



THE KIWANIS CLUB OF ARLINGTON

Founded In 1952



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THE KIWANIS CLUB OF ARLINGTON'S ANNUAL PANCAKE DAY WILL CELEBRATE ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY ON FEB. 24 AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ARLINGTON

If you love pancakes and celebrating local history, mark Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018, on your calendars.

That's when the Kiwanis Club of Arlington will hold its 60th Annual Pancake Day fund-raiser from 8 a.m. to 12 Noon in the Great Hall of First United Methodist Church of Arlington at 313 N. Center Street, at the corner of Division Street. Tickets are \$5.00 each and can be purchased at the door or in advance by contacting the Kiwanis office at 817-650-7111, or by email at txokdist@swbell.net

Since the very first Pancake Day in February 1958, the event has grown to become a community institution, serving thousands of pancakes – all you can eat! – and raising close to \$1,000,000 for myriad community, civic and charitable causes and organizations.

In fact, the event goes back so far that Dwight Eisenhower was President, the Texas Rangers were still playing baseball in Washington, D.C., as the Senators, and the Dallas Cowboys were yet to play a down in the National Football League.

"For all of us at the Kiwanis Club of Arlington, the success of Pancake Day and what it has come to mean for our community is a source of enormous pride," said Kiwanis Club President Bob Landon. "We can't wait to share 60 years of pancake-day history with everyone on Feb. 24."

Each year, Kiwanis volunteers flip and serve up well over two thousand pancakes – and sausages to go with them – in a festive atmosphere of civic pride. Making the event even more special is that Kiwanis volunteers are joined by members of the high school Key Clubs Kiwanis sponsors, as well as Boy Scouts from Troop 5, also sponsored by the club.

Lending added excitement to the event is a Silent Auction that raises thousands of extra dollars for Kiwanis causes by putting hundreds of wide-ranging items up for bid in the midst of

the dining area. Anyone with new or pre-owned items in great condition who would like to donate them can do so by contacting the Kiwanis office.

Moreover, anyone interested in becoming a Pancake Day sponsor can contact the Kiwanis office for information about the cost and benefits of various sponsorship levels.

“It’s important to know that anyone who purchases a Pancake Day ticket, or donates an item for the Silent Auction, is really making a big difference in the community,” said Pancake Day Chairperson Bonnie Watkins. “Virtually all the money we raise goes right back into the community, most of it benefiting the children who are our most precious resource. So support for Pancake Day is really an investment in our community and our children.”

Landon noted that Pancake Day is the Kiwanis Club’s only major fund raiser and is now very close to exceeding \$1,000,000 in the amount it has raised for community causes over its 60-year history. “With God’s good grace, we hope to top that amount this year,” he said.

Last year’s event attracted more than 1,000 guests and raised more than \$45,000. Those funds were pumped back into the community in the form of scholarships for high school students, support for school community service clubs, and support for myriad programs and organizations, including Kiwanis’ Annual Teacher-Of-The-Year Awards for outstanding elementary, junior high school and high school teachers in the Arlington Independent School District.

The Kiwanis motto is: “Serving the children of the world.”

In 2005, the Kiwanis Club of Arlington was awarded the Arlington ISD Foundation’s prestigious *Lynn Hale Leadership-In-Education Award* in recognition of the Club’s dedicated support for students and educators over the years. The AISD Board of Trustees bestowed its *Community Engaged for Excellence Award of Appreciation* on Kiwanis in August 2014.

The Kiwanis Club sponsors Key Clubs at seven high schools – Arlington, Bowie, Lamar, Martin, Grace Preparatory Academy, Kennedale and the Oak Ridge School – and K-Kids Clubs at Little and Swift Elementary Schools.

It also supports a “Bringing Up Grades” (BUGS) program at South Davis and Wimbish Elementary Schools, Boy Scout Troop 5, Cub Scout Pack 5 at Ellis Elementary School, and is co-sponsor of a Circle K Club at the University of Texas Arlington.

Among the many civic and charitable organizations Kiwanis assists with resources from Pancake Day are Arlington Safe Haven, Arlington Alliance for Youth, Arlington Life Shelter, Arlington Urban Ministries, Mission Arlington, Arlington Charities, Arlington Boys & Girls Club, and Arlington Salvation Army.

For more information, visit the Club’s website at www.kiwanisclubofarlington.com, or its Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/KiwanisArlington>.

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