



Patchogue's Annual Lions Club 4th Of July Parade: The First 25 Years (1947-1972)

"Gala Fourth Of July Planned For Tomorrow" *Patchogue Advance*, 7/3/1947, pp. 1, 7
The inaugural annual Lions Club 4th of July Parade in Patchogue.

"Estimated 25,000 Persons Watch Lions July 4 Parade" *Patchogue Advance*, 7/10/1952,
pp. 1, 5

"Patchogue's Largest July 4 Parade Pulls Record 40,000" *Patchogue Advance*, 7/7/1955,
pp. 1, 5, 6

The 1955 Fourth Of July parade, described by the *Advance* as the largest July 4th parade in the Village's history to date, with about 40,000 lining the streets to watch, and with a First Aid station apparently set up by the Elks, although it turned out that the station's services were fortunately not required.

"50,000 Watch Patchogue's Independence Day Parade" *Patchogue Advance*, 7/10/1958,
pp. 1, 3

"Throngs View July 4 Parade In Patchogue" *Patchogue Advance*, 7/9/1959, pp. 1, 7
The 1959 Fourth of July parade, punctuated alas by an unfortunate accident during the fireworks display.

"Estimated Crowd Of 25,000 Views Patchogue Lions' Annual Fourth Of July Parade"
Long Island Advance, 7/7/1966, p. 1, 10
The 1966 Fourth of July parade, seen by 25,000, and Grand Marshalled by none other than Chet Huntley, who was also, at that time, co-owner of Patchogue's own WALK Radio.

[“Crowd Of 20,000 Views Patchogue Lions’ Annual July 4th Parade”](#) *Long Island Advance*, 7/6/1967, p.1

[“Fourth Of July Parade Rates Lions Big Cheer”](#) *Long Island Advance*, 7/10/1969, pp.1, 6

[“Lions Club 25th Anniversary July Fourth Parade Tuesday”](#) *Long Island Advance*, 6/29/1972, p.1

And a few parades from the twenty years before the parade became an annual event

[“Babies To Star In Big Parade Here Monday”](#) *Patchogue Advance*, 7/1/1927, p.1

In 1926 and 1927, the focus was on, perhaps uniquely, a baby parade.

[“A Vet Passes By!”](#) *Patchogue Advance*, 7/6/1928, p.11

The following year, in 1928, one lone, dedicated veteran of the Civil War kept the proverbial flame of an Independence Day parade alive.

[“Patchogue’s July 4th Parade”](#) *Patchogue Advance*, 7/9/1942, pp.1, 4

The 1942 Fourth of July parade was an inventive and patriotic combination of horseback parading and motor parading, inspired by wartime shortages of fuel. It was alas anticlimactically capped off with an accidental wastepaper can fire at the Four Corners which was fortunately extinguished with water obtained from McBride’s.

[“Patchogue Set For Quiet Observance Of The Fourth”](#) *Patchogue Advance*, 7/4/1946, p.1

In 1946, the year before the Lions Club parade became an annual event, it was reported that no Fourth of July parade was even planned or intended, for reasons alas not explained, although a connection with the recent end of World War II might be inferred.

*Compiled and edited by Gary Lutz
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