



# S★M★A★R★T

## Special Military Active Recreational Travelers



## S★M★A★R★T Cajuns Y'all Come Muster

Poche's RV Park, Breau Bridge, LA

April 21 - 26, 2024

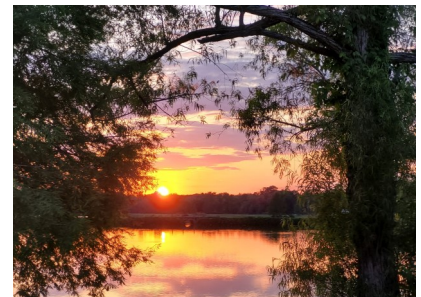
Host: Kathy Padgett



The Campground



The Cajuns' signature muster, Y'all Come, hosted 35 SMART members and guests at Poche's RV Park and Fish-in-Camp in Breau Bridge, LA. The campsites sat on two of the four beautiful lakes where the campers enjoyed the sunsets, tried their luck fishing, or simply visited.



The Activities



The Cajuns stayed entertained at the Y'all Come starting with crafts on Monday morning. Kathy Letsinger and Karen deBlieux demonstrated how to create decorative oyster shells.

*Pictured right: Lana, Paula, Melody, Linda, Sally, and Rhonda.*



On Tuesday, we carpoled 20 miles to Opelousas to tour the Tony Chachere's Creole Foods plant where we learned about its history, toured the packing plant, and bought lots of goodies in the souvenir shop.





## More Activities



After the Tony Chachere's tour, we drove to the Louisiana Orphan Train Museum. The museum director, who is a descendant of one of the orphan riders, gave us a complete history of the riders who came to the area from the New York Foundling Hospital from 1854 to 1929. Opelousas was one of the many stops in Louisiana for trains bringing orphans to be fostered or adopted. The clothes and artifacts in the museum were incredible. Most of us were very unfamiliar with that part of Louisiana history.



Joe and Bo



Rhonda, Gloria, Melody, and Bo

There were the usual muster activities - Beanbag Baseball, Card Bingo, and 50-50 Raffles all run by Joe Padberg, a Silent Auction organized by Fan Disher, Flag Retirement led by Bo deBlieux, and lots of card playing, talking, and laughing.



Paul



Tina and Joe

Everyone one wanted to buy a \$20 arm's length of raffle tickets especially when they got to use Paul Thomas' arms!!!! Kathy Letzinger won the Wednesday night raffle, and excitingly, our newest Cajun member won the Thursday night raffle. Welcome Tina and Glenn Hebert.





## The Food



The food at Cajun Musters is always phenomenal, and Y'all Come outdoes all others which started with the usual potluck Sunday night. Monday night, Karen and Bo deBlieux's son, David, travelled from Baton Rouge to cook a huge jambalaya containing four kinds of meat. Tuesday night, Wayne Lam boiled crawfish with all the trimmings and lots of help from the guys. Wednesday night was just as good with Doug Letsinger frying catfish again with help from the guys. Kathy Padgett, with help from the ladies, made sure we had all the sides for each of the meals, Julio Nieves provided his special margheritas, and all the campers supplied appetizers and desserts. So no one went hungry!



David and Bo cooking jambalaya



Bo, Doug, Brennan, and Wayne frying fish



Bill and Wayne boiling crawfish



Lonnie, Wayne, Sally, and Cheryl



Kathy, Fan, and Linda



Julio and Kathy





## Future Musters



**Cajuns Tailgating Muster:** The Cajuns will host this unique muster three days before the Regional Muster at Sun Outdoors New Orleans Northshore from November 8 - 10, 2024. Since the LSU vs Alabama football game is that Saturday, we will park two or more campers awning to awning and tailgate between them with everyone supplying his/her tailgating food specialty. This muster will also give us the opportunity to finalize the Regional Muster plans.

**Central Regional Muster:** The Cajuns are hosting the Central Regional Muster at Sun Outdoors New Orleans Northshore in Robert, LA, on November 11 - 15, 2024. Johnny outlined the various meals and events - Karen and Bo deBlieux will coordinate the jambalaya meal, Wayne Lam will be in charge of the shrimp boil, and Doug Letsinger will man the fish fry. Each of them will form a squad to help with cooking and supply the sides. To volunteer, contact Karen deBlieux, Wayne Lam, or Kathy Letzinger. A trip to the World War II Museum in New Orleans is planned, and Brennan Disher and Bo deBlieux will offer 3-hour pontoon boat rides down the nearby Tangipahoa River.



To sign up for these Musters, you must:

1. Fill in the online registration form on the SMART website
2. Send a check to Bo deBlieux for your registration fees
3. Call the campground at 833-999-3423 and make your reservations



A big thanks goes out to

Kathy Padgett



for hosting this year's Y'all Come Muster

and coordinating fantastic food and activities.



Newsletter written by Fan Disher  
with thanks for pictures by Diane Pepperell  
and Paul Thomas. 5/14/2024



A good time was had by all!