



Question 2: What is happening in the following picture?



Answer 2: The yellow, rubber ducks are racing to the finish line during the Annual Thibodeauxville “Duck Race!”

Congratulations, William J. Royster who was the **FIRST** to correctly answer, “This week’s trivia picture was taken during the annual Thibodeauxville Duck race in historic Bayou Lafourche.” Thibodaux residents have a great sense of humor as shown by some of the very amusing responses we received including: “The answer to trivia question #2 is the Thibodeauxville Duck Race. I’m pretty sure my duck came in 26th in the photo finish, but she broke her wing in the cool down lap and we had to put her down.” (*Thank you, Mr. Arceneaux, for that answer - which gave all of us a much-needed laugh!*)

The “Duck Race” takes place during the Annual Thibodeauxville Fall Festival. According to the Thibodaux Chamber of Commerce website:

“Thibodeauxville originated in 1992 in an effort to reacquaint the community with Thibodaux’s beautiful historic downtown area. Since its inception, Thibodeauxville has grown from 13 arts, crafts, and food vendors and a few hundred festival goers to 150 vendors and 15,000 participants!

The arts, crafts, and music festival is held on the second Saturday of November each year and attracts visitors from as far away as Florida. In addition to the original arts and crafts and delicious Cajun food, Thibodeauxville now features several stages of continuous live musical entertainment. Local entertainers are featured as well as regionally known

musical artists. Local residents as well as thousands of visitors to the city attend the festival. There is no charge for admission.

The festival opens at 8:30 a.m. and concludes at dark. Participants enjoy a variety of activities for the entire family, including our famous “Thibodeauxville Duck Race” in beautiful Bayou Lafourche and a car show featuring hot rods, trucks, antique vehicles, and more.”

The 2009 Thibodeauxville Fall Festival will be held on November 14th
(For Sponsorship applications, go to <http://www.thibodauxchamber.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/04/t-ville-app-09.pdf>).

Once again The Ducks will “STORM” Bayou Lafourche!

Rhonda Dempster with the Thibodaux Chamber of Commerce graciously provides the details of the “Duck Race” She explains,

“The ducks have numbers written on their bottoms and “Duck” tickets are sold for \$5 each. (*We begin selling tickets about August and finish selling them the day of the festival.*) The ticket holder for the Duck placing 1st wins \$1,000.00, the ticket holder for the Duck placing 2nd wins \$500.00, the ticket holder for the Duck placing 3rd wins \$250.00, and the ticket holder for the duck placing 4th wins \$100.00!

“2009 will be the 17th year for Thibodeauxville....In the beginning, there were only a few hundred ducks, but as the years went on we increased the amount of ducks. We (now) sell 1,500 tickets AND **we sell out each year!** People really enjoy the event. (*Once, we had an out-of-town- visitor in Thibodaux for an NSU football game visiting Thibodeauxville. He bought a duck ticket, returned to his hotel room, made a poster, then returned to stand on the bridge and cheered his duck on during the race!.....Now how cute is that?!*)

The race begins in Bayou Lafourche at the weir (behind Walgreens) and ends at the bridge on Canal Blvd. Fraternities assist members of the committee with the “Duck Dumping,” (*See Photo 1 below*). Reliable Offshore, a Company from Houma, provides the booms that keep the ducks on track and the Lafourche Parish Sheriff Office provides water patrol to retrieve the ducks for us.

(See the following pages for a photographic journey of the Duck Race. Apologies, in advance, for the ridiculous photo captions!)



Photo 1: The brave, rubber duck participants (sort of) agree to be dumped at the weir into Bayou Lafourche.



Photo 2: The quickest and strongest Duck Warriors begin to jockey for position.



Photo 3: The not-so-turbulent waters of Bayou Lafourche quickly weed out the winners from the losers as the top contenders begin making their way to the finish line.

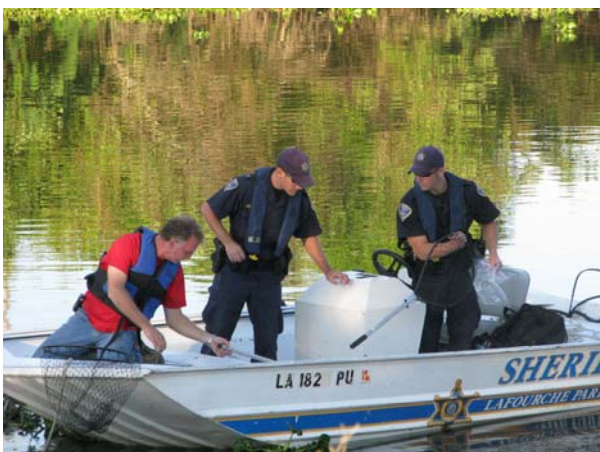


Photo 4: The winning Duck is quickly scooped up by the Sheriff's Office. His/Her number is carefully recorded before he/she is checked for imaginary injuries.



Photo 5: The other weary, disappointed ducks anxiously await their turn to be “scooped to safety” by Deputies.

What happens AFTER the race, you ask/wonder?

Rhonda states, “The following day, the committee members meet at the Chamber of Commerce office, clean all the ducks, count them to make sure none are missing and repack them for the next year's race.”

For more information on Thibodeauxville Fall Festival or any other Chamber of Commerce events, visit the Chambers website at www.thibodauxchamber.com.

Thanks to all who answered this week's
Thibodaux's Trivia Question.
Mr. William J. Royster...
You are Thibodaux's Trivia KING
for the next two weeks!

*(See previous trivia questions and answers:
<http://www.ci.thibodaux.la.us/departments/mayor/trivia.asp>)*