

HISTORY

In 1979 the Pilot Club of Aynor, South Carolina, needed funds for community projects. Doris Koon, a club member, suggested having a festival and the Aynor Harvest Hoe-Down Festival was born. The first year in September, 1979, the welcome speech was given to about 1,000 people from the back of a large truck. The welcome speech is now given from a stage under the Aynor Town Park shelter to a crowd of 22,000 – 26,000 people.

The Aynor Harvest Hoe-Down Beauty Pageant is held on the second Saturday in September at the Aynor High School Auditorium. The pageant groups are Little Baby Miss, Baby Miss, Toddler Miss, Tiny Miss, Little Miss, Petite Miss, Junior Miss, Teen Miss, and Miss. The Pageant begins at 3:00 PM.

A week later on the third Saturday in September, the Aynor Harvest Hoe-Down Festival begins with a Parade at 10:00 AM with a Grand Marshall, antique tractors and cars, many Shrine units, local bands, ROTC units, mascots, Queens, and several floats.

The Festival has Musical Entertainment under the Aynor Town Park Shelter from 11:00 AM until 4:00 PM provided by: Aynor High Band and Chorus, Pageant winners, Aynor Middle Chorus, Midland Elementary Chorus, area Elementary School Talent winners, Conway Idol Winners, local singers, dance groups, and Gospel groups.

At the Festival, will be Arts & Crafts (over 185 vendors) such as wood crafts, metal crafts, jewelry, flower arrangements, plants, etc. Food includes Chicken Bog, Scones, Barbecue Sandwiches, Hamburgers, Funnel cakes, Pizza, Hot Dogs, and more; and Children's Entertainment with Moonwalk and Slide.

Have a big time in a small town on the third Saturday in September, at the Aynor Harvest Hoe-Down Festival! For more information, call the Aynor Harvest Hoe-Down Hot Line at 843-358-1074.

Some community projects of the Pilot Club of Aynor include: Project Graduation, five Citizenship awards at Aynor area schools, two Scholarships, two girls to Girls State, sponsor a girl's Little League softball team, Lifeline for two seniors, Appreciation Luncheon for Aynor area teachers and staff, support Aynor Rescue Squad, Life Care, and Camp Burnt Gin, Special Olympics, Project Happy Child (special needs children), Aynor Library Summer Reading Program, four parties a year for seniors at Aynor Senior Center, help with Christmas for Aynor Senior Center group, Fostering Hope, and Pick-Me-Ups.