

Press Release: For Immediate Release Date: January 5, 2024

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Location: Acadian Memorial & Museums of the Acadian & African American 121 S. New Market
St. Martinville, LA. 70582

Evangeline Oak Park 337. 394. 2258

For more information. www.acadianmemorial.org (now upgrading~ Call # above)

The Acadian Memorial Foundation Host the Annual 17th Acadian Memorial Heritage Festival/Reception & Wooden Boat *Congrès*

Friday, March 15, 6-8 pm Reception

Saturday, March 16, 9:45 am 3:00 pm/Festival

St. Martinville ~ Since 2006 the Acadian Memorial Heritage Festival has brought attention to the Arrival of the Acadians to Louisiana showcasing a re-enactment of that event by descendants of Acadians arriving at the Evangeline Oak in St. Martinville paddling Cajun pirogues on historic Bayou Teche.

We demonstrate age-old ways of Cajun cooking – jambalaya, *gratons*, *fried catfish*, and boudin with homemade sweets like gateau-sirop dark Cajun coffee, and more. And there's music – Cajun family bands playing traditional instruments and dancing, dancing, dancing! We're a family-friendly event with a loyal following of folks who appreciate our efforts to honor a lifestyle received from generations past.

The festival is important to the community and to the mission of the Foundation which is to maintain the elements of the Acadian Memorial such as the famous Dafford Mural, the Wall of Names, and the Memorial Garden with its replica of the Grand-Pré Deportation Cross. Come support us in preserving our heritage~

Seeking: Crafts, artists, booths onsite. \$25

Calling YOU, Volunteers, Sponsors ~~

Come hungry and thirsty, leave your ice chests and Pets at home.

Wooden Boat Congrès Program

contact Eddie Bienvenu at 337-551-2430 or ebienvenu1960@yahoo.com

The **Acadian Memorial Festival Adds the Wooden Boat Congrès** on **Saturday March 16, 2024**. It will again feature antique wooden pirogues, Putt Putts, and other historic remembrances of the "Old Times" in the bayous and swamps of South Louisiana. **All wooden boats and old motors are welcome, for either static or active display.**

- All boats can dock, or be displayed, on the green area adjacent to the Evangeline Oak.
- We invite boaters to demonstrations of hoop-net setting, log towing, and moss gathering. If you can participate in these please let us know.

The “Parade of the Putt Putts” begins at 10:30. Line up at 10:15 near the landing at the end of Old Market Street, south/downstream of the Evangeline Oak.