Cajun Dance Video:
Fred's Lounge, Mardi Gras scenes used

Scenes from Mamou's famed Mardi Gras celebration and Fred's Lounge, which attracts visitors from many spots in the world, along with music by Basile's Dewey Balfa, are included in the world's first Cajun dance video.

The American Film Institute and Billboard magazine recently honored "Allons Danser!" at an awards banquet held at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. Video tapes were screened by film and video professionals and then by panels of experts in a wide variety of fields. Some of the other honored finalists were Jane Fonda, Paul Prudhomme, Steve Allen and Bill Cosby.

"Allons Danser!" was produced and directed by Randy Speyrer, an Opelousas native, now living in New Orleans. As on the country's top Cajun dance instructors, Speyrer has taught hundreds of students the basic steps of Acadiana folk dancing.

The film, produced entirely on location, contains scenes from Mamou, Lafayette, Breaux Bridge and Opelousas.

It features a documentary segment on the Cajun culture, as well as music selections by Michael Doucet and Beausoleil. Show motion and other special effects enable viewers to learn the traditional waltz, two-step, one-step and Cajun jitterbug in the comfort of privacy of their own home.

Since producing "Allons Danser!", Speyrer has produced a second video entitled "The Cajun Mystique" with Bruce Conque of Lafayette. It is a short documentary on the Cajun culture and is the official tourist promotional film for the City of Lafayette.