Folsom receives Cajun welcome

Chataignier greets Open House guests

Chataignier officials and citizens alike extended a warm Cajun welcome to visitors from their twin city, Folsom, Saturday in an official Louisiana Open House 1990 cultural exchange program.

Termed “Government Day,” the event included a formal welcome at the Chataignier Neighborhood Center, followed by a horse and buggy ride to the Mt. Carmel Church Hall for a neighborly luncheon and then, later in the afternoon, a conference meeting for city officials at which the two communities exchanged information.

The Folsom guests suffered an automotive breakdown in Baton Rouge, but the delay failed to dampen the warm welcome put forth by the Chataignier hosts.

Warm greetings were shared as the Folsom visitors stepped from their van and cars, because of acquaintances developed when Folsom hosted a Chataignier delegation earlier.

The welcome was as special as the gifts presented by Chataignier Mayor Herman Malveaux and his wife, Barbara. The host mayor presented his counterpart, Mayor Bernie Willie, with a large, inscribed key to the city, while Barbara Malveaux presented Jon Willie with a wreath that incorporated all the products available in the Evangeline Parish village.

Expanding on the communal sharing, Mayor Malveaux explained the key was fashioned by the Chataignier High School agricultural department and teacher Greg Fontenot and his wife, Sharon. In addition, the wreath was handmade by Lorettta West, who incorporated the area crops, including a crawfish.

Mayors Malveaux and Willie then stepped into a one-horse buggy driven by Hubert Lavergne, while Chataignier Councilmen Alton Thomas, Jr., Daniel Brassaux and Bernard Fruge joined their Folsom counterparts Jo Ellen McIntyre and Marshall Broomfield for a ride in a covered wagon provided by Mr. Saturday courtesy of transportation provided by Hubert Lavergne. Mr. and Mrs. Darwin Young, pictured in back, provided a covered wagon for the two villages' council members. The day's events culminated an official Louisiana Open House 1990 exchange between the two communities.

While cultural committee members from each community remained at the church hall, following the luncheon hosted by American Security Bank of Ville (See Folsom - Page 2A)
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Platte, village officials returned to the Neighborhood Center for their conference meeting.

During that governmental session, the elected leaders exchanged information on revenue sources, property tax millages, building codes, village workers, utility billing and collections, village recreational facilities and budgetary items.

Cultural committee members from Chataignier included Wilbur Rozas, Nettie Rozas, Rosa B. Mitchell, Jenny Lafleur, Bernice Lavergne, Dorothy Mitchell, Betty Brasseaux, Jamaine Brasseaux and Helen Thomas. Their counterparts from Folsom included chairman Temae Theriot, Eliza Watson, Bunch Williams, Darrell McGee, Edward and Wendy Morgan, Clarence and Leatta Mull, Chalmis and Leola Broomfield and Charlie and Pauline Adler.