



Saddles and Equestrian Tack

Joseph "Boo" LeDoux lived a colorful and interesting life. A self-described "retired-swamp-cowboy," he learned his trade at the age of seven from his Cajun father. In the early 1930s, Boo was a rodeo bull rider and was generally considered one of the best. At the age of 60, he competed in several rodeos, bull-riding, just to prove to himself that he could still do it. Boo was a

wagoneer for the Louisiana wagon during the 1976 Bicentennial wagon train trek to Valley Forge, PA. The trip lasted six months, and the group traveled 2450 miles at four miles per hour. He drove every inch of the way, and this fulfilled one of his greatest dreams.

LeDoux participated in the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, the St. Landry Folklife Festival in Opelousas, the Arts and Crafts Show and the Liberty Radio Show in Eunice, the Louisiana Folklife Festival in Baton Rouge, the Festival Acadian in Lafayette, the 1984 Louisiana World's Fair in New Orleans, and the Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival. At these festivals, he practiced leather saddle making and repairing, usually accompanied by his wife Priscilla. Because of his major talents and accomplishments, LeDoux was inducted into the Louisiana Folklife Center's Hall of Master Folk Artists in 1983.

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