

Message from the Festival Chair - Ben Buholtz

The volunteers of St. Mark's and the volunteers from our Niagara-on-the-Lake community, have logged thousands of selfless hours in preparation of our 30th Anniversary of the Cherry Festival at St. Mark's. This is a Spectacular Achievement!!

Does this mean we're done? --- Not by any means. We are still in need of both volunteers and donations to make Our Cherry Festival on Saturday, July 6th a complete success.

On Wednesday, July 4th at 9:00am we are in need of volunteers to help erect the Music Niagara Big Tent which has been loaned to us again this year. With lots of hands, this large task becomes small. We are also in need of many hands on both Friday the 5th and Saturday (the day of) to setup tents, tables, chairs and to move donations to the various tents.

Our Cherry Pies are always the big draw for the Festival and with 789 meticulously handcrafted pies to offer, our supporters will not go away disappointed. This is yet again, a year-over-year, all-time record.

Over 100 items have been donated to our Silent Auction. The offerings range from large to small, with something for everyone.

The Treasures area has had 1000's of items donated and the team is tirelessly sorting and pricing all of these goods. Clothing and Jewelry each have had 100's of items donated and those teams to have also been sorting and pricing. Books, (another record year in donations), are available for purchase due to the tireless hours of sorting and pricing.

Bake Goods, Oh My - what a "treat" in store for our guests! There will be dozens and dozens of goodies available to purchase. And least we forget... the BBQ. For the early attendees and those coming later in the day, our BBQ grillers will be cooking up mouthwatering and satisfying Peameal Bacon sandwiches, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Sausages.

And don't forget our other offerings of hundreds of jars of Cherry Jam, freshly made Cherry Ice Cream Floats and Pie by the Slice. Our other areas of offerings are CD's/DVD's, and Archives.

And don't forget the Kids, we have a wonderful play and entertainment area for the Children of our community.

Each of these offerings is a vital contribution to the tradition and outreach that defines the Cherry Festival at St. Mark's.

What a tremendous task for all involved and what a wonderful day for all in our community to come and celebrate. Come One and Come All to participate in this Special Day.