



“Building our community one child at a time”

The Downtowner

Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Allentown

April 1, 2017

March Lunch Meeting



While **President Tom** was on a cruise in the choppy waters of the Caribbean, the March 9 meeting was presided over by **Todd Siegfried**. Reports are that the meeting was well attended, and the speaker, **Matt Provence** of the Lehigh Valley IronPigs was terrific! The 'Pigs will be celebrating their 10th Anniversary during the 2017 season. A new 10th Anniversary logo will adorn uniforms and dozens of giveaways during the season. Coca-Cola Park has been renovated this year, with new turf on the field, a huge high-definition LED scoreboard replacing the old one, and reconfiguration of the picnic plaza in the left field corner. The team itself, which reached the playoffs last year, will be loaded with top Phillies prospects. This should be an exciting season, certainly one to celebrate! Matt was kind enough to donate an IronPigs blanket that we will add to our gift basket for the Raub Middle School Family Fun Night.

April Service Projects

Unfortunately, our March service project. The “Family Fun Night” at the Raub Middle School was postponed due to a snow storm a few days before the event. It has been rescheduled to Thursday, May 4. This month, we have a couple of service projects scheduled. On **April 8**, we will be cleaning up the Cedar Beach Park in Allentown. We will meet in the parking lot next to the pool house at 10:00 AM. The Friends of the Allentown Parks group will provide us with reachers, rakes, gloves and bags. We will walk through the park in pairs, picking up litter in the park and around the lake. We have asked our Key Clubs for volunteers as well. Also this month, on Friday **April 14**, we will begin a two-part Mother’s Day Flower project with two Lehigh Valley Children’s Centers facilities. At 10:00 AM, **Enos and Susan Martin** have volunteered to visit the LVCC Walnut Street Center. The children will decorate flower pots and plant seeds in trays. Later that day, at 1:00 PM **Bob and Cindy Ashcraft** will be leading the same activity with pre-school children at the LVCC Early Learning Center, located at 540 Chew Street (inside Alliance Hall). Then at 4:00 PM **we need two volunteers** to work with another class there. If you are available to help out at that time, notify Bob ASAP. We would like to thank and recognize Bob and Cindy for spearheading this project and for their donation of all materials. For them, this annual project is a real “labor of love.”

Personalized Books



There was a moratorium of Personalized Books distribution during the month of March. However, there are several opportunities for you to help out this month:

- April 5 & 6 – Roosevelt Elementary School – 120 first-grade students
- April 26 & 27 – Sheridan Elementary School – 145 first-grade students

If you are interested in volunteering to pass out personalized books, and to read to the children, meet with Terry Kennedy in the school office at 9:15 AM on any of the above dates. Just inform Peg Harp of your plans so that we can include your volunteer hours on our monthly report. pegharp@ptd.net or 610-428-9878.

2017-18 Membership Drive

We welcome **Deirdre Govan**, Resource Development Manager for the Salvation Army of Lehigh Valley, as a new member of our club! At our March meeting, we met another new member prospect, **Robert Krupka** who works at the Key Bank in Emmaus. Please reach out to your friends and coworkers about joining our club. They can attend any of our upcoming lunch meetings as our guest. We need to add new members to accomplish our goals of serving the community!

Allentown Kiwanis Day at the IronPigs



Please plan to join us at 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

Mid-Winter Conference

President **Tom Harp** represented our club in attending the Pennsylvania District Kiwanis Mid-Winter Conference, held at the Penn Stater Conference Center in State College on March 18. Approximately 175 Kiwanians from around the state were in attendance. Pa. Kiwanis **Governor John Grab** welcomed everyone, and introduced the Key Club and Circle K Governors. He then introduced Kiwanis International **President Jane Erickson**, who was very upbeat. She told a story about her travels to third world countries where she saw first-hand the positive effects of our ELIMINATE Project. She visited classrooms where hundreds of children, who may not have even been born without their mothers ELIMINATE vaccinations, were joyous to see her.



Jane Erickson, KI President

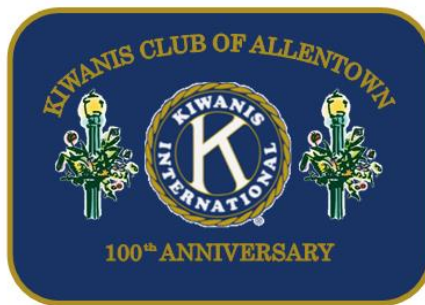
There was a presentation about the KI Convention in Paris this summer. Safety has been a concern, and KI is doing everything to improve security at the convention site. There was a presentation on the Pa. District Kiwanis Convention August 10-13 at the Doubletree Hotel in Lancaster. Activities include a pig roast at a local park, and a dinner train. This will be the District’s 100th convention! President Tom attended sessions on Early Childhood Development and the Pa. Kiwanis Foundation. The Early Childhood

session was very informative, with lots of ideas for service projects that benefit infants and young children. It was conducted by **Emily Reed**, the District's Young Children Priority One Chair. Our Board of Directors will be discussing some of these opportunities at our next Board meeting. One is to collaborate with the local "Nurse Family Partnership" which matches a nurse with up to 25 moms to teach them good management skills with their babies. There are several programs that promote early reading. And the Pa. Kiwanis Foundation sponsors several guides for parents of infants through pre-K that can be distributed by local Kiwanis Clubs. At the Pa. District Foundation session, President **Ben Osterhout** reviewed their activities in the past year, and asked clubs to encourage applications from Key Clubs for their annual college scholarship grants. The deadline for applications is April 1. Each year, the Foundation receives over 100 applications and awards approximately 20 scholarships of at least \$1,000 each to deserving students. In their 2015-16 Annual Report, the Foundation showed income of \$129,621 and expenses of \$81,264 with net assets of \$48,357. At the luncheon, KI President Jane Erickson gave an outstanding "pep talk" to the audience about the importance of Kiwanis in serving our communities.



2017 Mid-Winter Conference, Penn Stater Conference Center

100th Anniversary Committee



The kickoff meeting of our 100th Anniversary Gala Committee was held on March 29. Committee members include **Bob Ashcraft, Young Chang, Tom & Peg Harp, Deb Kolp, Enos Martin and Todd & Sonya Siegfried**. Our first order of business was to name chairs for the committee. Bob & Todd agreed to co-chair. We agreed to meet monthly on the last Wednesday of the month beginning at 5:00 PM at the J.S. Burkholder Funeral Home, just prior to our monthly Board of Directors meeting. Peg has developed a logo to use for the event (see above). We spent considerable time discussion potential costs for the gala and sponsors. We will be developing sponsorship levels and begin to contact potential sponsors including PPL, Air Products, Capital Blue,

Lehigh Valley Hospital and other Allentown area businesses. Enos has developed a spread sheet of all of our past members and their employers. We can utilize that list in targeting sponsors. Enos has also been collecting and organizing our club's archives, and will develop a PowerPoint presentation of our history. It was suggested that we also prepare a video highlighting some of our service projects. We plan to have a silent auction as well to raise money for our Foundation. Tom will reach out to other clubs that have had, or are planning their own 100th Anniversary events for "best practices" and ideas. Our gala WAS scheduled for March 17, 2018 but due to a major conflict with other Pa. Kiwanis activities that Saturday, we have moved it up to **March 10, 2018**. At this point in time the gal is scheduled to be held at the Renaissance by Marriott Hotel in downtown Allentown.

100th Anniversary Historic Moment

October 17, 1918: The Kiwanis Club sold a total of **\$1,282,700** of Liberty Bonds to Lehigh Valley citizens in a single day to quintuple its goal set prior to the campaign. The following are excerpts from a lengthy article published in The Morning Call on October 18:

"Securing subscriptions well over a million dollars, the Allentown Kiwanis Club yesterday excelled all records in this or any other Liberty Loan campaigns or subscriptions in Lehigh County secured by any organization or upon any one day."

"Setting their goal at \$250,000, which was considered very high for this young organization, hopes rose during the early afternoon when the figures soared over the gold line and so the Kiwanis officers, realizing their big opportunity feeling that the big psychological moment had arrive in the campaign, got together, made a new goal, a million dollars, and then set out to attain it. The figure was reached shortly after 9 o'clock, but with a crowd on Center Square that kept growing every minute and whose enthusiasm seemed to be quite reached, the Kiwanians kept right on until the grand total of \$1,282,700 was reached and the crowd was sent home in the best humor that any crowd has left the square during the past three strenuous weeks."

– **Enos and Susan Martin**

Division 18 News

Kiwanis Club of Allentown Northeast is selling Perkin's pies for Easter

Deadline for orders and money is Tuesday, April 4. Pies will be delivered or can be picked up on April 13. Contact any club member or Charles Chase and he will e-mail the order form and work out money pickup and delivery for you.

Kiwanis Club of Emmaus - Walter C. Stoudt Memorial - Prayer Breakfast

Friday, April 14, 2017, 7:30 AM, Saint John's Lutheran Church. 501 Chestnut Street, Emmaus, \$6.00. Speaker: Pastor Mia White from Hope UCC Church. For Tickets and Further Information: (610) 395-4818 or www.EmmausKiwanis.org

Kiwanis Club of Emmaus 65th Annual Easter Egg Hunt (Rain or Shine) Saturday, April 15, 2017 1 PM, Emmaus Community Park, 13th & Broad Streets, Emmaus. 5 Age Groups (Toddlers thru Age 10), Prizes for Numbered Eggs. **Come Meet the Easter Bunny.** For Further Information: (610) 395-4818 or www.EmmausKiwanis.org

Kiwanis Club of Allentown Northeast Semi-Annual Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's, Catasauqua Road, Saturday May 20, 8 – 10 AM_Tickets are \$7.00 for adults and will offer a raffle and grab bags.

Kiwanis Club of Emmaus 44th Annual Pancake Festival, Sunday, June 4th, 2017, 8am to Noon, Emmaus Fire Company #1, 6th & Broad Streets, Emmaus, Tickets: \$7.00 per person. Children Under Age 10 Eat Free. All The Pancakes You Can Eat! For Tickets and Further Information: (610) 395-4818 or www.EmmausKiwanis.org

Upcoming Club Meetings and Activities

Saturday, April 8, 10 AM to @ 12 PM, SERVICE PROJECT -Cleanup of Cedar Beach Park. Meet in parking lot next to pool house.

Thursday, April 13, 12 PM, LUNCH MEETING – Election of Officers for 2017-18, Guest Speaker Eleana Belletieri, Director of the Salvation Army Women's Shelter. Invocation by Young Chang

Friday, April 14, SERVICE PROJECT – Mother's Day Plants – LVCC Walnut Street Center, 10:00 AM (Enos & Susan Martin); LVCC Early Learning Center, 1:00 PM (Bob & Cindy Ashcraft) and 4:00 PM (WE NEED 2 VOLUNTEERS).

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



April Birthdays



NONE!



- Tom Harp, Editor