



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

The Downtowner

Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Allentown

March 1, 2019

February 14 Meeting



We had a **LOVELy** time on Valentine’s Day at our February 14 lunch meeting. There was a nice turnout, with 11 members and two guests - **Deb Lamb’s** husband **Greg**, and **Nancy Wunderly** from Cedar Crest College. It was a sunny day after two miserable days of snow, ice and freezing rain. The occasion was even more festive thanks to **Ricki Stringfellow** treating everyone to a chocolate heart. **President Todd** welcomed everyone, and Deb Lamb offered the invocation. Todd went over a club news and upcoming events. He introduced Nancy Wunderly, Director of Admissions, School of Adult and Graduate Education at Cedar Crest College. Nancy provided information about a 15% tuition discount offered to members of the Greater LV Chamber of Commerce. All Kiwanis Clubs in the Lehigh Valley are included under a non-profit membership initiated by Pa. District Governor Phil Weber. The discount applies to our members AND their spouses. So if you are thinking about taking adult courses at Cedar Crest, take advantage of this opportunity! Nancy is a former Reading HS Key Club member, and is considering membership in our club.

Regrettably, the speaker for this meeting from the Civic Theatre of Allentown was unable to attend. **Enos Martin** came off the bench to save the day by sharing his work on a book he is writing about the 100+ year history of our club. Enos has a binder with hundreds of pages in draft form. He shared some interesting vignettes about former owners of the J.S. Burkholder Funeral Home. His goal is to have a book published with proceeds going to our Foundation. The book will not only reflect our club's rich history, it will provide the reader with a history of the City of Allentown. Enos is our club's "Historian Emeritus" and deserves much credit for the wonderful slide show he created for our 100th Anniversary Gala, and now his new book project. Thanks Enos!

Gumball Machine Fundraiser



Our club is in dire need of revenue to benefit our Youth and Community Service account. Our big fundraiser of the year is the Rose Sale in October. But year-round, we have the opportunity to benefit from proceeds collected from a number of gumball/candy machines in our area. **Enos Martin** has been working with **Joe Ross** of **NE PA Vending** to install and service over a dozen machines at businesses in our area. Recently he placed four machines at the Fitness Plaza in Fogelsville. Enos has been working with the local Uline warehouse to install candy machines in their four lunch rooms. The request has been submitted to their corporate office in Wisconsin, and we are hopeful that they will approve. But, **WE NEED MORE LOCATIONS!** We just got a check from NE PA Vending for \$47 for the last quarter, but could be doing much better. Many years ago, our club had dozens of these machines around Allentown and earned over \$1,000 in revenue. If we could earn half of that in the next year, it would greatly help our club. So, if you know of a commercial location that might be interested in hosting a gumball/candy machine, contact Enos . Think of your barber or hairdresser. The garage that services your car. A local laundromat or family drug store. Maybe even a golf course clubhouse! The possibilities are endless. But we need your help to expand this initiative. So give it some thought and send Enos your "leads." Thanks!

February Service Project

For our community service project last month, we donated personal grooming items for Raub Middle School. Several members either dropped items off at the J.S. Burkholder Funeral Home in advance, or brought them to our Board of Directors meeting on February 4. **Enos Martin** loaded up several large bags and boxes of donated items that he dropped off at the school the next day. **THANKS** to everyone who donated items for this fine cause!

"Bundles for Babies"



Proud Dad!



Blanket Made by Peg

The "Bundles for Babies" knitting group, led by **Peg Harp**, continues to meet every Tuesday from 3-4 PM at Atria Assisted Living in Bethlehem. Each week, at least 8 Atria residents join Peg in knitting baby blankets, hats and other items for the Nurse-Family Partnership. Several new residents of Atria have joined the group, and are being mentored by Peg. **Tina Wida** of the St. Luke's Nurse-Family Partnership will be stopping by next week with photos of some of the newborns and their blankets. A couple are posted above. If you are interested in knitting, or learning how to knit, call Peg at 610-428-9878.

March Service Projects

We will be involved in two service projects this month! The first is to assist with the IHOP **National Pancake Day** fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, to be held on Tuesday, March 12 at the only IHOP in the Lehigh Valley. It is located at 1511 Lehigh Street in Allentown. We are requesting volunteers to serve 2-3 hour shifts from 7 AM to 7 PM that day. Diners will receive a FREE short stack of pancakes, and we will ask them to donate to the L&LS on the way out. **We need more volunteers!** Please contact Tom Harp ASAP to volunteer for a shift.



We have been asked to help out at the Raub Middle School "Family Fun Night" on Thursday, March 28 from 6 – 7:30 PM. In past years, we have run the bingo games and may try to do that again. **Enos Martin** will be making an announcement in the near future seeking volunteers.



Service Leadership Programs



The **Raub Middle School Builders Club** has become more active, after weeks of school closings and bad weather. They recently completed a project that recognized the school's support staff. For Valentine's Day they filled boxes with cookies, and pretzels dipped in chocolate and sprinkles, and donated them to the security, cafeteria, custodial and office staff. These were wildly popular! Their next project will be to collect "Box Tops for Education" at the school. These coupons, usually found on the top of certain cereal boxes, are worth 10 cents each for the school. The Builders Club will be placing containers in every homeroom, encouraging the students to collect and donate box tops. There will be a competition between homerooms. **Enos Martin** has sent an e-mail to our club encouraging us to participate as well. "Bring your Box Tops for Education" coupons to our meetings in March and April and Enos will drop them off at the school. They can be found on a variety of products like Cheerios and other General Mills products, Nestle Pure Life bottled water, Finish dishwasher detergent, Hefty bags and much more. Visit www.boxtops4education.com for a full list of participating products.



The **South Mountain Middle School Builders Club** suffered a mild setback when their faculty advisor, **Gina Nichols** left for another job. **Terry Kennedy**, our club advisor just met with Gina's replacement **Jill Arlington**, who is a first year science teacher. Meetings have been moved to Thursdays, in Jill's classroom. The club's new service project is to assemble goodie bags for people who adopt a pet from the Lehigh County Humane Society. The club plans to raise money at a bake sale they will host at March Fun Night at the school. The most exciting news for the SMMS Builders Club occurred the evening of February 28, when the club and 9 of the members were awarded a "Catch a Young Person Doing Something Right Award" from Mayor Ray O'Connell! They were also recognized with a "Volunteerism Award" presented by State Representatives Pete Schweyer and Mike Schlossberg.



SMMS Builders Club at City Hall

Vic Mazziotti reports that he **Ramos Elementary School K-Kids Club** is doing well. They are preparing to spearhead the annual “Pennies for Patients” fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Classrooms at the school will be collecting loose change through the month of March. Last year, the school raised over \$3,800 thanks in large part to leadership from the K-Kids.

Due to several weather-related school closings and delays the past few weeks, **The Washington Elementary School K-Kids Club** has not met. However, at their next meeting they have invited a homeless advocate to speak, and to provide ideas on ways the club could help the homeless population in our community. The club is also looking into purchasing story books for the first grade students in the school, and reading to those children.

The **Allentown Central Catholic Key Club** just held a raffle to raise money to buy books and supplies for a Reading Corner at Sacred Heart Hospital. All of our Key Clubs have been invited to serve as volunteers at our LVCC Picnic on May 16.

Pa. District Kiwanis Mid-Winter Conference

Three members of our club, **Young Chang**, **Tracy Davis** and **Enos Martin** will be attending the Pa. District Kiwanis Mid-Winter conference in State College on Saturday, March 16. This should be an exciting event with **Gov. Phil Weber**, a member of the Emmaus Kiwanis club, celebrating our successes this past year, especially in growing Service Leadership Programs across the state. At this event, our club will be honored with a “Distinguished Club Award” for the 2017-18 administrative year. We have also submitted a “Signature Service Project Award” application for our annual LVCC Picnics. We are hopeful that this will be a project selected to compete for a Kiwanis International awards as well!

A Glance Into Our Past

100 Years Ago – March 1919

On March 27, 1919, former Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan, who served under President Woodrow Wilson from 1913-1915, addressed a large crowd of Kiwanians and guests which required two large dining rooms at the Hotel Traylor to accommodate the crowd. Attorney Lawrence Rupp, through his Pennsylvania State Democratic chairman role, was able to obtain Secretary Bryan for the meeting. Secretary Bryan spoke on the need for the League of Nations stating that “it is the greatest step toward peace in a thousand years.” He also discussed his efforts of working towards world peace. He received a five-minute standing ovation at the conclusion of his address.

75 Years Ago – March 1944

The meetings in March focused on the impact of World War II on the nation and our region. W. L. Jack Nelson, Civil Aeronautics Administration, addressed Kiwanis on the need to continue the training of Army and Navy pilots, which was slated to be discontinued because the legislation which initiated the program had an early 1944 end date. George M. Stevens, an FBI agent from Philadelphia, spoke about how careful investigation identified espionage and sabotage activities. George E. Caraker, a west coast news analyst, theorized how the world should address post-war Germany to gradually bring the country back to normalization.

50 Years Ago – March 1969

In March 1969, Lehigh County Commissioners approved the installation of the Lehigh County Geology Garden. The Kiwanis Foundation followed up with a grant of \$2,500 in support of the installation of a “pocket park” behind the old Lehigh County Courthouse at the northwest corner of 5th and Hamilton Streets. The small park consisted of 20 different geology specimens recognizing their contributions to the County’s industry, economics, art and education. The park was dedicated on August 28, 1969.

25 Years Ago – March 1994

Jeff Parks, President of Musikfest, addressed the Kiwanis Club on March 4 with a presentation called “A Williamsburg in our Valley.” He discussed the success of the event which was then entering its 11th anniversary. The event had pushed Bethlehem and the Lehigh Valley area into a destination location during its first ten years of existence.

- **Enos Martin**

Division 18 News

The Kiwanis Club of Allentown Northeast will be hosting the Division 18 Inter-Club on Wednesday, March 20 at Denny’s on Catasauqua Road. It is an evening meeting and guests should arrive at 5:15 PM to order their dinners before the meeting starts 6 PM. The cost is \$13.00 and includes a 50/50 raffle ticket. The program will be on the Easton Kiwanis Club playground that was built for the Boys and Girls Club, as their official 100th Anniversary club project. William Walter, Past President of the Easton Club will be the speaker. So far, **Young Chang**, **Deb Lamb** and **Terry Kennedy** plan to attend. If anyone else is interested in joining them, contact Tom Harp.

Lt. Governor Young Chang has called for a meeting of the clubs in Division 18 to follow the Inter-Club on March 20. He asks that each club does it best to have its officers present for the meeting to discuss several items including a new Lt. Governor for 2019-20, membership status of our clubs, and other important items for our continued success.

Please help the **Kiwanis Club of Allentown Northeast** welcome its newest member **Robin Kulesa**, Membership Director at WLVT-TV 39. Robin met club members at the Day of Caring last year and decided to join the club.

The Kiwanis Club of Emmaus is hosting its annual **Easter Egg Hunt** on March **24, 2019** from 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM at the Macungie Fire Company #1, 31 S. Walnut Street, (Macungie) The proceeds benefit the Emmaus Kiwanis Foundation, which provides thousands of dollars in scholarships to area students, sponsors the Community Egg Hunt, Special Needs Christmas Party and much more.

- **Chas Chase**



Upcoming Meetings and Activities

SERVICE PROJECT - Bundles for Babies” knitting project at Atria Senior Assisted Living in Bethlehem. Tuesdays at 3:00 PM in Atria’s activity room.

SERVICE PROJECT - Tuesday, March 12 from 7 AM to 7 PM. IHOP National Pancake Day, IHOP, 1511 Lehigh St. Allentown. Call Tom Harp at 610-428-1427 to volunteer.

MONTHLY CLUB MEETING - Thursday, March 14, 6 PM (5-6 PM Social Hour) at the Shanty on 19th – Speaker will be Mike Ventola, Media Relations Manager, LV IronPigs.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - Wednesday, March 27, 5-6 PM at the J.S. Burkholder Funeral Home.

SERVICE PROJECT – Thursday, March 28, from 6 – 7 PM. Raub Middle School “Family Fun Night” at the school. We will be setting up and calling bingo games.



March Birthdays



23 - Young Chang

29 - Susan Martin



- Tom Harp, Editor