

**“Building our community one child at a time”
For the past Century!**

The Downtowner

Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Allentown

December 3, 2017

November Lunch Meeting

At our November 9 meeting, we welcomed guest speaker Miriam Rivera, Outreach Educator for Turning Point of Lehigh Valley.



Miriam Rivera

Miriam started her talk by stating that she has worked for Turning Point for 24 years. The agency itself has been around for 40 years. They serve all victims of domestic violence, including children and at times men. Last year, in Pennsylvania 102 individuals lost their lives as a result of domestic violence. Children in particular suffer the most from an abusive home environment. “Every child has talent that cannot be developed in an abusive situation” Miriam said. Turning Point operates a 24/7 Help Line and several “safe houses” in the area. They offer support groups for men, women, children,

the LGBT community and others. They have been dealing more with sex trafficking victims, who smuggle undocumented women into the country to become “wives” of men who are the customers of traffickers. It is important for others not to pass judgement on victims of domestic violence. This is especially true of extended family members. It is important to show love and compassion for the victims. As an Outreach Educator, Miriam visits schools to educate students about ways to avoid date violence. Turning Point works with area police departments to inform them of resources that domestic violence victims can access in times of need. Miriam’s presentation was particularly timely given the recent news of sexual misconduct and abuse by celebrities. Turning Point is a valuable service to our community.

Foundation Grant Awards Breakfast

Please plan to attend our Foundation’s annual Grant Awards Breakfast, to be held on **Thursday, December 7** beginning at **7:30 AM** at the Ham-Fam. Our Foundation will be awarding a total of \$9,000 to 11 nonprofit organizations for programs that benefit children in our community. This is also a Division 18 Interclub meeting, and we expect to welcome several members of other clubs in our division. So far, we have nearly 40 reservations for this annual event! Once again this year, the William Allen Chorale will be performing musical dance routines. And, we will be honoring a member of our club with the 2017 “Distinguished Service Award.” Cost of breakfast is \$10, which can be paid at the door. Hope to see you there!

LVCC Christmas Party!



A highlight of our club’s calendar, and one of our signature service projects, is our annual Christmas Party for children from three Lehigh Valley Children’s Centers’ (LVCC) centers. Once again this year we will be hosting a party at LVCC’s South Mountain Center, located at 2002 S. Albert St., Allentown on **Friday, December 15**. We are expecting 160 3-5 year old children from the South Mountain, Walnut Street and Early Learning Center (ELC) locations. This year, we have moved the schedule up by 15 minutes to allow the children more time with Santa. The party’s schedule is as follows:

- **10:15 AM to 11:30 AM - Lunch and Table Activities**
- **11:30 AM to 12:00 PM - Magic Show**
- **12:00 PM to 1:00 PM - Time with Santa**

Volunteers should report to the center by 9:30 AM. We need to move toys upstairs, fill gift bags with goodies, and prepare the chicken nuggets lunch. We can also help out with table activities, and serve food to the children. Volunteers from the Allen H.S. Key

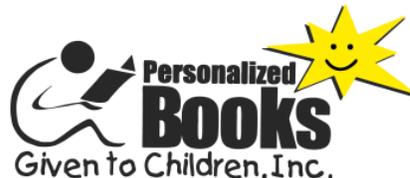
Club will be joining us again this year. We are grateful that “Toys for Tots” will be providing us with toys and books to hand out to the children. If you are interested in volunteering to help out at the party, please let President Tom know ASAP.

Service Leadership Programs Report



We continue to develop and improve Service Leadership Programs in the Allentown School District. The **Ramos Elementary School K-Kids Club** has met several times, and has selected its first service project- collecting items to donate to homeless shelters. At its next meeting on December 4, they will be selecting officers, getting their club pins, and receive K-Kids t-shirts, courtesy of our Foundation. On Friday, December 8 at 9:15 AM, there will be a student assembly at the school at which time we will join the K-Kids in a charter ceremony to include the unfurling of their club banner. **Vic Mazziotti** is serving as our club advisor to the new Ramos K-Kids Club. **Tom Harp**, our advisor to the **Washington Elementary School K-Kids Club**, reports that their 28 members will be engaged in their first service project on December 12, when they will be picking up litter all around the school grounds and parking lot after school. The **Raub Middle School Builders Club** is planning a service project for the holidays, most likely providing hand-made gifts to residents of the Phoebe Home who have no family. **Enos Martin** continues to serve as our club advisor to that SLP.

Personalized Books Schedule



December is traditionally a light schedule for the distribution of Personalized Books at Allentown schools. The only dates this month are:

- December 7 – Jefferson Elementary School – 110 students
- December 14 – McKinley Elementary School – 60 students

If you would like to help **Terry Kennedy** hand out and read books to these first-grade students, meet him in the school office by 9:15 AM. It is a very rewarding experience!

100th Anniversary Gala

We have released invitations to our 100th Anniversary Gala on **March 18, 2018**. Please forward the invitations to friends, family and others that you would like to attend. We have also extended the deadline for reservations to March 1, 2018. The Morning Call will be sponsoring two 1/8 page ads promoting our event in mid-January and mid-

February. They also hope to cover the event with a news article or feature. We continue to solicit sponsors for the Gala. Please help us identify businesses that could be a sponsor, or donate gift certificates or silent auction items. We will be distributing invitations and sponsorship forms at the December 7 breakfast meeting. We have confirmed that Pa. District Kiwanis **Governor Judy Raub**, and District Executive Director **Kevin Thomas** will be attending the event! We will also be inviting former Allentown Kiwanis members, and members of other clubs in our Division, as well as neighboring Division 17. And, Pa. District Kiwanis has posted our invitation on their home page. We are building excitement for our big event next year!

100th Anniversary Historic Moment

Reverend Henry Aulenbach joined Kiwanis initially in April 1928 when he became a member of the Berwick Kiwanis Club. In 1931, Rev. Aulenbach transferred to Allentown as the Pastor of St. Andrew's Reformed Church located at 402 North 9th Street. He joined the Kiwanis Club of Allentown in February 1931. He remained a member of the Club through October 1953 when he was transferred to New Jersey to serve as a pastor. He transferred his membership to the New Brunswick NJ Kiwanis Club. Upon his retirement, he returned to Allentown and rejoined our Club in January 1964. He remained a member until he passed away on February 25, 1974. Overall, he was a Kiwanis member for 46 years with 32 of those years with the Kiwanis Club of Allentown.

Rev. Aulenbach served as Club Vice President in 1939 and followed by serving as Club President in 1939. He became Lieutenant Governor of the Kiwanis Region in 1940. During Kiwanis's 25th anniversary in 1940, Reverend Aulenbach, while in Chicago for a training meeting, requested the presence of Kiwanis International President Bennet O. Knudson, who resided in Albert Lea, Minnesota, to speak at Allentown's celebration of Kiwanis's 25th anniversary. This was the first and possibly the only time that a Kiwanis International president addressed the Kiwanis Club of Allentown.

Rev. Aulenbach served as the Pennsylvania District Governor in 1943. He is the only Club member to ever have served in this position. Fellow Club member Lloyd McKeever served as District Secretary for Rev. Aulenbach during his term. During his governorship, Rev. Aulenbach, often accompanied by McKeever, visited 103 of the 123 clubs in Pennsylvania and traveled over 23,000 miles by bus, train, and trolley.

In 1945, Rev. Aulenbach made an appeal to the Pennsylvania Kiwanis, which was accepted, to set up a Pennsylvania Key Club District. This led to the formation of the Allentown High School Key Club in 1946 and the Central Catholic Key Club in 1947.

- *Enos Martin*

Division 18 News

Division 18 Leaders – I reached out to Bill Walters, President of the Easton Club to provide information to us on how he handled the “Early Learning Guides” last year for his club and others in Division 17 and thus the information below. As I recall the freight cost was not high.

“Fellow Kiwanians, I'm concerned how many of our Div 17 & 18 clubs ARE NOT distributing the Kiwanis Early Learning Guides. It may be a problem getting the cartons

from Kevin's office so maybe that's why you aren't promoting them. Or it may be just something else. BUT I may have a solution to the ease of getting ample guides back into our local area to deliver. I have located a warehouse in the Palmer Township area near the Tatamy exit of route 33 where full pallets of the guides could be delivered to. All you club has to do is promote the guides and get orders for your needs back to me and be willing to share in the cost of the freight. For more information, please see the attached. If you wish more information please send me an e-mail to advise and I will send the attachment."

- Bill Walters, President, Kiwanis Club of Easton

Upcoming Meetings and Activities

Thursday, December 7, 7:30 AM ! – Annual Foundation Grant Awards Breakfast. Musical performance by the Allen H.S. Chorale. Invocation by Young Chang.

Friday, December 15, 10:15 AM to 1:00 PM – Annual LVCC Christmas Party, South Mountain Center, Allentown.

100th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEETING – Wednesday, December 20, 5:00 PM at the J.S. Burkholder Funeral Home.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – Wednesday, December 20, 6:00 PM at the J.S. Burkholder Funeral Home.



December Birthdays



- 20 – John Stoffa**
- 25 – Deirdre Govan**
- 29 – Joyce Crosby**
- 31 – Enos Martin**



- ***Tom Harp, Editor***