



Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association

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CHARITY FUNDRAISING BOOTHS SERVE UP STRAWBERRY DESSERTS AND OTHER TREATS AT 50TH ANNUAL GARDEN GROVE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

-- Some Charities Raise Over \$30,000 In Needed Funds—

GARDEN GROVE, CA (May 13, 2008) – 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 23rd at 6 p.m. at Main and Acacia streets in Garden Grove. For 22 years Herb's Black Forest Bakery in Fountain Valley prepared and donated what is billed as the "world's largest strawberry shortcake," serving over 2,000 people. This year the giant cake will be created and served by French's Pastry Bakery in Costa Mesa.



Many of the over 250,000 annual Festival attendees who cannot get enough of this annually anticipated treat, will head for the Festival's over 174 food and commercial booths in search of other enticing strawberry desserts. Booths open at 10 a.m. this Memorial Day weekend, May 23 through 26th.

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. Strawberry tarts and strawberry bread will be available again from the Grove Theater box office, and this year the Garden Grove Boys and Girls Club will increase their coffers selling churros, chocolate dipped berries and baskets of freshly picked strawberries. 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, Italian sausage and cheese sandwiches, stuffed potatoes, muffins and more make up the many offerings supporting worthy causes. Garden Grove charities include the Assistance League, Emblem Club 279, Guardettes, Lions Club, Pacifica and Garden Grove High School Girls Softball Boosters and GGPOW-Stardusters, plus many other non-profits selling non-food items.

According to Festival Board Member Ken Slimmer, in addition to the over \$4.5 million in profits the Festival has donated to local charities since 1958, the Festival's non-profit food booths each annually average from \$3,000 to \$30,000 more for their organization.

For more information, visit www.strawberryfestival.org.