

Press Release

2011 Blessing of the Fleet

The 43rd annual "Blessing of the Fleet" will be held Sunday May 1st, at 2:00 on the Clear Creek Channel, along the Kemah Boardwalk. Colorful, decorated shrimp boats and pleasure craft will file past the Cadillac "Authentic Mexican Restaurant" where they will be blessed by the officiating priest and minister.

Bring your family and friends down to the Kemah Boardwalk to witness the festive boats and colorful crews as they parade down the channel in celebration of this time honored tradition. Whether you enter your boat or just enjoy the parade, this is one event that you won't want to miss!

Along with the Blessing, the third annual 2011 "Texas Shrimp Gumbo Cook-Off Contest" takes place Saturday April 30, (8AM – 8PM) in the Kemah Lighthouse District, behind the Kemah Visitors Center. Entry is Free for spectators. Entry fees for contestants are only \$40.00. All contestants will be provided with 5 lbs. of Texas "Wild Caught" headless, shell-on shrimp to be used in their contest recipe. Teams can enter as late as the day of the event, but advance registration is preferred. Trophies will be awarded for First, Second and Third place. Entry forms are available at the locations below.

Another event that will be going on this same weekend in Kemah is the "Kemah Blue Grass Music Festival at the Blessing of the Fleet" on Friday April 29 - Sunday May 1st. Come down and enjoy live Blue Grass music in a family friendly atmosphere.

Whether you want to have your boat blessed in the parade, put a team together for the shrimp gumbo cook-off, listen to live Blue Grass music, or just come down for the weekend and enjoy the fun, make Kemah your destination for the first weekend in May.

For additional information or to download and entry form, visit: www.kemah.net or you can pick up one in person at the following locations: Captain Henry's Seafood Market (281-334-2275), Kemah Boardwalk Marina (281-334-2284), Kemah Visitor Center (281-334-3181), or Kemah City Hall (281- 334-1611).

For additional information contact: Tom Hults - Chairman (713-545-5246).