

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
Sandy Price, Executive Director
904-206-0756 | sandy@shrimpfestival.com

Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival Is A Whale of An Event!

FERNANDINA BEACH, FL. – All hands on deck! Visit Fernandina Beach on beautiful Amelia Island on April 30 through May 2, 2010 for the 47th Annual Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival and treat yourself to a feast of the sea and lively entertainment in this historic seaport village – the birthplace of the modern shrimping industry. But, beware of pirates wanting to steal your riches.

Pirates roaming the Atlantic are just one of Amelia Island’s tales that come to life at this year’s Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival, celebrating all things shrimp since 1964 – catching them, cooking them, eating them and even drawing them. The Southeast Tourism Society has named the Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival a Top-20 event eight times. This year’s line-up of fine food and entertainment is sure to live up to that distinction. *Arrrrrr!*

Fine Arts & Crafts and Antiques

On Saturday and Sunday of the festival, when not feasting on shellfish, visitors can enjoy the works of 300 award-winning artists and craftspeople and their creations in watercolor, acrylics, oils, sculpture, metal, photography, pottery and more, all fully juried to qualify for entry into the show. Best of Show will receive a \$1,000 cash prize. The festival also boasts an excellent showing of fine antiques and collectibles, including furniture, Depression glass, jewelry, crystal and coins. Student artwork from all public and private schools in Nassau County are displayed, with awards for outstanding pieces given by local businesses.

Food and Music

What would a Shrimp Festival be without shrimp? Seafood and shrimp dishes abound, all prepared with a local flair and flavor by twenty-five volunteer organizations from the Fernandina Beach area. The treats for the taste buds and eyes are rivaled only by musical performances from regional and local acts that will fill the seaside air with the sounds of jazz, pop, rock, folk, country and, of course, beach music provided by our “house band”, the ever popular Swingin’ Medallions, who will be performing on Sunday afternoon.

Family Fun

-more-

See colorful pirates swordfight, loot and plunder in the streets after they invade the festival by a pirate shrimp boat – a throwback to the days when Amelia was ruled under foreign flags. A “Blessing of the Fleet” and the “Best Decorated Shrimp Boat Parade and Contest” on Sunday will entertain guests at the Riverfront. Get with the spirit of the festival and entertain the family in the Kids Korner with activities for all ages and entertainment throughout the weekend provided by Rick Hubbard’s Kazoobie Show and JuggleSTUFF, among others. Contests include Adult and Little Pirate Contests, Best Beard Contest, Shrimp Ice Cream Eating Contest and the Miss Shrimp Festival Scholarship Pageant. And, don’t forget to tighten the wooden leg, Black Beards, and join the YMCA 5-K run on Saturday morning.

Pirate Parade

Join the locals for the pre-festival Pirate Parade to be held on Thursday, April 29th at 6:00 p.m. as it takes over Centre Street in downtown Fernandina Beach. Creative craftsmanship will abound with the imaginative floats and unique entries vying for “Best of Parade” honors.

There are truly memories to be made for everyone at this storied festival. For a complete listing and schedule of events for the 47th Annual Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival, visit www.shrimpfestival.com.

###