

March 17, 2008



Dear Member of Lynden's Dutch Community,

***Join us in celebrating Holland Days Friday, May 2 and Saturday, May 3, 2008!***

As you may be aware, the traditional Parade of Provinces has been cancelled for this year's festival, due to the fact that participation has diminished significantly over the past few years. Unfortunately we have discovered that fewer and fewer families like yours have expressed an ongoing interest throughout the younger generations in getting involved with the event, and many of the original founders and/or participants are finding it more difficult to participate as they get older due to physical limitations and/or other commitments. The Lynden Chamber of Commerce staff and Holland Days committee members realize that the parade has been a very important expression of our community's pride in its Dutch heritage, but at the same time feel that the lack of participation makes it increasingly difficult to stage a quality parade that represents Lynden's strong Dutch traditions in both a festive and culturally accurate manner.

We are, however, attempting to replace the parade with an expansion of our Dutch open-air market to include a large area with booths representing the various provinces, including displays of the flags, signs, & props previously used in the parade, people dressed in traditional costume walking around and visiting with festival guests, etc. We encourage you and other past parade participants to bring any stories, artifacts, photos, costumes, arts/crafts demonstrations, musical talents, etc. to contribute to the event and hope that the displays will serve as a way to not only educate our visitors about the town's history but also give those that were either previously unable to walk in the parade a venue to share their stories and culture with others. By encouraging members of our local community to participate in the event and share their history we hope to increase awareness for Lynden residents & visitors alike about "A Day in the Life of the Netherlands"!

In addition, since the market runs for a longer duration than the parade (9:00am-5:00pm Friday & Saturday vs. 11:00-11:30am Saturday only) we hope that we'll be able to actually INCREASE the amount of time you would have to celebrate Dutch culture with our visitors. We will continue to hold the klompen dancing and street cleaning events on Saturday as in past years, as well as the Dutch dinner at Lynden Community Center on Friday night, and several of our booths in the market will feature Dutch/local items. We do not plan to eliminate the Dutch flavor/focus of the event, but instead believe that the addition of new events, such as an outdoor international dance venue and Saturday night choir concert, will hopefully better reflect the changing dynamics and cultural heritage of our community as a whole.

Please take time to review the enclosed application, indicate when/how you wish to participate in this year's event, and submit the form to the Lynden Chamber of Commerce (518 Front Street, Lynden, WA 98264) office no later than **Friday, April 18**. If you would like to participate in the market but are unsure of how to do so, the Lynden Chamber of Commerce would be more than happy to assign a place for you. Once we receive your application, you will receive a notification letter (via e-mail and/or mail) with festival day details. As always, you may call the Lynden Chamber (360-354-5995) with any questions or suggestions for event additions or e-mail me directly at [heather@lynden.org](mailto:heather@lynden.org).

We look forward to celebrating Lynden's heritage with you!

Sincerely,

Heather Pehl, Event Coordinator  
Lynden Chamber of Commerce

Enclosure: (1) 2008 Official Dutch Open-Air Market Cultural Exhibit Application Form

(For official use only)

BOOTH # \_\_\_\_\_

PROVINCE \_\_\_\_\_

Prop Information

# HOLLAND DAYS 2008 DUTCH OPEN-AIR MARKET

## Official Cultural Heritage Booth Application

Individual, Family or Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (evening #) \_\_\_\_\_ (daytime #)

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Participants: \_\_\_\_\_ Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Children

Which Dutch province(s) will you represent? \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be providing your own Dutch costume(s)? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Historical/cultural significance of your entry/entries (if applicable):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY!**

- I am willing to be involved wherever needed--please assign me a responsibility!
- I am willing to dress up in traditional Dutch costume and visit with festival guests!
- I will be setting up an arts/crafts or other demonstration booth/table (description below):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- I am a Dutch musician or traditional folk dancer (description below):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- I will be setting up a photo album or Dutch artifact display (description below):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to submit the following miscellaneous entry in the market:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- I am available to be onsite at the market during the following shifts (check all that apply):

**FRIDAY, MAY 2:** \_\_\_\_\_ 9am-11am \_\_\_\_\_ 11am-1pm \_\_\_\_\_ 1pm-3pm \_\_\_\_\_ 3pm-5pm

**SATURDAY, MAY 3:** \_\_\_\_\_ 9am-11am \_\_\_\_\_ 11am-1pm \_\_\_\_\_ 1pm-3pm \_\_\_\_\_ 3pm-5pm

**FESTIVAL DATES: FRIDAY, MAY 2 & SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2008  
9:00AM-5:00PM ~ 7<sup>th</sup> & Front Street, Downtown Lynden**

**RETURN THIS APPLICATION FORM BY FRIDAY, APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup> TO:  
Lynden Chamber of Commerce, 518 Front Street, Lynden, WA 98264**

**Fax: (360) 354-0401 ~ E-Mail: [heather@lynden.org](mailto:heather@lynden.org)**

**QUESTIONS? Call the Lynden Chamber of Commerce at (360) 354-5995**