Acadia Parish will be 100 years old on October 11, and a Centennial celebration is now being finalized, with Jos. A. Barońet, Police Jury President, making the announcement that an official Proclamation will be set Saturday as a special parishwide holiday observance, with an all-day old time Rally program to be held on the Festival Platform in front of the Court House, beginning at 10 a.m.

Barońet is joined by Co-chairman D.J. Dupuis and Dan Rogers in announcing plans for this Acadia event to commemorate “100 Years Of Progress-1886-1986” with everyone invited to join the celebration as the Parish lights its 100th candle on the long and creditable history of Acadia, created from the old Imperial St. Landry Parish in 1886.

The day’s program will begin at 10 a.m. with final judging in the Men’s Centennial Beard contest, then at 11 a.m. contestants in the Ladies Centennial Dress Contest will be presented, both these events to take place on the main Platform in front of the Court House, made available to the Police Jury by the International Rice Festival officials.

From 12 to 1, an old-fashioned “dinner on the grounds” will be observed with everyone asked to bring along their picnic lunches and enjoy visiting, while some of the parish’s best-known Cajun Bands provide traditional music.

Promptly at 1 p.m., the platform program will resume with a Square Dance entertainment provided by the “See Saws,” an area group of dancers, including several from Acadia.

At 1:30 p.m. presentation of awards will be made, again from the main platform, these awards to include winners in the Beard Contest, with three categories to be presented, the Ladies Dress Contest, and awards for the School Poster Contest, including entries from all schools of the parish, the Poster theme being the Centennial “One Hundred Years of Progress.”

Other awards which will be made at that time include plaques for the oldest man and woman in the parish, and second place plaques for those nearest the “oldest” age. Another interesting competition will be Centennial Exhibits to be included in financial institutions of the parish, with final introductions and presentations including the Acadia Parish Centennial Queen and Junior Queen, to be selected in a Church Point Pageant on October 8.

A number of prominent guests will be on the platform, including Parish officials and municipal officials as well as others who have been invited to share the Parish Birthday.

Climaxing the special program, Police Jury President Jos. A. Barońet will officially unveil the commemorative plaque as a permanent installation on the Court House grounds to mark the 100th anniversary of Acadia.

A parade will form of wagons, buggies, antique cars, and other memorabilia of years gone by, with a number of French bands to accompany the units on the route down Parkerson Ave. and back to the Court House. An invitation is extended to everyone interested in taking part on the Centennial Parade to contact Dr. R.L. Savoy, Phone No. 684-5860 in Church Point.

The Parade will disband in front of the main platform, and from that point on, the remainder of the Centennial Celebration will be an old time fais-dodo, with Hubert Gotte, chairman, reporting that some five bands will be playing, including a Zydeco group, and everyone is invited to share in this final Centennial gathering.