



# Kiwanis<sup>®</sup>

## CLUB OF EASTON



## November Klatter 2025

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Easton Kiwanians,

Thanksgiving! For me Thanksgiving is a time of reflection and gratitude. I think of my faith and my family and of our traditions.

Somehow our holidays have at least one unexpected event like a leaking faucet under the kitchen sink, a power outage with a turkey in the oven, or 65 inches of snow falling when visiting family in Erie, PA.

Out of these events there has always been something to be grateful for – buckets and towels, neighbors with a gas stove and enjoying the warmth of family while watching the fresh and glistening snow drift down outside the window. A sense of humor also helps!

Traditions – all things change. There are some traditions we hold dear, some fade and some just change with circumstances to make new memories.

Thanksgiving is what Kiwanis is all about. It is being thankful for our traditions of sharing what we have for those in need, of contributing our time to our community, and of enjoying time with our fellow Kiwanians like the day before Thanksgiving breakfast with Kiwanians from Palmer and Phillipsburg.

It is also recognizing our amazing young people and lending a hand to each other when needed. We are each unique but as Kiwanians we are a family with servants' hearts.

I will end by saying this, these past two months as president I have learned so much. Kiwanians – I am so very grateful for all of YOU!!

In Kiwanis Service,

Sue Gallagher



## October 'left-over' story Wilson Boro LINCS winning funds...

Congratulation to Wilson Area LINCS Coalition for Families and Youth and Trina Johnson-Brady! LINCS was the recipient of \$10,000 from "Thrivent's The Big Give Back!" Thanks to everyone who voted for them. Many from Easton Kiwanis voted and I for one voted with 5 different emails I use. Here's what LINCS had to say: THANK YOU Thrivent Member Network - Mid-Atlantic Region for this amazing opportunity. We are so very grateful and are thrilled to announce to our followers: WE WON!!! Out of 1,497 total votes in Thrivent's Big Giveback... YOU helped us secure nearly HALF of them! Because of YOU — our incredible supporters, friends, and community — Wilson Area LINCS is bringing home the WIN and a \$10,000 prize! Every single vote, share, and message of encouragement made this possible. You showed up, you acted, and you proved once again what this community can do when we come together. From the bottom of our hearts — THANK YOU.

This win isn't just ours — it's yours.



**Wilson Area LINCS**  
Coalition for Families and Youth

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<https://www.facebook.com/WilsonAreaLincsFB/>  
<https://www.instagram.com/wilsonarealincs/>  
[linkedin.com/company/wilsonarealincs/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/wilsonarealincs/)

Wilson Area LINCS Coalition for Families and Youth  
[LINCS@wilsonareasd.org](mailto:LINCS@wilsonareasd.org)  
[WilsonAreaLINCS.org](http://WilsonAreaLINCS.org)

## November 1st & 2nd – Easton's Bacon Fest....

Thank you, Crystal Rose, City Councilwoman and Kiwanis Club of Easton Member, for the invite to volunteer at Bacon Fest! Bacon Fest is a fundraiser supporting the Greater Easton Development Partnership's neighborhood programs. Several Easton Kiwanians were on hand to volunteer – Kathy Heller, Rosemary Kocher and her husband Bob, Janet and James Owen and Crystal Rose who was helping coordinate volunteers. Great day, great crowds and great fun!! Not to mention the wonderful aroma throughout all of Easton and the traffic.







### November 5th – Easton Kiwanian wins....

Easton Kiwanis member Jeremy Clark won the election for Northampton County Judge and had this to say: *"I am so thrilled and humbled at last night's results. Thank you to the many people who helped along the way, far too many to mention here but you know who you are. I never could have done this alone."*

*"But the biggest thanks goes to my number one supporter, consultant, proof-reader, sanity checker, doer of everything, amazing wife, and best friend. Love you honey!"*



I guess the next time he attends a Kiwanis meeting we all have to say, **"HERE COME THE JUDGE"**



## November 4th – Easton Kiwanis member Susan Bartels and CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Lehigh Valley Receives **IMPACT AWARD**....

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Lehigh Valley has received the Impact Award from Big Brothers Big Sisters of America — a distinction that honors agencies with exceptional performance in mentorship, youth impact, and match quality. This award reflects their commitment to strong match retention and meaningful youth development in areas like education and self-confidence. We're proud to be recognized for the consistency and care that define our work. Thank you to our Bigs, Littles, families, staff, and supporters who make this impact possible every day.

Join us in celebrating Susan, our CEO, who is marking 12 years of leading Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Lehigh Valley! Not only does Susan lead the agency with heart and vision—she's also a Big Sister, living out our mission every day. Her commitment to mentorship and her belief in the power of relationships have helped shape BBBSLV into the strong, impactful organization it is today.



## November 5<sup>th</sup> – Dr. John P. Balmonte, Microbial Services from the top of the world, to the bottom of the ocean, and to the United Nations” . Microbes in oceans - who knew that was important to us humans!...

Everyone was welcomed to the meeting by Sue Gallagher. We said the “Pledge of Allegiance” and sang, “God Bless America.” Lois Wildrick was a guest as was Frances Kennedy who joined us for this meeting. Her husband, John, before his passing was a long-time member of Easton Kiwanis and a strong advocate for protecting the environment. Ken Wildrick shared Words of Inspiration on the environment.





Our speaker today was Dr. John Bamonte, an Assistant Professor at Lehigh University in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. His presentation was titled, *Microbial Services from the Top of the World, to the Bottom of the Ocean and to the United Nations*. Joining Dr. Bamonte was PHD Student, Noemi Schollmeyer, from Germany who has worked with him on different projects.

Dr. Bamonte stressed that without microbes we could not live. Early on microbes made our planet habitable. Microbes are being threatened by global change and there is research being done all over the world to sustain microbial growth.

In his presentation he described some of his expeditions. One of the studies was MOSAiC which was the largest Polar Expedition in history. The goal was to gather data about Arctic ice formations and take the closest look ever at the Arctic as the epicenter of Global Warming. This was only one of the expeditions.

Dr. Bamonte's presentation was fascinating as is Lehigh University's Oceans Research Center and its connection with the United Nations. It is highly recommended that you view it on our Kiwanis YouTube channel. [Click Here for the 65-min video](#).

### **Tom Harp's Visit**

Our club was also visited today by Tom Harp, Immediate Past Governor of PA Kiwanis. Tom was here to present the Kiwanis Club of Easton with a Certificate of Recognition and Patch for our banner, recognizing our support for his Governor's Project, "Bucks for Babies". In conjunction with St. Luke's VNA Nurse-Family Partnership, Tom raised funds to purchase 40 infant health and safety kits that will be delivered to NFP moms.

Our thanks to Tom for serving the community in such a meaningful way with his project, for his visit to our club and for the Certificate of Recognition and the Patch. It was great having him at our meeting.





What better way to celebrate Key Club Week than to install new officers for the Nazareth Area High School Key Club. It was a great night at Tony's Pizza in Forks Township where students, their faculty Advisor, Brigitte Lubarsky, and several Easton Kiwanians gathered for the event.

Kathy Heller, Easton Kiwanis Key Club Advisor, presided over the ceremony. She explained the duties of all officers and as they were installed, she handed each a Kiwanis pen and explained how that pen can have many uses in all of their offices.

Special guest Kiwanian the Year, Roger Conners, installed the new president of the club imparting words of wisdom and congratulation to all of the future leaders. Also speaking were Brigitte Lubarski, Walter Howell and James Owen with words from Janet Owen who was at Governor Elect Training in Indianapolis. Sue Gallagher concluded the event by saying that the students are an inspiration to all of us and thanked everyone for coming. Thanks also to Tony's Pizza for hosting us.

The new officers are: President: Madison Lohrman; Vice President: Ella White; Treasurer: Kavya Patel and Secretary: Ciara Freer.

*We know that you will have a wonderful year!*





Special thanks to Karen Widrick and SURV Restaurant! Their October Curbside Charity raised \$750 for the Kiwanis Club of Easton's IU20 Christmas Party in December. Thank you to all who participated and to Karen and SURV for your commitment to helping our community.



### **November 7th– Presenting a grant to Equi-librium ....**

Sue Gallagher, on behalf of the Kiwanis Club of Easton, delivered a check for \$250 to Jessie Shappell, Executive Director of Equi-librium, for Special Game Sponsorship at Equi-librium's Designer Purse Bingo on November 23, 2025. The club's name will be listed in the program book under one of four special games announced at the beginning of the game, and printed on signage accompanying prize purse.

Equi-librium is located on an 8-acre historic farm in Nazareth, Pennsylvania. There it provides healing through horses by implementing equine-assisted services to help individuals with physical, developmental, behavioral, and psychological challenges. Thank you so much, Jessie and Equi-librium for all that you do.

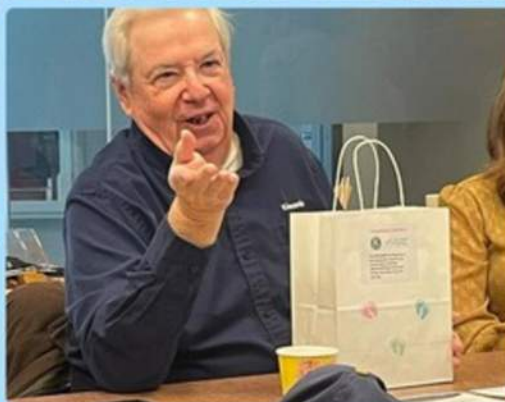




Tom Harp, Immediate Past Kiwanis PA Governor, hosted an event at St. Luke's Center to thank Kiwanis Clubs for donating to his Governor's Project, "Bucks for Babies". This was done in conjunction with St. Luke's VNA Nurse-Family Partnership.

The donations made enabled 40 infant safety kits to be delivered in each region. Included in the kits for new moms were a rubber duck with a built-in thermometer to gauge bath water temps, an infrared thermometer, a white noise machine and a book in black and white, since newborns are unable to see color.

Several clubs were represented there and a member from each club had an opportunity to speak about why their club donated to the project. Janet Owen, Kiwanis Club of Easton member and PA Kiwanis Governor Elect, spoke on behalf Easton Kiwanis. Also representing our club was Rosemary Kocher, Secretary/Treasurer. Thanks, Tom Harp, for presenting and seeing through to completion this very worthwhile project.





## November 11<sup>th</sup> – St Janes K-Kids...

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Kiwanis Club member Marybeth Okula provided photos of the K-Kids at St Jane's as they planned future projects.



## November 15<sup>th</sup> PA Kiwanis Governor visits Regional Meeting...

Kiwanis members from several Division 17/18, Kiwanis Clubs met our new PA Kiwanis Governor, Barb Byers Carter at a Region Meeting in Whitehaven. PA. Present also was our new Trustee, Jeff Rose and Janet Owen, our new Governor Elect.

The following were speakers - Morgan Colbaugh (*Key Clubs and Key Leaders*); Mike Colbaugh (*Membership*); Jeff Rose (*Kiwanis Foundation*) and Janet Owen (*Governor Elect*). Janet also recognized members from each club and thanked everyone for coming.

Governor Barb Byers Carter then spoke about her Governor's Project which will focus of Mental Health and Increasing Membership. Present from the Kiwanis Club of Easton were Janet and James Owen and Neil and Sue Gallagher. It was a most informative morning.





The meeting was opened by Sue Gallagher. We said “*The Pledge of Allegiance*” and sang “*God Bless America*” followed by Sue welcoming everyone. Our guests today were speaker, Rachel Hogan and Kim Kmetz, Development Director of Nurture Nature Center, and Lois Wildrick. Ken Wildrick then shared Words of Inspiration. Sue mentioned members’ November birthdays and club join dates.

Our speaker was introduced by Ken Wildrick. Rachel Hogan is Executive Director of the Nurture Nature Center in Easton, PA. The program was “Global Change, Local impacts: Understanding Environmental Issues in the Lehigh Valley.” The Nurture Nature Center is a center dedicated to engaging the public in learning about environmental risks.

Rachel explained three persistent risks to our environment - *Flooding, Air Quality and Extreme Heat Events*. She went on to address each risk and how it impacts the population not only in the local area but also referring to global effects.

Although these risks are manifested in several ways and are getting worse, Rachel explained that there are positive things happening to help – Programs and Materials from the Nurture Nature Center; ways that farmers are helping; and Community Action Plans with Action strategies to name a few.

The Nurture Nature Center is closed now because an addition is under construction for a 75-seat immersive dome theater to share earth, astronomy and cultural programs.

This is just a glimpse into the Nurture Nature Center and its mission. Please [CLICK HERE](#) for Rachel’s entire 58-min presentation on Easton Kiwanis’ YouTube channel. Thank you Rachel for this most important program. Thanks also to Kim Kmetz and Lois Wildrick for joining us today.





Member Cathi White read to the children and did a craft project with them.



**November 20<sup>th</sup> – Shawnee K-Kids meeting...**

The Shawnee K-Kids met this morning with 35 members attending. The meeting was lead by Faculty Advisor Givon Ellison with the help of Easton Kiwanians Cathi White, Chris Paltz, and Walt Howell. The main objective for today's meeting was for the K-Kids to pack complete Thanksgiving meals for 17 identified students and their families with the remaining food items that were donated by the school's students to be delivered to Safe Harbor.

The K-Kids at their October 23rd meeting after they had the election of the club's officers; made Thanksgiving cards and decorations to be delivered to residents at Gracedale. Mr. Ellison handed out permission slips for the members to take home for the parents to fill out so those members could help with the Salvation Army Bell Ringing campaign with us Easton Kiwanians on December 6th in front of the Boscov's in the Palmer Park Mall between 10am to 4pm. Mr. Ellison mentioned that since the October meeting he planted so flowers around the school as a K-Kids project. He also notified them that the Safety Patrol assignments would probably change in January so other K-Kids would have an opportunity to help students arriving and returning home from school on buses and parent pick up. He will be sending a list of the newly elected President, Vice President, Secretary, & Treasurer along with a photo of the K-Kids cabinet. Respectfully, Walt Howell, Easton Kiwanis SLP Advisor





A \$500 grant was presented to Family Connection of Easton at Paxinosa Elementary School. This grant will be used to provide families who are enrolled in their ParentChild+ program with a holiday gathering & party on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. The funds will be used to purchase pajamas and gift bags for the children.

Easton Kiwanians, Sue Gallagher and Rosemary Kocher, delivered the check to Dana Moser and Jenylin Rodriguez from ParentChild+. Thanks to Family Connection of Easton and to the ParentChild+ program for all that you do for families and for children in our community. With our warmest wishes for a very happy holiday.



## November 24th – St Janes K-Kids...

St. Jane's K-Kids met to fill baskets of food for shut-ins and local community helpers. Easton Kiwanians Sue Gallagher, Rosemary Kocher, Marybeth Okula, and Walt Howell assisted Faculty Advisor Christi Johnstone and other parents/helpers fill several baskets filled with food items. The St. Jane's K-Kids next meeting is scheduled for December 4th at 2:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by Walt Howell, SLP Advisor

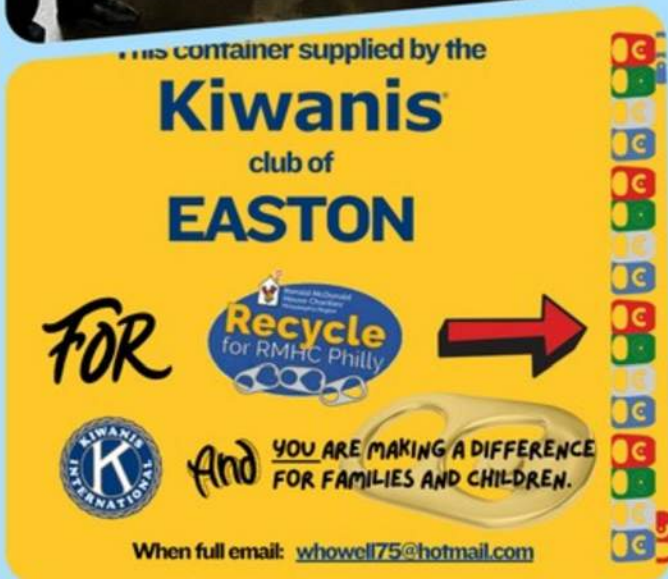




This morning Scott Fisher and Walt Howell delivered 236.6 pounds of can tabs to the Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia, PA which were contributed by the 8 Kiwanis Clubs in Division 17/18 and Service Leadership Clubs sponsored by their respective Kiwanis Club, as well as other entities who knew of our can tab collection campaign. Scott and I ended the event by stopping for a Roast Beef Combo sandwich and beverage at Old Original Nick's Roast Beef at 2149 South 20th Street Philadelphia, PA.

*Thank you for your generous donation to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Philadelphia. Your support helps provide a home away from home for families with seriously ill children receiving treatment at local hospitals. With heartfelt thanks, Ronald McDonald House Charities of Philadelphia*

**236.6 pounds of can tabs is almost 300,000 tabs**





What a great way to “Kick Off” the holiday season an interclub meeting hosted by Palmer Kiwanis with Phillipsburg Kiwanis and the Kiwanis Club of Easton on the day before the *Big Thanksgiving Day Football Game* between Easton Area High School and Phillipsburg High School. There was a lot of excitement and camaraderie in the room which was a sea of red and garnet and gray attire. This meeting of friendly rivals has become a tradition that we all look forward to.

The meeting was led by President Elect, Ed McDevitt, and Sal Panto, Mayor of Easton, was the speaker. It was great to hear from Mayor Panto about all of the development that is taking place in our city and of how all of the surrounding townships work together with Easton to make it a vibrant, warm and welcoming place to live and to visit.

Thanks so much, Palmer Kiwanians for hosting this breakfast. Good luck to both teams. See you tomorrow at the BIG GAME!!



## November 26<sup>th</sup> – A gift basket for Member Capt Isabel Mino...

Dear President Sue,

I pray everything is well with you. I want to thank you, and the Kiwanis Easton for the basket and the well wishes sent to my home. It was a nice surprise! Could you please extend my gratitude to all the Kiwanis. Thank you, for everything!

Happy Thanksgiving!

God bless you, Captain Isabel Mino, The Salvation Army Easton.





## Kiwanis Greeting Cards

Special thanks to Marybeth Okula and Ken Wildrick who have graciously accepted the Hospitality Committee job of sending Kiwanis Birthday and Thinking of You Cards. The Thinking of You cards are sent for various reasons – Congratulations, Get Well, Sympathy, etc.

Please inform Ken or Marybeth if you know of a club member, family member or friend that is in need of one of the Thinking of You cards. Thanks to Marybeth and Ken and to our club members for participating in this outreach program.

### UPCOMING S.L.P. & COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS

Why not plan to attend our “youth club” meetings

SLP Meetings: As long as you have your valid PSP Criminal Background Check and Child Abuse History Clearance, you can join Walt and other members at any meeting you are available. You can download the documents at

[https://www.canva.com/design/DAG2562wScQ/TnTFFK4X19B8KJ7j\\_tZjXA/edit](https://www.canva.com/design/DAG2562wScQ/TnTFFK4X19B8KJ7j_tZjXA/edit). Make sure Walt has a copy of your documents.

Shawnee K-Kids meetings. Thursdays 7:30AM; Dec 11; Jan 29; Feb 26; Mar 19; Apr 16; May 14.

St. Janes K-Kids meetings. Thursdays 2:15PM-3PM. Dec 4, Jan 8 + Jan 22, Feb 9-13 K-Kids Week, Feb 12, Mar 12, Apr 16, May 7 + May 21.

FORKS EDUCATIONAL CENTER-reading for children 2<sup>nd</sup> + 4<sup>th</sup> Thur 11am, contact Cathi White or Janet Owen

Anniversary  
Joined Kiwanis

15

Capt. Daniel Mino – Dec 1, 2014

Thomas Malerba – Dec 11, 1991



Bill Walters – Dec 12

Katherine Heller – Dec 23

Charles Adams – Dec 27

### UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Dec 4 -- IU20 Annual Christmas Party Service Opportunity

Dec 6 -- Easton Kiwanis Club Christmas Party-music by Ken Wildrick, potluck meal

Dec 10 – Board Meeting at Pres. Sue’s home

Dec 17 --Luncheon Meeting at SURV & Member Installation

Dec 18 – From Walt Howell "Shop With A Cop" 6PM meet at Boys & Girls Club

Dec 20 – Salvation Army Bell Ringing at Sam’s Club, Chris Paltz is the contact

Dec 24 – no meeting-Christmas Eve

Dec 31 – no meeting-New Years Eve

2026 begins-1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays-speakers, 4th Wed Hybrid Board Meeting (somewhere)

Jan 6 – Foundation Trustees Meeting, 3PM Ken’s apartment

Jan 7 – PA Gov Elect Janet Owen

Jan 21 – Imm. Past Pres Scott Fisher, Membership

Mar 4 – Dawn Fenner of the Essentials Café will talk about a “Pay What You Can” cafe

May 13 – Easton Police Officer Award-Pomfret Club

June 10 - Super Raffle Fundraiser-proposed date

Aug 12 – Easton EMS Award-Pomfret Club

Oct 14 – Easton Firefighter Award-Pomfret Club

Contact Easton Kiwanis

[www.EastonPaKiwanis.org](http://www.EastonPaKiwanis.org)

[www.facebook.com/easton.kiwanis](https://www.facebook.com/easton.kiwanis)

[www.youtube.com/@eastonpakiwanis](https://www.youtube.com/@eastonpakiwanis)

[info.EastonKiwanis@gmail.com](mailto:info.EastonKiwanis@gmail.com)

Easton Kiwanis normally meets 1st & 3rd Wednesdays @ 11:45AM

*check our Facebook page for further information*

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