

Conversation with the Mayor August 18, 2008

Vicky Daly

Palmyra's Very Full Calendar

Nothing to do in Palmyra? No one could possibly say that after the last several weeks. Pirates of the Erie Canal Weekend, the Great Wayne County Fair and The Palmyra Players presentation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in the Village Park all happened between August 8th and 24th. How great is that! And now it is just a matter of weeks until Canal Town Days.

Pirates Weekend was a demonstration of community involvement and volunteerism (yet again). The committee had met monthly or more since the visit of the Canal Schooner Lois McClure last August to plan the event. The intent was to create a community party and to invite the world. Major costs were underwritten by local sponsors - Mark's Pizzeria; Severn Trent Services (managers of our water & sewer plants); Woodfine Development Corporation; Stivers Seneca Marina (the pontoon boats); Il Dog Barkery; Lock 29 Tavern; SpecialMedia Promotions; Mayers Lake Ontario Winery; Cranberry Cove; Breen's IGA; Liberty House Bed & Breakfast; Mid-lakes Navigation; Lorri's Secret Garden, Wegman's; Cynthia Kukulka; Steve & Bonnie Hays; Debi & Jim Murray, Gary & Terri Hopkins, and the Dalys. Innumerable other local merchants, individuals, and organizations provided items for door prizes and the silent auction at the Pirates Wine & Cheese Party, the fundraiser held to finance the weekend. Volunteers oversaw events, carried messages and sometimes ice, put up tents, provided directions and did whatever needed to be done. Mark Craft and Tony Collie provided their sound systems. Jim Murray and Ken Bradstreet used those systems to keep people informed as to what was happening. Rotary, in collaboration with Candy Corner Fudge Square, made ice cream available and, of course, the Lions Club Popcorn Wagon was at the marina. It wouldn't be a Palmyra event without it. Cooperative Extension led off Saturday morning with its Treasure Hunt on the Trail. Bonnie Hays and the volunteers of Historic Palmyra conducted tours and told tales, bringing our 'pirate heritage' to the fore and Village Crier Jim Bush, in mufti, enthralled a horde of children with his magic act.

This brief thank you to the folks who made Pirates Weekend work has to include the local merchants who supported the event by decorating their shops and

Conversation with the Mayor August 18, 2008

restaurants and taking part in the weekend activities. They made Main Street a delight. Behind the scenes, the Village crew which set up, took down and helped make this happen need a special acknowledgement. As with the Fair parade and all of Canal Town Days weekend, they do what needs to be done quickly and efficiently. And to the members of the Palmyra Fire Department Fire Police - James and Tammy Pierce, Mary Eidman, Harry Banker, and Howard Watson, who stepped in to fill the void which could have cancelled the bed race parade, we literally could not have done it without you. Thank you. Your generosity was appreciated.

We are already talking about Pirate Weekend 2009. If you would like to be part of the planning and execution of the weekend, let me know - the more the merrier.

The 153rd Wayne County Fair followed immediately and, from all accounts, was also a huge success. Everyone with whom I have spoken had a great time. I know we did. And did you see the winning bed from Pirates Weekend? It was part of the Ontario Fire Department contingent in the parade. We expect them back next year.

The debut production of The Palmyra Players, an adaptation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, introduced Palmyra to 'Shakespeare in the Park'. The delightful 90 minute version of the Bard's comedy was performed on and around the bandstand by a talented and enthusiastic troupe of actors. Following an overview of the plot by Director Judy Zanin, the thespians presented key scenes from the play. Moving the plot forward were appropriate vocal interludes from a variety of Broadway musicals. It worked beautifully and the audience loved it.

Judy is looking for more enthusiastic and talented folks to move forward with theater in Palmyra. Get in touch with her at studiozpas@yahoo.com or at 585-451-1413. You don't have to live in Palmyra to be part of this. The recent production included actors from Palmyra, Newark and Fairport.

Between now and Canal Town Days, September 13 -14, is another not-to-be-missed event, *Turning the First Shovel* Palmyra Canalside Nature Park. At 3:00 PM on Saturday, September 6th, at the Port of Palmyra Marina, the Village will break

Conversation with the Mayor August 18, 2008

ground for Phase I of the project - the expansion of the parking lot to be followed by the building of a restroom/ shower complex at the marina. It has been a long time coming and we hope you will join us for the celebration.

Total change of mood, but I promised to say something: Please do not tape signs to the new black light poles on Main Street. The tape takes the paint off. Thank you.