

INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL

86th

OCTOBER 19-22, 2023
Crowley, LA



Sadie Renee Zumbrecher
International Rice Festival Queen LXXX

Gold Star

SINCE

1992

AMUSEMENTS

"Passport to Fun"

passes are now on sale at
Crowley ShopRites/Tobacco Plus,
and I-10 Crowley Chevron
Sale ends Thursday, Oct. 19th @ 5pm

only \$54 (limited number available)
(nearly a 50% savings)

"Passport to Fun" passes are good for unlimited rides,
all 4 days of the Rice Festival

DAILY BRACELET PRICES:
THURSDAY - SATURDAY: \$30 PER DAY
SUNDAY SAVER SPECIAL: \$25



Carnival Times:

Thursday 6-11
Friday & Saturday 10-11
Sunday 12-6

Mega Pass Times:

**PLEASE NOTE END TIME FOR MEGA PASS/BRACELET

Thursday 6-10
Friday & Saturday 10-10
Sunday 12-6

2023 Official Program | 86th International Rice Festival

“Rice Capital of America” Crowley, Louisiana | October 19-22, 2023

Festival Officers



Kevin Spell
President



Tessa Richard
General Chairman



Julian LeBlanc
Co-Chairman



Ronda Richard
Secretary



Suzy Webb
Member at Large



Shanna Monk
Festival Coordinator

Board of Directors



Tessa Richard
General Chairman



Julian LeBlanc
Co-Chairman



Ronda Richard
Secretary



Suzy Webb
Member at Large



Shanna Monk
Festival Coordinator



Amy Bergeron



Elizabeth Monk



Connie Nutt



Louis “Budda” Romero Jr.



Delo Hebert

Festival Events

Saturday, OCTOBER 14, 2023

Annual Queen’s Ball / Honoree Social

The annual event will be held at the Grand Opera House of the South. The event includes the presentation of the 85th International Rice Festival Queen & the 86th Festival Honoree, International Rice Festival President, Farmer of the Year, Jr. Farmer of the Year, Parade Marshals and Festival Queens from around the state of Louisiana.

Thursday, October 19, 2023

Opening night of the 86th International Rice Festival begins at 6:00 pm with entertainment, carnival rides and most food booths.

Friday, October 20, 2023

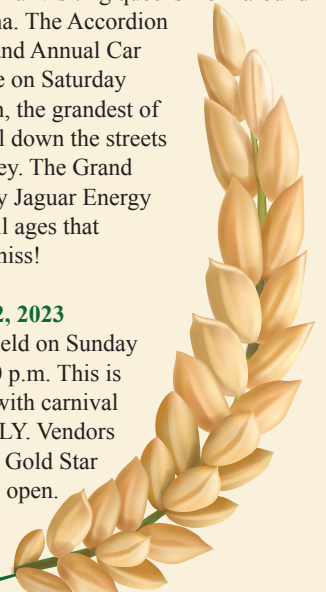
The first full day of the 86th International Rice Festival is recognized as “Children’s Day”. Special events include the official opening of the festival by the 86th IRF President, the crowning of the 2023 Junior King and Queen and the Children’s Parade. The Rice & Creole Cookery contest and Rice Eating contest are also exciting events happening during the day on Friday. Make plans to visit the Arts & Crafts Booths at Levy Park and of course, entertainment can be heard on both festival stages following the parade until Midnight.

Saturday, October 21, 2023

The second full day of the festival will begin with the crowning of the 86th International Rice Festival Queen by the 86th IRF Honoree. Special guests during the contest are the beautiful visiting queens from around the State of Louisiana. The Accordion and Fiddle Contest and Annual Car Show also take place on Saturday morning. At 3:00 pm, the grandest of all parades will stroll down the streets of downtown Crowley. The Grand Parade, sponsored by Jaguar Energy Services is fun for all ages that you do not want to miss!

Sunday, October 22, 2023

Family Fun Day is held on Sunday from noon until 6:00 p.m. This is an alcohol free day with carnival rides and games ONLY. Vendors only associated with Gold Star Amusements will be open.





Welcome

Kevin Spell
2023 International Rice Festival President

My family and I are honored to welcome you to the 86th International Rice Festival, our "Grand Celebration of the Harvest". Where we come together as a community to celebrate and pay tribute to the hard work and successes of our area Farmers, Millers, Truckers and all associated with the Rice Industry. Our Festival has been celebrating through many generations, making it the oldest and largest agricultural festival in our great state of Louisiana.

We invite you to come out and enjoy all that the festival has to offer. For three days in October every year, Downtown Crowley is filled with food vendors, Musical Entertainment, two outstanding Parades, safe and fun Carnival Rides, Car Show, too many contests to mention and all for you and your family to enjoy.

With this year's theme, "Rice ... A Farming Family Tradition", we want to focus on the successful heritage and legacy of our farming families and generational traditions which continue year after year through hard work, sacrifice and dedication. It is with great honor that I serve and represent such an outstanding organization alongside so many hard working and dedicated volunteers. This is my festival family and I feel very blessed to be a part of this grand celebration we call "Festival".

So come out, say hi, enjoy all of the activities, and pass a good time. I'll see you there!



Past Rice Festival Presidents

- 1937 R.E. Schlicher & Justin Wilson
- 1938 R.E. Schlicher & Justin Wilson
- 1939 J. Bruce Barousse
- 1940 W.J. Cleveland
- 1941 Jerry Ashley
- 1942-45 War Years
- 1946 Jerry Ashley & R.E. Schlicher
- 1947 W.E. Trimble & W.M. Loving
- 1948 W.M. Loving
- 1949 A.B. Dore & W.D. Harmon
- 1950 Guy Gardiner & Millard Roberts
- 1951 Clyde Hodges

- 1952 Harry Redman & B.W. Hoyt
- 1953 W.J. Cleveland
- 1954 J.W. Barnett
- 1955 George Geesey
- 1956 Ralph Cowen
- 1957 Edwin Edwards
- 1958 Henry Cowen
- 1959 Alvin A. Brinker
- 1960 Edmund M. Reggie
- 1961 Joe Gielen
- 1962 Louis M. Basso
- 1963 Marion Edwards
- 1964 A.B. Dore
- 1965 T. Barrett Harrington
- 1966 J.B. Broussard
- 1967 Kenneth Faulk
- 1968 Dr. H. Rouse Caffey
- 1969 S.L. Wright II

- 1970 Dr. John Davis
- 1971 Bill Williams
- 1972 Dan Rogers
- 1973 Mike McBride
- 1974 Lyle Fogleman, Sr.
- 1975 Julius Meaux
- 1976 Rita Nicholson
- 1977 John E. Broussard
- 1978 L.J. Dailey
- 1979 Macon D. Faulkner
- 1980 JoAnn Broussard
- 1981 Stephen Stefanski
- 1982 John E. Hains
- 1983 Harry Benoit
- 1984 Phil Lizotte
- 1985 Keith Broussard
- 1986 Bill Williams
- 1987 Larry Trahan

- 1988 Robert Istre
- 1989 Glynn Mayard
- 1990 Ken Goss
- 1991 Debbie Doré
- 1992 Gene Williams
- 1993 Esther Trahan
- 1994 Diane E. Miller
- 1995 Larry G. Broussard
- 1996 E. Skip Smith
- 1997 Ronald Levy Jr.
- 1998 J. Elliot Doré
- 1999 Mellie W. James
- 2000 Gil Pinac
- 2001 Dolores Nutt
- 2002 Doris Reiners
- 2003 Harry Walker
- 2004 Patty K. Simon
- 2005 Tracy Wirtz

- 2006 Bradley LaCombe
- 2007 Jeremy "Jay" Suire
- 2008 Blane Faulk
- 2009 Janet Hebert
- 2010 Albert Leleux
- 2011 JC Webb
- 2012 Brady Williams
- 2013 Romona Credeur
- 2014 Connie Nutt
- 2015 Troy Perry
- 2016 Elisabeth Leleux
- 2017 Suzy B. Webb
- 2018 Elizabeth Monk
- 2019 Deborah Nutt Whiting
- 2021 Gilles Piron
- 2022 Louis "Buddha" Romero Jr.
- 2023 Kevin Spell



Queen

Miss Sadie Renee Zaunbrecher
85th International
Rice Festival Queen



The season is here. The cool fronts are coming. The weekend our quaint, beloved town waits 365 days to celebrate an industry we hold dear to our hearts. The time to celebrate the less than 2% that feeds the 100%. The farmers and their workers who work tirelessly to keep food on our tables. The time to celebrate the production of over 515 million tons of grain produced yearly worldwide.

It is with great honor and privilege that I welcome you to the 86th International Rice Festival held in my hometown of Crowley, Louisiana, the Rice Capital of America, every third full weekend in October. As your 85th International Rice Festival Queen, I have traveled over 16,000 miles to 70 events across the great state of Louisiana; Austin and Winnie, Texas; Washington, DC; Pasadena, California; and Nassau, Bahamas. I have loved every second of being an advocate and educator for the rice industry and this festival alongside the IRF board of directors, USA Rice Federation, and our very own rice producers and millers.

I've always believed that the most important people on this planet are the ones who plant the seeds and care for the soil where they grow. At least once in your life you need a doctor, a lawyer, a policeman, and a preacher. But every day, three times a day, you need a farmer. Farming is a job, full of long hours, in all temperatures, and lots of hard work. But it is so much more than that. It is scars, callouses, broken bones, stitches, and bruises. It is sunshine and storms, dirt under your nails, and straw in your boots. It is early mornings, late nights, and long days. There is no such thing as "clocking in and clocking out." It is the joy of a good harvest, the beauty of a sunset, the peace in the barns. It is a dog in your truck and freedom in your soul. It is faith, determination, and accomplishment. It is fears, tears, laughter, and love. It is a way of life, a sense of pride, a family affair. It is home. And there is no place I would rather be.

My roots can be traced back to my great-great grandfather who moved here with his father from Germany where they resided in Roberts Cove, Louisiana. Coming from a six-generation farming family, I know everything there is to know about hard work and dedication to keep a farm running. Most people only see land and crops, but to a farmer it is their family's heritage, way of life, and future.

I welcome you to join me in historic downtown Crowley on October 19th through 22nd for Louisiana's oldest and largest agricultural festival as we celebrate an abundant harvest of "Rice... A Farming Family Tradition." From Harvest Fest, arts & crafts, Rice Creole & Cookery contest, 5K run, Fiddle & Accordion contest, and both Children's and Grand Parades- there are activities for all ages to enjoy! My personal favorite, of course, is the traditional rice threshing demonstration where locals tell stories of how farmers, many years ago, thrashed and dried their rice. Every year, we honor current and future leaders by recognizing a Farmer and Jr. Farmer of the Year and Honoree. Be sure to boogie your way to one of our two stages to listen to local and legendary artists and bands such as Chris Ardoin, Geno Delafosse, Adam Leger, Three Thirty Seven, Spank the Monkey, and Crowley's own Wayne Toups. Don't miss out on everything rice down Parkerson Avenue where you are sure to pass a good time with great food! It is with great pride that I invite you all to the 86th International Rice Festival to celebrate a tiny golden grain that feeds the world- RICE!

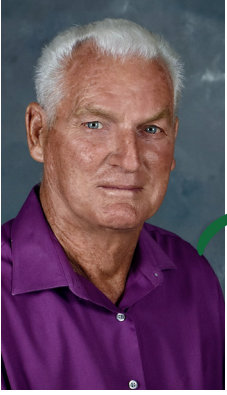
See you there,

Sadie Renee Zaunbrecher
International Rice Festival Queen LXXXV



Past Rice Festival Queens

- 1937 Mrs. Estelle Bonin Fleming
- 1938 Mrs. Cecile Trahan Larcade
- 1939 Mrs. Lucille Jones Brodbeck
- 1940 Mrs. Melba Keller Hoffpaur
- 1941 Mrs. Ann Meridith Van Ness
- 1942-45 War Years
- 1946 Carolyn Breaux Martin
- 1947 Mary Alice Tosso
- 1948 Mrs. Ioycelyn Aube Heming
- 1949 Mary Barbara Rodriguez
- 1950 Jackie Hoffpaur
- 1951 Lorraine Lott
- 1952 Angie Branch
- 1953 Mrs. Betty David Billiard
- 1954 Mrs. Cady Gardiner Privot
- 1955 Carolyn Leonards replaced by Wanda Peterson
- 1956 Mrs. Margie Moore Hanisee
- 1957 Patricia Lormand
- 1958 Mrs. Carolyn Cherry Moore
- 1959 Judith Ann Haydell
- 1960 Virginia O'Brien
- 1961 Marilyn Ann Adams
- 1962 Vickie Lee Nutting replaced by Sharon Elliott
- 1963 Brenda Daigle
- 1964 Valerie Oustalet
- 1965 Dianne Everett Miller
- 1966 Linda Leoty
- 1967 Mrs. Debbie Carpenter Noble
- 1968 Susan Garcia
- 1969 Deborah Elizabeth Jones replaced by Lydia Breaux
- 1970 Paula Bergeron
- 1971 Bridget Parsley
- 1972 Sally Fall
- 1973 Mrs. Renee Duplechin Tauzin
- 1974 Karen Bollich
- 1975 Patricia Cran
- 1976 Tara Ann Hargrove
- 1977 Betty Aliee
- 1978 Cynthia Gossen
- 1979 Beth Meaux
- 1980 Donna Pousson Hebert
- 1981 Danette Trahan
- 1982 Gwendolyn Dugas
- 1983 Michelle Meche
- 1984 Camille Bourgeois
- 1985 Anna Christine Arceneaux
- 1986 Tonya Stoute
- 1987 Catherine Arceneaux
- 1988 Dana Randolph
- 1989 Jean Marie LeJeune
- 1990 Tonii Ann Adock
- 1991 Tiffany Shannon McDaniel
- 1992 Christine Lawson Gil
- 1993 Heather Hedrick
- 1994 Yvonne Gilder Anderson
- 1995 Keisha Benoit Rue
- 1996 Jennifer Broadus
- 1997 Angela Marie Abate Fay
- 1998 Courtney Terrell
- 1999 Amy Catherine Pastor Bergeron
- 2000 Elizabeth Jane Lawson Monk
- 2001 Melanie Rene Falcon Daigle
- 2002 Lauren Elise Barry Naquin
- 2003 Aleigha Evan Trahan Singer
- 2004 Joelle Elisabeth Benoit Guidry
- 2005 Krystle Lynn Todd Blue
- 2006 Marissa Champagne
- 2007 Amber Thibodeaux Hargrove
- 2008 Devin Angelle Babineaux
- 2009 Amber Comeaux Landry
- 2010 André Elizabeth Lyons Bruce
- 2011 Macy LeBlanc
- 2012 Sarah Mouton
- 2013 Hailey Claire Hensgens
- 2014 Allison Hoffpaur
- 2015 Camille Elise Quebodeaux
- 2016 AnnaLisa Meredith
- 2017 Kathryn Shea Duncan
- 2018 Victoria Marie Callahan
- 2019 Jimi Madison Joubert
- 2021 Caroline Elizabeth Hardy
- 2022 Sadie Renee Zaunbrecher



Honoree

Joseph "Bubba" Morgan
2023 International Rice Festival Honoree

Joseph "Bubba" Morgan was born on December 9, 1945 and is a lifelong resident of Crowley. He is the son of the late Elzie and Agnes Morgan. Bubba served in the United States National Guard from 1966-1972. On January 6, 1967, Bubba married the love of his life Lorraine Murphy Morgan and together they have three sons, Dana Morgan, Jason Morgan and the late Russell Miller. They are the proud grandparents to five grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren.

Before his start in the trucking business, Bubba was employed by Linscombe Construction in Crowley from 1970-1978. In 1977, he purchased his first eighteen-wheeler and Bubba Morgan Trucking began hauling rice and fertilizer around the Crowley area. He then began hauling sack rice from Farmer's Rice Mill to the Port of Lake Charles. In the mid-90s, he began work with Supreme Rice in Crowley which led him to where his business is today, Mermentau.

Since the late 90s, Bubba has moved rice to the ports and docks for Supreme Rice. He is still actively working every day and is an integral part of the day-to-day operations at Bubba Morgan Trucking. Bubba can always be seen driving a truck or working on a one, but one thing is certain, he is enjoying every minute. The career and business he has built is one that he loves to do daily and he has no signs of stopping any time soon. Thank you, Bubba for your 46 years of dedication to the rice industry.



Past Rice Festival Honorees

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1946 J.M. Jenkins | 1963 Joseph Doré | 1980 Winston Atteberry | 1991 Raymond Hensgens | 2008 Jackie Paul Loewer, Jr. |
| 1947 Frank Godchaux | 1964 Mrs. Salmon Wright II | 1981 J.B. Broussard | 1992 Bill Goldsmith | 2009 Dr. Steven Linscombe |
| 1948 C.J. Freeland, Sr. | 1965 August A. Busch | 1982 Lewis C. Hill | 1993 Charles Miia | 2010 Robert "Bobby" Hanks |
| 1949 W.M. Reid | 1966 Makota Saito | 1983 Ben A. Baldwin | 1994 Leonard Hensgens | 2011 Drs. Sue & Tim Croughan |
| 1950 J.E. Broussard | 1967 George Luthke | 1984 Macon D. Faulkner | 1995 Linda G. Zaunbrecher | 2012 Randy Jemison |
| 1951 W.M. Hoyt | 1968 Gov. Edwin Edwards | 1985 Steve Gabbert | 1996 William A Doré | 2013 Wayne & Michael Hensgens |
| 1952 Mrs. May Hayes | 1969 Howard Alderson | 1986 Charles R. Godchaux | 1997 Nolan J. Guillot | 2014 Congressman |
| 1953 Dr. J.N. Efferson | 1970 Henry M. Beachell | 1987 Dr. Charles Bollich | 1998 Curtis E. Wolf | Charles Boustany, Jr., M.D. |
| 1954 Alonzo E. Udell | 1971 Cong. Otto E. Passman | 1988 Marcel J. Damiens | 1999 Cong. Chris John | 2015 Herbert E. Schilling II |
| 1955 Cong. T.A. Thompson | 1972 Gordon E. Doré | 1989 Jean Royby Vincent | 2000 Joseph A. Musick | 2016 Charles William Abell, Jr. |
| 1956 W.D. Smith | 1973 William J. Cleveland | 1990 Harold "Rod" Rodriguez | 2001 John Denison | Dr. Rustum |
| | | | 2002 John Creed | Ernest "Ernie" Girouard, Jr. |
| | | | 2003 Al Doré | 2018 John E. Broussard |
| | | | 2004 Mary Reid | 2019 Thibodeaux Ag Group |
| | | | 2005 Charles & Mona Falcon Trahan | 2021 Adrienne Vidrine |
| | | | 2006 James William Warshaw | 2022 Ronnie Levy |
| | | | 2007 Jimmy Hoppe | 2023 Joseph "Bubba" Morgan |



Farmers of the Year

Christian and Julie Richard

Julie and Christian Richard are a farming couple from Kaplan, LA who own and operate Richard Farms. They have three children; Katherine who is 12, Saul who is 10, and Landry who is 8. They are each the 6th generation of their families to farm and manage 5,600 acres of rice, crawfish, and soybeans. Julie and Christian are both leaders, innovators, hard workers, and extremely progressive rice farmers. Both Julie and Christian make decisions that will be most effective for the business as well as utilize technology, conservation programs, and practices to bring their crops to harvest in the most efficient and effective way possible.

Richard Farms has excelled in sustainability. Christian was selected as a Field to Market Farmer Spotlight Honoree. This recognizes individuals who have made major contributions to agriculture sustainability efforts. He has been on the USA Rice Federation Sustainability Committee for several years and has always had close ties to conservation. In early 2016, Christian chaired one of the 4 committees to help develop a sustainability strategy for the U.S. rice industry. He quickly realized that through their involvement in the Louisiana Master Farmer Program and development of an RMS (resource management system) plan that although they were already addressing all of the resource concerns on their farm, they did not really have a way to quantify them to allow the end user and consumer to have a tangible number to gauge the degree of sustainability on their particular farm.

Realizing that rice is a very special crop in the number of resources that it utilizes throughout the growing season and beyond, Julie and Christian have enrolled their farm in numerous NRCS programs to help protect the natural resources in their farming operation. They have precision leveled 95% of the production land and have installed underground irrigation and grade stabilization structures and have seen a significant reduction in water use while the field yields have shown continuous improvement. In addition, they also flood fields during the winter to provide valuable wildlife habitat. Since water is a valuable resource in their day-to-day operation, Julie and Christian have created a tailwater recovery system to facilitate the reuse of precious water resources. This system allows them to recycle water that comes off their fields as well as neighboring fields, pump it into the reservoir, and hold it until it is needed for irrigation.

Richard Farms understands the importance of agriculture policy and Julie has assisted in policy implementation and provided guidance for disaster recovery programs throughout the state through the Farm Service Agency. Julie currently serves as the Chair of the Louisiana Farm Service Advisory Committee. Their operation has an excellent on-farm grain drying and storage facility that will handle 75% of the initial harvest and maximize grain quality, while being the most efficient in doing so. They were the Louisiana pilot site for a remote grain drying monitoring system that is utilized at their facility. Richard Farms believes in research and innovation has hosted LSU research plots and the annual Horizon Rice Field Day for many years. Their farm has also served as the John Deere Project Engineering Center Louisiana Test site for over 20 years.

Julie and Christian are both very excited to be recognized as the 2023 International Rice Festival Farmers of the Year.



Past Rice Farmers of the Year

- 1960 W.M. Bill Prather
- 1961 A.M. Moore
- 1962 William W. Walton
- 1963 Robert E. Harrington
- 1964 Paul R. Langlinois
- 1965 M.W. Mickey Scanlan
- 1966 Al Reiners
- 1967 Ashton Petitjean
- 1968 Leonard Hensgens
- 1969 Thomas Mayes
- 1970 Chester Faulk
- 1971 Rustum E. Girouard
- 1972 Ralph Cowen
- 1973 Grant Link
- 1974 Weston P. Monceaux
- 1975 Lyle O. Fogleman, Jr.
- 1976 Paul E. Wild
- 1977 Francis Duplachan, Jr.
- 1978 Euric "Bill" Savant, Jr.
- 1979 Edwin J. Leonards
- 1980 Larry Sarver
- 1981 Vincent J. Berken
- 1982 Glenn Zaunbrecher
- 1983 Jake Ardoin
- 1984 Austin W. Bollich
- 1985 Leonard L. "Buck" Leonards
- 1986 Kern Ardoin
- 1987 Buford Pery
- 1988 Errol Lounsberry
- 1989 C.A. Fabacher
- 1990 Herman L. Berken
- 1991 James Hoppe
- 1992 Edward H. Wild
- 1993 John Denison
- 1994 Glen Ray Trahan
- 1995 Dennis Leonards
- 1996 Dwight Hardee
- 1997 Chester Boudreaux
- 1998 Paul Jackie Loewer
- 1999 Dr. Ernest Girouard
- 2000 Kim Frey
- 2001 Davis Lacour
- 2002 Randy Thibodeaux
- 2003 Neil Lejeune
- 2004 Wayne Smith
- 2005 John Aaron Duhon
- 2006 Fred Zaunbrecher
- 2007 Richard B. Fontenot
- 2008 Jeff Durand
- 2009 Clarence Berken
- 2010 Glenn Simon
- 2011 Kevin Berken
- 2012 Gerald "Jerry" Leonards, Jr.
- 2013 Donald Berken
- 2014 John "Bubba" Leonards
- 2015 Jeffery Sylvester
- 2016 Donald Leonards
- 2017 Kent Brown
- 2018 Gerard Frey
- 2019 Alan Lawson
- 2021 Philip Lamartiniere
- 2022 Reece Guillot
- 2023 Christian & Julie Richard



SOUNDSTAGE SCHEDULE OF BANDS

Thursday, October 19, 2023

6:00-7:30pm

TJ GAUTREAUX

Sponsored by Coca Cola

8:00-9:30pm

CATEGORY 6

Sponsored by Thib's Auto Titles & Tags

10:00pm-MIDNIGHT

CHRIS ARDOIN

Sponsored by Supreme Rice

Friday, October 20, 2023

5:00-7:00pm

CUPID

Sponsored by Mosquito Burners

7:30-9:30pm

MOLLY RINGWALDS

Sponsored by The Wright Group

10:00-MIDNIGHT

WAYNE TOUPS

Sponsored by Jaguar Energy Services

Saturday, October 21, 2023

5:00-6:15pm

TOMMY G & STORMY WEATHER

Sponsored by Cajun Country Rice

6:30-8:00pm

LEIF MECHE BAND

Sponsored by The Bank

8:30-10:00pm

LITTLE TEXAS

Sponsored by Clem & Jane Suire Memorial

10:30-MIDNIGHT

SPANK THE MONKEY

Sponsored by Air Evac/Med Express



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, October 20, 2023

10:00am... OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE RICE FESTIVAL
Supreme Rice Soundstage

10:15am... 2023 JR. KING AND QUEEN CONTEST
Supreme Rice Soundstage

11:30am... CROWNING OF THE 86th INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL JR. KING AND QUEEN
Supreme Rice Soundstage

12:00pm... INTERNATIONAL RICE EATING CONTEST
Supreme Rice Soundstage

1:15pm... AWARD PRESENTATIONS
Supreme Rice Soundstage
Rice Grading and Sheaf Awards
Rice and Creole Cooking Contest Awards

1:30pm... CHILDREN'S PARADE
Sponsored by Clem and Jane Suire Memorial

Saturday, October 21, 2023

9:00am... OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE RICE FESTIVAL
Supreme Rice Soundstage

9:15am... AWARD PRESENTATIONS
Supreme Rice Soundstage
Millworkers of the Year

10:00am... ACCORDIAN & FIDDLE CONTEST
Cajun Country Rice Soundstage

10:15am... 2023 INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL QUEEN'S CONTEST
Supreme Rice Soundstage

10:30am... PRESIDENT'S CHOICE AWARD
Supreme Rice Soundstage

10:45am... CROWNING OF THE 86th INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL QUEEN
Supreme Rice Soundstage

11:00am... FROG DERBY
Supreme Rice Soundstage

3:00pm... GRAND PARADE
Sponsored by Jaguar Energy Services



CAJUN COUNTRY RICE

4TH STREET SOUNDSTAGE SCHEDULE OF BANDS

Thursday, October 19, 2023

6:00-8:00pm

BUBBA HEBERT

Sponsored by The Bank

8:30-10:00pm

BASIN STREET BAND

Sponsored by Mosquito Burners

10:30pm-MIDNIGHT

THREE THIRTY SEVEN

Sponsored by Jaguar Energy Services

Friday, October 20, 2023

5:30-7:30pm

COLBY LATIOLAIS

Sponsored by The Wright Group

8:00-9:30pm

GENO DELAFOSSE

Sponsored by Clem & Jane Suire Memorial Fund

10:00-MIDNIGHT

LOUISIANA RED

Sponsored by Cajun Country Rice

Saturday, October 21, 2023

12:30-2:00pm

DONNY BROUSSARD

Sponsored by Coca Cola

5:30-7:30pm

CHUBBY CARRIER

Sponsored by Air Evac/Med Express

8:00-9:30pm

ADAM LEGER

Sponsored by Supreme Rice

10:00-MIDNIGHT

JAMIE BERGERON

Sponsored by Thib's Auto Titles & Tags



OTHER LOCATIONS

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

9:00am-3:00pm... RICE GRADING CONTEST

USDA Marketing Service, Grain Division, West Highway 90

7:00pm... SENIOR CITIZENS BALL

Rice Festival Building 717 West Mill Street

Friday, October 20, 2023

8:00am-8:00pm... OPENING OF OUTDOOR ARTS & CRAFTS

Levy Park between 3rd & 4th Street

9:30am... RICE & CREOLE COOKING CONTEST

LSU AG Center, 157 Cherokee Dr., Crowley

Saturday, October 21, 2023

7:00am-10:00am... CLASSIC CAR SHOW REGISTRATION

Bank of Commerce Parking Lot, 326 North Avenue G

8:00am-8:00pm... OPENING OF OUTDOOR ARTS & CRAFTS

Levy Park between 3rd & 4th Street

8:00am... RICE FESTIVAL 5K RUN

Crowley Court House, 505 Court Circle

Sponsored by Northside Christian School

10:00am... CLASSIC CAR SHOW JUDGING

Bank of Commerce Parking Lot, 326 North Avenue G

12:30pm... CLASSIC CAR SHOW AWARD PRESENTATION

Bank of Commerce Parking Lot, 326 North Avenue G

1:00pm... RICE THRESHING DEMONSTRATION

First Baptist Church, 4th Street & Avenue G

Sunday, October 22, 2023

Noon-6:00pm... FAMILY FUN DAY

Alcohol Free



Jr. Farmer of the Year

Kynlee Fruge

A fifth-generation farmer, Kynlee Fruge is the 18-year-old daughter of Troy and Kellie Fruge, and granddaughter of the late Daniel (D.I.) Fruge and Sherry Cart Fruge, the late John Bushnell and Dean Duhon Bushnell. Kynlee is following in her dad's footsteps as Troy Fruge was the 47th International Rice Festival Jr. Farmer of the Year. Troy and Kynlee's farm consists of 3,200 acres, 1,500 acres of rice, 1,500 acres of crawfish, and 200 acres of soybeans, located in Northwest Acadia Parish.

A 2023 graduate of Basile High School, Kynlee is currently pursuing a degree in Agribusiness at McNeese State University, in Lake Charles. Upon graduation, Kynlee will return to Troy Fruge Farms and continue to grow the family business. Kynlee was a member of her school 4-H Chapter, serving as club president her senior year. She was also a member of the school's FEEP and FCS clubs. Kynlee was a charter member of Basile High School's softball team for two years. Kynlee was also a three-year member of BHS's cheerleading squad. Kynlee's backbone of faith can be found in her participation at mass through St. Augustine's Catholic Church in Basile, where she has been a lifelong member.

Kynlee shined through her accomplishments in the Basile FFA Chapter. Kynlee served as the Basile FFA President, chairperson of several chapter committees, and a member of the livestock evaluation team. She is a recipient of the coveted FFA State Degree. As part of her Ag class requirements, Kynlee began following a supervised agricultural experience program by shadowing her father. Her love for farming with her dad began to grow. Her experiences and growth within her SAE brought her top honors this year, with her receiving a first-place proficiency award in grain production at the state level. As part of this contest, Kynlee had to fill out an application tracking her growth and experiences as she worked. She was interviewed by experts in the areas of agriculture to back up her knowledge of her SAE. Her application will be competing at nationals this fall.

Growing up on a farm, Kynlee spent some of her time on the farm, but it did not become one of her deep interests until her high school years. She started small. Kynlee rode with her dad during planting and harvesting season in the combine and in the tractor pulling a rice cart. She observed how field preparation and planting were handled. Kynlee would shadow her dad as he irrigated fields and made calls on managing crops. As time passed, however, Kynlee began taking on more roles and responsibilities on the farm. She became an accomplished equipment operator during harvest, pulling rice carts and maneuvering 18-wheelers. She applied farm management skills to the farm's irrigation plan and was able to participate in conversations concerning rice markets and new varieties that might benefit the family farm. Now, she has her own forty acres of rice that she farms herself. Throughout this time, Kynlee fell in love with the farm. She knew that this is where she wanted to be.

Troy Fruge Farms is now part of Kynlee's future. Farming is something that she developed a passion for. And, if you know Kynlee, when she is passionate about something, big things will happen.



Past Rice Festival Jr. Farmers of the Year

1962 Wavey Martin	1974 Trent Fogleman	1992 Thomas Kim Frey	2010 Phillip John Reiners
1963 Kenneth Colligan	1975 Bradley Leger	1993 Chris Humble	2011 Philip James Leonards
1964 Girard Hoffpauir III	1976 Randall K. Johnson	1994 Kristie Janee Pellerin	2012 Clint Daniel Faul
1965 Jack A. Hoffpauir	1977 Danny L. Richard	1995 Monica Lyons	2013 Christopher Garrett Klumpp
1966 Freddy LeDoux	1978 Zachary Cart	1996 Seth L. Zaunbrecher	2014 Matthew Paul Doré
1967 Edmund Regan	1979 Jeffrey C. Faulk	1997 Blaine T. Walton	2015 Tyler Joseph Breaux
1968 Renae Trumps	1980 Wade P. Richard	1998 Ashley C. Frugé	2016 Jacob Zaunbrecher
1969 James Habetz, Jr.	1981 Michael W. Faulk	1999 Bridget Lyons	2017 Michael Paul Zaunbrecher
1970 Katry Martin	1982 Richard Heinen	2000 Andrew Richard	2018 Benjamin Joseph Faulk
1971 Kim Frey	1983 Troy A. Frugé	2001 Jeffery Michael Regan	2019 Jake John Reiners
1972 Elliott Wimberly	1984 Charles B. Reiners	2002 Benjamin Laurence Leonards	2021 Ethan Anthony Zaunbrecher
1973 Lyle Fogleman, Jr.	1985 Spencer G. Smith	2003 Chester Faulk	2022 Hudson Charles LeBlanc
	1986 Patrick L. Reiners	2004 Jason Lorenz Zaunbrecher	2023 Kynlee Fruge
	1987 Travis J. Pellerin	2005 Michael Charles Hundley Jr.	
	1988 Barrett P. Lyons	2006 John Raymond Leonards	
	1989 James P. Leonards	2007 John Edward Hundley	
	1990 Robert Leonards	2008 Bryant Matthew Gossen	
	1991 Steven Theriot	2009 Jack Thomas Hundley	

Past Young Farmers of the Year

1963	Philip J. Habetz
1964	Robert A. Gossen



Grand Parade Marshals

Dwayne and Christine Fulton

Dwayne grew up in a home literally surrounded by rice, in Hathaway, Louisiana, where he got his first job working on a rice farm at the age of 13. Upon graduating high school, he started his adult life serving in the US ARMY both active and in-active for a total of 11 years. While home one weekend visiting his family, he met, and in less than a year, married Christine, his wife of 34 years. She grew up in Jennings, Louisiana and was lucky enough to get her feet wet in the rice industry, spending the summer before starting college working at her family's Falcon Rice Mill in Crowley, Louisiana. She was halfway through her college years when she married and moved with Dwayne to his last active-duty station, Ft. Hood, Texas.

When Dwayne left active-duty service, he began an 18-year career in Law Enforcement, with the Travis County Sheriff's Office in Austin, Texas. During that same time, Christine finished up her education with an Accounting Degree from the University of Texas at Austin and began her career as a CPA working in both public accounting and industry. It was during the 20 years they lived in the Austin area that they started their family of five children, Madeline (25), Ryan (24), Jake (18), Rusty (17) and Evie (14). In 2009, Christine's brother, Robbie, called to ask if she and Dwayne would consider moving back to Louisiana to join him and his wife, Jennifer, in becoming the third generation of Falcons to own and operate Falcon Rice Mill. Within one month, Dwayne and Christine, who were expecting baby #5, packed up and moved their growing family to Crowley.

Today, Dwayne is Plant & Operations Director and Christine is Finance & Administration Director of Falcon Rice Mill which has doubled in size since joining the company in 2009. They are both honored to be a part of the future of the rice business that was started by Christine's grandparents, Edward & Evelyn Falcon, over 80 years ago in 1941. And they are very proud to be a part of the legacy and tradition we lovingly call the rice industry.



Past Rice Grand Marshals

- 1974 P.J. "Rex" Mills
- 1975 Pierre Le Rat & Winston Wolf, Astroworld Characters
- 1976 Harve A Tabary
- 1977 Henson Moore (Congressman)
- 1978 Lottie J. Faulk
- 1979 Sen. Russell Long
- 1980 Laurent Boudreaux
- 1981 Robert Istre
- 1982 Shel Kanter
- 1983 Walt Garrison
- 1984 Charles Miia
- 1985 Norris Breaux
- 1986 Estelle Bonin Fleming
- 1st Festival Queen
- 1987 No record of one
- 1988 Grady Primeaux & Marcel Suire
- 1989 Lawson Primeaux & Rogers Christman
- 1990 Herbert Lee Guillory & Norris Dronet
- 1991 Abbie Baronet & Donald Lee Robinson
- 1992 Shel Kanter & Bill Williams
- 1993 B.C. Delahoussaye
- 1994 Donald Shetler
- 1995 Joseph Musick, Jr.
- 1996 Robin Mattson
- 1997 Dr. Thomas H. Casanova III
- 1998 Lonnie Doré
- 1999 Cecil Picard
- 2000 Judges Don Aaron, John Trahan, and Glenn Everett
- 2001 Patty Simon
- 2002 Mike McBride
- 2003 Ken Goss
- 2004 Gil Pinac
- 2005 Renee Revett
- 2006 Jo Cart
- 2007 Dave Petitjean
- 2008 David & Peter John
- 2009 Thomas Carver Voinche, Jr.
- 2010 Randy E. Falcon
- 2011 Governor Edwin W. Edwards
- 2012 Gene Williams
- 2013 Jack Montoucet
- 2014 Judges Melise & John Trahan
- 2015 Ernest Palmer Shreve
Michael James Pastor
- 2016 Jason Monk
- 2017 Jared William Monk
Sheriff K.P. Gibson
Chief Jimmy Broussard
Chief Jody Viator
- 2018 Mayor Greg Jones
- 2019 L.J. & Chee Chee Gielen
Kim Gielen Gattle
- 2021 Ryan Trahan
- 2022 H. "Butch" Browning
- 2023 Dwayne & Christine Fulton





Children's Parade Grand Marshal

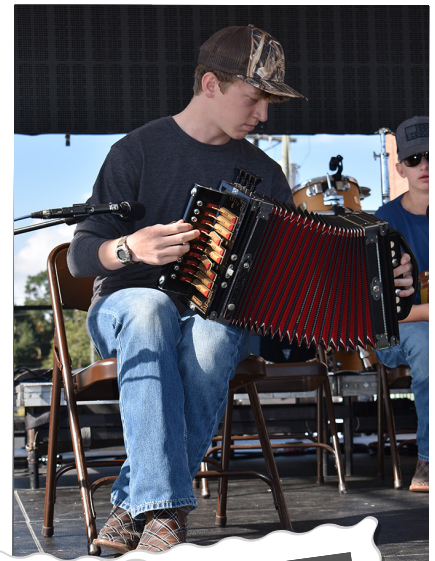
Audry Spencer

Audry Bernard Spencer is a lifelong resident of Crowley, Louisiana and the daughter of Charlesa Mae Bernard and the late Wilson Bernard Sr. She is married to Chester L. Spencer and the proud mother of Dr. Quincy Spencer of Fayetteville, Arkansas and Nakia Spencer of Humble, Texas and grandmother to Christopher Jr. (CJ). A retired educator, she is a graduate of the University of Southwestern Louisiana – USL (now University of Louisiana at Lafayette) and pursued graduate studies at Southern University and A & M College and USL. She taught in the Acadia Parish School System for 38 years, 20 years at Iota Elementary in Iota and 18 years at Ross Elementary in Crowley. In addition to teaching during the regular school term, Mrs. Spencer also taught summer school in Crowley and Iota for 29 years.

Mrs. Spencer has served on many education, church, and social committees. She is a member of St. Theresa Catholic Church where she served many years as a Catechism Teacher and member of the Parish Council and St. Joseph's Society. She is a Golden Life Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and holds membership in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), D.E.L.T.A. Community Corporation, and Crowley Community Empowerment Coalition. She is a former member of the National Association of University Women (NAUW), the Optimist Club, St. Theresa Catholic Church Ladies Auxiliary, and the International Rice Festival Board of Directors.

Over her extensive career in education and community service, Mrs. Spencer has received many distinguished awards including Iota Elementary Teacher of the Year, Ross Elementary Teacher of the Year, Walmart Teacher of the Year, Women of Wisdom-Heart of a Servant Award, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. Founder's Award, National Association of University Women-Excellence in Education Award, Acadiana Hero of the Month Award, NAACP Community Service Award, Rotary Club of Crowley Vocational Award, Crowley Chamber of Commerce Humanitarian Award, Southwest Kiwanis Club Citizen of the Year Award, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana Angel Award and the Volunteer Louisiana Champion of Service Award for the Southwest geographic region.

Mrs. Spencer has dedicated her life to helping children strive for excellence.



Past Rice Festival Grand Marshal of Children's Parade

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1983 World's Fair Mascot Pelican | 1993 Virginia Ruddock | 2008 Lewis Cook |
| 1984 | 1994 Alyson Habetz | 2009 Louis Cramer |
| 1985 | 1995 Helen M. Zaunbrecher | 2010 Edward "Ed" Dartez |
| 1986 Justin Wilson | 1996 Dr. Marietta "Mellie" James | 2011 Steve Fontenot |
| 1987 Joseph Baronet | 1997 Joey Webb Jr. | 2012 Ann Mire |
| 1988 Oscar Johnson | 1998 Teachers of the Year | 2013 Dolores Nutt |
| 1989 Dr. James M. Griffin | Tammie McGuidry, Ray O. Blum and Genita Domingue | 2014 William Bryan Pinac |
| 1990 Barton W. Freeland, Sr. | 1999 Donna S. Corley | 2015 Clarence Lee Woodard III |
| 1991 Mary Alice Fontenot | 2000 Tim and Tony Robichaux | 2016 Kelly Carl Leonards |
| 1992 Maria Placer | 2001 (Coach Piz) Richard Pizzolatto | 2017 Michael Christian Doughty |
| | 2002 Doug Daigle | 2018 Ruthie Piron |
| | 2003 Marlene LeBoeuf | 2019 Sandra Bourgeois Doré |
| | 2004 Kira O. Viator | 2021 Sullivan Reese Rue |
| | 2005 Stella Abshire Guidry | 2022 Peter Kirsch |
| | 2006 Scott Brazda | 2023 Audry Spencer |
| | 2007 Chad Monceaux | |



Past Rice Festival Jr. King

- 1960 Paul C. Hannagrif, Jr.
- 1961 John Guidry
- 1962 Tim Robinson
- 1963 John Copeland Reed
- 1964 Dwayne Brasseur
- 1965 Norman Oliver
- 1966 Girard Leger
- 1967 Keith Bieber
- 1968 Scot Anthony Guidry
- 1969 John Walter Gardiner
- 1970 Douglas Steen
- 1971 David Myers
- 1972 Emmett Parsley
- 1973 Lonnie Regan
- 1974 Larry James Daigle
- 1975 Douglas Mitchell Cormier
- 1976 Shane Thomas Schexnider
- 1977 Paul Jacob Koury
- 1978 Scott Patin
- 1979 Erin Scott Thomas
- 1980 Seth Adam Myers
- 1981 Casey Blair Foreman
- 1982 Nakia Lantz
- 1983 Joshua McGee
- 1984 Chad Sensat
- 1985 Bradley Arabia
- 1986 Michael Garret Ruppert
- 1987 Paul Maichael Stakes
- 1988 Derrick Antoine Credeur
- 1989 Joshua Clinton Viator
- 1990 Josh Melancon
- 1991 Shaun Ortego
- 1992 Jonah Benoit
- 1993 Cade Andrew Lejeune
- 1994 Trevor Thibodeaux
- 1995 William Lucas Breaux
- 1996 Andrew Randall Besse
- 1997 Caleb Jayce Steen
- 1998 Brent Joseph Cormier
- 1999 Eric John Miller
- 2000 Jerry Scott Menard
- 2001 Timothy Geerts
- 2002 Tyler Hayes
- 2003 Michael Anthony Herpin
- 2004 Jordon McDaniel Owens
- 2005 Kyle Adam Hebert
- 2006 Logan Jude Marks
- 2007 Luke Toepler
- 2008 Clay Benoit
- 2009 Gavin Vidrine
- 2010 Kyler Wingate
- 2011 Carson Armentor
- 2012 Ian Joseph Lyons
- 2013 Rusty Fulton
- 2014 Cameron Stelly
- 2015 Charlie Hensgens
- 2016 Cory Frugé
- 2017 Jackson Prevost
- 2018 Daxton Glen Broussard
- 2019 Nicolas Shaw Credeur
- 2021 Layne Oestriecher
- 2022 Jax Cormier

Past Rice Festival Jr. Queen

- 1939 Thelma Goss
- 1940 Janelle Plattsmier
- 1941 Ella V. Ortego
- 1942-45 War Years
- 1946 Claude Lyons
- 1947 Bernice Guillot
- 1948 Marjorie Devillier
- 1949 Mary Ann Gielen
- 1950 Mary Jeanne Perres
- 1951 Laura Ruth Baker
- 1952 Alura Kay Miller
- 1953 Barbara Gail Bellard
- 1954 Barbara Jean Antis
- 1955 Stephanie Abshire
- 1956 Julie Ann Prejean
- 1957 Jerrie Lynn Premeaux
- 1958 Susan Elaine Jabusch
- 1959 Beverly Jane Hebert
- 1960 Cynthia Comeaux
- 1961 Sharon Ann LeJeune
- 1962 Carolyn Elizabeth Mooney
- 1963 Jelaine Frey
- 1964 Lola Frances Perry
- 1965 Robin Danette Rea
- 1966 Denise Gossen
- 1967 Frances Marie Regan
- 1968 Cynthia Ann Hebert
- 1969 Catherine Christine Simon
- 1970 Angela Dawn Wilson
- 1971 Sharon Bouillion
- 1972 Monique Broussard
- 1973 Dee Ann Chappell
- 1974 Lisa Monica Boudreaux
- 1975 Katherine Maureen Menard
- 1976 Tia Lynne Cormier
- 1977 Ladonna Richard
- 1978 Shelly Lynn Pousson
- 1979 Nina Ann Melancon
- 1980 Jillane Annette Gotte
- 1981 Julie Allison Broussard
- 1982 Janee Romero
- 1983 Anne Louise Broussard
- 1984 Suzanne Herpin
- 1985 Alyne Nicole Richard
- 1986 Angelina Marie Miller
- 1987 Candice Rachelle Navarre
- 1988 Chrystal Nicole Vincent
- 1989 Courtney Lyn Ruppert
- 1990 Dolly Jean LeBlue
- 1991 Gretchen LaCombe
- 1992 Bonnie Wirtz
- 1993 Amber Nicole Thibodeaux
- 1994 Amy Michelle McClelland
- 1995 Anna Brittany Zaunbrecher
- 1996 Lindsey Paige Richard
- 1997 Leah Katelyn Johnson
- 1998 Leah Elizabeth Gossen
- 1999 Amelia Faul
- 2000 Chasity Nicole Hayes
- 2001 Erin Page Richard
- 2002 Chelsea Sattler
- 2003 Caroline Arysse Nugier
- 2004 Adrianna Hudson
- 2005 Hannah Kimble Doucet
- 2006 Brandi Abate
- 2007 Lily Claire Hoffpaur
- 2008 Bethani Chesterman
- 2009 Mary Katherine Lavergne
- 2010 Alaina Claire Miller
- 2011 Mary Ellen Hebert
- 2012 Elise Anne Gossen
- 2013 Phoebe Lynn Henry
- 2014 Vivian Barousse
- 2015 Emmy Claire Navarre
- 2016 Malari Navarre
- 2017 Noelle Gatte
- 2018 Blair Elizabeth Wallace
- 2019 Vivian Elaine Siebert
- 2021 Audrey Lasch
- 2022 Adilynn Simar





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RICE PALACE



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2023 Poster by Tony Bernard



2023
International
Rice Pin



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 can be purchased at
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Thank you

To all the
Rice Festival Voluteers!

Your dedication to this festival is what makes it a success!

Thank you to the following for their time and dedication to make the International Rice Festival a success:

Mayor Chad Monceaux and the City of Crowley
Chance Henry, Acadia Parish Police Jury President
and the Acadia Parish Police Jurors
The Acadia Parish County Agent's Office
Louisiana Department of Agriculture
LSU Rice Research Station
Chief Louis "Buddha" Romero and the Crowley Fire Department
Chief Troy Hebert and the Crowley Police Department
Sheriff K.P. Gibson and the Acadia Parish Sheriff's Department
Chief Carroll Stelly and the Rayne Police Department
Robby Barousse, Clerk of Court and Staff
Scott Richard Acadia Parish School Board Superintendent and Staff

NO ICE CHESTS PLEASE

Please visit the Festival Beer Booth & help keep the Festival FREE!
Please drink responsibly... Designate a driver!

COCA COLA BOTTLING: Soft Drink Exclusive **SPECIAL-T-ICE:** Ice Exclusive



Louisiana Association of Fairs & Festival Awards

Festival of the Year
2007, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018,
2019, 2021

Best Program
Award Winning Program
by Frugé & Frugé Graphic Design
2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012

Best Poster
1999, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010,
2012, 2013 2015, 2018

Best Pin
2003, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2010,
2011, 2014 2015

Best Brochure
Award Winning Brochure
by Frugé & Frugé Graphic Design
2008, 2011, 2014, 2019

Best T-Shirt
1999, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010,
2011, 2012 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017

Best Cap
2006, 2018

Marketing Items Award
2008, 2018

Best Website
Award Winning Website by DSS Computers, Inc.
2002, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2011, 2014,
2017, 2018, 2019

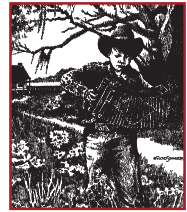


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