



Kiwanis CLUB OF EASTON, PA

NEWSLETTER

October, 2023 Edition



President's Letter

My Fellow Easton Kiwanians,

October has been a wonderfully active month for us. Not only that but our committee members have been hard at work planning the year-end activities for November and December. Make no mistake about it, the Kiwanis Club of Easton has an outsized impact in our community. In a recent correspondence with one of our members, the remark was made, "Kiwaniis is group of people that do so much for our community. You all are so humble that I don't believe even you know how much good you do. I am proud to be a small part of this fine organization."

We have so many wonderful members, humble, committed and engaged. There are so many opportunities to become involved, from committee activities to community events. In addition to this Newsletter, our weekly meetings at SURV are great ways to stay informed. And if you are unable to attend one or more meetings due to work, family or work responsibilities, or whatever, be sure to join in one of our community activities when you are able.

We just finished our annual Rose Sale and it was our best year ever. We sold 250 dozen beautiful roses and we gathered on Thursday October 26th for Rose Day. The club gathered and boxed those 250-dozen in the space of about 90 minutes. Incredible teamwork when we all come together. Delivering the roses Janet and I had sold is always a wonderful day as we brighten the lives of those recipients as we bring them those beautiful roses.

A few members joined in the JumpStart to Read at the Forks YMCA School on Sullivan Trail and I have to tell you; nothing brightens your day more than being with those 4-year-old children and reading them a story. Be sure to take advantage of that the next opportunity we have. We are considering expanding that program. Very uplifting.

We also had a wonderful Club presence at the Miracle League Trick or Treat at the Chrin Center Miracle League Field the Saturday before Halloween. It's incredible being a part of the community that puts on a wonderful trick or treat opportunity for those children who otherwise may not have the opportunity.

We have a lot of planning activities directed at our Colonial I20 Annual Holiday Party scheduled for December 5th (a Tuesday) as well as our Club's own Holiday Party scheduled for Saturday, December 16th. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Finally, I would like to make sure you are aware of the PA Kiwanis District, Region 6 Meeting on Saturday November 18th about an hour north of us in White Haven. Governor Conrad Schlesinger and the District and Regional leadership will be there with fellowship and informative presentations. Be sure to see our Face Book page for the latest information. It is always a worthwhile journey to visit our fellow state and regionwide Kiwanians.

In Fellowship and Service,

James Owen

Monthly Wrap Up

October 4th Meeting

The meeting opened with Scott Fisher, President- Elect presiding. Club members recited the *Pledge of Allegiance* and sang *God Bless America*. Barb Walters shared words of wisdom and inspiration. Scott Fisher then shared information about the 5 Ws of Life...Who, What, When, Where and Why.....a method for getting the full story on a subject. He also shared that this was the first day for the creation of Mt. Rushmore.

SPEAKER

Our speaker for today was Trina Johnson-Brady LINCS Coalition - Community Mobilizer Wilson Area Communities That Care Coalition Wilson Area LINCS Family Center. Trina shared with us what LINCS is all about. The Wilson Area Communities that Care (CTC) Coalition is a group of youth, families, community leaders, business members, and residents from the Wilson Area School District and surrounding communities. The coalition consists of a key leader board, to provide group guidance and organization; coalition members, to raise community concerns and develop possible solutions; and work groups that put the plan into action. Our members include WASD students, district parents, residents, local health care experts, law enforcement members, community leaders, and members of non-profit organizations.

What does the Wilson Area CTC Coalition Do? Our mission statement: Wilson Area is an inclusive and nurturing community that provides opportunities for success, purpose and well-being to empower our youth to become respectful, confident and healthy adults, who contribute positively to society. The Wilson Area CTC Coalition seeks to combine resources and strategies within our group to address youth problem behaviors in our community. We have prioritized several issues our youth are facing and are working to develop an evidence-based prevention program to remedy these issues. Based on the 2021 Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) Study, the areas of concern we focus on are: drug and alcohol misuse, mental health concerns/suicide risk, homelessness, and engagement/belonging to school and community. By addressing these issues, we hope to reduce risk factors and increase protective factors for the youth in our community. Where does our funding come from? The LINCS Family Center received a grant in 2021 from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) to build community capacity to identify and implement programs and resources that ensure the well-being and healthy development of community youth. The objective of the Community Coalition Capacity Building (CCCB) grant is to enable community coalitions to recruit key stakeholders, collect data, and develop collaborative relationships with school districts in order to provide youth with supports, resources, and opportunities needed to become successful adults. However, other funding is needed in

order to provide implementation of programs and continue mobilization within the community. In 2023, the LINCS Family Center was awarded \$30,000 in funding from the PA Commission of Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), to reduce violence in the Wilson Borough community and the surrounding area. This grant builds on the prior grant awarded to the community, which implemented the CTC coalition. Our coalition is actively seeking additional funding through grant applications and local donors. Please email LINCS@wilsonareasd.org if you would like to assist or donate. Trina encouraged us to visit the website to get more information and to find out how to get involved.



Trina Johnson-Brady

Installation of Officers

Installation of Club Officers for 2023 year.

Lt. Governor Bob Moran conducted the Installation of Club Officers ceremony. The Officers for 2023 year are....President – James Owen; President-Elect – Scott Fisher; Past-President – Neil Gallagher; Vice President – Terry Thomas; Secretary – Rosemary Kocher and Treasurer – Gary Tempest...Congratulations to all who serve as Officers of our Club. *Bill Walters was presented with a certificate in recognition of his 20 years of service as the Club secretary!*

Bob also made some announcements –

- **2024 District Convention August 15-18, 2024**
Hilton DoubleTree Hotel, 701 Penn St, Reading, PA 19601
- **2025 District Convention**
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Other Easton Kiwanis Club Announcements....

- **Leaving the Board is Dean Young**
- **Retiring from his Secretary position for the last 20 years is Bill Walters**
- **Incoming Board member is Walt Howell**
- **Rose Sale is closed....need all monies**
- **IU 20 party planning meeting was on October 16 with IU 20**
- **October 28 Trick or Treat at Chrin Community Center....volunteers to be Pirates**
- **Rosemary is ordering shirts**
- **Shawnee K-Kids meet on October 20 at 7:30 am**



Walter Howell



Bob Moran, Walter Howell



James Owen on Zoom



Bill Walters, Scott Fisher



Bob Moran, Bill Walters, Terry Thomas



Rosemary Kocher



October 11th Meeting

President Elect Scott Fisher opened the meeting today. There were 14 members present. The *Pledge of Allegiance* was said and *God Bless America* was sung. Barb Walters shared words of wisdom and Scott Fisher read several moments in history that happened on today's date. He also recommended a book that he is reading with a men's book club to which he belongs – *From Strength to Strength*.

Speaker

Ken Wildrick introduced our guest, Jennifer Long, who is the Director of the Easton Library. Ken told us of her background. She is an Easton native and has spent more than half of her life with the Easton Library since she started there as a teenage volunteer. The last time Jennifer spoke to our group we were coming out of the Pandemic and Jennifer talked about the effects of Covid on the library and the ways they dealt with the pandemic making sure that people were still able to use the library.

During this visit Jennifer explained that though Covid could have been the end of libraries she is amazed at how much stronger and more vibrant the library is. People are coming back together. The library has a record number of programs and a record number of needs for programs. She also explained that the library is a remarkable part of everyone's lives again.

Jennifer then went on to discuss digital resources, online books, audio books and newspapers to name a few. She said that Beyond Books there are Board Games, Video Games, Laptops for use in the library, museum passes and a basement room where there is a Steinway Piano for an occasional concert. The Easton branch also contains the Marx Room which serves as a local history room. It is a climate-controlled room which houses the largest collection of local history and genealogy in northeastern Pennsylvania. Palmer Library is part of the Easton Library but there are partnerships with Bethlehem, Allentown and eight other libraries in the area.

The Easton Library's most important Fundraiser is approaching – their Book Sale which is Nov. 9 -13. Donations are now being accepted on Wednesdays and Saturdays. A question-and-answer period followed.

Our thanks to Jennifer Long for her return visit and for sharing more information about the Easton Public Library, a true treasure in our community.



Jennifer Long

Business

The following items were discussed:

- Barb Walters gave an update on the Rose Sale
- Walt Howell covered SLPs
- Walt Howell gave a report on the upcoming Firefighter of the Year Award
- Scott Fisher said the two requests for funds that we have will be discussed at the Board Meeting
- Jan Schwartz mentioned the Easton Book Festival and handed out information regarding it
- Ken Wildrick said a Foundation Meeting will be held on October 25th
- Walt Howell brought up pull tab soda top collection**

October 18th Meeting

Easton Firefighter of the Year Award 2022

Honoring

Captain George W. Leidy



On October 18, 2023 the Kiwanis Club of Easton had the distinct honor to posthumously recognize the recipient of the 2022 Easton Fire Department's selection for Firefighter of the Year, Captain George W. Leidy III. The Easton Fire Department unanimously selected Captain Leidy because of his dedication and passion for firefighting.

Kiwanis Club of Easton member and chair of the Awards Committee, Walter Howell, gave remarks about the history of the Easton Firefighter of the Year Award. Deputy Chief, Chad Gruver, Easton Fire Department and James Owen, President of the Kiwanis Club of Easton, presented the award to Captain Leidy's wife, Bonnie Jo Leidy.

Easton Fire Lt. Timothy Reilly also presented Mrs. Leidy the American Legion Certificate of Appreciation for George's public service as an Easton Firefighter.

Mrs. Leidy was accompanied by their children, Matthew Leidy, Crystal Leidy, and Melissa Leidy May and was presented a bouquet of flowers by Janet Owen, past club president.

Thanks go out to the Easton Fire Department for arranging for an honor guard and their continued support for the award. Additional thanks go out to the honorable Mayor Sal Panto, Councilwoman Taiba Sultana and Councilman Roger Ruggles for supporting this event.

"True heroism is remarkably sober, very undramatic. It is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but the urge to serve others at whatever cost." Arthur Ashe

Article by member Janet Owen



Captain George W. Leidy

Chad Gruver, Deputy Chief
Eaton Fire Dept.



Bonnie Jo Leidy



Bonnie Jo Leidy, Easton Fire
Lt. Timothy Reilly



Janet Owen, Bonnie Jo Leidy



Crystal Leidy, Bonnie Jo.
Melissa Leidy May, Matthew Leidy



Roy Leidy, Crystal, Bonnie Jo, Melissa, Matthew, Walt Howell, James Owen



October 25th Meeting

**THE KIWANIS CLUB OF EASTON
Board of Directors Meeting – 12 PM Wednesday, October 25, 2023
Hybrid Meeting via Zoom and in person at SURV Restaurant
AGENDA**

A Board of Directors meeting was held. At the beginning of the meeting, a moment of silence was observed with the passing of our member, John Kennedy and Club Secretary Rosemary Kocher’s sister’s passing.

**In Memoriam
John Calvin Kennedy
1943-2023**



Our longtime and very active members, John C. Kennedy, died on October 16, 2023. John joined the Kiwanis Club of Easton on Nov. 24, 2008. He served as President in 2016 and was our current Chair of the Environmental Committee. John lived a very full and amazing life. Some of his accomplishments were joining the Peace Corps in 1965, being an educator in different parts of the world, being an author and being dedicated to conservation and the environment. Please read about his family and his life in his Obituary on the [Ashton Funeral Home website](#). John is survived by his wife of 55 years, Frances (Healing) Kennedy; his daughter: Christina Angela Kennedy (husband Jeffrey Allan Porter); his son: Michael Kwame Kennedy (fiancé Sherry Lynn Hartman); and four grandchildren.



Frances and John's Wedding Picture

The Kiwanis Club of Easton would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Frances and to his family. He will truly be missed.

Some highlights from the Board Meeting: The Budget for 2023-24 was discussed and adjusted; a unique request for funds from a teenager in the local schools was received asking for financial help in providing personal hygiene kits for fellow female students and was approved; we approved funds for the Cheston Elementary school PTA to help with providing Thanksgiving turkeys; funding for the Intermediate Unit 20 School Christmas - Holiday party was approved; funding was approved for Family Connections at Easton School District to provide funds for 35 sets of pajamas for Christmas; we expect to be ordering a "starter K-Kids kit" for a new S.L.P. at St. Janes Elementary school; we will be having another SURV Restaurant meal-to-go fundraiser for our Shop-with-a-cop event; our very successful rose-sale packaging will be tomorrow as we pack and deliver some 250 dozen roses; we're still awaiting the Lil-Free-Library from the PA Kiwanis Foundation; we approved a Giving-Basket project for the Third St. Alliance-Learning Center (see below).

The Giving Basket Project



During **November** and **December**, the Kiwanis Club of Easton will have a **Giving Basket** at each meeting. For these months we will be collecting items needed by **Third Street Alliance-Learning Center**. We are working with Tanya Falero, Family Engagement Coordinator for Third Street Alliance and Kiwanis member.

The items needed are: laundry soap, body wash or bar soap, shampoo, conditioner, some cleaning supplies, toilet paper, toothpaste and toothbrushes (for adult and kids), dish detergent.

In this season of thankfulness please consider donating to our basket supporting **Third Street Alliance-Learning Center**.

Birthdays

Roger Conners - Nov. 3
James Owen – Nov. 3
Jan Schwartz – Nov. 19
Kathy Presto – Nov. 24

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Dean Young - 11/1/1988
Joanne Cappellano – 11/4/1987
Jan Schwartz – 11/6/2019
Terry Thomas – 11/6/2019
Rosemary Kocher – 11/11/2021
Skip Fairchild - 11/20/1985
Watson Hart - 11/21/2002

OCTOBER – ROSE SALE **2023 Rose Sale Delivery October 26, 2023**

15 club members participated for approximately 2 hours to assemble 250 dozen roses for the annual PA Kiwanis Foundation Rose Sale. 18 members either bought and or sold, and delivered roses. Our 250-dozen produced a net profit of \$2204.54 in direct sales and \$695.00 additional in donations for a total profit of \$2899.54.

Barb Walters
Rose Sale Coordinator

A BIG THANK YOU to all who participated!

Barb





Happy Customer

Nazareth Area High School Key Club

On October 21, 2023 the Key Clubbers were assisting the Nazareth Vigilance Hose Co #1, by passing out hot dogs and soda to the Nazareth Halloween Parade participants. Each Key Clubber was assigned to carry one of the four Division Banners during the parade.

Kathy Heller, Kiwanis NAHS Key Club Advisor



Step Out Walk for Diabetes

On October 21, 2023, Neil and Sue Gallagher, Kiwanis Club of Easton members, participated in the Step Out Walk for Diabetes in Pittsburgh, Pa. They participated in support of their granddaughter, Colleen Kilpatrick, who was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes when she was nine years old. Colleen spoke to the Kiwanis Club of Easton several years ago about living with diabetes. She is now a freshman in college. Although this disease is treatable it is not curable. By participating in this walk their family hopes to spread awareness of the disease and to help support diabetes treatment and research.



Colleen's Cool Crew

SLPs

Easton Kiwanians,

On October 20, 2023, the Shawnee K-Kids met for the scheduled meeting and the main objective was for the members that wished to be candidates for the offices of President, Vice President, and Secretary to make a presentation to their fellow members. The criteria as determined by Mr. Ellison at their September 22nd meeting was for them to prepare the presentations, a vote of the membership would be taken and the members receiving the most votes of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place candidates would assume those respective positions. Before speeches were presented, he notified the members that the Learning Garden would continue through the winter months, and he would look for volunteers to help maintain the garden.

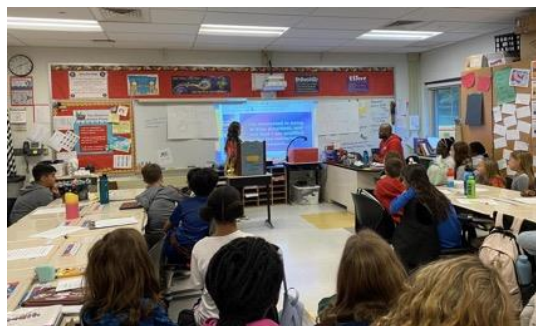
The candidates were given the opportunity to make their presentations, and some made speeches, other used slide presentations, and a few made audio/video presentations. Finally, ballots were passed out and once collected Mr. Ellison asked the Easton Kiwanians present to tabulate the votes. Janet Owen, Chris Paltz and I tabulated the votes and turned the results over to Mr. Ellison. Mr. Ellison would notify the elected members of their position and take a photo of the newly elected officers.

The next Shawnee K-Kids meeting is scheduled for Friday November 17 at 7:30 am. If you have your clearances feel free to join us at the meetings.

Respectfully, Walter Howell, Easton Kiwanis SLP Advisor



Mr. Ellison





Walt Howell, Chris Paltz, Janet Owen



***Shawnee K-Kids meetings.** As long as you have your valid PSP Criminal Background Check and Child Abuse History Clearance, you can join me and Mr. Ellison at any meeting you are available. Be sure I have a copy of your documents. [You can apply for your Background Checks, click here.](#) They will be meeting Friday mornings @7:30 Shawnee Elementary. 11/17/23; 12/13/23; 1/19/24; 2/9/24; 3/15/24; 4/12/24; 5/10/24



**MIRACLE
LEAGUE
TRUNK or TREAT
October 28, 2023**

October 28th was a perfect Fall night for the Miracle League Trunk or Treat at Chrin Center Field. On hand were several members - Ahoy Mateys - of the Kiwanis Club of Easton to pass out treats. Thanks to Janet and James Owen. Chris Paltz, Walt Howell and Priscilla Martinez-Perez (with son Mikahail Espitia) for participating in this event. Also present were our friends from Palmer Kiwanis and Easton Rotary. Special thanks to Janet and James Owen. The Pirate Booth was awesome. Thanks to all of the Kiwanis members who participated.

It was a BOOtiful Evening for all!!



Janet & James Owen, Chris Paltz



Easton and Palmer Kiwanis,
Easton Rotary



Walt Howell, Priscilla Martinez-Perez,
Mikhail Espitia)



Janet, Priscilla

****NOTICE**
Soda Top Tabs Collection

It was decided at the October 11th Club Meeting that the Kiwanis Club of Easton will continue to collect **Soda Top Tabs** for the **Ronald McDonald House** in Philadelphia. A club collection date will be announced in advance and tabs will be delivered to Philadelphia. Please continue collecting the tabs for this very worthy cause.

JumpStart Read for the Record
Forks Education Center - YMCA
October 26, 2023

Members from the Kiwanis Club of Easton volunteered to be readers for children at the Forks Education Center as part of **JumpStart Read for the Record**, a global movement to raise awareness around the critical importance of early literacy and increase access to high quality children's literature. Two different classes were read to by Judy Fisher, President Elect Scott Fisher's wife, and Sue Gallagher in the morning. Later in the afternoon Janet and James Owen read to the children in two different classes also. The book that was chosen for this event was **With Lots of Love** by Jenny Torres Sanchez and illustrated by Andre Ceolin. The children enjoyed the story and the readers enjoyed their time sharing the book with the children too. The books were also donated to the classes along with a stuffed animal friend for the classroom. Thanks to the Forks Education Center – YMCA for this opportunity to read to the children.



Judy Fisher



Sue Gallagher



James Owen



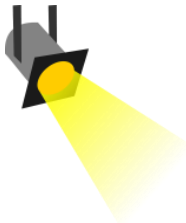
Janet Owen

SURV Curbside Fundraiser

The next **SURV** Curbside Fundraiser will be held on Nov. 27th, 28th and 29th. This fundraiser for Kiwanis Club of Easton will benefit the **Shop with a Cop Program**. More information on this will follow.

These are the indicators of teamwork:

- Clear Communications
- Respectful Interactions and Demonstrations of Trust
- Using Constructive Discussions to Discover and Negotiate Perspectives
- Building on Each Other's Ideas and Strengths
- Reliability and Responsibility



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

In the Spotlight for October is Bill Walters. Bill is leaving his position as the Easton Kiwanis secretary after 20 years. No one thought that they would ever see the day when Bill was no longer in a Club Officer role...but here we are. Not to worry though, he does have a title....**Manager of Special Projects!** This should keep him busy so he will hardly miss or be missed in his secretarial position. That position has gone to someone else who will undoubtedly do a wonderful job...Rosemary Kocher. So, we say goodbye to the old and welcome to the new! Thanks, Bill, for all your time and investment in the position and also in this Club. Welcome to a whole new secretarial era....Rosemary seems the mantel has been passed....best wishes!

AROUND TOWN

Forged by Fire: The Heroism, Honor, and History of Firefighting

September 21, 2023 – July 7, 2024

At the Sigal Museum

Forged by Fire: The Heroism, Honor, and History of Firefighting explores the history of firefighting in Northampton County. It is a story of heroism, honor, community, and technology. Visit this exhibition to enjoy Easton's first pumper truck (1797) as well as other amazing firefighting tools throughout history. Learn about the importance of making wood

pipes in the 1740s and use a drill to make one! Families will have a chance to try on turn-out gear and experience what it takes to be a fire fighter. Everyone will love learning about Easton's hero fire dog, **Frank!** This exhibition will pay tribute to the brave firefighters who have served and continue to serve in the Northampton County's fire companies, then and now. This exhibition is supported by our friends at:

Fire Commissioner Sponsor: County of Northampton

Deputy Chief Sponsor: Ken & Lois Wildrick

District Chief Sponsor: Brown-Daub Foundation

Captain Sponsor: Kressler, Wolff & Miller, Inc.

Finegan Funeral Home

This exhibition is in keeping with the Easton Kiwanis Club's hosting of the Firefighter of the Year Award. **Please take note that along with his spouse Lois, Ken Wildrick is the Deputy Chief Sponsor** and a valued member of the Kiwanis Club of Easton and President of the Club's Foundation. **Thanks Ken!**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 1 – Tom Lubben- The Anatomy of a Detective Series: This discusses the ins and outs of creating a series of mystery novels (6). In this case –following my detective, BJ Gleeson mysteries

November 5th is "International Volunteer Day."

November (6-10) is "Key Club Week"

Nov 8 -- Rebecca A. Escott, follow up on Early Learning/Out of School Time Specialist, Penn State Better Kid Care

Nov 11 – Veteran's Day

Nov 15 -- Board Meeting

Nov 22 – Interclub Meeting today with Palmer Kiwanis, 7:15AM @ Williams Restaurant, 3630 William Penn Highway, Palmer Twp and Phillipsburg may be joining with us.

Nov 23 –



Nov 29 – PA State Representative, 138th Legislative District, Ann Flood

Dec 5, Tuesday – IU 20 Kids Christmas Party at Chrin Center (note day change)

Dec 13 – Discussion on Policy + Procedures and Bylaws

Dec 16, Saturday -- Club Christmas Party @ Riverview Clubhouse 1-4PM

Dec 20 – Strategic Plan Wrap-up and Board Meeting

Dec 27 – No Meeting

Editor's Note: Thanks to the members who submitted reports for publication in this month's newsletter. Members, feel free to submit any news about you or your family that you would like to share with the club. Our email addresses are below. Please have all articles submitted by **December 1, 2023.**

KIWANIS CLUB OF EASTON meets every Wednesday

www.eastonpakiwanis.org

www.kiwanis.org

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Newsletter: Sue Gallagher sue2300@aol.com Terry Thomas terryathomas@rcn.com

NOTE TO READERS: All meetings can be found on EASTON KIWANIS YOUTUBE CHANNEL
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC56Xw6VDh-JbLjyFug4V-AA/videos>



Upcoming [LEHIGH VALLEY CHORALE](#) Winter Concert

[THE LIGHT THAT LEADS US HOME](#)

December 1 @ 7:30PM & December 2nd @ 2:00PM

First Presbyterian Church, Tilghman & Cedar Crest Blvd, Allentown

Check their [Facebook page](#) about pre-ordering tickets.

