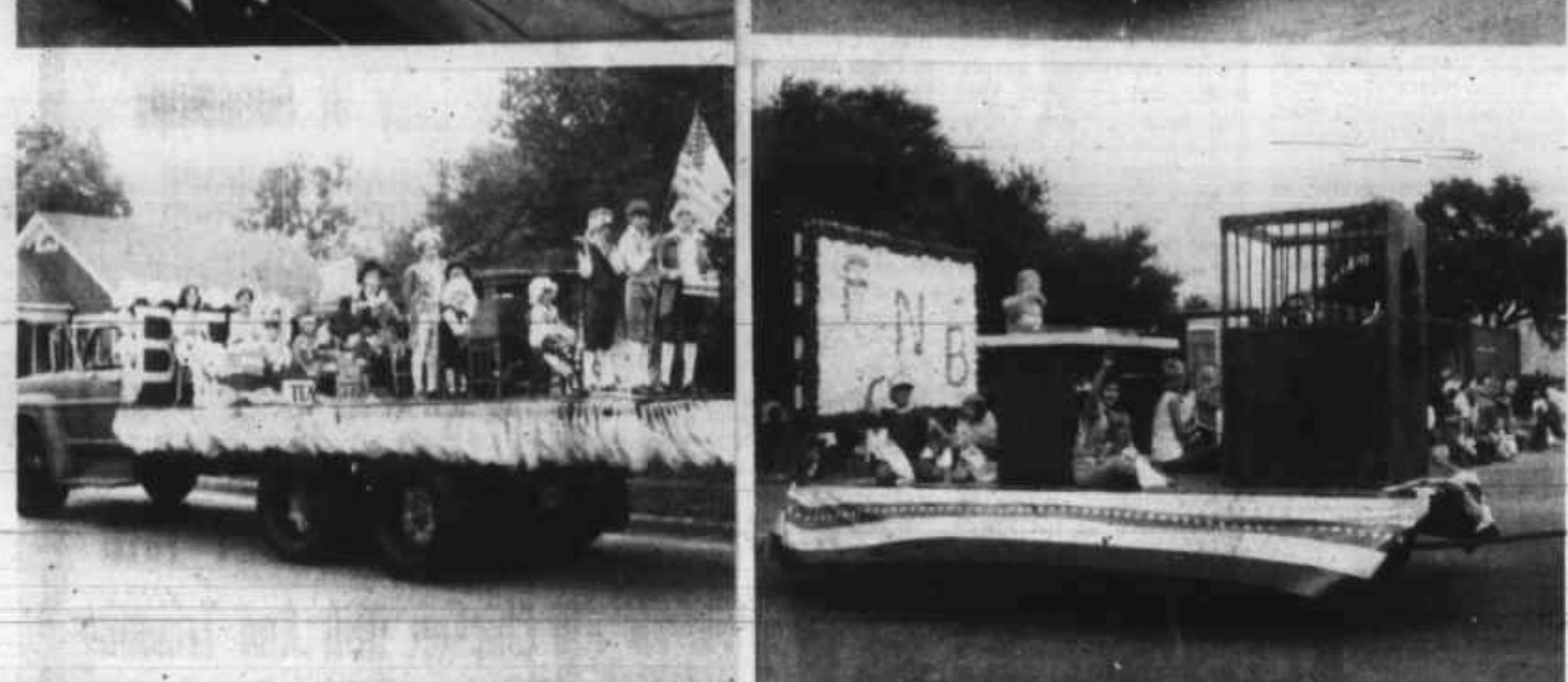
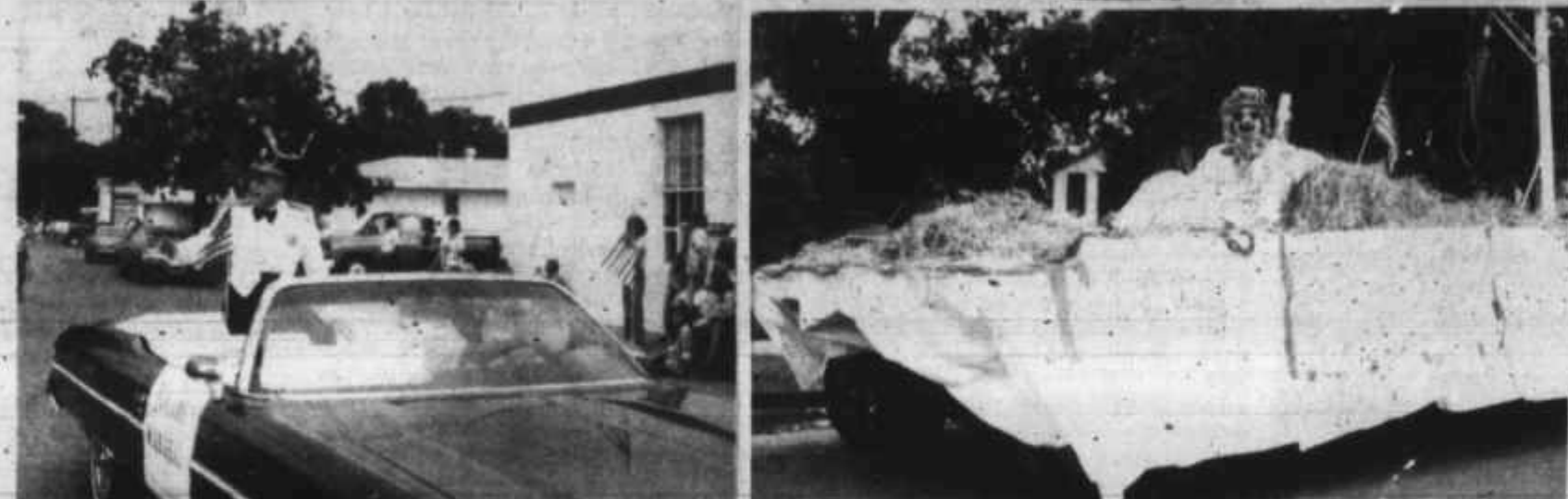


Many Outstanding Parade Entries



EAGLE LAKE'S "BEST PARADE EVER", the "Spirit of '76" parade heralding the opening of a gala two-day celebration of the Bicentennial of the founding of the United States of America included these outstanding entries. Thousands witnessed the spectacular parade, top together through the cooperative efforts of Hill Appell, Eagle Lake's Bicentennial Chairman; Joe Duncan, president of the Chamber of Commerce; and Billie Jo, Joe N. Frazar, Jr. (left), parade marshal.

(Pappy) Seaborn (winner of the Best Civic Entry Trophy), John Deere Women's group (winner of the Best Individual Entry Trophy); second from top right, the Rice Package Store's comical float with Mrs. Alvin Kohlefeld on the float; next to bottom right, The First National Bank's entry with Gene Brown in the cashier's cage and tellers Barbara Miller, Shirley Seaborn and Charlotte Broschke, and children of employees (winner of the Best Commercial Entry Trophy); and bottom right, Eagle Lake Implement Company's float with a garden tractor corps which delighted spectators with precision maneuvers in the nine garden tractors (awarded an Honorable Mention by the judges). Hiding the tractors were: Donna Stephens, Cynthia Sunderman, Mary Jo Spunabel, Gwen Payne, Carol Wick, Betty Kana, Linda Sommer, Doris Brisco, and Lynne Spunabel. See next page for more photos from the parade.

BICENTENNIAL EVENTS HERE ARE A TRIBUTE TO NATION'S FOUNDING

(Continued from page 5)

ber of Commerce members, Boy Scouts of Troop 334, their leaders, Eagle Lake firemen, and the city police assisted in keeping the lines moving so that there was a very minimum of delay. The staff of caterer Johnny Mikeska of Columbus did an outstanding job in dishing out the delicious foods.

Memorial Service

Sunday evening, an impressive memorial service and musical sponsored by the Eagle Lake Ministerial Alliance, was held at Eagle Lake Middle School football field; and following this the two days of exciting activities came to an end with a fireworks display at Eagle Lake Airport. Eagle Lake firemen assisted local officers, chamber of commerce members and the Eagle Lake Jaycees, who handled shooting of the fireworks, in staging the event. The fireworks were purchased through contributions from local organizations and from a portion of the proceeds from the booths in the downtown area on Saturday evening.

Arts and Crafts Show

The Farris Unit with tie-line facilities in the restored historic Ramsey Hotel, was the setting for the Arts and Crafts Show from 12 noon to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Hundreds came to view the exhibits, to make purchases, and to view the beautiful restoration work completed to date by the William L. Farris family, owners of The Farris 1912.

Thanks Go To One and All!!!

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce, through the Bicentennial committee, and its officers and members, extends a sincere thank you to everyone who had a hand in making this the "finest birthday party" ever.

Special mention went to the Parade Marshal, Billie Jo N. Frazar, Jr., visiting dignitaries, Major General and Mrs. Kenneth A. Kuykendall of Houston and Congressman J. J. Pickle, United States Representative from the Tenth Congressional District, to the Kuykendalls and Mrs. Frazar for assistance in judging; to all who had entries or participated in any way in the parade and especially the out of town entries and the Rice High School and Eagle Lake Middle School bands and their directors; the City Council for permitting use of the downtown area for the activities; to the Highway Department for its cooperation; to city, county and state officers for assistance with the traffic; to the city's sanitation department and city council members and officers and others for aid in cleaning up; to all who sponsored food, drink, entertainment or educational booths; to the Farris 1912 for use of its facilities for the Arts and Crafts Show; to Eagle Lake Recreation Center for use of its picnic facilities; to the Volunteer Firemen for their valuable assistance at all events; to the Ministerial Alliance and the Community Choir for the fine memorial service and musical; to the Rice High School for use of its facilities; to those who aided with sound systems at the musical; to the Jaycees for assistance with the fireworks display; to the Boy Scouts for their help; and last but certainly not least, thank you to the hundreds who attended each of the events and cooperated so splendidly in making this a historic occasion for our city and for our nation.

Sugar Refinery Marker



THE LAKESIDE SUGAR REFINERY



This is the Official Texas Historical Marker now erected on the site of the former Lakeside Sugar Refinery on Lakeside Drive, 1.3 miles south of Eagle Lake. The marker was sponsored by the County Historical Commission and proposed by David R. Winterman.

Sugar Refinery Marker Dedicated

Impressive Ceremony For Marker on Lakeside Drive Sat.

An impressive dedication of the Official Texas Historical Marker for the historic Lakeside Sugar Refinery was held at 4:00 p.m. Saturday, July 3rd on Lakeside Drive, 1.3 miles south of Eagle Lake on the site of the former sugar refinery.

The dedication program was sponsored by the Colorado County Historical Commission and the Eagle Lake Bicentennial Committee.

Mrs. James G. Hopkins, chairman of the County Historical Commission, presided at the event calling to mind the importance of the occasion. "It is right and fitting that proper recognition be given to such events in the history of our country," she stated.

Mrs. Raymond Waddell led the gathering of over 100 persons in singing "America" with a local musical group. "The Refinery" providing accompaniment. They also rendered musical selections prior to and after the dedication program.

Boy Scouts of Troop 334, assisted by Mike Duarte and Louis Schorlemmer, presented the colors after which Postmaster Robert S. Martin, also active in the Historical Commission, led in the Pledge to the Flag.

The Rev. George Welch, rector of Christ Episcopal Church, gave the invocation. Following was an address of welcome by Mayor Elmer A. Stigues who noted that the world is full of interesting history, adding that this generation and future generations learn from history of the past; and from history being made on the site of the refinery, which is this nation's founding.

Special Guests

David R. Winterman, who headed the effort to get the Official Historical Marker, made comments on the Lakeside Sugar Refinery in which his grandfather and father had an interest. He pointed out the sites of the various aspects of the sugar refinery, the property being purchased by the William Waddell family and now owned by the Waddells and Brummers and staged out a red barn as the only remaining visible segment of the refinery, which was William Waddell. In 1898 he and several men from Eagle Lake built the Cane Belt Railroad to take cane to the mill. Later extended, the profitable line was purchased by Santa Fe Railroad in 1902.

"The success of the railroad encouraged Donovan to build a refining plant for this area. Lakeside Sugar Refinery, erected at this site about 1902, processed up to 1,000 tons of cane each day and produced 5,000,000 pounds of refined sugar each year. A train called the "Whangdoodle" carried cane from nearby fields to the refinery. By 1910 Lakeside Mill was one of the largest

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Lakeside Sugar Refinery Marker Dedicated

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was once one of the largest in the country. Winterman also told the group that the boarding house formerly on the sugar refinery site was moved to the present site of the Eagle Lake Rod and Gun Club on the lake and is still being used as a club facility there. It was the first home of the O. J. Winterman family on its coming to this community.

He introduced special guests and extended thanks to those who aided in the project, especially to the Ted Brummer family for use of their property for the dedication site; to the Highway Department maintenance crew for erection of the marker.

Bruce Waddell spoke briefly in behalf of his mother, Mrs. William Waddell, recounting some of his experiences with the sugar refinery property. Mrs. Justin Smith recalled remembering the refinery (her great grandfather Gamaliel Good was one of the founders of Eagle Lake) and her (Pappy) Seaborn, one of the community's pioneer residents, spoke on his reflections on the sugar industry; Bowie Duncan of Egypt community, one of the early producers of sugar cane in this area at the time the refinery was at its peak, also recalled memories of the sugar industry. He remembered having several car loads of cane on the tracks at the refinery when it went into receivership and he was paid off in sugar.

Others from the Colorado County and Wharton County Historical Commissions were also recognized.

Dedication Speaker

Mrs. Hopkins introduced Miss Kathryn McBee, a member of the County Historical Commission, who made the official dedication remarks. Miss McBee's father, the late W. E. McBee, once worked in the sugar mill. She has spent much time in researching this and other historical projects for this area.

Miss McBee reviewed the history of the sugar refinery from its founding between Jan. 1, 1901 and August 31, 1902 and its influence by the development of the Cane Belt Railroad (later purchased by Santa Fe) from this sugar cane producing area to Bay City. Due to the 1909 storm, an early freeze in December of 1911 which wiped out half of the cane crop, and legislation prohibiting the use of convict labor on private property, the sugar refinery finally went into receivership in April of 1912 noted the speaker. The plant was later dismantled and shipped to Jamaica. A complete history of the sugar refinery, written by Miss McBee, was published last week in the Bicentennial edition of the Headlight.

Concluding the impressive ceremony, Miss McBee, assisted by Mrs. Hopkins and Mr. Winterman, unveiled the marker and it now stands as a monument to a historic period in the life of Eagle Lake community.

Color Guard

After the Continental color guard, provided by the 75th Maneuver Area Command of Houston, came the honor band from Rice High School; and the parade marshal in a convertible provided by Lake Motors, Inc.

Interpersed along the mile long parade were marching units, beautiful floats, individual entries, commercial entries, units by local organizations, and horsemen.

The Oriental Band and Float from Arabia Temple Shrine of Houston added greatly to the color and entertainment of the parade. Music was also provided by the Rice High School Band and the Eagle Lake Middle School Band.

Many Floats

Floats were entered by the Colorado County Federal Savings and Loan Association in Columbus; the United Methodist Church; Stevenson's Restaurant; and the Rice High School Band.

In Texas, with about 100 employees, it stimulated the local economy and attracted able businessmen, such as Rudolph Winterman and son, Oscar J. Winterman.

"After its best season in 1904-09, the sugar industry declined. A state law forbidding use of convict labor raised production costs. A tropical storm damaged the refinery, and an early freeze destroyed much of the sugar crop. Sold in 1913, the Lakeside Refinery was dismantled and rebuilt in Jamaica, (1976)."

Fireworks Attract Hundreds

Hundreds of vehicles filled with interested onlookers gathered at the Eagle Lake Airport for the final event of the two-day Bicentennial celebration, the firework display, when dozens of blasts such as the one shown above brought oohs and aahs from the large crowd on hand.

Outstanding Musical Memorial Service

CHOIR PRESENTS 'I LOVE AMERICA'

The Bicentennial observance came to an inspiring conclusion Sunday evening with a memorial service and musical presented under the sponsorship of the Eagle Lake Ministerial Alliance at the Middle School football field.

A backdrop, complete with patriotic decor and an elaborate sound system designed and installed by Chuck Stephens and Clarence Klekar and others, added emphasis to this important program.

The Rev. David Edgar, pastor of Colly Memorial United Methodist Church, and the president of the Ministerial Alliance, gave the opening comments of welcome. The Rev. J. Melburn Sibley, pastor of First Baptist Church, gave the invocation.

The Rev. Paul Wallace, pastor of the Liasie United Methodist Church, presented an inspiring patriotic meditation, discussing the genesis of America. He noted that "it is really the people who are the genius of America," and went on to tell of the coming of many races, colors and creeds to this land of the free. He praised the pioneers of this country, many of whom gave their lives in its development and in its protection, as "people true to the best and noblest that they knew, steady in storm and stress."

At the conclusion of the meditation he called on the large gathering assembled for the service to join in paying homage to the Flag, to Our Country, and to offer respect to those who have died in behalf of their country. Boy Scouts of Troop 334 presided at the lowering of the flag to half mast while Wayne Pirtle sounded "Taps" on the organ. A moment of silent prayer followed.

"I Love America"

An inspiring musical, "I Love America" by John W. Peterson and Don Wyrten, was presented by the Community Choir under the direction of Dr. Raymond Thomas. The musical was divided into three parts, "Patriotism for America... our history"; "Praise for America"; and "Prayer for America... our plea."

Mrs. Laurina Matthews was pianist and Mrs. Clara May Nash was organist and the Rev. Mr. Edgar served as narrator. His daughter, pretty little Miss Marie Edgar, participated in a portion of the narration. Others speaking were Frank Davidson, Mrs. Lynda Appel, Elizabeth Boothe, Gail Bradshaw, Kathy Frybert, Sharon Harberger, Ora Lue Jones, Ann Matthews, Olivia Maxie, Alyne Morgan, Martha Sibley, Mildred Wallace, Marion Woodridge, Harry Anderson, Frank Davidson, Lee Harberger, Draper Stephens, Glen Sunderman, George Welsh, Jr., Neillie Etheridge, Maxine Griffith, Robin McLanahan, Ja Nene Richter, Carol Ripper, Mary Suedo, Cynthia Sunderman, Jo Jo Thomas, Arlene Thyssen, Randa Wegenhoff, Louise Van Heeder, Everett Anderson, Anton Dwyka, Guy Key, Bill Virmas, Walter Von Heeder.

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Parade's Grand-Prize Winner



The Grand Prize Trophy in the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce Bicentennial Parade, held last Saturday, went to the Arabia Temple Shrine's Oriental Band and Float shown above. The Shrine's, in colorful oriental garb, provided some of the most outstanding color, music and entertainment in the "Spirit of '76" parade.

Lynda Appel and Everett Anderson, soloists were Walter Von Heeder, Lee Harberger, Mrs. Gail Bradshaw, Harry Brings and Mrs. Gay Anderson. Comprising the choir were: Gay Anderson, Linda Anderson, Mrs. Lynda Appel, Elizabeth Boothe, Gail Bradshaw, Kathy Frybert, Sharon Harberger, Ora Lue Jones, Ann Matthews, Olivia Maxie, Alyne Morgan, Martha Sibley, Mildred Wallace, Marion Woodridge, Harry Anderson, Frank Davidson, Lee Harberger, Draper Stephens, Glen Sunderman, George Welsh, Jr., Neillie Etheridge, Maxine Griffith, Robin McLanahan, Ja Nene Richter, Carol Ripper, Mary Suedo, Cynthia Sunderman, Jo Jo Thomas, Arlene Thyssen, Randa Wegenhoff, Louise Van Heeder, Everett Anderson, Anton Dwyka, Guy Key, Bill Virmas, Walter Von Heeder.

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Scenes From Eagle Lake's Finest Parade



HERE ARE SOME SCENES from Eagle Lake's outstanding Bicentennial Parade witnessed by the biggest crowd ever to watch a parade here last Saturday. Top left is the float entered by Meads' at Travis Lake, Major Renge and Johnny Praxak, a depiction of the Boston Tea Party, designed and made by their daughters, Debbie and Becky Renge, Rhonda and Connie Praxak, and Anna Wegenhoff (winner of the Most Outstanding Float Trophy; second from top left, the Central Realty and Eagle Barber Shop on the reviewing stand were: Major General and Mrs. Kuykendall, General and Mrs. Frazar, Congressman J. J. Pickle, County Judge Lester J. Cranek, Chamber of Commerce president and Mrs. Joe Duncan, Mayor and Mrs. Elmer A. Stigues, and Mr. and Mrs. David R. Winterman, Oscar Miller was narrator and introduced all entries. He was assisted by Mrs. Miller.

Top right, the beautiful MAYC (Mexican American Youth Council) entry honoring the MAYC Queen Miss Sylvia Burela who is in front being surrounded by Arturo Arriano, others on the float are David Renge, Debbie Renge, Sandra Renge and Erlinda Salinas (awarded an Honorable Mention by the judges); second from top right, the colorful "We the People" float by Colorado County Federal Savings and Loan Association; (Columbus; next to bottom, right, the founding of Mead's old-timey John Wesley was depicted by the youth of the Colly Memorial United Methodist Church with this entry (winner of the Best Children's Entry Trophy); and bottom right, children of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church are shown in this pretty float dedicated to the blessed Virgin Mary.

THANK YOU.

Sincere thanks to every one who assisted in any way in making our Bicentennial Celebration, July 3rd and 4th an outstanding success.

The cooperation of every one was truly an inspiration.

EAGLE LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Rock Is. Fire
Dept. Benefit
BBQ July 18

The Rock Island Fire Department will sponsor a benefit barbecue at the Rock Island Community Center on Sunday, July 18th and citizens in the area are invited to make plans to attend.

The barbecued chicken and sausage dinner will be served beginning at 11 a.m. A dessert and drink will be included with the meal. Tickets are on sale with Rock Island firemen at \$2.75 for adults and \$2.00 for children under 12 years of age, or you may purchase tickets at the door on July 18th.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL
Bernardo Volunteer Fire
Department
CHICKEN BAR-B-Q
Mentz Parish Hall
SUNDAY, JULY 18
Serving Starts at 12 Noon
Adults \$2.00 Children Under \$1.50
PLATES TO GO !!
Entertainment For Young & Old
PLENTY OF COLD DRINKS
Music Until 7 P. M.