



The Optune

The 63rd Annual Pancake Breakfast 2023



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The Rome Noon Optimist's **63rd Annual Pancake Breakfast** was held on Saturday, November 18 from 6am-11am at the Rome Civic Center. Club members greeted customers who enjoyed "all you can eat" fluffy pancakes, sausage, and refillable cups of coffee and juice. In total, over 1200 people were served. Six hundred and nine "dined inside" while the others took advantage of "take out" orders.

The total money collected to date is \$56, 205. There is still some outstanding sausage and sponsor money to come in. The total so far has surpassed last years revenues.

Forty one club members signed in that morning to fulfill one of the many jobs needed to make the event a success. In addition, the Model High School Junior Optimist Club under advisor Rachael Jones and the Shorter University Softball Team volunteered their services.



One thousand nine hundred pounds of sausage was sold except for forty pounds which was donated to the Fire Department for storing our trailer and freezer. The "Sausage Dogs" pictured below began cooking at 3am.



We would like to thank all who worked so hard to plan, organize, get donations and sponsorships, manage sausage sales before the event, and worked the day of the event. It is truly a concerted effort among many members to make this event a huge success.



FUN Times

&... More Social Activities

Pre Pancake Breakfast Kick Off

On Thursday, November 16, Daniel Bosarge and Jan Mendence hosted a social event at Jan's home. Pizza, sliders, appetizers, salad, and desserts were served. It was a gorgeous evening so club members took advantage of the outside seating provided on the deck & under the carport. The party was a wonderful time to relax and enjoy each other's company before the BIG event.



Christmas Party at the Pucketts

Once again, Christine and Bob Puckett hosted the annual Christmas Party for club members and their guests on Friday, December 1. Members were greeted by St. Nic as they entered the home and enjoyed an evening of fellowship, delicious food, and fun games. Thank you, Bob and Christine, for an enjoyable evening.



Toys for Tots Project

On Thursday, December 7, club members met at the Palladium to assist with sorting and bagging the toys that will be distributed to local families. This is the second year that members have participated. Toys for Tots is one of four projects that the club volunteers within the community. In addition, club members and the Model High School Junior Optimists donated sixty toys. The club presented Linda Hatcher, Director for Toys for Tots, with a \$500 check.



On Tuesday, February 13, we will bring "Goody Bags" to the children at **The Open Door Home**. Last year, members enjoyed decorating, buying goodies, and assembling the bags. We will start collecting donations at our next meeting on January 9. Candy, gum, small school supplies, socks, chap stick, snacks are some of the items that are needed. Please donate (or go in with another member) to donate 20 of the same item.

"The fellowship of true friends who can hear you out, share your joys, help carry your burdens, and counsel you is priceless". - Ezra Taft Benson

Anniversaries

Dec. 20 Kelli & Luis Gonzalez
 Dec. 21 Tommy & Sharon Armstrong
 Dec. 31 Bill & Faith Collins

Birthdays

Jan. 03 Priscilla Watkins
 Jan. 12 Dana Gallagher

Promise Yourself...



Future Events

Jan. 09 Student of the Month Program, 11:45am
 Jan. 11 Club Board Meeting, Location TBA, 11:30am
 Jan. 16 Regular Business Meeting, 11:45am
 Jan. 23 Regular Meeting

