

## AUGUST 2005 Edition

### PRESIDENT's MESSAGE:

I hope every one is managing to stay cool this very hot summer season and on a personal note, I am extremely grateful that my festival is held in air-conditioning.

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, I had the privilege of judging the young Miss 4<sup>th</sup> of July Pageant in Erath. Thank you to Dennis and Natalie Mouton for making me feel so welcome. On Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup>, Janet and I had the pleasure to serve as the Pageant Directors for the Miss Erath 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival Queen's Pageant for the Teen, Ms., Lady Liberty and Miss Pageants. It was very nice to be back in Erath and they have a tremendous group of people devoted to this organization and to the town of Erath. Our congratulations to all of you for a job well done.

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, I had the opportunity to travel to Rochester, New York and the home of the Monroe County Fair to judge the Mrs. New York America Pageant. Needless to say, I had a wonderful time and it is always interesting and enjoyable to meet and talk with other fair and festival people from throughout the country.

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, we held our annual Miss Cajun Music Queens' Pageant and we are pleased to announce we had 89 contestants in 11 age divisions. This was quite a night for us because as you looked around the room, you saw so many L.A.F.F. friends there to help us out. Our sincere thanks go to Dennis Mouton who served as our auditor;

Natalie Mouton, Erath 4<sup>th</sup> of July, for helping out back stage; Gale Luquette from the Louisiana Cattle Festival, Linda McKinney from the Independence Italian Festival, and Al Dupré, Jr., from Thibodauxville for serving as judges for us that night; Barbara Horaist, Louisiana Cattle Festival and our Queen of Queens, Lana Meche, for serving as judges during the day; Marlene Habetz, Festival Ray-La-Ne for working backstage, and Equilla Victorian, District 2 Representative and Jimmy Meaux, District 3 Representative for attending. Everyone's help was greatly appreciated.

On July 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, we held our Cajun Music and Food Festival at air-conditioned Burton Coliseum. Once again, thanks go to Dennis and Natalie Mouton for helping us out at the festival as well. We congratulate our new queens, which include our Miss Cajun Music Erica Pickering; Teen Miss Cajun Music Courtney Shaw, and Ms. Cajun Music Erin Keenan.

Janet and I are looking forward to hosting the L.A.F.F. Board meeting at our home on Saturday July 23<sup>rd</sup>. We are just hoping the weather will be nice and not quite as hot.

Once again I remind each fair and festival that it is up to **YOU** to make the hotel reservations for your queens. If you have not sent Janet your queen's name for 2005, please do so as soon as possible. Our Email address is [robpiraro@aol.com](mailto:robpiraro@aol.com).

As always, if you need anything, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to serve.

**s/Rob Piraro**

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**VICE-PRESIDENT's MESSAGE:**

Despite the heat, the fairs/festivals continue. This month I traveled to The Cajun Music Pageant, as always a great turn out, Rob and Janet do an awesome job. I took a trip down to Morse Recreation in Morse, LA met with Jim Meaux, where we spoke with the festival chairman and the carnival manager with D'Heilly and Sons. I also attended the Cajun Music Festival which was a great event

Preparations are well underway for the 2006 LAFF convention. If you have not made your Hotel reservations, the Holiday Inn select is out of double beds all they have is King Size Beds available. The two adjoining hotels are Hampton Inn and Embassy Suites. If you want to make reservations at these hotels the phone numbers are: Hampton Inn 225-926-9990; Embassy Suites 225-924-6566.

Room rates for the Embassy Suites are \$94.00 + 13% tax = \$106.22 for double occupancy. Room rates for the Hampton Inn are \$83.00 + 13% tax = \$93.79 for double occupancy.

We are currently looking for any items red, white or blue to decorate the banquet rooms, American flags, any items for table decorations, if you find any items please call me.

**s/ Dennis Mouton**

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**PAST-PRESIDENT's MESSAGE**

I had the opportunity to attend the Louisiana Catfish Festival on Sunday July 24. Although it was hot, the crowd was nice and the food was selling fast. I ran into David Boudier and Janet, and spoke briefly to Kurt and Lydia Dempster. Kurt was busy as usual; you would think he was the Fair Chairman or something. The Queens, Miss, Rachael Held and Teen Queen, Amanda Dempster were busy doing queenly things but both were lovely. Although Hurricane Dennis caused a reschedule for the event, they did exceptionally well. Saturday evening while returning from Lake Charles, we were going to stop in, but could not find a parking place, so we decided to go on Sunday. Congrats to Kurt Dempster, his Queens, and the entire Catfish Staff, who made us feel like family once again.

**s/ Warren Deemer**

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**TREASURER's REPORT:**

Is it HOT, or WHAT?! I am so thankful that I do not work outside and that air conditioning exists!! I certainly hope that all summer festivals/fairs have had great weather and record attendances.

On June 25, I attended the Erath 4th of July Pageant and saw Dennis and Natalie Mouton's daughter, Leslie, crowned as their new Miss Queen. Congratulations, Leslie, you will indeed be a great representative of your festival!

On July 9, I judged the Cajun French Music and Food Festival Pageants for babies through 13-year-olds in Lake Charles. There were many contestants, and the decisions were hard ones.

Thanks, Mitzie Sanders, for showing us great hospitality!

Thus far, it has been a pretty slow month for me with respect to visiting festivals/fairs. I have been busy learning the Quick Books program for the treasurer's reports, etc. It's not that bad - a lot different from logging in everything by hand on ledger sheets.

Please continue getting your patriotic clothes and ideas ready for the February convention. Also, please volunteer your time and expertise to serve on a convention committee.

Should anyone need help with their events, please feel free to contact me at [bnhoraist@aol.com](mailto:bnhoraist@aol.com) or at 337-893-6328.

**s/ Barbara T. Horaist**  
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**SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

On July 30<sup>th</sup>, Mona & I traveled to Erath. We enjoyed the festivities with Dennis and Natalie Mouton, as well as being with many of the LAFF folks. We enjoyed spending a little time with the board and officers of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. That day, Mona & I also represented LAFF at the wake of Gale Luquette's father in Abbeville. Typical of Louisiana, we walk in knowing about five people, before we leave it's like we've been family for years. Truly a nice family.

I want to thank Rob and Janet Piraro for inviting me to judge the Cajun French Music & Food Festival Pageant. I was very impressed with the contestants in the divisions I judged and thoroughly enjoyed the pageant. As always, Mona & I were made to feel special, as everyone was so hospitable. Thanks for inviting us. If your pageant is in need of a judge just Email

(laffadupre@yahoo .com) or call 985-637-5487.

**s/ Al Dupré**

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**DISTRICT # 5 DIRECTOR**

I would like to report that we had an excellent board meeting in Lake Charles on July 23rd. Congratulations to the Louisiana Peach Festival and welcome back to LAFF.

**s/ Chris Giordano**

**QUEEN of QUEENS**

Let Freedom Ring! While this is the theme for the 2006 LAFF convention, this month's travels were full of patriotic celebrations and shouts of freedom!

I began my travels with the Erath 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival, where I attended the beautiful outdoor mass and witnessed the signing of the queens' contracts.

On July 2, I attended the Greater Mandeville Seafood Festival. I was greeted with warm welcomes by the Association and its President, Mr. Bill Dobson. My family and I were given free passes and VIP backstage passes to that festival. From there, I went to Bogalusa for the Paper Queen's Ball and Activities. I was able to meet the mayor and local firemen, in addition to welcoming the new Paper Queen.

On July 9, I judged the baby Pageant for the Cajun Music Festival in Lake Charles, and that evening, I attended the Cajun Music Miss Pageant. Many

thanks to Mitzie Sanders and Janet and Rob Piraro for their great hospitality. That Monday, I visited Rayne and took part in a “Parade of Royalty” for the Louisiana Bed & Breakfast Association Convention.

On July 16, I served as emcee for the Miss Breaux Bridge Pageant, and then traveled to Litcher for the Miss St. James Sugar Pageant. As always, it was an outstanding production! That night, Mr. Warren Deemer and his wife rented a hotel room for my family and me, and the next day, I judged the Miss & Master Liberty with him in Bridge City. Mr. Warren & Mrs. Tootsie, thanks for the warm hospitality and the breakfast at Shoney’s.

On July 23, I traveled to Lake Charles and attended the quarterly LAFF Board Meeting, where I met up with all of my beloved LAFF Board members and shared a day of business, laughs, and lunch. That evening, I visited Gonzales for the Swamp Pop Music Festival Pageant.

During the last weekend in July, I attended the Miss St. Charles Parish Pageant, and on July 30, I decorated watermelons and “spit a few seeds” at the Watermelon Festival Day Activities. That evening, I trekked over to Ville Platte for the Tournoi Festival Pageant.

This month has been busy with festivals, celebrations, and pageants. I can’t wait to see what next month has in store!

In Queen’s Love,  
s/ Lana Meche



**QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN  
L.A.F.F. HALL OF FAME (Revised 7.05)**

1. Must be a current or past member, living or deceased, of a fair/festival association which belongs to and is in good standing with L.A.F.F.
  2. Must have contributed to L.A.F.F. in terms of (1) service, (2) making a tangible donation and/or (3) providing an unselfish act or deed benefiting L.A.F.F.
  3. Must have belonged to a L.A.F.F. member fair/festival association for a minimum of ten (10) years.
  4. Must be nominated by a current member fair/festival of L.A.F.F.
  5. Unless superseded by the L.A.F.F. Board of Directors, only one new member of L.A.F.F. Hall of Fame will be inducted each year.
- NOMINATING PROCEDURE FOR L.A.F.F. HALL OF FAME**

1. State nominee's name and home address, including zip code.
2. State nominee's fair/festival affiliation (if associate, state business).
3. State nominee's length of membership in L.A.F.F.
4. List nominee's accomplishments in L.A.F.F.
5. List nominee's accomplishments with local fair/festival.
6. State, in 25 words or less, why nominee is a candidate for Hall of Fame honors.
7. State your name and address (including zip code) and telephone number (including area code).
8. If possible, include a photo of the nominee and some newspaper clippings of any events featuring the nominee in a fair/festival-related setting.
9. Send nominations to L.A.F.F. Secretary.
10. Entry Deadline: December 30th.



**POSTER CONTEST RULES**

1. Subject of poster shall be: "My Fair/Festival". Name, location and date of event must be on poster.
2. Any public, private, or parochial school student may participate.
3. Poster will be judged in four categories:
  - A. Grades 1 – 3; B. Grades 4 – 6;
  - C. Grades 7 – 9; D. Grades 10 - 12
4. Poster must be displayed on 14" X 22" white poster paper. (½ sheet of standard poster paper).
5. All work must be vertical. Nothing horizontal will be judged.
6. All lettering must be free-hand. Do not use Stencils.
7. Medium used shall be: Crayon; Water Color; Acrylics, Felt-Tip Pen; or Oil. Neither Cut-outs nor Collage.
8. First, Second, and Third place winners in each category are eligible for state competition.
 

Limit of Twelve (12) posters per event.
9. Posters will be judged and points awarded as follows: Originality 35%; Theme 25%;
 

Neatness 25%; Spelling 15%
10. Poster Prizes:
 

Third Place \$25.00; Second Place \$50.00;

First Place \$75.00;

One Best Overall \$100.00
11. Information cards (5X7 index cards) should include the following:
 

Name; Address; Telephone; Parents;

Category; Fair/Festival

This should be placed on the left top corner of poster in such a way that it can be flipped over from front to back.
12. All posters must be presented by 5:00 PM on Friday of the annual convention.
 

Chairman: Kaye Ladner; LAFF District IV Director; 27280 R. F. Ball Rd.; Franklinton, La; 707438 (985)-848-5937; Fax 985-839-9164; Email: [wpfairlady@yahoo.com](mailto:wpfairlady@yahoo.com)

**August 20**  
**Golden Meadow Firefighters Family Fishing Rodeo Pageant**

**August 25 – 28**  
**Gueydan Duck Festival**

**September 1 – 5**  
**LA Shrimp & Petroleum Festival – Morgan City**

**September 8 – 11**  
**Rayne Frog Festival**



**"Freedom Rings with LAFF"**

**Holiday Inn Select**  
**Baton Rouge**  
**February 16, 17, 18 & 19, 2006**  
**Be sure to bring you red, white & blue!**



**EVENTS TO ATTEND**

**August 4 – 7**  
**Satchmo Summerfest-New Orleans**

**August 12 – 14**  
**Washington Festival De Courtableu**

**August 17 – 21**  
**Delcambre Shrimp Festival**

**August 19 – 20**  
**Cajun French Music-Eunice**