

Rotaractors Contributed to the Orem Rotary Pancake Breakfast Service Project



On Saturday, June 12, 2021, the Orem Rotary International Club held its annual Rotary Pancake Breakfast as part of Orem City's larger Summerfest event series. Our Utah Valley University Rotaract Club was invited to assist the local Orem Rotary Club in hosting and serving breakfast at this event.

With myself being Vice-President of UVU's Rotaract Club, I knew I wanted to volunteer and help out with this event. The Pancake Breakfast helps the Rotary Club with fundraising and its events throughout the year. It also helped that the Pancake Breakfast was sponsored by Sierra-West Jewelers. This breakfast is also a good opportunity to serve and give back to both Orem City and the local Orem community who make my education at Utah Valley University a reality.



Rotarians and Rotaractors are ready to serve breakfast.

On the morning of Saturday June 12, 2021, I arrived at Orem Park at the Rotary Club's pavilion a little before 7:00 AM to assist with setting-up and preparation for the day's event. I

met with Orem Rotary President Dean Robinson to receive instruction on what he needed. Right off the bat, President Robinson had us help unload grills, cooking equipment, supplies and foodstuffs from trucks and other vehicles. Rotact was then next asked to lay tablecloths on all the tables in and around the pavilion.



Citizens of Orem missed our pancakes very much during pandemic

After Rotary and Rotaract had finished prepping the site, and just before the breakfast had started at 8:00 AM, I chatted some with other UVU Rotaract members such as Dallas Karren, Dylan Tweed, and our newest member Alitha Thompson. Dr. Abdrisaev, Rotaract mentor later arrived, and I also spoke with him as well.

Orem Rotary then assigned us Rotaractors individual tasks and had us all wash up in order to help serve the breakfast. The Rotary Club also had a country/western band perform during the breakfast, which I thought was a nice touch. The band playing created a nice atmosphere - the songs somewhat transported me back to my childhood days, when things were much simpler.

The task I was first assigned in serving the breakfast was collecting plates of pancakes fresh off of the grills and running them to separate tables for the patrons. Later on, Dylan and his fiancée had to leave, and asked if I could take over their posts in serving butter and maple syrup. I gladly told them that I could help out with that for the rest of the event.

The breakfast ended a little after 10:00 AM. After shop had shut down, so-to-speak, I went and spoke with both President Robinson and Dr. Abdrisaev. Both thanked me profusely for volunteering and helping out with the event. President Dean Robinson even had me take home some extra bananas in a show of gratitude. All-in-all, the weather was perfect, and it turned out being a pretty good day!

Andrew C. Caldwell, Vice President of the Rotaract club at UVU