1988

Offcial Program

FIFTY-SECOND INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL

"RICE CAPITAL OF AMERICA"
CROWLEY, LOUISIANA

October 14th and 15th, 1988

MAYOR ROBERT ISTRE .................................. PRESIDENT
GLYNN MAYARD ........................................ VICE PRESIDENT
BILL WILLIAMS ..................................... GENERAL CHAIRMAN

This year marks the 52nd Anniversary of one of Louisiana's largest and oldest festivals, the International Rice Festival. Since the inauguration of the first festival on October 5, 1937, over seven million people have attended the annual affair. Our celebration serves to call attention to the importance of rice and emphasize its place in the world's economic picture. The Festival takes place in the downtown area of Crowley and is one of the few festivals held on Friday and Saturday. 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 13th

The International Rice Festival Banquet honors the Festival Honoree, Rice Farmer of the Year, and the Junior 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 special party honoring this years Honoree, Mr. Marcel Damiena, sponsored by the Rice Industry, will be held immediately after the Banquet at the South Crowley Knights of Columbus Council 5499.

OCTOBER 14th

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, Rice Eating Contest, 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 Acadia Parish Agricultural Building on Cherokee Road. The day is brought to a close with the Annual Queen's Ball held at the International Rice Festival Building.

OCTOBER 15th

The International Rice Festival continues to be Louisiana's largest and most exciting Festival, as it is signified by the large attendance. Last year over 150,000 people attended the affair. The Festival boasts two (2) entertainment platforms. The Main Platform is located in front of the Courthouse and the second, at the intersection of 4th and Parkerston Avenue. Special highlights of the day include a Cowchip Throwing Contest, Acadian Accoutrement Contest, Fiddler's Contest, The Flyway Lions Club Frog Derby, street dances nightly from both platforms, and in the afternoon, the grandstand, a delight for all the Grand Parade.

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

Newly added special events will include a Petting Zoo to be held at the Acadia Parish multi-purpose facility on Cherokee Road on Friday, October 14th from 8:30 to 1:30 p.m. Also to be held will be a Rice Threshing Demonstration. Old time rice threshing at the Acadia Parish Multi-purpose facility on Cherokee Road, Friday and Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Exhibition will last approximately one hour. Sponsored by the Rice Museum Association and the Crowley High FFA, in cooperation with the International Rice Festival.

FRONT COVER

MISS CATHERINE ARCEAUX
1987 INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL QUEEN
Daughter of Etton Arceaux, Jr. & Elaine C. Arceaux
Crowley, Louisiana

1988 INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As President of the 1988 International Rice Festival and Mayor of the City of Crowley, I would like to extend to everyone a warm welcome to the festivities and our city. It gives me such pride to be a link in the chain that makes this festival a success. Without all the city employees, drivers, runners, committee members and the chairmen devotion and skill this could not be the grand occasion it has been in the past.

We hope that your visit will be joyful, and it is our hope that you will return in the near future, as a group and individually to what we consider to be the best festival in the finest city in the state. AGAIN, I THANK YOU FOR COMING!

MAYOR ROBERT L. ISTRE
PRESIDENT

1988 FESTIVAL HONOREE

The 50th International Rice Festival recognizes Marcel J. Damiena as its Honoree. Mr. Damiena, Chief Executive Officer of United Rice Packing Co., Inc., was born in New Orleans in 1923, the youngest of five children of the late Al Ernest Damiena and the late Adrienne Damiena. Mr. Damiena graduated from St. Aloysius High School and attended Tulane University and South College, studying business and foreign language courses. In 1941, during the Korean Conflict, he joined the U.S. Navy, and after boot training, was assigned to the twelfth U.S.S. Missouri, serving three years.

Upon discharge in 1945, Mr. Damiena returned to work at the United Fruit Company in New Orleans, where he worked briefly, prior to joining the service, and in that firm, he remained at the United Fruit Company until 1956, at which time he was transferred to an executive position from Walter J. Gauts, Inc., a well known rice importing company, owned by his father-in-law, the late Mr. H. A. Gauts.

In 1962, Mr. Damiena was made Vice President in 1974, and the company was made Vice President in 1974. Mr. Damiena, Mr. Gauts, and a group of other investors acquired United Rice Milling Products Co., Inc., to make it the largest rice producing company.

In 1979, Walter J. Gauts, Inc., and United Rice were merged into one company. United Rice Packing Co., Inc., with Mr. Damiena remaining as the company's Vice President. In December of 1988, three years subsequent to the death of Mr. H. A. Gauts, Mr. Damiena bought out the interests of the other investors. In January, 1983, a new Board of Directors appointed Mr. Damiena President. On August 1, 1986, at its annual stockholders' meeting, he was named chairman of the board and chief executive officer.

During his 30 year career in the rice business, Mr. Damiena traveled extensively throughout the United States, Europe, the Far East, the Caribbean, West Africa, and Central and South America, promoting and selling American rice and packaged line. Mr. Damiena was one of the first exporters to ship rice in containers to the United Kingdom during the infancy days of containerized shipping. Later on, he was keenly developed with the railroad to ship empty containers on flat-bed cars to the mills for loading, returning a revenue back to the port, thereby realizing a savings in freight expenses on the rice mill.

Mr. Damiena served as President of the World Trade Club of Greater New Orleans in 1964/65, also in 1954, served as chairman of the Mississippi Valley World Trade Conference and received the President's "C" Award from under Secretary of Commerce, Honorable Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Jr. In 1973, he was appointed by Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz to the National Rice Advisory Committee, serving on that committee for three years. In 1974, he also served a one year appointment by Secretary of Commerce Peter G. Peterson in the regional export expansion council. Mr. Damiena is also a member of the Traffic and Transportation of Greater New Orleans - the YMCA - the Knights of Columbus, the Rice Council for Market Development, the U.S.S. Musical Association, the American Legion, and is an ecclesiastical minister of St. Marie Savio Catholic Church.

He and his wife of 34 years, Marguerite, have five children, Marcella Ann, Tab Joseph, Mignon Marie, Mark David, and Michelle Margaret; they are also the proud grandparents of six grandchildren.
**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1988**
9:00 a.m. - RICE GRADING CONTEST. USDA Marketing Service, Grain Division, West Highway 90
9:30 p.m. - SENIOR CITIZENS BALL. Music by "The Good Ole Cajun Boys". Rice Festival Building.
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1988**
Rice Festival Banquet
Banquet honoring Festival Honoree, Rice Farmer of the Year, and Junior Farmer of the Year. Introduction of Visiting Queens and Contestants for International Rice Festival Queen. Rice Festival Banquet. Reception will follow Banquet at the Knights of Columbus Home, South Crowley.
Friendship Hour 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m. - SPECIAL OPENING NIGHT: STREET DANCE featuring "Wayne Toups & ZydeCajun" and "Alconstudia". Sponsored by Schilling Distributors, Budweiser Beer, of Lafayette. Mid-Fest Platform.
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1988**
8:30 a.m. - PETTING ZOO. Acadia Parish Agricultural Bldg. Cherokee Road.
8:35 a.m. - JUDGING LIVESTOCK. Acadia Parish Agricultural Building.
9:45 a.m. - OFFICIAL OPENING of the Festival by Mayor Robert Istré, 1988 International Rice Festival President. Festival Program.
INTRODUCTION AND REMARKS by Miss. Catherine Arnaud, 1987 International Rice Festival Queen. Festival Program.
INTRODUCTION of Honoree, Rice Farmer of the Year, Jr. Farmer of the Year. Festival Program.
AWARDS FOR WINDOW DECORATING Contest. Festival Program.
10:00 a.m. - RICE THRASHER DEMONSTRATION. Old time rice thrashing. Acadia Parish Agricultural Bldg. off Cherokee Rd. Sponsored by Rice Museum Association and Crowley High FFA, in cooperation with International Rice Festival.
10:00 a.m. - CREOLE COOKING CONTEST. Rice Festival Building. Exquisite creole cuisine prepared by men and women from throughout Southwest La. and Texas. These dishes are prepared from rice and by-products. From the winners will be selected the "Most Cook of Rice" or "Chef de Riz".
10:00 a.m. - OPENING OF OUTDOOR ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW. Outdoor display of fine arts & crafts by 70 area artists & craftsmen. Ribbon judging & prizes. Bank of Commerce grounds, 326 N. Ave. G. Sponsored by the Crowley Art Association, Inc.
10:15 a.m. - CHILDREN'S QUEEN & KING: Presentation of candidates for Children's Queen and King. These young ladies and men represent the first and second grades of Acadia Parish Schools. Festival Program.
11:30 a.m. - CROWNING OF CHILDREN'S INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL QUEEN & KING by Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Stringer, Supt. of Acadia Parish Schools. Festival Program.
11:30 a.m. - ENTERTAINMENT by the International Rice Festival Ricetters.Festival Program.
12:00 noon - THE INTERNATIONAL RICE EATING Contest. When it comes to eating rice everyone is a winner, but for this special occasion we have challenged the champion eaters from throughout Southwest Louisiana to participate. May the best man win! This event is hosted by the Crowley Lions Club. Festival Program.
12:30 p.m. - ENTERTAINMENT by Chad & the Moonlifers.Festival Program.
12:45 p.m. - AWARDS FOR CREOLE COOKING Contest. Festival Program.
1:00 p.m. - AWARDS FOR INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL "CHEF DE RIZ" Festival Program.
1:30 p.m. - CHILDREN'S PARADE - Theme: "EAT RICE - THE CAJUNS CHOICE". One hour spectacular adds color and glamour to the Festival. Rice is used in making of the floats and the decorations. The parade route is from the Courthouse to 2nd St, then up Parkerson Ave. to the Courthouse.
2:30 p.m. - PRESENTATION OF VISITING QUEENS. These Visiting Queens represent Fairs and Festivals from La., Tex. & Arkansas. Festival Program.
2:45 p.m. - INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL QUEENS CONTEST. Presentation of candidates for 1989 Festival Queen. These young ladies have been judged throughout the morning, this presentation being the last stage of judging to select the 1988 Queen. Festival Program. Special appearance by the International Rice Festival Ricetters.
3:45 p.m. - CROWNING OF THE 1988 INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL Queen by Festival Honoree, Marcel Damriens Festival Program.
4:30 p.m. - ENTERTAINMENT by Rob Rue's Magic & Illusion Show . Festival Program.
5:15 p.m. - ENTERTAINMENT by Carl Hollier & Cajun Hot. Festival Program.
7:00 p.m. - QUEEN'S BALL. Friendship Hour.
8:00 - Presentation of the 1988 International Rice Festival Queen and her Royal Court followed by the Queen's Ball. Music by the "Fendela". Festival ticket $10.00 per person. Rice Festival Bldg.
Special Appearances: Rob Rue's Magic & Illusion Show.
8:00 p.m. - STREET DANCE featuring the "Posito". Festival Program.
9:00 - Special appearance by the Acadia Cloggers.
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1988**
8:00 a.m. - RICE FESTIVAL RUN. 5 KM (3.1 miles). Festival Platform.
8:30 a.m. - RICE FESTIVAL RUN. 1 Mile Fun Run. Festival Platform.
8:30 a.m. - RICE FESTIVAL WALK. 1 Mile Walk. Festival Platform.
8:30 a.m. - JUNIOR RICE COOKING DEMONSTRATION. The art of cooking rice dishes with at least one cup of rice included. Rice Festival Building.
8:45 a.m. - OPENING of the second day of the International Rice Festival. Festival Program.
9:00 a.m. - GREETING from the 1988 International Rice Festival Ricetters. Festival Platform.
9:00 a.m. - ENTERTAINMENT by the Rayne Lions Club Band. Festival Platform.
9:15 a.m. - INTERNATIONAL FROG DERBY. The Frog Derby is hosted by the Rayne Lions Club. From far and wide come the giant frogs and their beautiful jocquette to compete in this International Affair. Special concert.
10:00 a.m. - RICE THRASHER DEMONSTRATION. Old time rice thrashing. Acadia Parish Agricultural Bldg. off Cherokee Rd. Sponsored by Rice Museum Association and Crowley High FFA, in cooperation with International Rice Festival.
10:00 a.m. - OPENING OF OUTDOOR ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW. Outdoor display of fine arts & crafts by 70 area artists & craftsmen. Ribbon judging & prizes. Bank of Commerce grounds, 326 N. Ave. G. Sponsored by the Crowley Art Association, Inc.
10:30 a.m. - THE INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL ACCORDION CONTEST. The French Accordion is the traditional musical instrument in Acadiana. These instruments are not only played here, but made here also. The contest is open for all persons 18 years or older. The contestants are required to play a two step and Cajun Waltz. Each contestant will have a number and the judges will be out of view of the contestants. Cash awards will be made at this event and the contest will be conducted in French and English. Festival Platform.
11:00 a.m. - ELEVENTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL COWCHIP THROWING CONTEST. Mid-Festival Platform, 4th and Parkerson.
11:30 a.m. - THE INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL HARMONICA CONTEST. A great crowd pleaser. Contestants will be entered from throughout the State of Louisiana. Festival Program.
12:15 p.m. - THE INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL FISH SHUCKERS CONTEST. Festival Program.
12:45 p.m. - ENTERTAINMENT by "The Waterhole Jammers". Festival Platform.
2:10 p.m. - ENTERTAINMENT by International Rice Festival Ricetters. Festival Program.
2:20 p.m. - ENTERTAINMENT by Cotton Country Cloggers. Festival Program.
2:45 p.m. - AWARDS FOR CHAMPION MILLING RICE & SHEAF RICE. Sponsored by G & H Seed Company, Hennessis Grain Elevator. and area Rice Millers. Festival Program.
4:00 p.m. - AWARDS FOR RICE GRADING. Sponsored by G & H Seed Company, Hennessis Grain Elevator.
4:45 p.m. - AWARDS FOR JUNIOR RICE COOKING DEMONSTRATION. Festival Program.
5:30 p.m. - GRAND PARADE. Truly the grandest of the grand, providing color, fun and festivity. The parade will feature over one hundred units, including marching groups, bands, floats, antique cars, horses and last but not least, beautiful girls. The parade is the largest festival parade in Louisiana. You have not seen the Grand Parade until you have seen the Grand Parade of the International Rice Festival.
6:00 p.m. - ENTERTAINMENT by Rob Rue's Magic & Illusion Show. Festival Program.
8:00 p.m. - ENTERTAINMENT by Acadia Cloggers. Festival Platform.
8:15 p.m. - STREET DANCE featuring "Silver Dollar Band". Festival Program. Sponsored by Watermaid & MAHOGANY. Rice Festival.

* The International Rice Festival Harmonica, Accordion, and Fiddler contests are sponsored by United Rice Packing Co., Inc. of New Orleans, packers of Carmen, Orchid, and Tiger Long Grain Rice.

**FESTIVAL PLATFORM** North Parkinson Avenue in Front of the Acadia Parish Courthouse
**MID-FESTIVAL PLATFORM** 4th St. and Parkinson Ave.
**INTERNATIONAL RICE FESTIVAL BUILDING** 717 West Mill Street
**FESTIVAL OF PARADE** Rice City Civic Center
**Music Entertainment** Sponsored by the First Baptist Church

LOOK FOR MCDONALD'S "SAFÉ KID VAN" AT THE CROWLEY BUILDING & LOAN ASSOCIATION.
Parade viewing area designated in horn of Van for handicapped children.

Special recognition goes to the City of Crowley, the Parish of Acadia, County Agents Office, the Department of Agriculture, Acadia Parish Shriners Department, the Crowley Police Department, and area law enforcement agencies for all their efforts to make the International Rice Festival a success. Also special thanks to Modern Music for the use of their sound equipment.
The 1988 Rice Farmer of the Year is Erol Louisamy, a 48-year-old farmer from Vermilion Parish.

After graduating from6day High School in 1959, he began farming with his father. He planted 30 acres of rice each year.

Louisamy is a very progressive, innovative, cooperative individual, using the latest in management techniques. Last year he purchased an additional 10 acres which brought his total to 60 acres. This has enabled him to process foods, thereby increasing his overall management efficiency and improve his wood control techniques, thereby reducing the cost of production and improving his return. His pants average 66.5% of rice that are processed and 3% of the total is 66.5% of rice.

He has spent much time researching the cost of producing rice using a yielder to reduce drift which can be a serious problem in the basin area. He uses Fortisan for water control.

In 1987, Louisamy averaged 30.1 bbl. on 952 acres of rice. His pants acreage consisted of 244 acres of rice and 157 acres of barley. In 1988, he planted 460 acres.

In 1984, he volunteered his farm for a successful test conducted by the Extension Service and researchers from the Rice Research Station. These plots had been part of the annual Vermilion Parish Rice Producers Tour this year. Louisamy responded to the idea of securing 100 acres of the new variety of rice that was being marketed by Dr. DuPont. He has since been named a member of the Parish Rice Growers Association and has served as its Chairman. He is a member of the Chickasaw Parish Rice Growers Association and has served as its Vice President. He currently serves as President and has been an active participant in the past 14 years. He has been named chairman of the Rice Research Station in Crowley for the past 14 years. He has served on the Rice Research Station in Crowley and has contributed research on rice and other crops, particularly rice and barley.

JUNIOR FARMER OF THE YEAR

Barrett Paul Lyons, 17-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Lyons, has been selected as the Junior Farmer of the Year for the 52nd International Rice Festival. Barrett credits his family for being the first people who he has ever seen and they have been his role models. He believes that they have a very strong relationship with each other and he is very proud of his family.

Barrett's responsibilities include mowing, cutting, feeding, and tending to the 11 acres of rice farm and 200 acres of seed. He is also involved in 4-H Club and has been a member of the Vermilion Parish 4-H Club for 3 years. He is an active member of the Vermilion Parish 4-H Club and has been a member of the Vermilion Parish 4-H Club for 3 years.

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