. Please keep in touch, contact me if you have questions or need assistance. I am looking forward to seeing you on Parade Day.

Joe

*Alexandria George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee*

# George Washington Birthday Parade

George Washington's Day • February 17, 2020 • Old Town Alexandria

## PARADE RULES & PROCEDURES

The City of Alexandria, Virginia, George Washington's hometown, will stage its 223rd celebration of the birth of the Father of our Country with month-long festivities during February 2020, the 244th year of our nation's independence. The Citizens of Alexandria hope that the weather for the celebration of the 288th anniversary of the birthday of George Washington will feature clear skies, fair to moderate winds, abundant sunshine, and warm temperatures!

### 1. PARTICIPATION

**A. INVITATION.** NO individual or organization will be allowed to take part in the George Washington Birthday Parade without the prior approval of the George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee.

**B. PERFORMANCE.** Individuals and organizations participating in the Parade are expected to perform courteously, in good taste, and with safety in mind at all times.

### 2. ASSEMBLY AND CHECK-IN

**A. ASSIGNMENT OF ASSEMBLY AREAS.** Prior to the Parade, each individual unit will be assigned two unique numbers corresponding to their place in the Parade: the *Division Number* which designates where each unit will assemble and will correspond with the Divisions indicated on the enclosed Assembly Area Map; and the *Parade Order Number* which designates the exact order of each unit within the Division and in the Parade as a whole.

**B. FORMATION TIMES:** On Parade Day (Monday, February 17, 2020) units in Divisions 1 through 5 should form in their assigned Assembly Area not later than 12:00 Noon. Units in all other Divisions will form in their assigned Assembly Area not later than 12:30 p.m. Parade Marshals will direct the line-up of the marching units within each Division and may change the Parade Order Number if necessary. The lead unit will cross the Start Point on a signal promptly at 1:00 p.m.

**C. UNIT CHECK IN.** Units will check in with a Parade Marshal at their assigned assembly area. Reporting to the Parade Start Point is not required. However, a Parade Information Table will be located adjacent to the Start Point (on South Fairfax Street at its intersection with Gibbon Street). Any individuals requiring assistance should go to this location.

**D. STREAMERS AND PATCHES.** Uniform Patches and Streamers for Flags (if available this year) will be distributed by Parade Marshals in the Lineup Divisions.

**E. UNIT LEADERS.** Each Unit shall designate one individual to be the On-site Unit Leader who must be at the Parade Site on Parade Day. He or she, should be familiar with the information detailed in this Rules & Procedures document and will be responsible for the order and conduct of each unit. Please indicate the name of this Leader on the Application to Participate and contact the Parade Director if there are changes, as we must have this Leader properly identified prior to Parade Day!

**F. RELEASE.** After completing the Parade Route, all units are released from the Parade when they cross the Release Point at the intersection of South Royal Street and Wilkes Streets, near St. Mary's School.

### 3. LOGISTICS

**A. FIRST AID AND EVACUATION:** Alexandria Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services will provide units to render first aid or other emergency assistance as required and to evacuate any sick or injured. In the event of an emergency please contact the nearest Parade Marshal or Police Officer.

**B. LAW, ORDER AND TRAFFIC CONTROL:** The Alexandria Police Department will clear the Parade Route from curb to curb, maintain order, and control vehicular traffic.

### 4. PARKING, VEHICLE ACCESS AND STAGING AREAS

On Parade Day, all streets on the Parade Route and in the Assembly Area will be posted to prohibit vehicle access and parking commencing at 10:00 a.m. until the end of the Parade. Only vehicles with Permits will be allowed within this perimeter. Please make certain that your parking and logistical requirements are communicated to the Parade Director prior to Parade Day!

**A. PARKING PERMITS:** The Parade Director will provide a parking pass for each vehicle assigned to this reserved parking and it is vital that those who are assigned to these spaces display this parking pass as directed. Parade Marshals assigned to monitor these areas will not have the authority to make exceptions to this requirement.

General parking beneath the Woodrow Wilson Bridge and in other areas near Jones Point Park will be available on a very limited basis. Since entry into the neighborhoods adjacent to the Parade Assembly Area is restricted to residents, parking near the Parade Assembly Area will be almost impossibly difficult for parade participants. The Parade Organization has reserved most of the available parking areas and parking lots near the Parade Assembly Area in order to make certain that space is available for Parade Participants who truly need it and these spaces will be assigned subject to availability.

**B. EQUESTRIAN UNITS:** All horse units will stage at the St. Mary's School parking lot located at Green Street and South Royal Street. Each vehicle must display a St. Mary's School Pass at all times.

**C. PASSENGER VEHICLE PARKING:** All units requiring the use of a passenger vehicle near the Parade Assembly Area will notify the Parade Director via notation on the Participant Information Sheet or directly prior to Parade Day. Subject to availability, each group will be assigned a specific parking space in a specific parking area. Each vehicle must display a Parade Parking Permit at all times. If a nearby vehicle is not required, participants are encouraged to make use of the free parking near the Eisenhower Avenue Metro Station and the free shuttle bus service being provided by DASH on Parade Day from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

**D. BUSES:** All units requiring the use of a bus must notify the Parade Director via notation on the Participant Information sheet or directly prior to Parade Day. Each bus will be assigned a specific area to drop off the unit and a specific area where each bus may park after that. Each bus must display a Parade Bus Permit at all times.

#### **4. SPECIAL ORDERS FOR EQUESTRIAN UNITS**

**A. MANURE CATCHING BAG.** Each horse shall be required to wear a horse manure catching bag (sometimes called a "diaper") to help keep the streets clean.

#### **5. ORDERS FOR ALL UNITS**

**A. COMMAND:** THE CONDUCT AND MOVEMENT OF THE PARADE WILL BE UNDER THE COMMAND OF THE PARADE MARSHALS. ALL UNIT LEADERS (AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF ALL PARADE UNITS) ARE EXPECTED TO AGREEABLY COMPLY WITH THE DIRECTIONS OF PARADE MARSHALS AT ALL TIMES. FAILURE TO ACT IN CONFORMITY WITH THIS INSTRUCTION WILL RESULT IN THE IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF THE OFFENDING UNIT FROM THE PARADE. *"NO QUARTER GIVEN OR ASKED" ON THIS POINT!*

**B. RATE OF MARCH:** All units will march at a pace set by the lead unit. Each subsequent unit is expected to keep pace and maintain a proper interval.

**C. INTERVAL:** To insure no distracting gaps for parade spectators, all units will maintain an interval (distance from the front of one unit to the rear of the unit preceding) of not less than 15 feet and not more than 25 feet throughout the parade. Youth Group units forming in Divisions 9 and 10 will maintain a 5-foot interval between other units within these Divisions. Please maintain the integrity of each unit; do not encroach on the preceding unit or the unit to the rear!

**D. DEMONSTRATIONS:** It is imperative that prolonged gaps in excess of those prescribed in paragraph C above not be allowed to develop. Units, therefore, must not stop their forward movement at any time except for brief demonstrations of less than one minute in duration. And afterwards please "mind the gap:" close up the space so that the proper interval is restored.

**E. AMPLIFIED SOUNDS:** Unless specifically approved in advance of Parade Day, no amplified sounds (including, but not limited to, sounds from noise-making devices, portable "bull horns," or loudspeakers) will be permitted in the Parade. Upon request, the Parade Director will consider permission for use of sound amplification devices on an individual basis, however requests must be made in advance of Parade Day and approvals will be specific.

**F. SAFETY FIRST! *Please*** . . . no objects (including candy) are to be thrown by Parade Units (items may be *handed* to spectators, but please *do not throw anything* as this poses a safety hazard!). Unless specific permission is given prior to Parade Day, no fireworks or discharge of firearms will be permitted during the Parade.

#### **6. AWARDS & POST-PARADE RECEPTION**

All participating units are invited to send representatives to the Awards Reception in the Ballroom of American Legion Post 24 located at 400 Cameron Street (near the Southwest intersection of Cameron and Royal Streets). Special Awards as well as Awards for First, Second, and Third place will be announced in each category immediately after the Parade.

#### **7. CONTACTING THE PARADE ORGANIZATION**

**A. INFORMATION.** In order to provide Parade Participants with access to Parade information, a site has been established online at the address <https://www.washingtonbirthday.com/parade>. Please take advantage of the information posted there including maps, forms, announcements, and (when available) the order of march and results of parade awards judging. The primary public contact telephone number is (703) 829-6640; see information in "C" (below) to contact the Parade Director.

**B. STATUS.** In order to check the status of the Parade (in case of inclement weather, for instance) please go online to <http://www.washingtonbirthday.com/status> or telephone (703) 829-6640 at any time for a status update. Please do not contact the Parade Director about Status unless you cannot access these locations! Any cancellation or other such vital information will be announced via these locations; do not rely on information from other sources.

**C. PARADE DIRECTOR:** The e-mail address of the Parade Director is [gwparade@gmail.com](mailto:gwparade@gmail.com). Telephone and text messages direct to Joseph Shumard, Parade Director at (703) 408-4483. Additional contact information may be found on the website in the "*Contact Us*" section. Make any necessary contact at any time, even on Parade Day!

**THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF OUR CELEBRATION!**