



“Building our community, one child at a time”

The Downtowner

Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Allentown

October 1, 2021

September 9 Meeting



Ken Adkins

At our September 9 dinner meeting, we welcomed 11 members and guests, including speaker **Ken Adkins** of the Lehigh Valley Phantoms. Ken is a Group Sales Specialist for the Phantoms. He grew up in Glenside, Pa. and attended the University of Pittsburgh. He confessed that this is his first job out of college! Last year's hockey season was an abbreviated one with many COVID restrictions. This year, the Phantoms will play a full schedule with 38 home games. Fans with season tickets will be able to return to their old seats. Ken mentioned the new Phantoms coach, Ian Laperierre who once played for the Philadelphia Flyers. His career was ended in 2010 after a slap shot hit him in the face, causing numerous injuries. He was known for being one of the toughest players in the NHL. The Phantoms are the highest minor-league team in the Flyers farm system. Ken believes that their farm system is one of the best in hockey. As a group sales representative for the Phantoms, Ken mentioned many options for groups of all sizes. He can arrange for group pricing in many sections of the arena. There is the BSI Suite at ice

level next to where the Phantoms players leave their locker room, which requires at least 50 guests and has a private lounge. The Party Deck behind Section 122 can seat up to 18 people. There is also the Miller Lite Sky Lounge for larger groups and the AD Moyer "Ice Deck." It was suggested that we work with Ken to plan a Kiwanis Division 17/18 Night at the Phantoms. Lt. Governor **Enos Martin** will follow up on that suggestion. Ken mentioned several other events at the arena including a USA v. Canada women's hockey game, Opening Weekend for the Phantoms on October 23, and the always-popular "Teddy Bear Toss" night on December 11. We thoroughly enjoyed Ken's presentation and enthusiasm as well as the complimentary Phantoms ball caps that he handed out to everyone! That certainly got us in the mood for a new hockey season at the PPL Center in Allentown.

Annual Rose Sale



Drumroll please! Yes, our club exceeded its goal of selling 50 dozen roses in this year's Annual Rose Sale. We actually sold 60 dozen! We would like to thank everyone who bought and/or sold roses, and to especially thank **Peg Harp** for coordinating this year's sale. Our club will net around \$420 from the sale. We will be donating one dozen roses to former club President **Ellen Kern** at the Boy Scout event on October 21, the same day roses will be delivered. That is a Thursday, and the roses will be dropped off at the Denny's restaurant on Catasauqua Road around 4:30 AM. **Bob Ashcraft** has graciously agreed to be there at that early hour to sign for the delivery. By 6:00 AM we should be able to begin boxing the roses. Those who purchased them can stop by any time between 6:00 AM to 9:00 AM, or we will arrange to have them delivered to you. Enjoy the beautiful roses, and thanks again for your support!

Foundation Grant Applications

Every year, our club's Foundation awards grants to local non-profit organizations for programs that benefit disadvantaged children in our community. This year, our Foundation's Board of Trustees has approved funding of up to \$12,000 in grants of \$1,500 or less. The deadline for grant applications is today, October 1. As of today we have received 7 applications. There will be a few more that are postmarked in time. The applications will be reviewed by a Service Committee comprised of **Bob Ashcraft, Todd Siegfried, Tom Harp, Terry Kennedy** and **Deb Lamb**. The committee will be making recommendations for funding to the Board of Trustees. We are planning an event in December at which time the grant awards will be presented. Details will be provided in the next issue of our newsletter.



Boy Scout Breakfast

On October 21, several of our members will show our support for the Minsi Trails Council of the Boy Scouts of America by attending the Lehigh District “Friends of Scouting” Breakfast at the Homewood Suites in Center Valley. At the event, former Allentown Kiwanis President **Ellen Millard-Kern** will be honored with a “Distinguished Citizen Award” from the council. **Terry Kennedy** generously became an “Eagle Table” sponsor for the event. Joining him at the table will be **Enos Martin, Bob Ashcraft,** and **Deb Lamb** from our club, as well as **Cathy Kane** from the Allentown Northeast Club and **Phil Weber** from the Emmaus Club. Our club will also be featured in an ad in the event’s program, both honoring Ellen, but also to invite guests to consider membership. For many decades, the Kiwanis Club of Allentown and its Foundation have supported the Boy Scouts through grants and sponsorship of troops in the urban scouting program. We are proud to be a part of this event.

United Way Day of Caring

After reviewing the volunteer opportunities, it was decided that our club would not be participating again this year. Unfortunately, the pandemic is still affecting the way that non-profit organizations operate, and restricts volunteers from most indoor activities. There were only 14 projects listed on the Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley website, and most were from non-profits outside Allentown. Others were simply to provide donated items, or in one case involved construction work. So, regrettably we will have to wait until September, 2022 when hopefully the pandemic will be over and there will be more opportunities for volunteer service.

Service Leadership Programs



Members who have volunteered to serve as advisors to the 9 Service Leadership Programs that we sponsor in the area continue efforts to reach out to those schools to renew relationships torn apart by the pandemic. **Tom Harp** has made initial contacts with the new Community in Schools Coordinator at the Washington Elementary School to discuss plans to re-start the K-Kids Club there. **Enos Martin** has been communicating with the Builders Club faculty liaison at the Raub Middle School. It appears as though they are promoting the club to their students. **Terry Kennedy** has personally visited South Mountain Middle School in an effort to re-establish the Builders Club there. And **Deb Lamb** has been in contact with school officials about the K-Kids Club at the Union Terrace Elementary School. We will also be reaching out to the Key Clubs that we sponsor at William Allen, Allentown Central Catholic, Salisbury and Southern Lehigh High Schools to see what they are up to. This has been a difficult process, especially at the elementary and middle school levels. These children have just returned to in-classroom learning, and there are a lot of kinks to work out. So we will give them time to organize school activities and offer to renew the charters of the clubs that were inactive last year.

A Glance Into Our Past

100 Years Ago – October 1921

The Kiwanis Club observed “Muhlenberg Day” at its October 6 meeting with addresses by Allentown Mayor Malcolm W. Gross and Muhlenberg football coach John Spiegel. Spiegel served as Muhlenberg’s coach 1921 and 1922 with a record of 11-8-2. He had been an All-American halfback at Washington & Jefferson College in 1913 and 1914. He was the leading scorer in college football in 1914 when Washington & Jefferson was ranked second nationally behind Harvard. The Kiwanis Club decided to engage a whole section of the grandstand for the game that weekend against Bucknell. Muhlenberg lost to Bucknell 14-0. Several weeks later, Muhlenberg would defeat Lehigh 14-13 in a major upset.

75 Years Ago – October 1946

The Club sent 9 delegates to the Kiwanis International Convention held in Philadelphia on October 17, 18, and 19. The registration fee was \$6! Club member Ray Druckenmiller drove to within 15 inches of the pin on the 10th hole at the Llanarch Country Club to win a prize in the Kiwanis golf competition. Ammon S. Rosenberger of Quakertown was elected Pennsylvania District Governor for 1922.

50 Years Ago – October 1971

On October 7, Sam Saxton was installed as President of the Kiwanis Club. October would also be the last month for club meetings at the Americus Hotel with its move to the Lehigh Valley Club. Cost of lunches would be \$2.50 with \$2.24 going to the Lehigh Valley Club for the lunch and 26 cents going to the Club’s operating fund.

25 Years Ago – October 1996

Current member Mark Hanichak assumed the club presidency for the 1996-97 Kiwanis year. Also, current member John Stoffa began his second year of a three-year term as a club director.

On October 19, the Club’s Boys and Girls Committee took children from the Sixth Street Shelter to the Pumpkin Patch at Seiple Farms to pick out their own pumpkin and visit the haunted barn.

- **Enos Martin**

Upcoming Meetings and Activities

MONTHLY MEETING – Thursday, October 14, 6:00 PM (Social Hour from 5-6 PM) at the Shanty on 19th. Speakers will be Mark Rittle, CEO and Emily Parker, Director of Development for New Bethany Ministries.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – Wednesday, October 27, 5 PM on Zoom.



October Birthdays



7 - Vic Mazziotti

10 - Bob Krupka



- Tom Harp, Editor