



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

The Downtowner

Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Allentown

October 1, 2019

September 12 Meeting



Another Delicious Dinner



Linda Vega

We enjoyed a nice, relaxing “Social Hour” at the Shanty on 19th prior to our dinner meeting on September 12. Our guest speaker for the meeting was **Linda Vega**, Founder and President of the Rilyc Community & Arts Center. Rilyc is a non-profit organization whose mission is to “create tomorrow’s leaders through the arts.” Linda reflected on her own history as a product of the foster care system. During her childhood, she was raised by a single mom and was enrolled in an ESOL program. She attended Allentown schools, and is now a candidate for the Board of the Allentown School District. Rilyc is a small organization with Linda serving as president, and a staff of four full-time volunteers. Their major sponsor is the 21st Century Fund. They provide translation services to the community, sensitivity training, and a variety of arts programs including poetry writing,

miming, and music performed with American Sign Language. They provide after-school programming to middle school and high school students to teach leadership and teamwork skills, and to build confidence through public speaking opportunities and performing arts.

Annual Rose Sale

We have turned in our orders for the Annual Rose Sale that benefits the Pennsylvania District Kiwanis Foundation and our club. Our goal was to sell 70 dozen roses, but we came up just short by selling 50 dozen. We would like to once again thank **Alison Norton** for serving as our club's Rose Sale coordinator. If you have not already paid for your order, feel free to mail a check to **Enos Martin** or bring it to our next club meeting. The roses will be **delivered on Thursday, October 24**. Several of our members will be helping to box the roses from 6:45-8 AM at the Denny's restaurant on Catasauqua Rd. in Bethlehem. For every dozen roses sold, our club earns \$8.00. This is our most profitable fundraiser of the year. THANKS to everyone who bought roses. They will certainly brighten up your day on October 24!

Service Leadership Programs



Our Sponsored Leadership Programs (SLP's) are getting organized for the new school year. The high school Key Clubs are already planning community service activities. We have been invited by **Katie Hutchinson** to march join the Salisbury HS Key Club in their Homecoming Parade this Friday, October 4 from 5:15 PM to 6:30 PM beginning at the elementary school. **Tom Harp** and **Eleana Belletieri** plan to march with the Key Club in the parade. Anyone else from our club is welcomed to join us!

Recently both the Raub and South Mountain Middle Schools had Open Houses and our club advisors participated in these events by setting up tables to recruit members for the Builders Clubs. **Enos Martin** created a display that he set up at the Raub Open House. He reports that 10 students have already signed up for the club. Their goal is to have 20 members. Enos was pleased that a 6th grade teacher has volunteered to serve as the new faculty advisor for the Raub Builders Club. They plan to meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month after school. At South Mountain, **Terry Kennedy** reports that 12 students signed up for the Builders Club at an Open House on September 17. He is looking forward to another successful year for the club.

Our K-Kids programs at the Ramos and Washington Elementary Schools are developing more slowly. Meetings are expected shortly. There was an organizational meeting of the new K-Kids Club at Union Terrace Elementary School on September 17. The meeting was very productive. **Deb Lamb**, our club advisor and **Enos Martin** participated in the meeting, which included two faculty advisors for the K-Kids Club, and the Community School Coordinator for UT. The faculty advisors decided to aim for 20 children in grades 3-5, with a special focus on grades 3 and 4. They will ask classroom teachers for recommendations of children who are starting to show leadership qualities. The Student Council at the school, made up of all 5th graders, will complement the K-Kids Club as a

great leadership opportunity for the students. Meetings will most likely take place every two weeks in the morning, when the children have breakfast. At the first few meetings the students will learn about K-Kids, establish a membership roster, learn about officer positions, brainstorm service projects, and elect their officers. We anticipate a Charter Ceremony in November.

Finally, we are in the process of starting a new Key Club at Building 21 in Allentown! Our newest member **Barbara Miller** is a math teacher at the school, and is helping to organize the club. **Tom Harp** will be joining her this coming Thursday, October 3 at an "Open House" at the school where we will have a table promoting the Key Club and recruiting students interested in membership.

Down Syndrome Buddy Walk

Several of our members have volunteered to help out at the Eastern Pennsylvania Down Syndrome Center "Buddy Walk" to be held this Saturday, October 5 on the campus of Cedar Crest College. **Tom Harp, Eleana Belletieri,** and **Greg Kessler** will be at the registration tables from 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM and **Young Chang** will be escorting "Star Wars" characters from 2-5 PM. This is a major fundraiser for the Center, which provides a variety of important services to families of children and adults with Down Syndrome.

Boys & Girls Club Halloween Party!



On Friday, October 18 from 4:00 PM-5:30 PM our club will be hosting a Halloween Party at the Boys & Girls Club of Allentown's 6th Street Clubhouse. Around 36 youngsters will be participating. There will be several activities with a Halloween theme, including a broomstick relay race, activity sheets with a Fall theme, and color me pop flyers which the kids will design and toss around. Several of our members have already volunteered, including **Alison Norton** (who is planning the event), **Enos and Susan Martin, Terry Kennedy,** and **Serena Ranney** who is arranging for candy donations from Just Born. Other treats will include apple cider and cookies. Please contact Alison if you are interested in helping out. Happy Halloween!

Friendly's Family Fun Night

We have made arrangements to host a "Family Fun Night" at the Friendly's Restaurant in Trexlertown on Monday, October 21 from 5-8 PM. **Todd Siegfried** is coordinating this fundraiser to benefit our Foundation. Todd has forwarded a flyer to our members to use in promoting the event. Please plan on dining with us at Friendly's that evening. 10% of all sales, including take-out, will be donated to our Foundation. Invite your family, friends and coworkers! There will be coloring books for the kids and other surprises. Enjoy a good meal and the company of your fellow Allentown Kiwanians while raising money for a great cause.

Box Tops for Education



Enos Martin, our advisor to the Raub Middle School Builders Club, continues to collect “Box Tops for Education” to benefit the school’s education fund. He has decided to collect the box tops YEAR ROUND. So continue to cut out the box top coupons on select products and bring them to our monthly meetings. Enos will have a box at the cashier’s table to drop them in. For a list of products that offer these coupons, visit the BTFE website, www.boxtops4education.com.

A Glance Into Our Past

100 Years Ago – October 1919

Elwood Thomas, Club President, and Albert Saurman, Club Secretary, attended the 2nd annual Pennsylvania District Kiwanis Convention in Altoona. Saurman was also serving as the Pennsylvania District Secretary. At the convention, Saurman was re-elected District Secretary for the 2nd consecutive year. At the October 2 luncheon, the Club raised a total of \$2,000 to contribute to the campaign for Allentown Hospital. Member Samuel W. Traylor contributed \$1,000 personally to the campaign.

75 Years Ago – October 1944

At the October 5 luncheon, the Allentown Kiwanis Club and Kiwanis International presented testimonial scrolls to the Morning Call and Evening Chronical for their outstanding service to the community and nation during the critical war years. Recognition was given “for accurate and comprehensive reporting of the war news, for generous and unremitting support of wartime activities on the home front, for fostering sound morale, for fearless and independent editorial opinion, and for unrelaxed vigilance in safeguarding the basic liberties of free speech and a free press.” The scrolls were signed by both the president and secretary of the local club and Kiwanis International.

50 Years Ago – October 1969

In October 1969, the Club began to function in its current fiscal year setup. Previously the Club’s administrative year coincided with the calendar year from January through December. Beginning in October, the new administrative year would run from October through September. This change was made based on a change implemented by Kiwanis International. Thus the 1969 administrative year was only 9 months in length.

25 Years Ago – October 1994

On October 22, Club members along with at least 20 Key Club members from Allen and Central Catholic High Schools sorted two trailer loads of used clothing at the LARC (now called VIA) Shop at 6th and Greenleaf Streets in Allentown. The clothing would be sold to raise money for LARC programs.

- ***Enos Martin***

Division 17-18 News

The Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania District of Kiwanis International approved the merger of Divisions 18 and 17 effective October 1, 2019. Our club, along with Allentown Northeast and Emmaus are now a part of a new Division 17-18. There will no longer be a "Division 18 Newsletter" formerly submitted by Charles Chase. We expect that there will be some method of communication to inform the ten clubs in Division 17-18 of activities, events, fundraisers, new members, etc. That will be up to the new "Acting Lt. Governor" for Division 17-18 who is no other than our own **Enos Martin!** Enos was appointed in this capacity by the new Pa. District Governor **Mike Haven** at a meeting of the Board on September 28. Congratulations Enos, and GOOD LUCK!

Upcoming Meetings and Activities

SERVICE PROJECT – Saturday, October 5 – Down Syndrome Buddy Walk, Cedar Crest College.

SERVICE PROJECT – Friday, October 18, 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM – Halloween Party, Girls & Boys Club, 720 N. 6th Street, Allentown.

FUNDRAISER – Monday, October 21, 5-8 PM – Family Fun Night, Friendly's Restaurant, 6894 Hamilton Blvd., Trexlertown (next to the Trexler Mall).

MONTHLY CLUB MEETING - Thursday, October 10, 12:00 PM (Noon) at the Shanty on 19th. Speaker will be Vicki Ferrence Ray, Executive Director of Youth Education in the Arts (YEA). ALSO, installation of officers for the 2019-20 administrative year.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – Wednesday, October 30, 5 PM at the J.S. Burkholder Funeral Home.



October Birthdays



7 – Vic Mazziotti

10 – Bob Krupka

13 – Greg Kessler



-Tom Harp, Editor