

4th time LO-ordinarily in marketing

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1. What is Liberty Celebration?

Singer  
great  
praise  
Excitement  
enthusiasm

- a. It's a celebration of freedom through a **patriotic musical extravaganza** including a 130-voice choir with solos / duets / trios / quartets / ensembles / drama / dance / and more. Choral participants range in age from children to senior citizens. We are still looking for new or previous choir members to participate in our program. Practices are held at Kingsport Community Church (Memorial Blvd, across from Fort Henry Mall) on Mondays from 7-9 PM and Saturdays from 9-11AM.
- b. We are a **not-for-profit** biennial event produced by local volunteers since 1997. We particularly appreciate our major corporate sponsors Eastman and Food City who make Liberty Celebration possible.
- c. It's a God and country celebration of patriotism, paying tribute to America's founders / defenders / military / and special service providers as schedule to coincide with our nation's birthday. This year we are extending a special invitation to our JROTC groups and scouts, who are among our future leaders of this great nation.
- d. There's a live orchestra of 50 instruments as directed by Dr. Marc Strand who also serves as the choral director. Marc is a man of many talents whose passion for LC is infectious.
- e. We include a dramatic honor ceremony with a wreath placement at the "The Tomb of The Unknowns". We use the historic replica of the tomb built at Mountain Home in the 1930s. This year the outstanding Sullivan South JROTC will lead this.
- f. It's a fast-paced tightly planned program which weaves the God and Country theme and patriotism throughout the ninety-minute presentation.
- g. There is even a preshow in the lobby to keep early-comers entertained.
- h. Our theme this year is—AMERICA, United We Stand! We will have 2018 LC t-shirts for sale at \$10 which attendees may purchase.
- i. Recognizing our non-profit status. After bills are paid proceeds from LC 2018 will benefit The American Legion Posts 3 and 265 Honor Guard

2. Name, how are you involved with Liberty Celebration?

interview 6.5.18 - Tuesday 11:30-12:00  
PER RON GARDNER

I have been involved with LC since 2012. the Planning Team for the past three presentations and also served on the Creative Team. This year I have helped facilitate Liberty Celebration marketing. I note that the Kingsport and NE TN/SW VA area is an extremely patriotic area. I can attest to that even after living in the Washington DC area for nearly four decades.

It's a wonderful experience with an ad-hoc leadership team of 25 empowered leaders and involves some 300 volunteers. Planning for this year's presentation started about a year ago. Outstanding administrative leadership is provided by Jim Austin and Baxter Hood.

### **3. Again, what does the Liberty Celebration program embody?**

PATRIOTISM—which illustrates: we are an exceptional nation:  
our EXCEPTIONAL FREEDOMS  
the EXCEPTIONAL MIRACLES of our founding 232 years ago,  
our EXCEPTIONAL CONSTITUTION  
our EXCEPTIONAL NATIONAL MOTTO—IN GOD WE TRUST  
AND INDEED—OUR EXCEPTIONAL NATIONAL BANNER—  
YES WE ARE—AN EXCEPTIONAL NATION

### **4. What are some of the musical selections in the program this year?**

Some of the music which covers wide genres and offers something for all ages in attendance includes:

United We Stand Medley:

I love America

I believe in America

Lean on Me

Freedom

America the Beautiful

Only in America

Grand Old Flag

Patriotic:

O America

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Military Theme Songs

Here's to the Heroes

Thou o Lord

A Whirlwind Tour of the USA:

New York, New York

Rocky Mountain High

I left my Heart in San Francisco

Almost Heaven West Virginia

Georgia on my Mind

Sweet Home Alabama—unbelievably energetic

Tennessee Waltz

Has to be Rocky Top

And a United We Stand ending Medley

## 5. When is Liberty Celebration?

a. 3 Performances—

i. Friday, June 29 at 7:00PM

ii. Saturday, June 30 at 2:30 and 7:00PM

iii. At Eastman Toy F. Reid Employee Center in Kingsport.

b. Advance sales tickets are \$5 and **you may also pay at the door**

c. The Center seats up to 1600. Performances do approach capacity, so consider buying your tickets in advance.

## 6. How can interested persons obtain more information?

Extensive information is available **at our easy to remember website**

**LIBERTYCELEBRATION.COM**

We are also on Facebook at: Liberty Celebration – Kingsport TN

**You may call me. name / number**