**2017 LA Smoked Meat Festival**

**Vinade Boucee’ Inc.**

**1226 Huckleberry Lane**

**Ville Platte, LA 70586**

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Dear Friends of the Smoked Meat Festival,

We are excited and honored to be hosting the **25th Annual *Le Festival de la Viande Boucanee*,** which will be celebrated this year on **Friday, June 2, 2017 and Saturday, June 3, 2017. You’ve asked and we’ve listened,** so please mark your calendars and tell all your family and friends about our new festival dates. This Big Event will kick off on **Thursday night June 1, 2017** with carnival rides and the children’s pageant. The carnival will be open from Thursday thru Saturday with pay one price bracelets available each day. The carnival area is free to the public, for all to enjoy!

The Smoked Meat Festival Board has been working on a new plan to utilize the beautiful Pavilion area for the 2017 Festival. This is a big move for us but we are anxious to use this gorgeous facility. The Pavilion will provide shade, protection and big fans to keep our friends and visitors comfortable for this year’s Festival. The Pavilion is a perfect place to house our bands, dance floor and event activities. It’s a Win-Win for everyone this year!

Also in keeping with traditions, the Board and its volunteers are working on a program to acknowledge and honor our area military veterans from all military branches at the Opening Ceremony. The Opening Ceremony will be celebrated **at noon on Saturday, June 3rd**. We have veterans who will be preforming a tribute dedicated to the fallen soldiers and each year we invite a guest speaker who has served his or her country to enlighten us with his or her heart felt memories of their patriotic service, for the freedoms, which we enjoy in this community every day. We also offer a hospitality room for our veterans to gather in and share their stories.

The Championship Smoked Meat Cook-off offers teams the opportunity to compete for the coveted title of Grand Champion with creative recipes that incorporate the unique Cajun tradition of smoking meat. Our serious food connoisseurs light their pits around daylight to get a head start on the competition. The Festival has on average, over a hundred dishes that are judged in both the Amateur and Professional Smoked Meat categories. The awards ceremony will be held at **3:00 pm on Saturday, June 3rd**.

This year’s musical entertainment, starts on **Friday evening, June 2nd,** with Wicked Waters followed by Hit N Run for the best in Classic Rock. Saturday, June 3rd’s musical line up is currently in the works. For updates on this year’s festival, please follow us on Facebook at “LA Smoked Meat Festival” and or our webpage at www.lasmokedmeatfestival.com.

In the last two years, we have worked together with the Ville Platte Lions Club to continue the traditions of the Smoked Meat Festival! Monies from our efforts have even allowed us to contribute to the Louisiana Wounded Warriors program. Please take time to read over the following pages as you consider how you and your organization might be a supporter of this community-oriented event. Your sponsorship is deeply appreciated and will contribute to the success of our community festival. We greatly appreciate your consideration and look forward to working with you!

 Yours truly,

 Renee Brown

 2017 LA Smoked Meat President