RI Convention-Slidell Home Host Dinner Project Plan

• **Purpose:** The Rotary International 2011 Convention will be held in New Orleans. A fun part of all RI conventions is one night of "Home Hosts". The home host night for this convention will be on May 23, 2011. What is Home Host: An entertaining event sponsored by Rotary Clubs in the immediate area for the benefit of Rotarians attending the Convention.

• **Background:** In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Rotary Districts, Rotary Clubs and individual Rotarians from throughout the world came to the aid of people in Slidell and Southern Mississippi. The Rotary Clubs of Slidell Northshore, Slidell, Picayune and Stennis Space Center have been designated one of the Convention's Home Host. As such we are taking advantage of the Home Host venue to thank visiting Rotarians for their outstanding assistance toward rebuilding our area.

• **General Plan:** The home host event, entitled "Cajun Night on the Bayou", will be a special evening for our Rotary visitors. The event will be at the lovely home of Bill and Sharon Newton which is located on Bayou Liberty (35140 Garden Dr Slidell, La 70460-5808), a fitting place for this gathering. We will have Louisiana food, Cajun music and dancing, bayou boat rides, local artist and most of all, fellowship. The visiting Rotarians will be transported by passenger bus from their hotels in New Orleans to Slidell.

• **Number of expected guest:** Visitors - 150 Rotarians from hosting clubs. The number of Rotarians from hosting clubs will be 50. The Committee and their spouses are in addition to above. The total 221. All Hosting Rotarians are expected to work.

• **The costs for Rotarians and their spouses is $25.00 each.**
Brochure depicting projects that utilized Rotary money sent from all over the world.
Additional projects which used part of the $2.5 million sent by Rotarians to rebuild
Cajun Night on the Bayou

2011 Rotary International Convention
Slide, Louisiana
May 23, 2011
Picayune Rotarians preparing for the arrival of guests from the Rotary International Convention in New Orleans
Host Sharron Newton (left) laughs while a St Tammany Deputy Sheriff playfully “arrests” the M.C. Johnny Crow of Slidell. Though not from Louisiana, Crow enjoys speaking “Cajun” to the arriving guests.
As many as 25 Party boat rides 20 minutes long on beautiful Bayou Liberty were enjoyed by the guests. Security was provided by the St Tammany Parish Sheriff.
Picayune Hosts demonstrate the fine art of peeling and eating shrimp and crawfish to the many novices from around the country and world.

The Pirogue full of Hot and Spicy Louisiana boiled delicacies was a big hit to the generous Rotarian Guests brave enough to indulge.
The good times roll,

And roll!
And roll, through the summer evening under the Live oaks of historic “Bayou Bend”
Right next to the Pirogue was watering hole #2, manned by experienced Rotarian servers. Then on to the next food line and to catch some Cajun Music.
Other local foods such as jambalaya, red beans and rice, and potato salad was topped off with some good home made bread pudding and blue bell ice cream.
Picayune Rotarians host the main tent area where food, Cajun music and refreshments were enjoyed. Guests also bought Cajun Night theme T-shirts and shopped work displayed by local artists in tents scattered on the scenic grounds.
A Few of the Picayune Rotarian Host Attendees after clean up