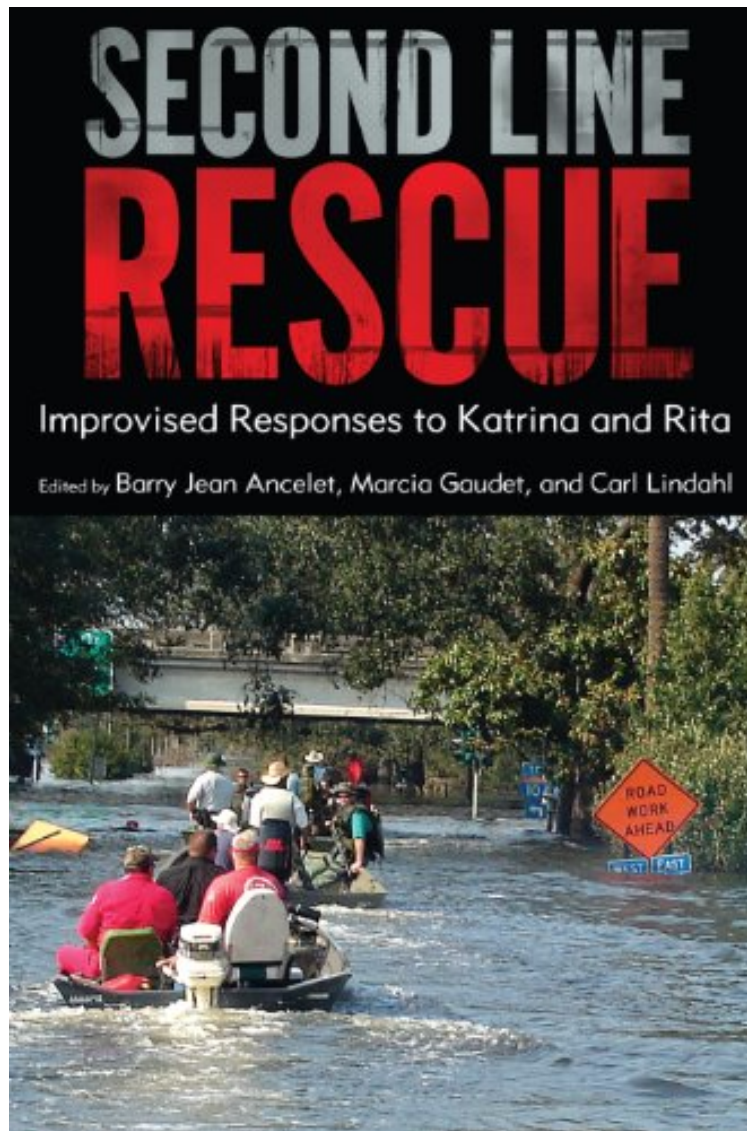


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Second Line Rescue

Barry Jean Ancelet

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Barry Jean Ancelet : Second Line Rescue before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Second Line Rescue:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Michel P. PareAmazing ground level stories of these events.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Tells the tale of those that suffered through Katrina, RitaBy JP-DubThis book is one of the few that actually focuses on the narratives of those who suffered through the devastation wrought by Katrina and Rita. Chilling stuff, particularly when describing the poor government response to the disasters.

Second Line Rescue: Improvised Responses to Katrina and Rita chronicles the brave and creative acts through which Gulf Coast people rescued their neighbors during the chaotic aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Ordinary citizens joined in with whatever resources they had. Unlike many of the official responders, vernacular rescuers found ways around paralysis produced by a breakdown in communications and infrastructure. They were able to dispel unfounded fears produced by erroneous or questionable reporting. The essays, personal narratives, media reports, and field studies presented here all have to do with effective and often ingenious answers that emerged from the people themselves. Their solutions are remarkably different from the hamstrung government response, and their perspectives are a tonic to sensationalized media coverage. The first part of the collection deals with Gulf Coast rescuers from outside stricken communities: those who, safe in their own homes and neighborhoods, marshaled their resources to help their fellow citizens. It includes some analysis and scholarly approaches, but it also includes direct responses and first-hand field reports. The second part features the words of hurricane survivors displaced from New Orleans and other Gulf Coast communities to Houston, Texas. In many cases, the "victims" themselves were the first responders, rescuing family, friends, and strangers. All of the stories, whether from the "outside" or "inside" responders, reveal a shared history of close-knit community bonds and survival skills sharpened by hard times. This book is about what went right in the aftermath of Katrina and Rita--in spite of all that went so wrong.

"*Second Line Rescue* is an exemplary work for public-sector folklorists who work in communities ravaged by nature. In the days and weeks following Superstorm Sandy, my colleagues and I turned to this work for inspiration and guidance as we struggled with our roles in the communities we have been documenting. Sadly, natural disasters are increasing in frequency around the globe. For those seeking to play meaningful roles in the wake of disaster, this book is a model for community engagement." Nancy Solomon of *Long Island Traditions in Folklore*, Volume 126, Number 1
From the Inside Flap
How beleaguered citizens created their own salvation when their institutions failed
About the Author
Barry Jean Ancelet, Scott, Louisiana, holds the Willis Granger and Tom Debaillon/BORSF Professorship in Francophone Studies and is a Research Fellow at the Center for Louisiana Studies, University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He is the author of numerous books, including *Cajun and Creole Music Makers* and *Cajun Country* (University Press of Mississippi).
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