



Kiwanis®

CLUB OF EASTON

June Klatter 2026

Dear Easton Kiwanians,

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Time passes by very quickly. Here we are at the end of June. Summer is officially here and we look forward to warmer weather, longer days and enjoying time with our families and friends.

June was another very active month for our Kiwanians as you will see throughout this newsletter. Our major fundraiser, the Super Raffle, was moved back to June this year and it was a great success. Special thanks to Rosemary Kocher and Scott Fisher for chairing the event and to anyone who helped in any way. Our profit will go a long way to help kids in our community.

We also have great representation at the International Convention in Manila. Janet and James Owen are representing the Kiwanis Club of Easton. Cathy Szymanski is now President-Elect for Kiwanis International and Barb Byers Carter, Pennsylvania District Governor is there as well. Thanks for going the distance to make a difference.

Another big event on the calendar is our District Convention in Gettysburg, PA. We have a number of Easton Kiwanians registered. It really is a worthwhile experience and having it in Gettysburg is a plus.

Our only July meeting at SURV on July 15, its a Diaper Baby Shower. Our speaker will be Zair Burris, who started Moms Offering Moms Support. We plan to collect diapers at the meeting for Moms Offering Moms Support. Please bring a pack or two if you can.

Our 5th Wednesday gathering will take place at Wanderlust on July 29th at 5:00 PM. All are invited - family members, friends and perspective members. It's always a great time!

Lots going on in August. We are participating at Wilson LINCS Touch a Truck, August 2nd and National Night Out, August 4th.

We also have a fieldtrip to SIGAL MUSEUM on August 5th at noon, bring a bag lunch, and our EMS Award Luncheon at the Pomfret Club on August 12.

Please read the Monday Missile each week to know what going on. A special thanks to Bill Walters for all he does in so many ways for our club including all of the work he does on the newsletter. It is much appreciated.

Happy 4th of July and Happy 250th Birthday to our Country!

With gratitude always

Sue Gallagher

May 30th --- Miracle League volunteers...

What a great way to start the day! Easton Kiwanis volunteering at Miracle League. Thank you, James and Janet Owen, Marybeth and Mark Okula and Cathi White! A special shout out to our favorite Rotarian, BJ Metz.



June 2nd Nazareth Key Club Scholarships...

The Kiwanis Club of Easton honored the exceptional accomplishments of three Nazareth Key Club members, empowering them as beacons of positive change. Madison Lohrman and Talia Kwatkowski were recognized with the prestigious Charles and Sandra Adams Scholarship, valued at \$1,500 each, as they prepare to elevate their educational pursuits at Villanova and Dickinson. Giada Palma was awarded the Kathy Heller Scholarship, valued at \$1,500, fueling her aspirations at Penn State.

The dinner was held at Tony's Pizza and Restaurant in Forks Township. Kathy Heller, Kiwanis Key Club Advisor, assisted by Walter Howell, Scholarship Committee Chairperson, presented the scholarship awards. Several members of Easton Kiwanis were in attendance as well as guests.

The students spoke about their community involvement, their college plans and expressed their gratitude for the Scholarships. Our thanks also to Brigette Lubarski, Faculty Advisor to the Nazareth Area High School Key Club. Thanks also to Charles and Sandra Adams and Kathy Heller for making these scholarships possible.

The Kiwanis Club of Easton would like to share information about the Nazareth Area High School Key Club which is sponsored by the club.

To be an active member of the Key Club students must attend club meetings and must attend at least 4 events outside of their meetings.

Some of the meeting events were fundraisers for the following:

- 3rd Street Alliance Women's and Children's Shelter Collection - \$500.00
- Rose Sale for the Dream Come True Foundation - \$400
- CHOPS Pajama Day Collection - \$2,000
- Blood Cancer United - \$2,700

Students are also involved in many other volunteer projects.

We would also like to thank Key Club Faculty Advisor , Brigitte Lubarski, who has shown through her mentoring and leadership skills how to be a dedicated NAHS Key Club member. She has dedicated her time, talents and substance to maintain a club that reaches out to the school, the Community, the Nation and the World. With our gratitude always

Thanks also to Kathy Heller, Kiwanis Key Club Advisor, for her dedication to the NSAHS Key Club and to Walter Howell, Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee. The Kiwanis Club of Easton looks forward to another great year. Congratulations to all of the Senior Class NAHS Key Club members!



June 3rd – Check presented to JOSHWAY...

Marybeth Okula and Sue Gallagher visited JOSHWAY. They were welcomed by David Robertson and Tim Unger. What an amazing place, built on the premise of empowering youth through life skills, digital literacy and self-discovery,

It was founded in 2023 by David Robertson in memory of his brother, Joshua, who struggled with mental health and addiction. Out of the loss of his brother, JOSHWAY was created so no young person would feel invisible.

On a tour given by David, Marybeth and Sue learned that JOSHWAY is designed to feel like a home. It is very much a place of welcoming and learning.

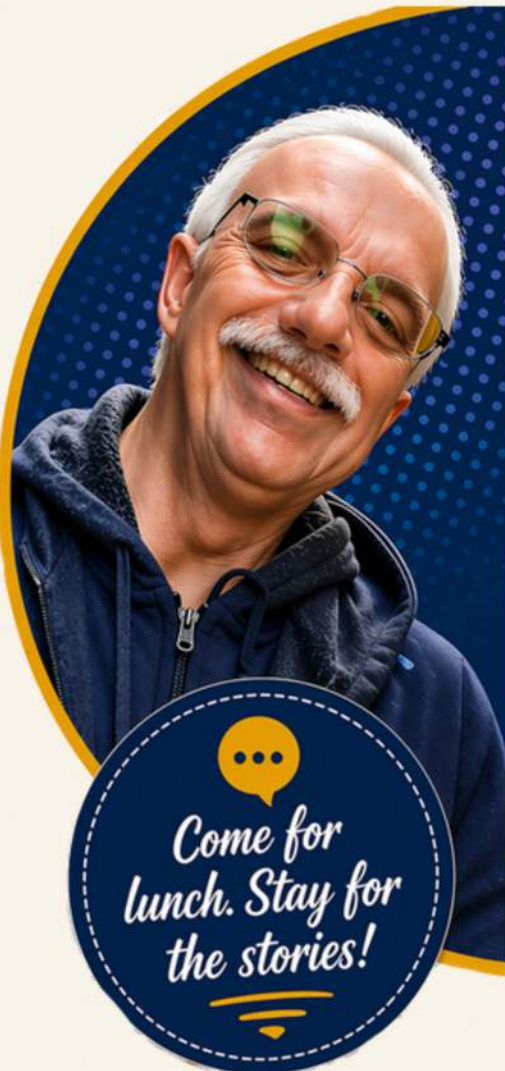
JOSHWAY is a recipient of a \$2000 grant from the Kiwanis Club of Easton. Thanks to David Robertson and JOSHWAY for their wonderful contribution to young people and to the community.

Here are some comments we received from David Robertson.

When you reached out to let us know about the grant, it wasn't just about the financial support, though that is deeply appreciated. It was the reminder that we're not building this mission alone. There are people like you and organizations like the Kiwanis Club who see what we're trying to do and believe it's worth investing in. That belief fuels everything. Every workshop we run, every young person we serve, every conversation we have about identity, purpose, and possibility, it all happens because people choose to stand with us. The Kiwanis Club's support is more than a grant. It's a vote of confidence. It's a partnership. It's a statement that says, "We believe in the next generation, and we believe in what JOSHWAY is building."



June 3rd – Jim Cyr, Storyteller...



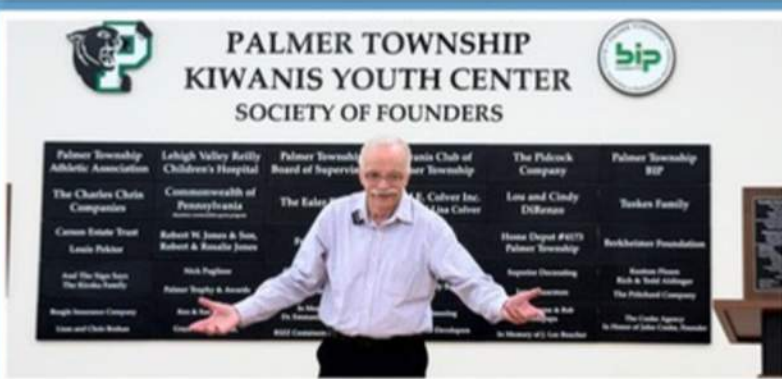
The meeting today was held at Palmer Kiwanis Youth Center. After the Pledge of Allegiance and God Bless America, Sue Gallagher welcomed everyone. There were several guests including members from three area Kiwanis Clubs – Daine Farleigh, Lt. Governor District 17/18 (Kiwanis Club of Allentown Northeast); Ingrid and Richard Durant from the Kiwanis Club of Emmaus and Dee Davis and Sharon Smith, the Kiwanis Club of Phillipsburg, NJ. Other guests included Bob Kocker, Mark Okula, Mary Anne West and Lois Wildrick.

Scott Fisher introduced Storyteller, Jim Cyr, our presenter for this meeting, and his wife, Carol. Jim Cyr is a retired minister and professional storyteller. He has told stories in many different places including prisons, churches and libraries. His stories include folk tales to fairy tales to sacred and biblical stories and more.

Frequently his stories center around wisdom, health and faith. We gathered in circle like an old-time campfire to listen to two great stories – “Jack and His Magic Belt” and then we traveled to Japan for a story about two Mandarin Ducks. It was a great experience and something different for our club to enjoy.

Jim Cyr's stories that he shared with us are now on [EASTON KIWANIS YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#), 37-min video.

Tune in for a great experience. Thank you, Jim, for a most enjoyable program.



June 10th – Annual Super Raffle...

The Super Raffle was a great success. A big thank to Rosemary Kocher and Scott Fisher for chairing this event, a job well done. It is a big job done over many months and is very much appreciated. Our net proceeds are approaching \$10,000.

Thanks also to those who sold tickets and those who purchased them. Your generosity will go a long way in helping the children in our community.

Thanks to all, Sue Gallagher
Some history on the Super Raffle By Bill Walters

I joined the club in 1982 and it was either that year or the next year that we started the Super Raffle. We copied it from Easton Rotary and eventually they had trouble selling tickets and they gave it up. But they only gave out \$5000 of the \$20,000 of what they collected.

Actually, the first time we did the Super Raffle, Rotary offered to do it for us since they had all the equipment. They wanted a ticket for our raffle as payment, and as it was, at that time, we did not offer to split the \$10,000. As the raffle was getting towards the last dozen or so balls, 2 guys sitting at one table said if it happened to go down to them as the last 2 balls, they would split the \$10K. *And damn if it did not happen that way.* And for the "rest of the story" the one guy was holding the Easton Rotary ticket. So, for the first raffle, half of the grand prize went to the Easton ROTARY. During the next year our member, dentist Dr Herm Beam, was a woodworker as a hobby so he made the wooden rack and member Ed Stipe has his men create the 2 whiteboards.



June 13th – Volunteers at Miracle League Field...

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Great day supporting the Miracle League! Thanks to Chris, Janet, James, Rosemary, and Walt! It was the last game of the season and such an awesome time supporting the league!



June 17th – Easton Foundation Presents another Grant....

Rog Conners is presenting a \$5000 check from our Foundation to Equi-librium's Executive Director, Jessie Shappell. Jessie explained about their excessive needs this past year due to not being able to graze the horse on some of the pastureland since the electric utility right-of-way being close for construction.



Today's meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and God Bless America. Sue Gallagher welcomed everyone and introduced our Speaker, George Khoury, owner of George's Pizza in Easton, and his wife, Yoselyn. Also with us were Eric Adams, Sam Elias and Mark Okula, Marybeth's husband.

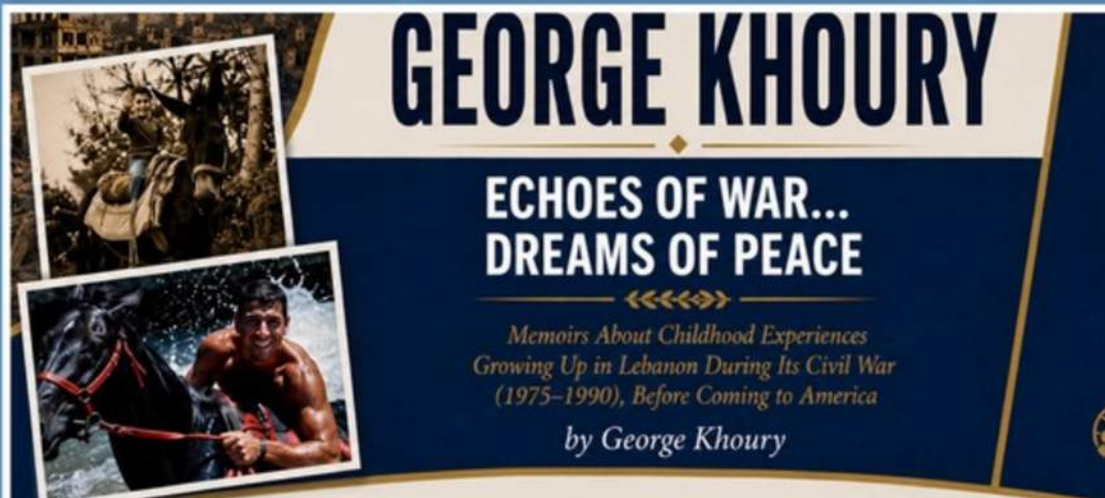
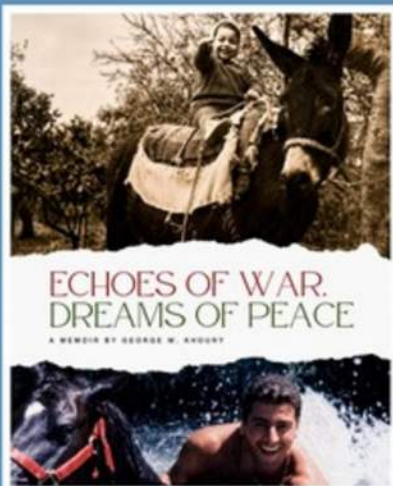
Scott Fisher shared words of wisdom on the topic of horses since member, Jessie Shappell, Executive Director of Equi-librium, was with us today to accept a grant from the Kiwanis Foundation of Easton. Scott said there are characteristics horses have such as Resilience, Trust and Focus that can be seen in humans as well.

Our speaker was introduced by Eric Adams. Eric explained that he became very interested in the stories George would tell when he would stop for pizza at George's Pizza. He found them fascinating. These stories were then told to Eric by George who transcribed them and arranged them in George's memoir.

George's stories were enthralling to say the least. From his dynamic presentation we learned that when he was a child, Lebanon was a "happening place." Through hard work his family thrived there.

Then the bombing started. George was only 7 years old when the Lebanese Civil War began. Everything changed. In his presentation, he spoke of his need to leave Lebanon, the difficulty of getting to Damascus to get a visa, his arrival in the United States with \$12.50 in his pocket and how the United States opened the doors for him through 40 years of hard work to achieve the American dream. With all he has been through, he has no bitterness and said he is grateful for everything that has happened to him. His positivity and warmth are infectious. We hope to see him again.

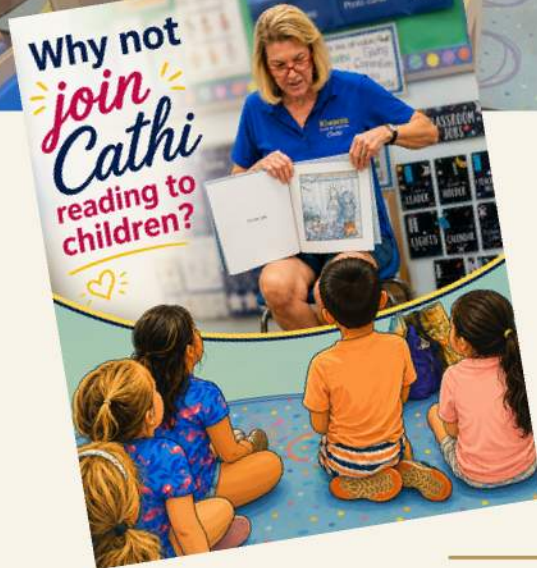
This is only a brief sketch of George's program. Please check our YouTube Channel, [CLICK HERE](#), to see the presentation in its entirety. There is much more to learn about George in his book, *Echoes of War, Dreams of Peace*. Thank you, George, for sharing your experiences and thank you, Eric, for your part in working with George and for introducing him to the Kiwanis Club of Easton.



June 25th – Reading to Forks Education children...

Today was the scheduled reading at the YMCA Forks Education Center. The children enjoyed 4 books that I read and even taught them a little Spanish. How to say good morning, afternoon and evening. It was very interactive. They are looking forward to the next reading.

by Cathi White



Thank you from Easton High School Tech Students...



Technology Students Association

Easton Area High School Department of Technology Education

We are writing to you today on behalf of the entire Easton Area High School Technology Students Association to offer our sincerest gratitude for your generous donation towards our state competition. As I'm sure you are aware, for the first time in almost two decades our chapter had nearly all of its funding from the school district withheld. Without your donation and others like it, we likely would not have been able to travel to the state competition as a chapter. Thanks to your donation we were not only able to travel and compete but we also had an amazing time. Some of our notable highlights include cooking on the first night, playing games together every night, hiking up and down the ski slopes, networking with and meeting other students from all over the state, competing in a variety of events and qualifying for nationals in several events. On the first night every year students are left to prepare their own meals and this year we had a lot of fun putting together everything from tacos, to an Italian feast, and steaks, but once dinner is done and cleaned up that's when competitions begin. This year some of our favorite competitions were Animatronics, Drone Challenge, Biotech, Technology Debate, and Fashion Design. This year not only did we have several teams qualify for nationals but due to the close proximity of this year's national conference Easton will be sending their first ever delegation to TSA Nationals. Even with all the hard work that went into our competitions many of us still found time to relax and have fun. Whether it was hiking the mountain, birdwatching, playing spike ball, playing cards, or just hanging out and watching a movie we were sure to savor every moment together. Without your generosity these moments would not have happened and we'd probably be a lot worse off. As we prepare to send some of our members off to represent us in Washington D.C. we would like to offer our deepest gratitude not only for helping us to compete in our events but for allowing us to make amazing memories together.

Eternally Grateful, Ellia Sales (President), Lila Da Re (Vice President), Eleanore Hornbake (Secretary), Anthony Ventura (Treasurer)
EAHS Technology Students Association



Multi District dinner out in Manila at Barbara's.



A great day in Manila to be the FIRST DUDE for the PA Governor-elect.



International President thrilled to charter 10 new clubs in Manila.



Kiwanis International President 2026-2027, and frequent Zoom visitor to Easton Kiwanis, Hope Marks



Janet's Governor Elect Class night out with President Elect Hope Marks and Centennial Internet Club meetup.



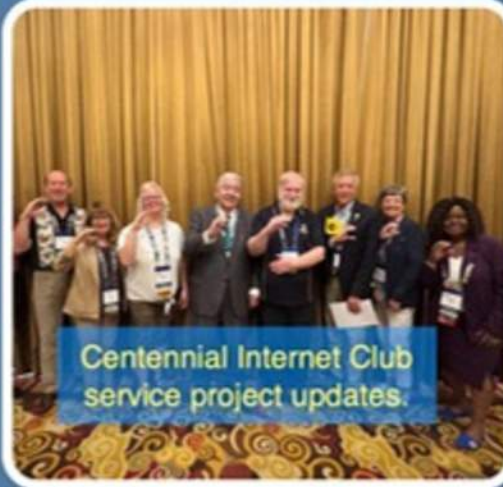
The Governor + Governor-elect of the Pennsylvania District of Kiwanis has arrived in Manila!



Janet & James heading home soon.



Night of Aspac.



Centennial Internet Club service project updates.



Met up with our friend, "smiling" Florida Kiwanis Governor Tommy Mills from Tallahassee!



What an honor it is to be standing next to the current Governor of the Pennsylvania District, Barb Byers Carter, and a former Governor and current Kiwanis International Vice President, Cathy Szymanski.



Dinner at Barbara's. Incoming Governor 2026-2027 and Current Governor

SAVE THE DATE



Pennsylvania District Convention

★ GETTYSBURG 2026 ★
AUGUST 13-16, 2026

WYNDHAM GETTYSBURG HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER
95 PRESIDENTIAL CIRCLE, GETTYSBURG, PA

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About District Convention...

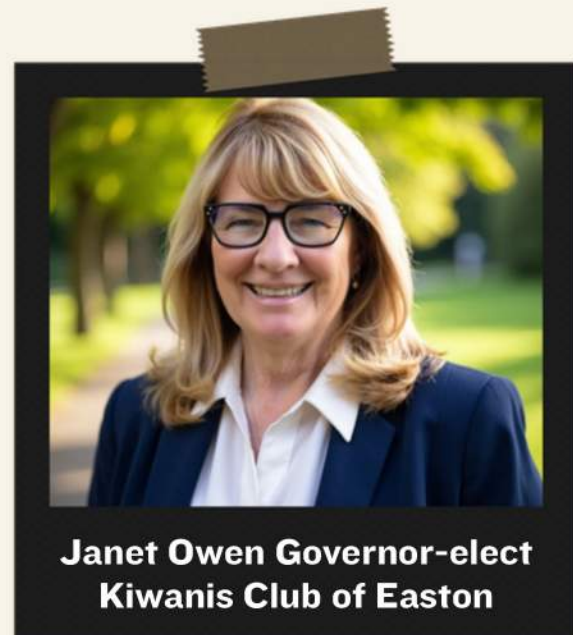
Join Kiwanians from across the district for a weekend of connection, learning, and inspiration! The 2026 Pennsylvania District Convention will take place in the historic town of Gettysburg. Come together to honor a legacy of service in our nation's 250th year, exchange ideas, celebrate fellow Kiwanians, and explore new ways to make an impact in your community. Enjoy thoughtfully curated experiences, including special excursions, inspiring speakers, interactive workshops, and meaningful fellowship as we strengthen our clubs and renew our commitment to service. [Vote for our next PA District Governor, Janet Owen.](#)

PA Kiwanis District Convention Page, [click here](#).

Online Registration, [click here](#).

Hotel Reservations deadline is July 13, 2026, please [reserve your hotel room](#) by using **Group Code 081226KIW** online or call 717-339-0020 and reference the group code. The Kiwanis group rate is \$155 +Tax/fees per night.

Easton Kiwanis Club member Janet Owen is the first Kiwanian from Easton Kiwanis to be a Pennsylvania Kiwanis District Governor-elect since 1919. And she will only be the 8th woman to become Pennsylvania Kiwanis District Governor, October 1st, 2026 .



Janet Owen Governor-elect
Kiwanis Club of Easton

2026 Pennsylvania District Convention

Wyndham Gettysburg Hotel & Conference Center

August 13-16, 2026



July Birthdays

Terry Thomas	July 10
Walter Howell	July 15
Marybeth Okula	July 24

Anniversary Joined Kiwanis

July Club Anniversaries

Scott Fisher	7/25/84
Walter Howell	7/26/89



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 youth meeting you are available. You can download the documents [CLICK HERE](#) Make sure Walt has a copy of your documents.

Shawnee K-Kids meetings. Done until next school year.

St. Janes K-Kids meetings. Done until next school year.

FORKS EDUCATIONAL CENTER – reading for children 2nd + 4th Thur 11am, contact Cathi White or Janet Owen

MIRACLE LEAGUE OF NORTHAMPTON COUNTY Volunteers are needed and the kids always appreciate people cheering in the stands. Contact Janet Owen if you can volunteer as dates are now being established for games.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

2026: usually 1st & 3rd Wednesdays – speakers, 4th Wed Zoom Board Meeting

Jul 1 + 8 – No meetings

Jul 15 – MOMS (Moms Offering Moms Support) @ SURV

Bring a package of package of baby diapers. Its going to be a "shower."

Jul 22 -- Board Meeting 2PM ZOOM

Jul 29 -- 5th Wednesday Night Out – Wanderlust

Aug 2 – LINCS Touch-A-Truck, Wilson Boro

Aug 4 – National Night Out

Aug 5 – Field Trip Sigal Museum noon, bring a bag lunch, learn about Prohibition Time

Aug 12 – Easton EMS Award @ Pomfret Club

Aug 13-16 -- Kiwanis District Convention in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Aug 19 – Meeting at SURV, sharing information from our summer conventions

Aug 26 – Board Meeting 2PM ZOOM

Sept 23 -- Board Meeting 2PM ZOOM

Oct 4 – Division 17/18 Picnic

Oct 7 – Installation of Officers

Oct 14 – Easton Firefighter Award @ Pomfret Club

Oct 25 – Halloween Parade, planning stages

Oct 26-29 – SURV Fundraiser for Easton Kiwanis

Nov 17 – Mixer at SURV 5PM

Dec 19 – Christmas Party @ Riverview Clubhouse

Contact Easton Kiwanis

www.EastonPaKiwanis.org

www.facebook.com/easton.kiwanis

www.youtube.com/@eastonpakiwanis

info.EastonKiwanis@gmail.com

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

check our Facebook page for further information

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