

# Aptos parade marches on



Diane Varni

Dr. Clinton Gurnee Jr., a Watsonville dentist, has entered his 1915 Packard in 26 of the 27

Aptos parades. He is pictured here with Lucile Aldrich, center, and Anne Isaacs.

## Patriotic celebration marks 27 years

**T**HERE'S ONE THING you can count on for the 4th of July and that's the Aptos Ladies Tuesday Evening Society parade. This year, like the 26 years before it, anyone with a yen to can march in the parade. Awards are passed out for those entries that follow an old-fashioned or patriotic theme, but adhering to those themes is not required.

For the first time, the parade will begin in the middle of the road at State Park and Soquel drives. Those wishing to participate should gather in that area at 11:30 a.m. The company will begin winding its way toward Aptos Village Park at noon.

Streets around the parade route will be closed from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m., or shortly after if the parade lasts longer than usual. Soquel Drive will be closed from State Park Drive to Trout Gulch Road. Also marked for closure during those hours are Aptos Wharf Road, Sunset Drive and Nisene Marks State Park Drive at Soquel Drive.

Parade watchers are encouraged to find a spot at the beginning of the parade route. In years past, bottle-necks near Aptos Village Park have slowed the parade's progress.

Before and after the

parade, food booths and demonstrations will take place at the park. Booths featuring a variety of food from Thai cuisine to Corralitos-sausage sandwiches will open at 10:30 a.m. Tae kwon do and square-dancing demonstrations are scheduled for the afternoon. Ribbons will be awarded at the park for the best old-fashioned/patriotic costume, pet, group, antique car and float in the parade.

Lucile Aldrich, parade chairwoman, said the best thing about this parade — the only one in the county that hasn't missed a year since it began — is that it "comes from the heart." Anyone who

wants to can enter, she said. There is no fee, no forms to fill out. Entries in years past have run the gamut from children and their pets to groups of friends, from simple to elaborate, from zany to serious.

Aldrich has been in on the parade since the beginning. Anne Isaacs, booth chairwoman, and Skipper Kendall, judge chairwoman, are both volunteering for the 25th year in a row. Jeff Byers, an honorary member of the Aptos Ladies, is traffic chairman for the fifth year and David Bridge, another "Honorary Lady," is horse chairman for the 10th year.

REFERENCE

APTOS BRANCH LIBRARY  
7695 Soquel Drive  
Aptos, California 95003

WATSONVILLE  
REGISTRAR-Pajaronian  
June 30, 1988