

You had to be there

The first Aurorafest was held in September of 1974.

It was prompted by both the approaching Bicentennial, with its focus on heritage, and the desire for a community party.

From the beginning, however, the Aurorafest Parade took off in a direction of its own.

It is like other parades in having a Grand Marshall - over time a Colonial Town Crier, Uncle Sam, a Jester and a Goddess with Cricket - fire departments, music, vehicles of many kinds and eager crowds.



1991-1992



**There was always the
Aurora pumper, and
there were always
animals.**



1991



1999



1990

Rich in variety and quirkiness, the Parade came to be defined by the epic float rivalry between Tudy Kenyon (entering under “Whitney Animal Labs”) and Stan Zabriskie.

The two teams worked in secrecy to craft expressions of the year’s theme. The results usually went in directions for which the word “original” is barely adequate.

Tudy kept meticulous photographic records of the parades and floats. Volume I of her collection is currently AWOL; Volume II covers 1990-2007. Without further explanation - because it’s just not possible - here are a few of the Floats of Yesteryear.





1991 Theme: "A Roar for Peace"
"To Peace and a Pod"
Judges' Award





vs. "Five Easy Pieces"



**The 1992 Theme,
“Peachtown Party,” brought
out “A Mad Peach T Party,”
the “Party Poopers” and the
Library’s “Party Animals.”**





**1994, "A Roaring
Good Time:"
"Hell of a Theme"
Most Original**

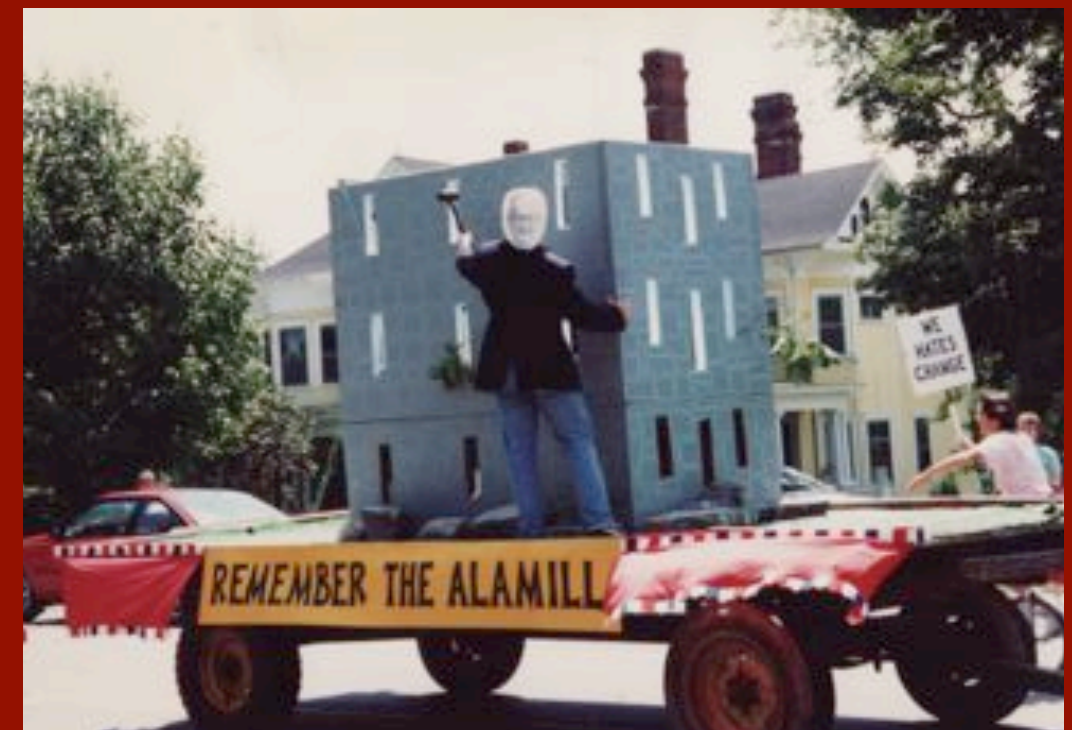
**Tudy's floats on
current Village topics
became legendary.**



**2005, "It's in the Water:"
"Octopied"**



**1993, "Changing Times:"
"We Hates Change (Old Mill)"
Tied for 3rd Place**



Of course, there were always animals...



2002

**2001, "Deawendote
(Village of Constant
Dawn:"
"Deawana Doodle-Doo!"
Honorable Mention**



“Why not take your dog for a walk?”

Tudy Kenyon's self-written obituary, 2009



2000



2004



1999

**Or why not join the parade?
Saturday, July 13th, 2013:
“Come Together”**

*Entry forms available at the Market
and online at auroranewyork.us*

You have to be there -

it won't be as much fun without you

*Linda Schwab, Village Historian,
thanks Stan Zabriskie for loan
of Tudy's parade book.*