



Date: Saturday, October 1, 2011

Time: 10:00am – 3:00pm

Place: Iberville Parish Visitor's Center at I-10 in Grosse Tete

Organized by: Iberville Parish Council and Tourism Department.

For more info, please contact (225) 687-5198 or visit us on the web at www.visitiberville.com

Swamp Life Expo Opening Ceremony: Kick-off "Experience Atchafalaya Days."

Speakers:

- Louisiana Lieutenant Governor Jay Dardenne on behalf of the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism
- Iberville Parish President J. Mitchell Ourso, Jr.

MUSIC:

Live Cajun Music – Cajun music was once found only in the back-swamps of Louisiana and has now made a prominent place for itself in America. Music is a major life force of the Cajun culture and is a reflection of the lives, strengths, sorrows, and joys of the people.

FOOD SAMPLING:

"The Big Cajun Wild Duck and Andouille Gumbo" by local resident Josh O'Dwyer – The largest migratory waterfowl flyway in the USA, vast swamps, endless waterways, and Cajuns is the recipe for Duck Gumbo. Come sample this mouth watering gumbo made Big Cajun style.

"Crawfish Etouffee d'Atchafalaya" by Louisiana State Representative Karen St. Germain
From down the bayou and deep within the swamps comes a fusion of homemade roux, special spices, and fresh Louisiana Spillway Crawfish with Louisiana rice creating - one of Louisiana's most signature and tasteful Cajun dishes.

"Big Pete's Cajun Cracklins" by local resident Pete Miletello from Up the Bayou
Cracklins are deeply woven in the Southern Culture. While most people call them cracklins, many others call them pork rinds or pork skins.

"Pralines of the Atchafalaya" by local residents Richard and Jeannie David of Grosse Tete
The lands surrounding the Atchafalaya Basin are abundant with sugarcane and pecan trees, and Iberville Parish is no exception. Come watch how sugar from sugarcane and pecans become the key ingredients to make the most tasteful pralines. Learn the local secrets and tricks that have been passed down from generation to generation.

"Cajun-made Bread Pudding" by local residents "Lucky" Songy and Judy Burleigh
Known as a "poor man's pudding", bread pudding is an old fashioned dessert from stale leftover bread that was just moistened in water, to which a little sugar, spices and other ingredients were added. The name does no justice for the taste of this delicious dessert that is served in fine dining restaurants throughout the world.

"Homemade Cane Syrup" by local resident and Iberville Parish Councilman Tim Vallet
Sugarcane from the *Land of the Sugar Bowl*, the area between the Mississippi River and Atchafalaya River in Iberville Parish, where rich alluvial soils converge in a subtropical climate. Homemade Cane Syrup.....

"Turtle Soup de Bayou Pigeon" by Benny Vaughn of Bayou Pigeon

SPECIAL LIVE APPEARANCE:

Special Guests: *Mr. Ricky Phillips of Phillips Seafood, Bayou Pigeon, Iberville Parish, featured on the Discovery Channel series - "Dirty Jobs with Mike Rowe"*. Ricky Phillips is a long time resident of Bayou Pigeon and seafood wholesale buyer and processor. He operates one of the largest crawfish distributions in Louisiana. Ricky was recently featured for demonstrating this unique South Louisiana way of life.

ART & CULTURAL DEMONSTRATIONS:

Presenting: "Canvassing Swamp Life" by local artist Charlene Gaudet Hebert – Come see this premiere display of oil paintings that capture life in the Basin, a reflection of timeless scenes of the Cajun culture adapting and thriving to the changes of time.

Dennis Daigle *Fins, Fowl, and Fur* - Native Wildlife Taxidermy Demonstrations.....

Artful Decorations from the Basin by Vanessa Boudreaux of Pierre Part, Louisiana - The reuse of native materials and indigenous plants create beautiful décor.

"Atchafalaya Lagniappe" by local craftsman/photographer/tour-guide Gene Seneca – Come see how this local resident gives old cypress wood destined for disposal new life in this display of unique bird house designs, cypress and framed art, and other unique cypress wood crafts.

Canoe and Kayak Demonstrations by "Pack and Paddle" of Lafayette, Louisiana

Become inspired to explore the meandering bayous of Iberville Parish through local outfitter "Pack and Paddle"

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) - The Atchafalaya Basin Program

Come learn more information about the State's "Atchafalaya Basin Program". Local resident and coastal scientist for the LDNR, *Mr. Charles Ruelet* will showcase the Atchafalaya Basin Program, provide awareness about the basin, and give away free educational materials.

The Atchafalaya Spirit Paddle Collection by local carver/photographer John James Clark –

Come see this rare display of hand-carved cypress boat paddle designs such as, *The Osprey, The Great Blue, The Gator Foot, and The Ghost* from ancient driftwood cypress collected from the Atchafalaya Basin that are transformed by hand into boat paddles.

Vintage "Putt – Putt Boats" of Iberville Parish – Come see vintage *Putt-Putt Boat* made from cypress wood powered by a single cylinder motor. These boats once chugged up and down the waterways of the Atchafalaya Basin at the turn of the century, pulling logs or hauling loads of moss for stuffing mattresses and the seats of Model T Car. Their top speed is said to approach 9 miles an hour. The wooden boats were known as "putt-putts" for the signature sound they made, which helped local residents know who was coming up the bayou. Most of the boat engines were single cylinder motors made by Nadler's Foundry of Plaquemine, Iberville Parish beginning in 1902.