



Kiwanis[®]

CLUB OF EASTON



May Klatter 2025

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Fellow Kiwanians,

As I reflect on the past month, one phrase comes to mind: *It was a good month to be an Easton Kiwanian!* May reminded us of why we do what we do — and who we are when we do it together.

In George Leonard's book *Mastery*, he writes about "the plateau" — that long, sometimes quiet stretch of steady effort when outward progress can seem slow. He reminds us to love the plateau, because it's there, in the disciplined routine of showing up and serving, that real growth takes root. Then, almost without warning, a breakthrough comes. A month like May comes.

We began with a proud moment — presenting two scholarships to deserving CIT students during a heartfelt ceremony at the school. At our Club's annual meeting, the Easton Kiwanis Foundation awarded four grants to outstanding local organizations that align with our mission to serve kids and the community.

Later in the month, we hosted our 2024 "Police Officer of the Year" award ceremony. Over 70 officers, dignitaries, and Kiwanians gathered to honor one of Easton's finest. It was a powerful afternoon of recognition and appreciation.

But the month didn't stop there. We sponsored two "Forks Preschool Readers" service projects, volunteered at the Miracle League snack bar, and supported the final school-year meetings of our Shawnee and St. Jane's K-Kids clubs. In each case, Easton Kiwanians were present — showing up, pitching in, and making a difference.

You'll find details and photos from all these events in the pages of the *May Klatter 2025*, a snapshot of a club in motion, deeply connected to its purpose.

While we celebrate all that was accomplished, we also pause to acknowledge our shared sorrow. Our thoughts are with Kathy Heller on the recent passing of her husband, Lynn. Kathy, your Kiwanis family stands beside you with love and support.

And one final reminder: don't forget to *keep saving your tabs* for our ongoing *Ronald McDonald House* service project — a small gesture that continues to make a big impact.

Let's carry the energy of May forward. Let's keep showing up, keep loving the plateau, and trust that every act of service — visible or not — moves us closer to who we are meant to be as Kiwanians.

In service and gratitude – Scott

May 7th meeting was our annual Scholarship Presentations at Career Institute of Technology (C.I.T.)....

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On Wednesday, May 7th, the Kiwanis Club of Easton presented two scholarships to two outstanding students at the Career Institute of Technology (CIT).

The two, \$1,500 scholarships were made possible by Easton Kiwanis member, Charlie Adams and his wife, Sandra.

The recipients this year were Tailyn Faulkner and Jetley Joseph.

Tailyn, will be attending Northampton Community College, majoring in nursing. Tailyn had the honor to sit with Easton Kiwanis member, Dr. Ken Wildrick. Dr. Wildrick, is a retired pulmonologist who earned his degree from Drexel University.

Jetley, will be attending Mohawk Valley Community College, to become an airline mechanic. He had the honor to sit with James Owen, a retired 777 Pilot for United Airlines and now a private pilot for Skystream Jet. Jetley also has plans on becoming a pilot.

Master of the Ceremony was Walt Howell, assisted by CIT counselor, Jennifer Russ.

Jennifer Russ was honored by Laurie Nelson, Unity Bank, with a special gift in honor of her 20+ years of helping the club identify qualified candidates. Thank you, Jennifer and Unity!

The amazing five star luncheon was prepared by CIT students. It was prepared beautifully and tasted even better.

Thanks, to Principal Norman for attending. You and your staff are doing a great job with preparing the students for life after CIT.

Also, last years recipient, Aidan Lobb, made a return visit to give an update on his year at the Pennsylvania College of Technology and to share words of wisdom with this year's winners.

Tailyn and Jetley are destined for greatness and it was an honor to meet them and present them with these scholarships!!!

Kiwanis changes lives!

Kiwanis changes communities!

Reported by LTG Div 17/18, Janet Owen

To see more on the presentation, please click here [EASTON KIWANIS YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#).



Today was the Annual Meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Easton. Four Grants from the Kiwanis Foundation of Easton were also presented.

Scott Fisher, President, welcomed everyone and introduced our guests. We said the Pledge of Allegiance and sang God Bless America. Sue Gallagher shared Words of Inspiration on "Service" and Scott Fisher mentioned Moments in History on this date and shared May club members' Birthdays and Club Anniversaries.

Kiwanis Foundation of Easton President, Dr. Ken Wildrick, opened the Annual Foundation Meeting and proceeded to award the 2025 Foundation Youth Impact Grants and the Churchman Fund Grant to the following:

-Keith Lampman-Perlman, Director of Development, accepted a \$4000 grant for Project of Easton. This will be used for the School Based Program, Student Success, for 6th Grade Students in the Easton School District.

-Adam Williams, President, and Kathy Presto, Vice-President, accepted a \$5000 grant for the Easton Area Community Center. This will be used to purchase the Drone Legends Program. This program is a program designed for 3rd to 8th grade students and will be used this summer as well as after school starting in September.

-Trina Johnson-Brady, Director and Community Mobilizer of Easton Area LINCS and Communities That Care, accepted a \$5000 grant to support Academic and Recreational Programs for the summer and throughout the year. This will continue the work of the coalition including providing community building family events and an intermediate school recreational summer program to encourage healthy youth development.

-Melissa Brown and Kevon Allen, of River Crossing YMCA-Easton, accepted a \$6274 grant from the Churchman Fund in support of its summer camp programs. Today's grant was the final grant from this fund, which has provided 30 years of grants due to the foresight of Clair Churchman.

Ken Wildrick then gave a brief history of the Churchman Grant.

Congratulations to all of the recipients of the Kiwanis Foundation of Easton Grants!

Foundation Trustee elections were held, and the following were elected:

Joanne Cappellano (3 yr. term)

Susan Bartels (3 yr. term)

Neil Gallagher (1 yr. term)

Jeremy Clark (2 yr. term)

Kiwanis Foundation of Easton**Annual Report****May 2024-April 2025****5/21/25**

The following is a report for the period between annual meetings, May 2024 to April 2025.

The Foundation Board was composed of the following for the period 10/1/23 – 9/30/24: Joanne Cappellano, Roger Conners, W. Scott Fisher, Neil Gallagher, Watson Hart, James Owen, Terry Thomas, Barbara Walters, and Ken Wildrick.

At the May 2024 Annual Meeting, the following trustees were elected for the fiscal year 10/1/24-9/30/25: Roger Conners and Terry Thomas for 3 year terms, and Susan Bartels to complete Watson Hart's 1 year position. Additional trustees by virtue of office or continuing terms were Joanne Cappellano, W. Scott Fisher, Suzanne Gallagher, James Owen, Barbara Walters, and Ken Wildrick. During the year Barbara Walters and Terry Thomas resigned and the following were appointed by the trustees to fill their positions until the next annual meeting: Jeremy Clark, and Neil Gallagher.

At the trustee's reorganization meeting on October 17, 2024, the following trustee officers were elected:

President: Ken Wildrick

Vice-President: Roger Conners

Secretary: James Owen

Treasurer: Joanne Cappellano

Financial balances, expenditures, and investment performance reports were reviewed at each quarterly meeting. Investments were maintained in a core group of Vanguard mutual funds in proportions of 50% stock funds and 50% bond funds. During the year, rebalancing was carried out to maintain this allocation. The return on investments for the fiscal year 10/1/23-9/30/24 was 21.6% and for 10 years was 6.2%. The return for the 1 year (12 months) ending 3/31/25 fell from year end to 6% as the market reacted to tariff proposals; however, our investment balances remained healthy with a balance of \$327,308 as of FYE 9/30/24 and a balance of \$321,490 as of 3/31/25. In addition, our cash balance in checking was \$14,495 as of 3/21/2025.

We were very fortunate this year to receive 3 generous donations. The Walters family donated \$2,221 to be used for Kiwanis Club initiatives. The Adams family pledged \$6,000 yearly for 5 years beginning this fiscal year, designated for scholarships. In addition, an anonymous donor made an unrestricted gift of \$5,000 in stock. Stock gifts are converted to cash and are invested in our mutual funds in keeping with our investment allocation.

The Foundation has also been financially supported by the Club itself. With our common goals, the Foundation also receives recommendations from the Club for worthy community charities.

May 21ST Foundation Report continues...

As reported last year, we previously experienced challenges with tax filings related to the change in our fiscal year. I am happy to report that these issues have now been satisfactorily resolved.

This year our trustees approved \$14,000 for our Impact Grants, and an additional \$6274 from the Churchman fund. The latter grant will bring the storied Churchman fund to its end. These are the organizations receiving funds this year:

- ProJeCt (\$4000)
- Easton Area Community Center (\$5000)
- Easton/Phillipsburg YMCA (\$6274) - from the Churchman Fund
- Communities that Care/LINCS (\$5,000)

Over the course of the year, reports from the prior year's grantees were reviewed with appreciation.

The important records and historical documents of the Club and Foundation are stored in the archives at NCHGS. The agreement was updated this year.

A financial review was conducted, as stipulated every second year. No irregularities were identified.

Respectfully, Kenneth Wildrick, M.D., Foundation President

**Melissa Brown +
Kevon Allen, of
River Crossing
YMCA-Easton**



**Keith Lampman-
Perlman,
ProJeCt Easton**



**Kathy Presto and
Adam Williams
Easton Area
Community Center**



**Trina Johnson- Brady,
Wilson Area LINCS
Family Center +
Communities
That Care**



Club Elections were also held at the Annual Meeting. Neil Gallagher, Member of the Nominating Committee, presented the name for each position and a vote was taken. The results are:

Immediate Past President – Scott Fisher

President – Suzanne Gallagher

Vice-President –

President Elect –

Treasurer – Rosemary Kocher

Secretary – Rosemary Kocher

(someone is needed to help her or accept the position of Secretary)

Special Projects Manager – Bill Walters

Three Club Board Positions – Kathy Heller, Chris Paltz, Joanne Cappellano



Congratulations

We thank you for your service to the Kiwanis Club of Easton!

The Induction of Officers will be held at the October 1, 2025 Meeting. All are invited to attend.

((SOS)) As you can see, we are in need of a Vice-President, President Elect and someone to help the Treasurer. *Please consider accepting one of the positions.*

You do not have to attend every meeting and there is always help when needed. It's a great way also to learn more about the club.

Many hands make the work lighter!!

At our Annual Meeting held on May 21, 2025, members of both the Kiwanis Club of Easton and the Kiwanis Club of Easton Foundation gathered to reflect on the impact and significance of our organization. As part of the meeting, each member in attendance was invited to share what they found "special" about our club and how their involvement has personally affected their lives. The responses were heartfelt and thoughtful, demonstrating the deep sense of community, service, and purpose that membership brings. While each comment was unique, they collectively reflected several common themes. These can be summarized into the following categories:

1. Sense of Community and Belonging – Many members expressed how the club has provided a strong sense of fellowship and connection, creating lasting friendships and a network of support.

2. Service and Impact – Members consistently highlighted the rewarding experience of giving back to the community and making a meaningful difference through service projects and fundraising efforts.

3. Tradition and Pride – Members expressed pride in being part of a long-standing organization with a rich history of service, emphasizing how tradition inspires continued commitment to our mission.

4. Inspiration and Motivation – The stories and dedication of fellow members were often mentioned as sources of inspiration, driving individuals to stay involved and strive for positive change.

These reflections serve as a powerful reminder of why our club continues to thrive and grow. They reinforce the values that unite us and the mission that drives us forward.

May 28th meeting was the Annual presentation of the Easton Police Officer of the Year award...

The Annual Easton Police Officer of the year award luncheon was presented today at the Pomfret Club. President Scott Fisher opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by God Bless America which sounded wonderful with around 75 attendees. Scott then turned today's program over to Walter Howell, himself a past recipient in 1991 and a long-time Kiwanis member. Walt explained how this award began in 1981 when Easton merchant Tom Stotz, who was the Kiwanis Club President, met with then Easton Police Chief William Cunningham, also an Easton Kiwanian, to discuss the possibility to show appreciation for an outstanding career of public service. While the Easton Kiwanis facilitates the award the recipient is selected by their peer police officers. Easton Police Chief, Carl Scalzo then explained why Jonathan Vidal was chosen. He praised Vidal not only for his achievements but for his dedication to serving the community. "When we hired him, I remember he made it very clear to us that he wanted to be a police officer, but not just anywhere. He wanted to be a police officer here, because this was his community and this was his home," Scalzo said. The chief said Vidal's positive energy is infectious, and his approach to policing has earned admiration within the department and beyond. "He works extremely hard to represent this department, the city and himself with honor," Scalzo said. "It's hard not to be inspired by him."

Officer Vidal remarks highlighted: "Quite honestly, I felt undeserving. I felt proud. I felt happy, not for me, but for my family," he said. "But truly, this award goes to the people that show up for me time and time again: my family, my co-workers, all the people, the men and women that put on the same uniform as me. They're the real MVPs." He offered heartfelt thanks to his parents, siblings, his wife and daughter. He also thanked his colleagues, many of whom came straight from overnight duty to attend the event, for their support. "These are the kind of people the City of Easton hires, people that put it out on the line and show up time and time again," he said.

Kiwanis Club President Scott Fisher said Vidal represents what it means to wear a police badge. "You've shown a commitment to duty that helps keep Easton safe and a level of integrity that sets an example for everyone around you,"

Easton Kiwanis member Janet Owen, presented Officer Vidal's wife flowers and daughter received a stuffed animal and book while Kiwanis member Crystal Rose from Unity Bank presented her with flowers also.

Various local officials also spoke: Easton Mayor Sal Panto Jr., Northampton County Executive, PA State Rep. Ann Flood and State Rep. Bob Freeman. Other local officials were: Crystal Rose Stoneback & Frank Pintabone-City Councilman, Stephan Barratta, DA for Northampton County, Tara Zrinski, Northampton Controller, Jessica Berger, Northampton Director of Administration and Public Information Officer, and Judge Michael J. Koury, Jr

This 33-min presentation is on the [Kiwanis YouTube channel, click here.](#)

May 28th Easton Police Officer of the Year photos...



Sad news about death of Easton Kiwanis Members' husband...

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Lynn Irwin Ratzell, 82, Kathy Heller's husband, on May 23rd. We offer our deepest sympathy to Kathy and family. He will be missed by the Kiwanis Club of Easton. Services: Relatives and friends are invited to his Visitation next Friday, June 6th from 10:00 - 11:00 AM followed by a Memorial Service at 11:00 AM all at New Creation UCC Church, 3730 Nicholas Street, Easton. Burial of cremated remains - private at Nisky Hill Cemetery. Arr. by JAMES FUNERAL HOME, Bethlehem.

www.jamesfuneralhome.org.

Kathy and Lynn were also Nazareth Rotarians.

Lynn was the Rotary President.



More news about Easton Kiwanis Members...

May 3rd - It was Opening Day at the Miracle League Field. Thanks to our members, Walt Howell, Cathi White, and Chris Paltz for coming out for Miracle Leagues opening day! Joining them were our special friends, Bob and Robin Moran, from Palmer Kiwanis! Thanks, B. J. Metz, for organizing all the service clubs! You're the best Rotarian!

Reported on by Janet Owen



May 17th - Easton Kiwanis members were again at the Miracle League field operating the concession stand. They enjoyed watching the games and being with our Rotary friends! Thanks to members, Chris Paltz, Priscilla Martinez-Perez, and Janet Owen, for coming out to help!



Ronald McDonald PULL-TAB update...

District 17/18 Clubs - Good morning, just wanted to share with you the incredible success the "Kiwanis Club of the Stroudsburgs" is having with their Ronald McDonald House tab collection activity! Obviously, Steve's club is a "well-oiled collection machine" with an amazing increase in tabs collected in just 27 days! At this point, the smart money would have to be on them to be our 2025 winner, but there is still plenty of time left to make your move. Your support is greatly appreciated! What an accomplishment, Kiwanis Club of Stroudsburg! *I continue to be very impressed with everyone's collection efforts!* Walt and Scott will be delivering quite a collection in October.

LTG Div 17/18, Janet Owen



News about Nazareth Key Club donations..

The Nazareth High School Key Club, under their advisor Bridgette Lubarsky, collected 300+ books in their recent book drive for Cops'n'Kids Easton (CNKE). Bridgette's son collected over 1,500 books for his Eagle Scout badge award back in 2012 for CNKE. Bridgette has kept CNKE in mind over the years and working with her high school students and Kiwanis Clubs of Easton and Palmer. *Cops 'n' Kids Easton feels honored by her continued volunteering and support of CNKE.*



Nazareth High School Key Club



More news about Easton Kiwanis Members...

May 20th congratulations go out to our member, Attorney Jeremy Clark on winning the primary election for Judge in Northampton County.



Interesting facts about why we report our hours of service to Kiwanis..

As of May 2025 the *KIWANIS* magazine says all the monthly reporting you do to your club is in the totals shown on this compilation.

Now you know why it's important to respond to the club secretary when she sends you the month-end email asking you to list all your hours and projects you worked on or did in the reporting month.

SERVICE AND SCOPE

BY THE NUMBERS

KIWANIS IS A SERVICE ORGANIZATION WITH CLUBS THAT HELP KIDS ALL OVER THE WORLD. HERE'S WHO WE ARE — AND WHERE WE ARE — IN NUMBERS.

6,522

Kiwanis clubs around the world.



516,000

Service projects conducted annually by Kiwanis clubs worldwide.

98

Kids whom the average Kiwanian reaches with service per year.



SERVICE AND SCOPE

448,509

Members of the Kiwanis family (adult and youth).

7,824

Clubs worldwide in our service programs for youth, college students and adults with disabilities.

7,100,000

Hours devoted to service each year by the Kiwanis family of clubs.



83

Nations where Kiwanis has clubs.



1.3 billion

U.S. dollars raised by Kiwanis clubs since 2021.

Be proud! Let's all of us raise the numbers with more accurate data from the Kiwanis Cub of Easton.

PS: Make note of these numbers and share them with friends when you brag about your membership in the very busy Easton Kiwanis

This morning Janet Owen, Chris Paltz, and I on behalf of the Kiwanis Club of Easton treated the Shawnee K-Kids with breakfast snacks of bagels, fresh fruit & yogurt for the final session of the semester. The K-Kids had the snacks & Mr. Ellison informed them of their accomplishments since the last meeting: the animal treats they made were delivered to the Peaceable Kingdom Animal Shelter; he delivered the spring themed cards they made to Gracedale, and he had can tabs with him to add to the collection that the school has been doing for the Ronald McDonald Houses. The 40 members in attendance today were going to the Learning Garden to clean up debris around the plants they planted in the previous school year. Towards the end of the session they made a list of the things the K-Kids could consider doing next year for the community. *Respectfully, Walt Howell*



News about St. Janes K-Kids May 20th...

The St. Jane's K-Kids meet for their final meeting of this spring semester. The 13 members were treated to snacks by some of the parents who were invited to bring snacks and attend this final meeting. Mrs. Okula, Principal and Ms. Christi Johnstone, Faculty Advisor were assisted in the meeting by Rosemary Kocher and me. The members have been collecting can tabs during the year from all the classes in the elementary school and the 4 executive officers presented the collection to Rosemary and me. *The weight of the collected tabs for the Ronald McDonald House this time was 7 lbs.* Mrs. Okula and Ms. Johnstone inquired as to whether our club would consider sponsoring a Builders Club when these K-Kids members go to the Middle School when they progress to 7th grade. We said we would probably do so provided they identify a staff member in the middle school who would be the Faculty Advisor. We look forward to sponsoring the K-Kids again for the fall semester. *Respectfully, Walt Howell*



Reading at the Forks Education Center May 15...

Janet Owen and Cathi White, volunteered to read at Forks Educational Center-YMCA, this morning. Members, James and Janet Owen also donated a tub of snacks for the teachers.

Reading at the Forks Education Center May 29...

President Scott Fisher's wife, Judy, was a reader at Forks Education Center.

Our member Janet Owen, Lt. Gov. Division 17/18 has accepted a 2nd year as Lt. Gov. Div. 17/18...

Congratulations Janet! We know that you will continue to represent the District well.



Congratulations



Anthony Cappellano - June 3
 Scott Fisher - June 10
 Suzanne Gallagher - June 20



Anthony Cappellano - June 1, 2019
 Jeremy Clark - June 3, 2024
 Bonnie Leidy - June 26, 2024
 Neil Gallagher - June 29, 2009

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

June 4 – Gary Tempest's Ceremony at SURV 11:45
 June 11 – Prayer Luncheon is planned with Rabbi Mark Shulman, Congregation Beth El Gibor
 June 18 – lunch at SURV and Scott will have news about the Super Raffle Kick Off
 June 23 – 4PM Board meeting on Zoom
 June 25 – no club meeting: Kiwanis International convention starts in Pittsburgh
 July 2 –
 July 9 –
 July 16 –
 July 23 --
 July 30 -- Evening event-members and guests for food and fun at WUNDERLUST.
 Aug 6 – EMS person of the year @ Pomfret Club
 Aug 10 – Touch a Truck
 Sept 3 – Super Raffle @ Brown & Lynch American Legion 6PM dinner, 7PM Drawing
 Oct 1 – Installation of officers and board by LTG Janet Owen
 Oct 4 – Palmer Kiwanis Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser @ Green Pond CC.
 Oct 8 – Easton Firefighter of the Year @ Pomfret Club

MIRACLE LEAGUE OF NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

Here are dates confirmed for Easton Kiwanis to volunteer at the games: June 7. Volunteers are needed and the kids always appreciate people cheering in the stands. Contact Janet Owen if you can volunteer on those dates.

READ ABOUT OUR S.L.P.s

Shawnee & St. Janes K-Kids meetings are on hiatus until next school year 2025-26

Contact Easton Kiwanis

www.EastonPaKiwanis.org
www.facebook.com/easton.kiwanis
www.youtube.com/@eastonpakiwanis
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Easton Kiwanis normally meets 1st & 3rd Wednesdays @ 11:45AM
check our Facebook page for further information

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