

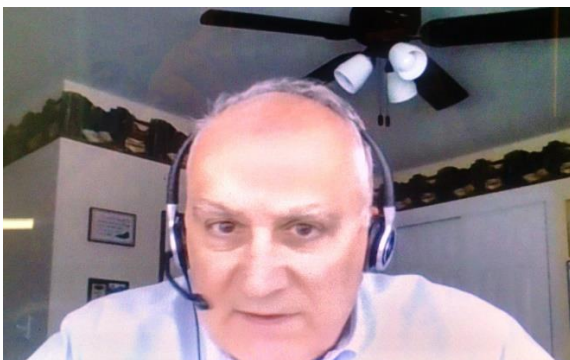
“Building our community, one child at a time”

The Downtowner

Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Allentown

June 1, 2021

May 13 Meeting



Mark Hanichak



Interclub Screenshot

Our May 13 meeting was an Interclub Meeting, as we invited all clubs in Division 17/18 to join us. We greeted 22 participants to the Zoom meeting, including special guests **Sarah Zulueta**, Pa. District Kiwanis Governor-Elect; **Kevin Thomas**, District Executive Director; and **Tiffany Callaio**, District Education Chair. Our speaker was **Mark Hanichak**, Senior Director for the Geisinger Health Foundation. Mark recently re-joined our club, and mentioned that his love for Kiwanis began at Allentown Central Catholic HS where he was President of the Key Club from 1972-73. Mark's topic was the Children's Miracle Network (CMN) and the Geisinger Janet Weis Children's Hospital. He began with a disclosure that he was not a representative of CMN, and that his presentation was for informational purposes only. CMN was founded in 1983 by celebrities Marie Osmond and John Schneider, and by Mick Shannon of the March of Dimes. There are now 170 CMN-affiliated hospitals in the country. They have served over 10 million children over the years who have made 32 million hospital visits. Every day they treat 925 NICU babies, 935 kids

with diabetes, and 2,128 children with cancer. They have over 100 celebrity partners as well as 97 corporate partners. In 38 years the CMN has raised over 7 billion dollars, or an average of \$185 million a year. There are five CMN hospitals in Pennsylvania. They are in Erie, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, Danville and Philadelphia. They have territorial catchment areas originally based on TV markets. Children from the Lehigh Valley are served by the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). The Geisinger Janet Weis Hospital in Danville serves northeastern and northcentral Pennsylvania. They have used funds raised by CMT to purchase cardiovascular ultrasound equipment, NICU ventilators, language interpretation equipment and for children's addiction education programs. During the Q&A portion of the presentation, **Walter Howell** of the Kiwanis Club of Easton mentioned a fundraising effort by Pa. Kiwanis in 1971-72 when clubs in the state raised \$1 million to establish a 6-bed children's cardiology unit at the Danville Hospital. Kevin Thomas mentioned that for many years Pa. Kiwanis facilitated donations of refurbished cardiology equipment to Jamaica. They also arranged for sick children with heart conditions to be flown to Geisinger Danville for treatment. We learned a lot about CMN, the Janet Weis Children's Hospital, and their wonderful collaboration over the years with Kiwanis.

Following Mark's presentation, we opened up for announcements and district news. Kevin Thomas confirmed that the Pa. District Convention (DCON) this summer was being moved from Reading to Harrisburg. The Crown Plaza Hotel in Reading was a victim to the pandemic, and no other hotel in Reading could meet the DCON requirements. Kevin reported that so far, 350 live participants and 350 virtual attendees have registered for the KI Convention in Salt Lake City next month. Walter Howell reported that he and several other Pa. Kiwanis members planned to fly out to the convention. Tiffany Callaio encouraged clubs to participate in the District's New Member contest. If a club signed up at least 2 new members by May 20 they would enter a drawing for a giant inflatable Kiwanis display, valued at nearly \$500!

Annual Meeting

The May 13 meeting was our club's official Annual Meeting, at which time we elect officers and Board members for both our club and Foundation. The following individuals were elected by the members present by unanimous consent:

Kiwanis Club of Allentown, 2021-22

- President: **Tom Harp**
- Vice-President: **Todd Siegfried**
- Treasurer: **Enos Martin**
- Secretary: **Peg Harp**
- Elected Board Members, 1-year term: **Alison Norton, Mark Hanichak**
- Elected Board Members, 2-year term: **Terry Kennedy, Deb Lamb**
- Elected Board Members, 3-year term: **Bob Ashcraft**

Kiwanis Foundation of Allentown, 2021-22

- President: **Todd Siegfried**
- Vice-President: **Bob Ashcraft**
- Treasurer: **Peg Harp**
- Secretary: **Tom Harp**

- Elected Trustees: **Young Chang, Terry Kennedy**

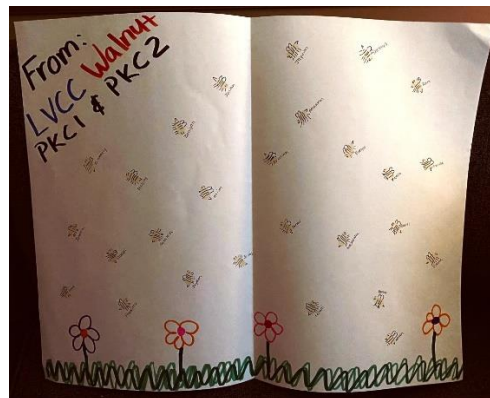
CONGRATULATIONS to these members and THANK YOU for your service to our club.

President-Elect **Tom Harp** then provided a brief “State of the Club” report. Thanks to the addition of 4 new members this year, our club has a healthy roster of 30 members. Our club treasury is in good shape, and our Foundation’s assets have grown due to several excellent financial quarters and a good investment strategy. We are all looking forward to the end of pandemic restrictions and the resumption of in-person community service projects in the near future, and Service Leadership Programs in the fall.

Mother's Day Flower Pot Project



On May 7, **Bob Ashcraft** delivered flower pots, soil, seedlings and stickers to the Lehigh Valley Children’s Centers Walnut Street and Early Learning Center locations for approximately 70 pre-school students. **Deb Lamb** coordinated the project with the centers. The children really enjoyed creating unique flower pots to give to their moms. The Walnut Street Center sent Bob this lovely “Thank You” card!



Allentown Kiwanis Day at the IronPigs

As of the publishing of this newsletter, we only have 8 tickets left for the 10th Annual “Allentown Kiwanis Day at the IronPigs” game to be held on **Sunday, June 13** at Coca-Cola Park in Allentown. This will be a 1:35 PM game as the ‘Pigs take on the Rochester Red Wings, an affiliate of the Washington Nationals. The cost of \$50 per ticket includes the comfort and amenities of a dugout suite, a 2-hour all-you-can-eat buffet, access to private bathrooms and a bar, and access to the club lounge. We have opened up the sale of tickets to other clubs in our division, and have invited Key Club faculty advisors as our guests.

Judith Chase Memorial Bench Dedication

On **Thursday, June 17** a ceremony dedicating the Judith Chase Memorial Bench will be held at the LVCC South Mountain Center, 2002 S. Albert Street, Allentown, beginning at **4:00 PM**. Speakers will include **Charles Dinofrio**, Executive Director of LVCC; **Deb Lamb**, Retired VP of Development for LVCC; **Tom Harp**, representing the Kiwanis Club of Allentown; Judy's son **Peter Chase**; and **Karen Moser**, Director of the LVCC South Mountain Center. Members of our club, and other Kiwanis Clubs in our area have been invited as well as LVCC staff, and Judy's family. Light refreshments will be served following the ceremony. Please plan to join us for this important event!

A Glance Into Our Past

100 Years Ago – June 1921

In December 2020, the Allentown State Hospital was demolished to make way for new development on the site. But 100 years ago on June 9, the Kiwanis Club met at and toured the facility. Doctor Henry I. Klopp, who served as its director since its opening in October 1912, addressed the Kiwanians on the care and treatment of the mentally ill at the facility.

75 Years Ago – June 1946

On June 16th, 18 club members participated in the awarding of a charter to a new Kiwanis Club in Riegelsville. Led by Allentown member Henry Aulenbach, past president and district lieutenant governor, Allentown strongly supported the formation of this club with members having attended three prior meetings in April and May to help the club get its start and obtain its charter. Unfortunately, the Riegelsville Club lost its charter during the 2012-13 year after more than 65 years of existence.

50 Years Ago – June 1971

On June 12th, Allentown Kiwanis participated with 11 other Division 17 clubs in Kiwanis Family Day at the Wanamaker, Kempton and Southern Tourist Railroad Park in Kempton. Unlimited free train rides were available to Kiwanians along with along with a kiddies fishing contest. A large picnic was set up for the attendees. The event was co-sponsored by the Allentown and Allentown-Salisbury Clubs and chaired by Ralph Pidcock, past Allentown president, and Andy Buda from the Salisbury Club.

25 Years Ago – June 1996

Current member Mary DiFebo's sister Elizabeth was awarded the John H. Leh \$1,000 Key Club scholarship. She was a member of the Allen High School Key Club. Mary also later was a member of the Allen Key Club and is currently our advisor to the Allen Key Club and a teacher at the high school.

Club Anniversaries: My apologies to Young Chang, I missed his club anniversary last month. He has been a member for 16 years having joined the club in May 2005. June anniversaries include: Jeff Burnatowski (3 years), Vic Mazziotti (6 years), Todd Siegfried (13 years), and **Sam Saxton (59 years!!)**

- ***Enos Martin***

Upcoming Meetings and Activities

SERVICE PROJECT – Thursday, June 17, 4:00 PM, Judith Chase Memorial Bench Dedication Ceremony, LVCC South Mountain Center, 2002 S. Albert Street, Allentown.

MONTHLY MEETING – NO CLUB MEETING IN JUNE!

SOCIAL OUTING – Sunday, June 13, 1:35 PM, Annual “Allentown Kiwanis Day at the IronPigs” game.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – Wednesday, June 30, 5 PM on Zoom.

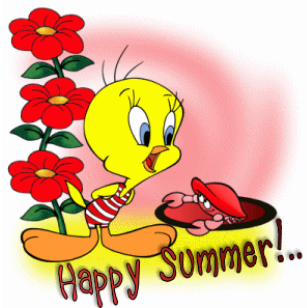


June Birthdays



6 - Mark Hanichak

16 - Bill Hengeveld



- Tom Harp, Editor