

BOASTING ONE OF THE LARGEST PARADE'S OF GALVESTON'S 12 DAY MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION, THE MYSTIC KREWE OF AQUARIUS WILL OPEN THE 2001 CARNIVAL SEASON WITH A SPECTACULAR 90 UNIT PARADE ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 17, BEGINING AT 12 NOON. THE PARADE WILL WIND IT'S WAY DOWN SEAWALL BLVD. FROM 14TH STREET TO 59TH STREET.

THE INAGURAL PARADE OF AQUARIUS WAS IN 1987, THAT YEAR THE CITY DECIDED TO EXTEND THE MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION TO TWO WEEKENDS AND THE KREWE PRESENTED WHAT WAS KNOWN THEN AS "THE GRAND TRUCK PARADE", WITHIN A FEW SHORT YEARS THE PARADE BECAME ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR AND COLORFUL PARADE'S OF THE MARDI GRAS SHOWCASING NUMEROUS DECORATED FLOATS AND A HOST OF MARCHING BANDS AND DRILL TEAMS, THIS TRADITION CONTINUES TODAY.

THE 2001 PARADE WILL FEATURE OVER 30 MARCHING UNITS WITH HIGH SCHOOL BANDS FROM LA MARQUE, BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, WALTRIP, REAGAN, AUSTIN, JACK YATES, FOREST BROOK, M.B. SMILEY, SCARBOROUGH, JESSE JONES, FURR AND WILLOWRIDGE. THE RICE UNIVERSITY "THE MOB" MARCHING BAND WILL ALSO BE FEATURED. POPULAR DRUM CORP. AND DRILL TEAMS LIKE HOUSTON CITY-WIDE, G-TOWN MARCHING BAND AND THE CORPS FROM ROSENBERG, SAN JACINTO AND BURNET ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WILL PEFORM IN THE PARADE.

A SHOWCASE OD DANCE DRILL TEAMS WILL FEATURE CARNIVAL DE SAN ANTO, THE STARLITE DANCERS, SCROGGINS ELEMNTARY TOE-TAPPERS, BALL HIGH TORNETTES, WEIS OWLETES AND THE CENTRAL DANCING DOLLS.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE "2001 SPACE AND BEYOND" THEME, THE KREWE WILL FEATURE TEN KREWE FLOATS WITH THEMES SUCH AS "TEXAS RED NECK SPACE CADETS", THE "AGE OF AQUARIUS" AND "THIRD ROCK FROM GALVESTON ISLAND". THE 2001 PARADE PROMISES MORE PAGEANTRY AND THEATRICS THAN EVER BEFORE.

THE KREWE'S OF THALASAR, HARLEQUINS WILL ONCE AGAIN APPEAR IN THE PARADE AND THE NEW "KREWE OF OZ" WILL MAKE IT'S DEBUT IN THIS YEARS PARADE.

MARDI GRAS REVELERS WILL BE SHOWERD BY THOUSANDS OF STRINGS OF BEADS AND OTHER AQUARIUS COLLECTIBALES, LIKE FAMOUS AQUARIUS MONGRAMED DOUBLOONS AND SPECIALITY BEADS.

ON TUESDAY FEBRUARY 27 CELEBRATING IN THE FINAL HOURS OF THE 2001 MARDI GRAS, AQUARIUS WILL STAGE THE FINAL PARADE OF THE CARNIVAL SEASON, THE "FAT TUESDAY" PARADE THEMED "WE END WHAT WE BEGIN" WILL PARADE THROUGH HISTORIC DOWNTOWN AND THE STRAND DISTRICT AT 6:30 pm BEGINING AT 26TH AND MECHANIC STREETS. OTHER KREWE'S PARTICIPATING IN THIS YEARS FINAL EVENT WILL BE KREWE OF GAMBRINUS, KREWE OF MUNCHKINS, KREWE OF THALASAR, KREWE OF HARLEQUINS, KREWE OF OZ, KREWE DU SOLEIL, Z KREWE, AND KREWE BABALU