## PRESS RELEASE

## 2017 CYPRESS SAWMILL MUSEUM FESTIVAL

**Patterson, LA January 11, 2017:** It is with a great deal of sadness that we must report to you that the committee of volunteers that have given so much of their lives to put on a family oriented festival for the past 25 years, has made the most difficult decision to suspend the Festival for 2017.

Our Festival's purpose was to help fund the Cypress Sawmill Museum and to provide good wholesome family fun for the citizens of the Tri City Area. Unfortunately, Mother Nature has bombarded our fun for the last three years with rainouts leading to severely decreasing revenues. We have not been able to provide any resources to the museum for several years. That, along with an economy in our Parish that is in severe decline and an apathetic society that is unwilling to volunteer to help, we have had to make this most difficult decision.

We sincerely wish to thank the many donors and volunteers that have made our Festival a success for so many years. There are many that have worked hundreds of hours without recognition for many years and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

We encourage you to visit the Wedell-Williams Memorial Aviation and Cypress Sawmill Museum and to support the museum with your kind donations through its various fundraisers.

The future is bright and no one knows exactly what it will bring. If our economy blooms once again and volunteers come forward, perhaps there will be a time and place to resurrect our dear Festival. Until then...May God Bless You, Our Festival, St. Mary Parish, the State of Louisiana and the United States of America.