

2012 PASADENA TOURNAMENT OF ROSES

Parade Position: 54

PARTICIPANT: Dick Van Patten's Natural Balance Pet Foods, Inc.

FLOAT THEME: Surf's Up

BUILDER: Fiesta Parade Floats (626 610-0974)

SIGNIFICANCE OF THEME TO NATURAL BALANCE: *Surf's Up* is our theme and it signifies that anything and everything is possible especially when you have Tillman & Friends having the time of their lives surfing on real waves on the world's longest and heaviest float

NUMBER OF YEARS IN ROSE PARADE: 4

HEIGHT: 30 FEET

WIDTH: 18 FEET

LENGTH: 116 FEET

FLOAT DESCRIPTION: Just Imagine ---Tillman the bulldog skateboarding! Check = did that in the 2009 Rose Parade. Tillman & Friends snowboarding down a floral "snow" covered hill. Check = did that in the 2010 Parade. Well, then imaging dogs skimboarding and dock-diving on a float driving down Colorado Boulevard on New Year's morning 2011. Check = did that too! So --- let's *Just Imagine* Tillman & Friends actually surfing on 65 foot long waves in a 80-foot long ocean of water on the longest and heaviest float ever in the history of the Rose Parade! The world record-breaking Tillman, holder of the Guinness World Record as the fastest skateboarding dog, is going for 2 new Guinness World Records while entertaining us on the 2012 Natural Balance Rose Parade float. Natural Balance will attempt to break it's own world record as the longest Rose Parade float entry in history (awarded in 2010 at 113 feet long) in addition to the record for the heaviest float and with the most water ever used on a Rose Parade float. They hold that title for their 2011 Rose Parade float entry weighing in at 84,300 pounds. Sponsored by Dick Van Patten's Natural Balance Pet Foods, Inc., Tillman & Friends are having fun in the sun, as it is "Surf's Up" on this 116-foot long float set in a tropical floral setting. Training since October, the dogs will actually surf on 65-foot long waves in over 6,600 gallons of water on a float weighing more than 100,000 pounds. A specially designed "wave" machine is incorporated into the design of the float and creates a wave every minute.

FLOWERING DETAIL: Shells are artistically produced in cornhusk, hot pink sinuata statice, sesame and millet seeds. Dolphins are petaled in silverleaf protea leaves with blue sinuata statice, yellow strawflower petals, white sweet rice and glossy black seaweed creating many of the fish. Sculptured orchids are created in crisp white coconut chips and purple dendrobium blossoms and the sea gulls have individual feathers of white carnation petals. Vibrant yellow strawflower petals create the body of the convertible Woody. The wood panel areas on the side of the car have been fashioned entirely from brown-toned roses including Leonodis, Coco, Chocolate and Sahara. Shiny silverleaf protea and eucalyptus leaves are used for the glistening chrome. This fun filled, action packed float incorporates the colors of the Pacific Ocean to bring a glow of sunshine the morning of the Parade. The hues of a tropical sunset are designed into the 11-foot tall sea walls with the use of over 25,000 roses and 20,000 specialty anthuriums grown especially for the Natural Balance float. The fanciful palm trees of chopped chartreuse lichen moss have floral centers of over 10,000 Golden Oncidium orchids and golden hybrid Vanda orchids

ANIMATION: Surfboard riding dogs include 6-year old Tillman, 3 year old Rose, 2 year old Sully and 11-month old Wally. An on-board music system adds to the action.

SPECIAL INFORMATION & FLOAT RIDERS: All water has been heated for the comfort of the dogs. Open "auditions" for the performing dogs took place at Fiesta Parade Floats in November with the winners appearing in the Parade. Tillman, his "sister" Rose and "brothers" Sully and Wally began "testing" the specifications for the wave machine in early summer. A 2-foot tall Plexiglas wall encompasses the float for the safety of the dogs. Dog trainers, handlers and a veterinarian ride on the float. A specially engineered chassis was built to hold the 55,000 pounds of water. The completed float will weigh over 100,000 pounds.

Few actors have had as versatile and as rich a background as Dick Van Patten. With a remarkable career, which includes more than 600 radio shows, 27 Broadway plays, 7 television series and 30 feature films including classics such as Mel Brooks' "Spaceballs", "High Anxiety", "Robin Hood-Men in Tights" "Westworld", "Soylent Green" and "Mr. Roberts". Van Patten is perhaps best known for his popular role as Tom Bradford in the long-running hit series, "Eight is Enough" as well as his worldwide pet food company, Natural Balance. His son, Jimmy Van Patten has most recently been seen in the hit horror film "Saw 3D: The Final Chapter" and works very closely with his father in running Natural Balance Pet Foods.

SPONSOR INFORMATION: Natural Balance Pet Foods, Inc. not only makes Premium quality foods for dogs and cats, their Zoological Division manufactures food for lions, tigers, cheetahs, polar bears, snakes and carnivorous birds for zoos all over the country. They feed such prestigious Zoos as the San Diego Zoo, Lincoln Park Zoo and the Bronx Zoo. Natural Balance is also the food of Guide Dog Organizations and ATF dogs all over the country. Natural Balance is also the only pet food company that performs nine different tests for safety on every batch of food before the product ever leaves its warehouse. You can visit www.naturalbalanceinc.com and view the test results for any Natural Balance product. You can see Tillman & Friends surf on the Natural Balance float in the Showcase of Floats at Post Parade on January 2 and 3.