



Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association

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TEN TV & FILM STARS TO SERVE UP FREE STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE AT GARDEN GROVE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL ON MAY 28th

-- Charity Fundraising Booths Selling Strawberry Treats and other Fun Food --

GARDEN GROVE, CA (May 11, 2009) – Since 1958 the Garden Grove Strawberry Festival has treated the community to free strawberry shortcake at its grand opening ceremony, this year to be held Friday, May 28th at 6 p.m. at Main and Acacia streets in Garden Grove. The giant cake will be created by French's Pastry Bakery in Costa Mesa. Some of the Saturday parade celebrities, who could not resist having a taste, will be there to say a few words and to pass out cake to the crowd. Attending this year will be the Parade Grand Marshal, famed pianist **Roger Williams**, **Bob Flanigan**, the last original member of The Four Freshmen; **Vince Johnson**, a current Four Freshman member; **Kate Linder** from *The Young and the Restless*; **Romi Dames** and **Emily Grace Reaves** from *Hannah Montana*, the show and the movie, **Jimmy Jax Pinchak** in the upcoming film *Let Me In*, **Will Shadley** from *The Spy Next Door*, **Braedon Lemasters** from *Men of a Certain Age*, and **Ashley Boettcher** from *Aliens in the Attic*.



In the past as many as 2,000 have come out for free cake. Garden Grove Mayor Bill Dalton traditionally cuts the first piece and presents the giant top "strawberry" to Miss Garden Grove, as he will again this year. Over the Memorial Day weekend festival over 250,000 annual attendees head for the festival's 150+ food and commercial booths where they find treasures to buy and all kinds of treats to try. Booths open at 1 p.m. on Friday May 28th and at 10 a.m. May 29th through the 31st.

CHARITIES BENEFITTING FROM FOOD BOOTHS

The Festival's non-profit food booths each annually average from \$3,000 to \$30,000 for their organization. Returning again to ring up high sales will be Job's Daughters Bethel 212 offering whipped cream-topped piles of glazed strawberries paired with shortcake or ice cream or both. Their specialty, Strawberry Shortcake Supreme, every year brings long lines of patient and determined patrons. The Garden Grove Boys and Girls Club will increase their coffers selling churros, chocolate dipped berries, and strawberry baby cupcakes. Cheesecake and strawberry smoothies ready for slurping are the specialty of Garden Grove High School Band Boosters.

Other festival foods for charity include hot dogs, cheeseburgers and nachos-to-go with the Kiwanis Club's freshly roasted corn, and delicate funnel cakes brimming with sweetened strawberries. Barbequed beef sandwiches, tacos, cheese quesadillas, hamburgers, chili and cheese sandwiches, stuffed potatoes, muffins and more make up the many offerings supporting worthy causes. Additional Garden Grove charities include the Assistance League, Emblem Club 259, Guardettes, Lions Club, Pacifica and Garden Grove High School Girls Softball Boosters, plus many other non-profits selling non-food items.

SATURDAY BREAKFAST PROCEEDS HELP NEEDY FAMILIES

La Casa Garcia is donating food for the festival's annual pre-parade breakfast Saturday, May 29th at 7 a.m. at the Garden Grove Community Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue at Euclid. Scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, ham and bacon will be served for \$5.00 per person paid at the door with all proceeds benefiting We Give Thanks, a charity annually providing Thanksgiving dinners for thousands of needy people.

The Festival has donated over \$5 million to local charities since 1958. For more information, visit www.strawberryfestival.org.