Seventy-nine-year-old Bill Gibson recalls working on the bridge as a riveter and then a diver in 1948. He can recall his in-depth knowledge of how the bridge was built as if it were yesterday.

"The bridge is put together with large rivets. The rivets were inserted through holes and then having the plain end hammered into a head in order to hold the large steel beams in place," Gibson said.

Gibson, who was working as a riveter at the time, was offered a job as a diver, which was a popularly sought job. The diver's job was to stand on a barge below the bridge and dive for tools that were accidentally dropped by workers above.

Some clips of the movie "Drowning Pool," starring Paul Newman, were filmed in Lake Charles in 1976.

But the dueling pistols are what make the structure much more interesting.

"I recall hearing the tale that the dueling pistols were placed on the bridge in order to guard the treasures of Jean Lafitte, which are buried along the Calcasieu River," said Moss Bluff resident Candi Bertrand.