



KIWANIS CLUB OF RIDGEWOOD, NY 3-2-1

Meets 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 12 Noon @ GRYC Clubhouse, 59-03 Summerfield Street, Ridgewood, NY 11385


The Triple Crown Newsletter

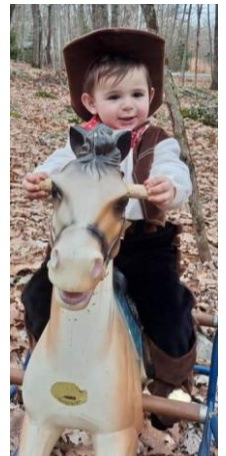


RESULTS OF MEET For: November 18, 2020

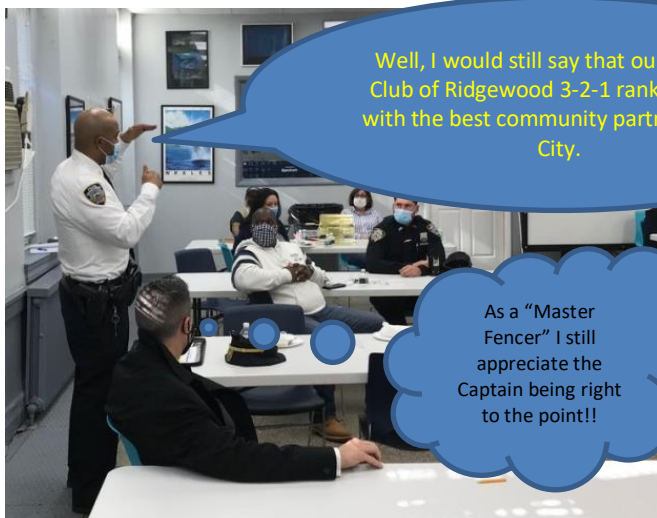
VOLUME 4 Number 4

Race One: Today would have been a great day to meet in the Clubhouse, but, with COVID on the rise and as a measure of extreme caution, we have put in-person meetings on hold until December. So, you are being forced to imagine that you are in the clubhouse, along with about 30-40 others, all with plenty of space to allow for social distancing and President Janine Mahon using her gavel to hit the gong and start the meeting. Janine then asked everyone to rise from their chairs to recite the Pledge to the Flag and, you guessed it, at the completion of the Pledge, Janine asked Deacon Kevin Powell to give the blessing. As always, Kevin was inspiring in asking us to remember those in need and the gifts that we have to offer in service to others and most importantly, for an end to this darn virus.

Race Two: The meet was, as mentioned, to be held indoors in the large meeting room. Janine asked everyone to come up and get their lunch. This week the Committee decided on Lobster Tails, Filet Mignon, and all of the trimmings. It was awesomely prepared by London Lenny's and was organized by John and Margie Stahl who were once members of the Rego Park Club and are old friends. Awesome meal and everyone was given a BIB to keep the mess down in the corral. Guess who was First on the line again,  YUP, you guessed it Bernie "The Burglar" Zablocki stole the number one honors from Kenny Dunn. Rumor is that Bernie was working out at Mike's gym, Force Fitness on Fresh Pond Road. You can't make this stuff up, folks, OH WAIT, yes you can as that's what I'm doing right now. Bronco Bill Rennison followed the Burglar up to the line and got muscled by Kenny and settled for the Bronze Medal. We welcomed our NEW Sheriff in town, Gino's nephew Matteo rode in from PA to join us for the meal. Rumor has it that Gino was once the proud owner of the stallion that he was riding and also wore the same outfit, boots and all. YEEEE HAAAA!



Race Three: Bob was asked to introduce the Happy Dollars for guests and friends. First up, was Captain Louron Hall, Commanding Officer of the 104th Pct, who was joined by Community Affairs Officers Mike Berish, Asar Sanad, YCO Michael Amato and RETIRED Detective Tommy Bell. The Captain gave dollars to acknowledge that he had hoped that the "GREAT TOMMY BELL" would be at the meeting again, just to see if the rumors about retirement were true. Tommy was wearing, yet another, pair of high end sneakers, in a color too bright to highlight. We are in GREAT hands at the 104. Next up, it was nice to see our newly elected Assemblywoman, Jenifer Rajkumar, back from a short, but well deserved, vacation. For those of you who actually read this stuff, the pictures of the Captain and Tommy and Liran, only look like the ones from the last newsletter.



Well, I would still say that our Kiwanis Club of Ridgewood 3-2-1 ranks up here with the best community partners in the City.

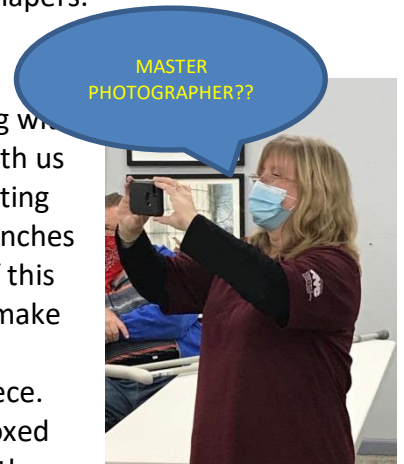
As a "Master Fencer" I still appreciate the Captain being right to the point!!



I'm truly happy to see the "GREAT" Tommy Bell here again at the meet,

Race Four: Joan Hoffmann was recovered from the immense effort that it took to run one of the best Polling Site Locations in NYC. Joan and her team were on top of their game and managed to get over 1,400 voters through the system without any glitches or delays. Joan, once again, thanked the GRYC for allowing her to come in on the Monday to set up the room and be ready immediately on Election Day. Joan thanked everyone who voted to foster our Democratic System. Diane Cusimano was in rare form, and really muscled folks for the 50-50. The raffle raised close to \$400 with the club making \$200 and the winner making \$200. Hank Kraker was able to make the meeting today and gave Happy Dollars for his Green Bay Packers win. JR Velepec has sent in his money for the Dallas Cowboys and Bob is in the process of getting some of the others back on track with their payments. Diane and Liz & Dave are up to date. DPLG John Stahl (retired NYPD) and his lovely wife, Margie enjoyed the Surf and Turf that they arranged and were also able to collect some diapers and wipes for the Blessing Bags at Wyckoff Heights Hospital. Thanks to everyone who donated the diapers.

Race Five: ALWAYS good to see Corporate Sponsor Liran Gross from Maspeth Federal Savings Bank was able to attend today and was introduced as our Master Fencer, along with our Master Beekeeper Tom Wilk who is recovering from surgery and was able to be with us today. At that point, Diane Cusimano mentioned that I missed a "Master" who was sitting next to her in the back. Seems "Master Plumber" Joe Florio lent one of his largest wrenches to Diane for the 50-50. You are never going to believe this, but, since I'm making all of this up on the fly, Master Electrician, Chris McDougall was able to electrify the crowd and make it to the meeting. Add all of our members who have "Masters Degrees" from some outstanding Colleges and Universities and if we took a photo, it would be a MASTERpiece. Rafal Ziolkowski and John Hennessey were unable to attend but both got a "To-Go" Boxed Meal for wanting to be here. John is prohibited by Ridgewood Savings Bank to be out there at meeting to be COVID safe for his staff and customers.



Race Six: Another fine showing of GRYC Directors and staff who took time from their incredibly busy schedules to enjoy the meal and support their friend and boss, Janine. If I remember correctly, here is the roster of attendees: IPP Gino Ancona, Ariel Triunfel, Edwing Vilsaint, Danielle Kleiman, Catherine Siegel, Shiv Ramsamooj, Maria Batista and Paul Hoffmann were at the ranch along with Sky Pilot Kevin Powell and his bride Maureen Powell. Bill Rennison was in "**Good Humor**" as he had his change maker on his belt as he helped Diane collect for the 50-50. Diane had the big spenders and Bill collected from those who use VENMO and only carry change with them.



Race Seven: As some of you may remember, November 22, 2020 was to be the 40th Anniversary Dinner Dance for the Greater Ridgewood Youth Council AND MY Retirement Party. Obviously that did not happen because of this COVID – 19 disaster. We have rescheduled it for November, 21, 2021, however, I will be retiring on June 30, 2021. Please save the date and let's hope that, God Willing, we will all celebrate in a year's time.

Race Eight: Upcoming Events include:

December 2nd – Scheduled Regular Meeting at the Clubhouse. (We will keep you informed).

December 9th – Regular Scheduled Board Meeting at Clubhouse at 5:00 PM

December 16th – Regular Meeting for Holiday Giving and Spirit Week.

Race Nine: The meeting ended a bit late because we had a lot of stuff to take care of.

The total of \$1,510 was collected in Happy Dollars, Food Money, raffle and the 50-50 collection.



Notice that Matteo and Tom Wilk have the same bandana around their neck and face. Tom asked Matteo for a ride on his horse and the horse cried. November 20th was the FIFTH Birthday of Thomas and Madeline Grote, our grandchildren. Pictured are Mom Sara and older brothers Peter and Connor along with Maddy and Tommy. Happy Birthday, Papa and Gram love you all. The Rooster makes me think of Joe Florio and all the Christmas decorations were in some yard in PA.

**The final picture is for each of you to ponder this:
If you could sit on that bench with ANYONE you want,
who would it be and what would you talk about??
Let us pray for one another and please be safe and careful.**

3 – 2 – 1... AND THEY'RE OFF

