

A. Individual Submitting Nomination Information:

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B. Nomination Information:

June Blair and Jim Kalfus
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C. Nomination Questions:

1) June Blair and Jim Kalfus are a husband and wife volunteer team, which is why they are being co-nominated for Zambelli Fireworks Internationale Volunteer of the Year Award. June and Jim’s involvement with the Kentucky Derby Festival has primarily been with the Festival’s highly successful Pegasus Pin Sponsorship Program for the past 24 years. The KDF Pegasus Pin Program accounts for about 20 percent of the Derby Festival’s \$6 million annual operating budget.

Not only is June an outstanding and dedicated Derby Festival volunteer, she has also been instrumental in recruiting other volunteers. Jim has been an active and enthusiastic volunteer for nearly a quarter of a century, in spite of having two total hip replacements, two heart attacks and placement of six stents in his heart and three epidurals.

2) June Blair was the Derby Festival top individual seller of Pegasus Pins for three consecutive years. She not only sold pins at Derby Festival events, but took it upon herself to solicit her own group of retail outlets, while enlisting Jim as the pin delivery person. She has received commitments to sell pins from car washes, independent grocery stores, service stations, restaurants, beauty salons, the Louisville International Airport, and several other retail locations.

Both June and Jim have been members of the Derby Festival’s Pin Management Team for the past 10 years. They have worked in the “money room” – where cash from Pegasus Pin sales are collected and counted – at KDF pin admission events, including Thunder Over Louisville, U.S. Bank Great BalloonFest and Republic Bank Parade Preview Party.

3) June has worked with the Derby Festival on the planning and implementation of all phases of selling Pegasus Pins, including supplying pins to retailers in both Jefferson and Bullitt counties of Kentucky. Jim has worked at Dri-View, the Derby Festival’s main

warehouse storage site for Pegasus Pins, for many years. His duties include packing, shipping and delivering pins to various locations for sale.

With nearly 500,000 Pegasus Pins in circulation every spring, it requires countless volunteer hours to remove stickers and count, sort and package individual event pins. Both June and Jim have devoted hundreds of hours over the years in performing what can be slightly tedious tasks such as the aforementioned.

4) June Blair and Jim Kalfus have shown initiative and leadership in their efforts to distribute and sell Pegasus Pins in locations where they have not previously been available, including the outlying Bullitt County area, which is about 20 miles from the general Louisville market. These are retail outlets that had not been considered before as pin sellers. Their persistence and enthusiasm in winning over these retailers has been admirable, as well being a financial asset to the Derby Festival.

The couple has been highly successful in convincing retail shop owners that the sale of Pegasus Pins would help “drive traffic” to the locations, thereby increasing the amount of other items sold at the stores. Their resourcefulness and creativity in expanding the reach of the Derby Festival’s Pin Program has been a key component in improving the overall effectiveness of the Pin Management Committee.

5) With nearly 25 years of volunteer service to the Kentucky Derby Festival, June Blair and Jim Kalfus have been models of dependability. In addition to their outstanding work with the Festival’s Pin Program, the couple has also been involved with such Derby Festival events as Thunder Over Louisville, Great Balloon Glow, Great Balloon Race, Philip Morris Country Music Show, Basketball Classic, Great Bed Races, Run for the Rose, Chow Wagon, Parade Preview Party, \$1 Million Hole in One Golf Contest, Thunder Static Air Display, Great Steamboat Race, among others.

6) Despite dealing with some serious health issues for several years, Jim Kalfus and his wife, June Blair, have maintained a wonderfully positive attitude that is contagious among their fellow volunteers, as well as the Derby Festival staff and board members. The couple always seems to find the bright side of a situation and are constantly seeking new challenges. While both are retired from professional careers, June and Jim show no signs of slowing down with their volunteer activities, which include several other agencies in addition to the Kentucky Derby Festival.

7) June and Jim have made a tremendous difference to the Kentucky Derby Festival. The Festival’s Pegasus Pin Program has certainly grown more widespread and successful as a result of their enthusiasm and support. The Pin Program has become a fund-raising and awareness vehicle for several different community festivals around the country, and June and Jim can share it that success. Without the brainstorming, resourcefulness and initiative demonstrated by the couple, the Derby Festival would no doubt be less financially successful and would not have become such a jewel in the community.

D. Media List

2) The Courier-Journal newspaper
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Business First newspaper
501 South Fourth Street
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 583-1731
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The Voice-Tribune newspaper
130 St. Matthews Avenue
Louisville, KY 40207
(502) 897-8900
Jacob@voice-tribune.com