



**“Building our community one child at a time”**

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## **The Downtowner**

*Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Allentown*

**March 4, 2017**

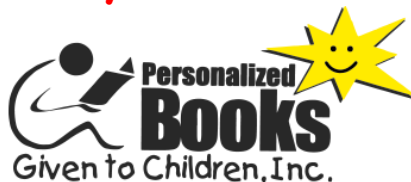
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### **February Lunch Meeting**



This winter has been mild with virtually no snowfall. However, the only real accumulation of snow occurred on February 9, the date of our only lunch meeting last month! The meeting was cancelled. Too bad, since the speaker from Phoebe Florist would have been interesting, especially with Valentine’s Day right around the corner.

### **February Service Project**



February was a short month, but we made it worthwhile with our service project – reading to first-grade students at the Mosser Elementary School. On February 22, **Joyce Crosby** helped Terry Kennedy, President of the Personalized Books Given to Children program, in handing out personalized story books to children in two classrooms. The students were split into smaller groups where Joyce, Terry and their teachers led them in reading the books. The next day, February 23, **Tom Harp** and **Enos Martin** visited Mosser and joined Terry in reading to two additional classrooms. In total, we distributed books to 100 first-graders at the school! Tom met with the principal at Mosser Elementary School, Tiffany Polek, who is interested in starting a K-Kids Club there. Tiffany is a former Key Club member at Allen High School. We have forwarded this information to the Allentown Northeast Kiwanis Club for consideration of sponsoring a K-Kids Club there.

## March Service Project



This month, our service project will be at the Raub Middle School, where on Thursday, March 16 we have volunteered to help out with their "Family Fun Night." **Enos Martin** is coordinating this project, and has sent out an e-mail to our members requesting volunteers. We need to be at the school by 6:15 PM to help set up a Bingo game. We will then announce bingo numbers, hand out cards and prizes. The event ends at 7:30 PM. We will also donate a gift basket to the school as one of the door prizes. This is an opportunity for us to collaborate with the Raub Builders Club. It should be a fun evening! So consider volunteering, and contact Enos if you can help out.

## 2017-18 Membership Drive

We are pleased to announce that **Deirdre Govan**, Resource Development Manager for the Salvation Army of Lehigh Valley, will be joining our club! We have had a strong relationship with the Salvation Army since our club's founding in 1918. Deirdre was hired to replace Mike Kukitz when he left that organization. Please welcome Deirdre when you see her at an upcoming meeting! We hope to add three more new members this year. Ask a friend, family member or coworker to join!

## Allentown Kiwanis Day at the IronPigs!



On February 23, President Tom e-mailed a flyer to our membership inviting them to join us for our annual "**Allentown Kiwanis Day at the IronPigs**" game on **Sunday, June 18**. This 1:35 PM game will pit the 'Pigs against the Syracuse Chiefs. This game will be held on Father's Day, and adult men will receive a complimentary "truckers cap." We have reserved a Dugout Suite for the game. Cost is \$45, which includes a two hour lunch buffet. Reserve your tickets now by calling Bob Ashcraft at 484-241-7380 or e-mail him at [bigbobashcraft@msn.com](mailto:bigbobashcraft@msn.com)

## Board Meeting Highlights

The February 22 meeting of our Board of Directors was a busy one. Treasurer **Enos Martin** reported that our club's fund balance is a healthy \$1,722.02. We still need speakers for upcoming lunch meetings! So contact President Tom if you have any suggestions. We discussed plans for the March 16 service project at the Raub Middle

School, and the LVCC Picnic, scheduled for May 18. The Board approved the "Allentown Kiwanis Day at the IronPigs" flyer. We reported on the status of the Raub Middle School Builders Club, and the Washington Elementary School K-Kids Club. We are beginning planning for our club's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary banquet scheduled for March 17, 2018. And both **Enos Martin** and **Peg Harp** agreed to continue as our clubs Treasurer and Secretary respectively during the 2017-18 administrative year.

## Division 18 News

The **Pennsylvania District Kiwanis Midwinter Conference** is scheduled for Saturday, **March 18, 2017**. It will be held at the Penn Stater Hotel in State College, Pa. with opening scheduled for 9:15 AM and closing at 4:30 PM. Kiwanis International President Jane Erickson will be attending. **President Tom** will be representing our club at the conference. The following is a request from Division 18 Lt. Governor Jeff Rose:

"Good Day Fellow Kiwanians,

I received an email from Governor-Elect Judy reminding me that it is time to select my successor for the 2017-2018 year. I am asking past Presidents, current Presidents to consider continuing serving our children. **Kids need Kiwanis**. I know it is easy to say I am not sure what to do. Well, have no fear, Kiwanis and our Pa. District have taken care of that you can do some online study at your leisure and we also have a weekend training workshop where we bring everyone together as a unit and you can get a running start for your year as Lt. Gov. So to all of the clubs in Division 18 please consider someone from your club and nominate them. Remember **Kids need Kiwanis**. We hope to elect a Lt. Gov. for next year at our Division Council meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February."

At the February 28 Division Council meeting, there were no candidates for Lt. Governor. Therefore, if anyone from our club is interested in serving in this capacity next year, please feel free to contact Jeff.

## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Historic Moment

**October 1, 1918:** The Kiwanis Club decided to take action in support of the efforts to combat the Spanish Flu which had made its way into the US. Member Charles Kline called the club's leadership to a meeting at his home at Hamilton and Jefferson Streets. At the suggestion of member Bruce Traylor, the men pledged \$500 to aid the city with this epidemic. Several days later at a meeting at the Hotel Traylor, the Club's leaders reached an agreement with the Army doctors at Camp Crane. The Army would staff a flu clinic for the public at 105 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street. It would operate between the hours of 9 AM. and 9PM for persons ill with the disease who could not get prompt treatment from their regular physician. Kiwanis also provided rides for doctors to take them to the homes of those too ill to leave them. A public appeal was made for donations of mattresses, pillows, sheets, and blankets for the beds and cots as well as toys, books and other children's playthings. Mrs. John Saeger donated the use of her free of charge for the cause. In addition, \$4,375 was raised to fund the operations of the facility. The Kiwanis Club also pledged \$500 each to Allentown and Sacred Heart Hospitals to assist in the flu epidemic at these facilities.

– **Enos and Susan Martin**

## Upcoming Meetings and Activities

Thursday, March 9, 12 PM, Matt Provence, LV IronPigs. Invocation by Jim Fronheiser.

Thursday, March 16, 6:15 PM to 7:30 PM, SERVICE PROJECT – Family Fun Night at Raub Middle School.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – Wednesday, March 26, 5:15 PM at the J.S. Burkholder Funeral Home.



*March Birthday*



**23 – Young Chang**



- *Tom Harp, Editor*