Kiwanis Club of Allentown

"Building our community, one child at a time"

THE DOWNTOWNER

NEWSLETTER OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF ALLENTOWN

October 7 th Meeting Recap

Our guest speaker, Eileen Kutzler, Community Life Coordinator at the Phoebe Home, provided an update on activities at the Phoebe Home. The name for the home came from a first century faithful servant of Christ. The founders of the Home thought it fitting to name the organization after her. The mission of the Home is to enrich the lives of the senior residents, their families, and the community. The Home provides charitable care to eligible residents of the community regardless of their ability to pay. Phoebe provides millions of dollars of charitable care to the elderly and disadvantaged.



In January, they plan the entire overview of the programming for the residents for the entire year. The adapt their programs to fit the needs and desires of the current residents.

Approximately a third of the residents are men. They currently have two residents over 100 and two who will turn 100 next April. Roughly 60% of the population participates in the regular programming, one or twice a month. Some of the in-house programs include presentations on a road trip through Pennsylvania, Caribbean cruises, and the history of holidays.

They are assisted by many volunteers including two pianists and a guitar player. In the summer, they have a junior volunteer program for senior high students to participate. Muhlenberg College students also provide unique programing for the residents.

Services provided by the home include independent living, memory support, mental health services, pharmacy services, senior rehabilitation services. The Home currently has 240 residents in the health care center, 48 in personal care, and 8- in independent living.

They are also grateful to the Raub Middle School Builders Club and Allen Key Club for the services they provide each year. The residents also provide service to the community such as making bracelets for drum corps participants, rice Krispie treats for the fire houses, and chocolate covered pretzels to hand out during Halloween, just to name a few.

Recent Activities

The current happenings in our club

Bethlehem Kiwanis Charter Night Dinner

The newly-organized Bethlehem Kiwanis Club held its charter night on October 19, 6 -8 PM, at the Green Pond Country Club.

Division 17/18 Lieutenant Governor Diane Farleigh emceed the event. Janet Owen, Easton Kiwanis member and District Governor Janet Owen, and District Governor-Elect Mike Coolbaugh, provided comments in support of the new club.

Diane and Janet inducted the new members into the club as well as installed the club's officers. Members from each of the Division 17/18 attended the event.

The new club received financial donations to help them begin operation including a donation from the Pennsylvania Kiwanis Foundation, who was represented by our own Tom Harp, a board member of the Foundation. Our Club also donated a gift basket for the basket raffle. Our Club was represented by Tom Harp and Enos Martin.







Division 17/18 Picnic
October 4 | 1PM to 4PM

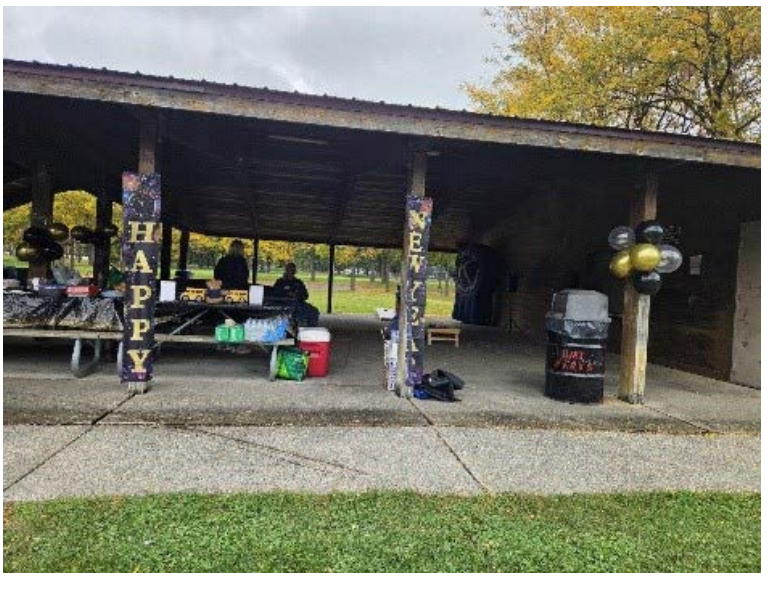
On October 4, Division 17/18 held a "bring-your-own-lunch" picnic at Lone Lane Park, 30 Lone Lane, Allentown.

After a brief division meeting, Kiwanians from six of the nine division clubs prepared over 50 "Birthday Boxes" for children which will be shared with local foster family agencies and foodbanks.

Each box included a foil baking dish, cake mix, icing, candles, greeting card and ballons. Our club donated the use of the pavilion to the division when our use of the facility for the LVCC picnic was canceled due to inclement weather. Karen Baker coordinated our involvement in the event.







Upcoming Membership Meeting

November 12th

The November membership meeting will be held on Thursday, November 12 at 6 PM at the Shanty on 19th.

Our guest speaker will be our newest member, Lisa Greitzer, Director in the Family and Community Engagement Office of the Allentown School District.

This year the School District implemented a new approval process for all after-school programs. She will provide information on the process plus other information on the happenings within the School District.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Kathryn Best - November 14
Tom Harp - November 19

Angela Carwell - 1 year

Youth Protection Training

The annual Youth Protection training has been issued to the Clubs. As a club, we are required to have at least 60% of our membership to complete the training. The PowerPoint presentation was shown at our meeting on October 7.

If you were not at the meeting, please review the information, which was issued via email to the membership, by the end of October. If you don't have it, please contact Enos Martin to have it emailed to you.

New Club Member

Lisa Greitzer, Director in the Family and Community Engagement Office of the Allentown School District, has joined our club. We welcome her to our Club. She will our guest speaker at our November meeting and will also be inducted into our club at the meeting.

Pennsylvania District Foundation Involvement

Our Club is well-represented on the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Kiwanis District Foundation, Karen Baker serves as the secretary of the Foundation and Tom Harp, as past-district Governor serves as a trustee on the Board. We congratulate them and thank them for stepping up and serving in these roles.

Pennsylvania District Foundation Involvement

Our Club sold 30 dozen roses with the roses being delivered on October 28. The Club will make a profit of $285.

Several club members purchased roses to be delivered to residents at the Phoebe Home. Twelve dozen roses were delivered to the Home on October 28. We thank those members who participated in the service opportunity.

We also received a letter of appreciation from Eileen Kutzler from Phoebe Allentown:

"Please convey the thanks and appreciation of the entire Phoebe Allentown community for the generous donation of roses!

We're blessed to have a resident who in addition to being a former employee at Phoebe, was also a florist! She delighted in making 12 arrangements which she then delivered to each nurse's desk, therapy, dining, and laundry departments --with a message to each group that the roses were a gift from the Allentown Kiwanis Club in appreciation for all that they do for the residents!!

Thank you again and your members for this generous gift that brought beauty and appreciation throughout our community!





Service Leadership Programs

Allen Key Club

The Club has elected officers for the 1926-27 school year. At their October club meeting, members will begin working on the Christmas wreaths for Phoebe Home residents.

With the Raub Builders Club inactive status for this school year, the Key Club has picked up the project for this year.

Allentown Central Catholic Key Club:

A new advisor has taken over to enable the club to be reactivated for this school. We will be meeting with the new advisor, Rosemary Welsh, to advise and assist her in getting the club reorganized.

Salisbury Key Club

Salisbury is getting ready for their yearly fundraiser. This is the Save Around Lehigh Valley book which has coupons for many different places. Books cost $25 and the club will get $12.50 for each one we sell. This will go toward the club's yearly activities and support for their future plans.

This is the club's second year selling books. They will be putting together the Holiday Hope Chests which will start in two weeks or so. The club has 40 members this year.

Southern Lehigh Key Club

In September the students prepared homecoming decorations for the Southern Lehigh homecoming game and will decorate the school.

Students are in the process of making donations to the Caitlin's Smiles organization. Most students are volunteering in the community on their own time as well.

Ramos K-Kids

Efforts are being made to find an advisor and reactivate the Club.

Raub Builders Club

Inactive during the 2026-27 school year.



Upcoming Activities



Allentown Halloween Parade October 31 11 AM-2 PM (Coordinators – Tom Harp/Enos Martin)

We will be participating in the Walking Halloween Parade on Hamilton Street between 6th and 9th Streets. Instead of a usual parade, booths will be set up and the attendees will walk along collecting candy and other handouts from vendor participants.

We will hand out candy and books to the children and will have scratch art activities for the children. We will also attempt to recruit potential members to our club. Please considering dressing in a costume and come out to support our booth.

Grant Awards Luncheon (December 10):

Our annual Foundation Grant Awards Luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 10, from Noon to 1:30 PM at the Shanty on 19th.

Our Foundation President Tom Harp has announced that twelve non-profit organizations will receive grants as recommended by the Foundation Service Committee. We thank the members who served on the committee including Vic Mazziotti, Karen Baker, Andrea Wilson, and Katelyn Quinn.



Holiday Hope Chests (Coordinator – Karen Baker)

We will again request participation from our membership in the Holiday Hope Chest effort to provide Christmas boxes for local needy children. More details will be released later this month.





LVCC Christmas Party (December 11):

Fun activities, Christmas presents, and lunch will be provided to LVCC pre-school children, as well as an appearance by Santa, at the Early Learning Center on 6th Street in Allentown.



West End Tree Lighting

With the cancellation of the West End Block Party because of the weather, the Club will set up a booth during the lighting on the Christmas Tree on the West End on November 28th from 1-5 PM.

We hope to have a similar setup as proposed for the Block Party with the sales of numerous items as a cub fund raiser. It will be roughly a four-hour event. Details will be forthcoming.





Emmaus Kiwanis 75th Anniversary Celebration

The Emmaus Kiwanis Club will be celebrating their 75th anniversary on December 2nd from 6-8 pm.

Light refreshments and desserts will be served. Please consider joining them for this celebration of a significant club milestone. The cost is $20 and you can mail your reservation to them at: Emmaus Kiwanis Club, PO Box 101, Emmaus, PA 18049.

Glance into our Past

100 Years Ago – November 1926

Th**e 2nd annual Business and Industrial Exposition,** November 13-20, at the Manhattan Auditorium located in east Allentown on Hanover Avenue. The opening night attracted over 4000 visitors, the largest crowd for any similar affair in the history of the city. The show featured over 100 booths. The funds raised by the club funded the improvement of Allen Park. The Park still exists at 4th and Walnut Streets next to the Lehigh County Historical Society.

75 Years Ago – November 1951

The Club donated $900 each to both the Allentown and Sacred Heart Hospitals for scholarships for Nurses Education. The funds were raised as profit from a pro wrestling match held in August. Each Kiwanis member sold or purchased four tickets to the match.

50 Years Ago – November 1976

The Club's Service Committee approved the dispersal of $120 for a Tot Finder Program and $300 to send an Allen High School student to the Young Americans conference in Washington DC.

25 Years Ago – November 2001

The Club delivered Meals on Wheels on Thanksgiving Day with 31 routes. Kiwanis members were supported in the delivery by members of the Allen High School Key Club. At the November Board meeting, board members discussed the possibility of establishing a club website.

Shanty Fundraiser

The Kiwanis Club of Allentown and the Shanty on 19th are collaborating on an on-going fundraiser for the benefit of the Club's Youth and Community Services (Y&CS) Fund. A similar effort had been attempted during the month of February, but it was severely impacted by the rough weather stretch during the month.

This fundraiser has not taken off as we had hoped. We ask the membership to please pass on the Shanty on 19th fundraiser coupon to friends and family. The Shanty will designate 10% of the food purchase to our club to help raise funds for our Youth and Community Services account. Also, consider going to the Shanty for dinner other than our club meeting nights. The funds will help cover costs for our various children's programs,

Please present the attached coupon to your waitress or waiter when you order. The coupon can be used multiple times. We greatly appreciate your willingness to support this fundraiser!

Kiwanis
CLUB OF ALLENTOWN

YEAR-ROUND FUNDRAISER



DINE AT THE SHANTY ON 19TH RESTAURANT

613 N. 19TH STREET, ALLENTOWN

AND 10% OF YOUR FOOD BILL WILL BE DONATED TO OUR

COMMUNITY AND YOUTH SERVICES ACCOUNT

CAN BE USED ANY TIME AND MULTIPLE TIMES

SHOW THIS FLYER TO YOUR SERVER BEFORE ORDERING

RESTAURANT HOURS:

MONDAY –CLOSED

TUESDAY-SATURDAY – 4 PM -12 AM

SUNDAY – 12 PM – 8 PM

FOR RESERVATIONS, CALL 610.841.9153

KIDS NEED KIWANIS