43rd Annual
INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL
and LIVESTOCK SHOW
This year the International Rice Festival is celebrating its 43rd Anniversary. Since the inauguration on October 5, 1937, as the National Rice Festival, over five million people have attended the International Rice Festival. The First National Rice Festival was held in connection with the City's observance of its Golden Jubilee. After being suspended during the war years, the event was staged in 1946 as the International Rice Festival and Crowley, and Acadia Parish played host to nations from all over the world. Since 1946, the Festival has been sponsored as an annual two (2) day affair. Our celebration serves to call attention to the importance of rice as a food and emphasizes its place in the world's economic picture. In 1956 the association was set up on a sustaining membership basis. The celebration would not be possible without the financial contributions from industry, businesses, and individuals. A very special recognition must be given to the many volunteer workers who have given of their time and talents to make this event the success that it is each year. It's our hope that you will enjoy our celebration and come back to visit us again in the future.

**October 18th**

The International Rice Festival honors the Festival Honoree, Rice Farmer of the Year, and the Junior Rice Farmer of the Year. It is held annually the night before the two (2) day event starts at the International Rice Festival Building in Crowley. A springing memory honoring this years Honoree, Wayne G. Robertson, sponsored by the Rice Industry, will be held immediately after the Bonnet at the Bayou Band Country Club.

**October 19th**

The first day of the International Rice Festival is recognized by many as "Children's Day". Special events include the official opening of the Festival by the President, crowning of the Junior King and Queen that morning, presentation of candidates for the International Rice Festival Queen, and the crowning of the Queen, and the Children's Parade. The Livestock Show begins with the judging of the livestock in the morning at the Rice Festival Livestock Barn. The day is brought to a close with the Annual Queen's Ball held at the International Rice Festival Building.

**October 20th**

The International Rice Festival continues to be Louisiana's oldest and largest festival, as is signified by the large attendance. Last year over 150,000 people attended the affairs. Special highlights of the day include the First Annual International Rice Festival 10,000 Meter Run, starting at the Main Platform. Some other highlights of the day include the International Rice Festival Acadian Accordion Contest, A Fiddler’s Contest, Rice and Boudin Eating Contest, the Rayne Lions Club Frog Derby, special entertainment on the Main Platform, and the grandest of them all, the Grand Parade.
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1979
7:30 p.m.
SENIOR CITIZENS BALL. Music by "The Landry Band", Rice Festival Building.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1979
7:00 p.m.
Rice Festival Banquet

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1979
8:30 a.m.
OPENING OF LIVESTOCK SHOW by 1979 International Rice Festival President, Macon Duke Faulkner. Livestock Exhibition Building, West Mill Street.
8:35 a.m.
JUDGING OF LIVESTOCK, Exhibition Building.
9:30 a.m.
SPECIAL FESTIVAL RELIGIOUS SERVICE, Crowley Ministerial Alliance. Featuring the Gospel Light Singers. Festival Platform.
10:00 a.m.
CREOLE COOKING CONTEST: Rice Festival Building. Exquisite creole cuisine prepared by men and women from farms throughout Louisiana and Texas. These dishes are prepared from rice and rice by-products. From the winners will be selected the Master Cook of Rice or “Chef de L’Eve”.
10:15 a.m.
OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE FESTIVAL by Mr. Macon Duke Faulkner, 1979 International Rice Festival President.
REMARKS by Mr. Jack Smith, President of the Crowley Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture Festival Platform.
INTRODUCTION AND REMARKS by Miss Cynthia Marie Gossen, 1978 International Rice Festival Queen. Festival Platform.
INTRODUCTION OF Hurricane, Rice Farmer of the Year, and Mr. Farmer of the Year. Festival Platform.
AWARDS FOR CHAMPION RICE VARIETIES. Festival Platform.
AWARDS FOR WINDOW DECORATING CONTEST. Festival Platform.
10:30 a.m.
ENTERTAINMENT by "Country Empire” Country and Western music from Navy Band. Memphis, Tenn. Festival Platform.
11:00 a.m.
CHILDREN’S QUEEN & KING: Presentation of candidates for Children’s Queen and King. These two bodies and represent the first and second grades of Acadia Parish Schools. Festival Platform.
11:50 a.m.
CROWNING OF CHILDREN’S INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL QUEEN & KING by Dr. & Mrs. John A. Smith. Sponsor of Acadia Parish Schools. Festival Platform.
12 noon
BOULIN EATING CONTEST: Sponsored by the Crowley Kiwanis Club and Boudin King of Jennings. Rice Festival. Boudin, which is made with rice, is a favorite food here in Southwest Louisiana. True boudin is required to eat the boudin and the winner will be determined by how much he eats. Festival Platform.
12:30 p.m.
ENTERTAINMENT by Navy Dixieland and Show Band, New Orleans. Festival Platform.
12:45 p.m.
AWARDS FOR CREOLE COOKING CONTEST. Festival Platform.
AWARDS FOR INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL "CHIEF DE RICE" Festival Platform.
1:00 p.m.
CHILDREN’S PARADE: Theme, “Children’s Bedroom Stones”. This hour spectacular adds color and the decorations. The parade route is from the Courthouse to Second Street then up Parkerson Ave. to the Courthouse. Festival Platform.
2:30 p.m.
ENTERTAINMENT by "Country Empire”. Festival Platform.
3:00 p.m.
PRESENTATION OF VISITING QUEENS: These visiting Queens represent Fairs and Festivals from La. & Texas Festival Platform.
4:10 p.m.
CROWNING OF INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL QUEENS CONTEST. Presentation of candidates for 1979 Rice Festival Queen. These young ladies have been judged throughout the evening, this presentation being the last stage of judging to select the 1979 Queen. Festival Platform.
3:45 p.m.
CHAMPIONS DISPLAY, Kindergarten through 9th Grade: A celebration of the Week on the Louisiana Coast. Festival Platform.
4:00 p.m.
ENTERTAINMENT by Veux Carre’. Festival Platform.
5:00 p.m.
ENTERTAINMENT by Navy Dixieland Band. Festival Platform.
6:00 p.m.
ENTERTAINMENT by Gospel Light Singers. Festival Platform.
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
ENTERTAINMENT by Rob Rue Dixieland by Rob Rue Dixieland Band. Festival Platform.
7:30 p.m.
CREOLE QUEENS BALL. Friendship dinner with entertainment by Veux Carre’. 8:30-Presentation of the 1979 International Rice Festival Queen and her Royal Court, followed by the Queen’s Ball. Music by "The Harmony After Dark”. Admission $7.00 per person. Rice Festival Building.
SUPREME INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL FOUR BALL GOLF TOURNAMENT Saturday & Sunday
Bayou Boud Band Country Club
VISIT THE RICE FESTIVAL AREA FLEXI MAP TO how about the Rice Festival Area with special dining opportunities for Friday, Oct. 19 – 7:00 p.m. – Saturday, Oct. 20 – 7:00 p.m. – Sunday, Oct. 21 – 2:00 p.m.
Rice City Riders Arena – Highway 13. N.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1979
8:00 a.m.
JUNIOR RICE COOKING DEMONSTRATION. The art of cooking rice dishes with at least one cup of rice included. Rice Festival Building.
10:30 a.m.
ENTERTAINMENT by Navy Dixieland and Show Band. Festival Platform.
FIRST ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL 10,000 METER RUN. Race will start at Main Parkway and will return to the same point. Approximately 300 runners will compete from Southwest Louisiana. Winner will be awarded trophy on Main Parkway. Festival Platform.
SECOND ANNUAL RICE FESTIVAL COW CHIP THROWING CONTEST. Won by Senator George Clark, who will defend his title, Rice Festival Building.
ENJOY THE CREOLE QUEEN’S FISHING CONTEST. Visiting Queens, Rice Festival Building.
ENTERTAINMENT by "Veux Carre’ Brass" Festival Platform.
SECOND ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL COW CHIP THROWING CONTEST. Won by Senator George Clark, who will defend his title, Rice Festival Building.
ENTERTAINMENT by "Country Empire”. Festival Platform.
OPENING OF the second day of the International Rice Festival, Festival Platform.
GREETING FROM the 1979 International Rice Festival Queen, Festival Platform.
WELCOME by the Honorable Robert late. Mayor of the City of Crowley. Festival Platform.
AWARDS for Rice Grading. Festival Platform.
PRESENTATION of Trophy for First Annual International Rice Festival 10,000 Meter Run. Festival Platform.
INTERNATIONAL FROG DERBY: The Frog Derby is hosted by the Rayne Lions Club. From far and near come the giant frogs and their faithful jockeys to compete in this International All. Special concert music by the Rayne High School Band. Festival Platform.
SECOND INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL RICE EATING CONTEST. When it comes to eating rice everyone is a winner, but for this special occasion we will challenge the champion eaters from Southwest Louisiana to participate. May the best man win! This event is hosted by the Crowley Lions Club. Festival Platform.
ENTERTAINMENT by "Veux Carre’ Brass”. Festival Platform.
THE INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL ACADIA ACCORDION CONTEST. The French Accordion is the traditional musical instrument in Acadia. These instruments are not only played here, but made here also. The contest is open for all persons 16 years of age or older. The contestants are to bring their own accordion and play a two and a half minute, and the judges will be out of view of the contestants. Cash awards will be made at this event and the contestants must be residents of Acadia Parish. Festival Platform.
SECOND INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL ACADIAN FIDDLER'S CONTEST. Festival Platform.
AWARDS FOR JUNIOR RICE COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS. Festival Platform.
GRAND PARADE. Truly the grandest of the grand, providing color, fun and festivity. The parade will feature over one hundred units, including marching bands, floats, antique cars, horses and clowns, not least, beautiful girls.
ENTERTAINMENT by Nancy Tabi Marcati. Sponsored by Watermaid and Mahaline Rice. Festival Platform.
ENTERTAINMENT by Navy Dixieland and Show Band. Festival Platform.
ENTERTAINMENT by "Cowboy Festival Festival Platform.
ENTERTAINMENT by Happy Fats and Bayou Buckeroos. What finer way to end our 1979 International Rice Festival then one of the oldest Cajun bands in Southwest Louisiana, Happy Fats. French and Country music Festival Platform.
Festival Platform.
VISIT THE RICE MUSEUM ON WEST HIGHWAY 90 WHILE AT THE FESTIVAL SOME OF THE FESTIVAL SOMETHING OF INTEREST FOR ALL AGES.

THIRD INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL LITTLE BROTHERS ROPEO
Friday, Oct. 19 – 7:00 p.m. – Saturday, Oct. 20 – 7:00 p.m. – Sunday, Oct. 21 – 2:00 p.m.
Rice City Riders Arena – Highway 13. N.

INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT
Doubles & Mixed Doubles - Thursday 5:00 p.m. Final set for Sunday, Crowley Courts.

Special recognition goes to the Southwest Louisiana Vocational-Technical School, Acadia Parish FFA & 4-H Clubs, Crowley High School, the City of Crowley, for all their efforts in helping to make the International Rice Festival a success.
RICE FARMER OF THE YEAR

The 1979 Rice Farmer of the Year is Edward J. Leonard of Pointe Coupee Parish. He is married to the former Carolee Keanley and they have the parents of four boys and two girls.

A native of Acadia Parish, Mr. Leonard started farming in 1945 with his father, the late Louis Leonard Sr., the 1956 Rice Farmer of the Year.

Mr. Leonard married Norma Jean Davis Parish from 1955 to 1969 and after that managed a rice, soybean and livestock operation in Mississippi and Louisiana.

In 1963 he formed a partnership with his brother-in-law in Pointe Coupee Parish with an initial capital of $1700 acres. Rice was planted on 420 acres and soybeans was planted on the remaining 1300 acres. Over the years, the partners increased their acreage until today they farm 3,020 acres of rice and soybeans.

Most of the rice production has been devoted to producing seed rice which averages 300 bushels per acre. The white rice variety has been grown in prairie and under irrigation and has been marketed to two irrigation entities.

Both rice and soybeans acreage are grown, but the long season grain is being steadily popular for their fall crop.

Mr. Leonard was one of the first in Pointe Coupee Parish to install dryers and storage facilities, primarily consisting of a 40,000 bushel capacity and 300 bushel per hour continuous flow dryer with grain handler and dryer.

Mr. Leonard has served on the Pointe Coupee Advisory Committee on rice for over three years. Presently serving on the State Rice Advisory Marketing Committee and the State Rice Council, he spends a large amount of time helping rice farmers with information on production practices and improving the rice industry. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Seed Rice Growers Association.

Mr. Leonard has represented the 6th District of the Louisiana Senate, serving on the Committees on Long and Soybeans and has successfully pushed through up to 200,000 dollars worth of support to local rice and soybean producers. He has been president of the Pointe Coupee Chamber of Commerce.

He is also a member of the Junior Farmers of the Acadia Parish Farm Bureau.

For eight years, Mr. Leonard has been a member of his church council and during that time served as President. He has served his church as a counselor, Lay Leader, and as pastor and is a member of the Knights of Columbus in the Third District.

Mr. Leonard has served as President of the Board of Directors of his Bank and was selected the Outstanding Consumer Farmer of the Year in 1977 by the Upper Denham Rice Association.

Mr. Leonard considered an exemplary figure by his farming practices and in his leadership role by the people of his community and parish.

JUNIOR FARMER OF 1979

Jeffrey Charles Faulk, 17 year old son of Mr. And Mrs. Chester Faulk of Crowley, has been selected as the Junior Farmer of the Year for 1979 International Rice Festival.

The Faulks are a well-established farming family engaged primarily in rice and soybean production. Jeffrey's first experience in farming began at the age of 8, when he was able to drive his own tractor.

He is currently employed by his father and plans to enter the family farming business in the fall of the year. The family operates 1,800 acres of rice and 1,000 acres of soybeans.

Throughout his school career, Jeff has proposed himself to become a farmer by entering in contests and participating in organizations that dealt primarily with agriculture.

In 1971, at North-Crowley Elementary School, Jeff joined 4-H. In 1972, he became a member of the National FFA and exhibited his first market hog at the Acadia Parish Junior Livestock Show. Since then, he has exhibited a total of 5 steers and 3 swine, winning a total of 2 Grand Champion and 2 Reserve Champion and 37 ribbons at various shows.

In 1973, he won the National FFA and 4-H Market Swine Production Records Certificate. That year he received the National Rice Production Award in Acadia Parish and was a member of the National FFA and 4-H Market Swine Production Contest.

In 1977, he exhibited a 2,465-lb. Duroc pig which was Grand Champion and exhibited in the National FFA and 4-H Market Swine Production Contest.

While attending Crowley High School, Jeff joined the Crowley High FFA Chapter in 1973. He served as National FFA President, serving as Vice President of the National FFA Chapter. In 1977, he was awarded the State Farmer of the Year. He also received the Outstanding High School Student Trophy and the Outstanding Senior Award in 1977.

Jeff is a member of the 4-H Club and participated in the educational exchange trip to Crowley, Louisiana in 1977.

As a member of the 4-H and FFA chapters, Jeff has held membership in the FBLA, National Honor Society and the Louisiana Junior HERITAGE Association.

JUNIOR FARMER INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL

EDWIN J. LEONARDS

1979 RICE FARMER INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL

Note: MID-FESTIVAL PLATFORM set up at up at 4th Street and Parker Avenue.

MID-FESTIVAL PLATFORM (FRIDAY ENTERTAINMENT)
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1979
"OPEN MIKE! ALL DAY FOR MINSLETS, POETRY, STAND-UP COMICS DIAPER DERBY/RACE PAINTING & GIANT MURAL FOR KIDS"

8:00 a.m."
9:00 a.m."
10:00 a.m."
11:00 a.m."
12:00 noon"
1:00 p.m."
2:00 p.m."
3:00 p.m."
4:00 p.m."
5:00 p.m."

ENTSIMENT BY CHICO"
FACILY HOUSE THEATRE PERFORMANCE (Comedies)"
PARADE"
FACILY OF CAJUN TWIN DANCE CONTEST"
FACILY OF CAJUN BALLE RAP"
FACILY OF CAJUN BALLE (Comedies)
ENTERTAINMENT BY TRIPLE X"

PAST FESTIVAL QUEENS

1973-1978

1973 - Mrs. Estelle Bonin Fleming
1974 - Mrs. Cecile Trahan Laracce
1975 - Mrs. Lucille Jones Brodebeck
1976 - Mrs. Melba Koller Hoffman
1977 - Mrs. Ann Meschin Vanity Nes
1978 - Mrs. Carolyn B. Martin
1979 - Mrs. Mary Alice Tosso
1980 - Mrs. Josephine Oubre Eding
1981 - Miss Barbara Rhodes
1982 - Miss Jackie Hoffmeyer
1983 - Miss Lorraine Lott
1984 - Miss Angle Branch
1985 - Mrs. Betty David Billard
1986 - Miss Cindy Gardner Privett
1987 - Miss Wanda Petersen
1988 - Miss Margie Moore Hayespie
1989 - Miss Patricia Lormand
1990 - Mrs. Carolyn Cherry Moore
1991 - Miss Justin Ann Haydel
1992 - Miss Virginia O'Brien
1993 - Miss Marilyn Ann Adams
1994 - Miss Sharon Elliott
1995 - Miss Brenda Dagle
1996 - Miss Valerie O'Keefe
1997 - Miss Diane Everett Millard
1998 - Miss Linda Lott
1999 - Miss Debbie Carpenter Noble
2000 - Miss Susan Garcia
2001 - Miss Lydia Breaux
2002 - Miss Paula Bergeron
2003 - Miss Bridget Parsley
2004 - Miss Sally Fall
2005 - Miss Renea Duplinsich Tuzin
2006 - Miss Karen Bollich Cart
2007 - Miss Patricia Cran
2008 - Miss Tara Anne Hargrove
2009 - Miss Beth Alice Arceneaux

78 International Rice Festival Queen

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Our label says Bud is brewed with rice. Yes, that’s unusual. But it makes good sense (and great beer).

Because rice is what helps give Budweiser its unique “drinkability.”

Anheuser-Busch, Inc. is the largest commercial purchaser of the United States rice crop.

Sure, it costs a bundle. But it’s unusual extras (like brewing with rice) that make Budweiser the King of Beers.