The Pecanettes

1. Pam Tumminello
2. Cassie Butler
3. Debbie Fuller
4. Marsha Stevens
5. Mary Nugent
6. Beth Hargis
7. Martha Nugent
8. Janis Harrison

The song and dance team, under the supervision of Mrs. Mary Eleanor Bonnette, will tour the State promoting the 1971 Louisiana Pecan Festival. They will also serve as official "greeters" during the Festival activities.
WE THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW ....

The third annual Louisiana Pecan Festival, to promote the pecan industry in Grant Parish and La., will be held in Colfax, Oct. 29-30.

The theme of this year's festival, "The Old South", will call attention to a period in history when settlers, principally from Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina and Mississippi, came into the Colfax area bringing with them their agricultural skills.

In about 1840, lands which had been bought from the Indians by Edward Guilliard and later sold to Judge William Smith, were purchased by Meredith Calhoun. The estate contained more than 14,000 acres and employed more than 1,000 slaves. Calhoun's Landing, located on the right bank of the Rigolette du BonDieu (later to become Red River) was the forerunner of the town of Colfax.

Soon after the War Between the States a new parish was formed from parts of Winn and Rapides parishes, in 1869. The little village at Calhoun's Landing became the parish seat and was renamed for Schuyler Colfax, vice president at that time under President Ulysses S. Grant for whom the parish was named.

The story of Grant Parish is an exciting account of early explorers, Indians, steamboats, Civil War campaigns, sawmills, cotton plantations, cattle operations, truck farms and steady hard-working people striving to provide a promising future for their sons and daughters.

Pecans were a native food for the Indians long before early settlers of the area realized the commercial value of the bountiful crop. Grafting for improved varieties became widespread in the early 1900s when almost every homesite had pecan trees for shade and landscape purposes as well as for the extra "money crop" they supplied in the fall.

Since Grant Parish is in the center of the natural pecan habitat in Louisiana it was inevitable that growers in this area would play a principal part in boosting production.

And it is only fitting that the state festival should be domiciled at Colfax where an extensive, natural pecan grove has been perpetuated by homeowners and commercial growers.

The festival was initiated in 1969 in connection with the centennial anniversary of the parish. Over 20,000 persons came from all parts of the country for the 1970 festival when Fess Parker, television's Daniel Boone, was guest of honor to highlight a "Frontiers Days" theme.

The 1971 Program of Events will be highlighted with the appearance of JAMES DRURY, (The Men from Shiloh) as the Virginian. There will also be the usual queen's contest and related events leading up to the coronation ball. Miss Tawny Hanes of Crowley, reigning Louisiana Pecan Queen, will turn over her crown to the new queen selected from statewide entries.

Other scheduled events are a festival mass, the grand parade, an arts and crafts show, a "Country Store" flower show, bottle show, horse racing "country style" a "Little Britches" rodeo and Children's Day activities.

Also, pecan sales and exhibits, pecan cooking and grading contests, equipment displays and a harvesting demonstration; beard judging, a turkey shoot, an "Old Timers" fiddling contest, a mule basketball game, a street carnival and, as a grand finale, a spectacular fireworks display.

On sale at various locations will be The Pecan Cookbook and "Grant Parish: A History".

The Pecanettes, booster song and dance team of teenage girls and rock and country music will be featured throughout the two-day celebration.

Adding to the glitter and gaiety of all these activities are the visiting dignitaries—the reigning beauty queens of other Louisiana festivals, state and local public officials and candidates for office.

In addition to promoting the production and use of Louisiana pecans the festival provides an opportunity for people from "everywhere" to "get-together" in fellowship and revelry.

The people of Colfax and Grant Parish welcome you. Visit with us ... join in the fun!