

KIWANIS CLUB OF RIDGEWOOD, NY 3-2-1

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

www.ridgewoodkiwanis321.org

718-456-5437 x221

The Triple Crown Newsletter



RESULTS OF MEET FOR: December 20, 2023

VOLUME 7 Number 6



3 – 2 – 1... AND THEY'RE



OFF



Race One: This was our Holiday Celebration and Every Day Hero Award meeting. We wrapped up our Toy and Diaper Drive and we had over 60 of our members and friends in attendance. President Danielle Kleiman clapped the gong at 12:15 PM to call the meeting to order by asking those in attendance to rise for the Pledge to our Flag. After the Pledge, Danielle asked Fr. Kevin Powell to offer a blessing. Our Sky Pilot gave a thankful blessing that falls in line with our attempts to comply with the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion principles.



Race Two: Today was a culinary feast provided by Zum Stammtisch Restaurant in Glendale. Who could beat having Chicken Schnitzel with Jaeger Dressing, Wurst Platter, Mashed Potatoes, Red Cabbage, Creamed Spinach, Spätzle and a Salad. And to think, all of that for only \$15. The meeting was overloaded with things to do and after a short statement to members and friends by President Danielle, she had everyone get up to for their scrumptious meal.



Race Three: This was our largest gatherings in a long time and we had a grab bag table, we had 12 members and friends receiving Every Day Hero Awards, we had some Happy Dollars and, as stated, we had some incredible food from ZUM'S. It was overly busy and we worked hard to squeeze it all in by 1:30 PM. As planned, we invited a very large contingent of NYPD personnel and just as in the movie, *Field of Dreams*, "if you build it they will come". And the Ridgewood 3-2-1 Club has built one of the strongest partnerships with the NYPD imaginable. PBQN Chief Christine Bastedenbeck was on hand along with Chief Raymond Porteus and Lt. Jon Jablon. It seems that the NYPD has a mentoring initiative and Chief Bastedenbeck had a young Sergeant Benely Santos from the 111 Pct shadowing her for the day. Sgt. Santos lives in the 104th Precinct and had heard lots of what the 3-2-1 Club does for the community.



Race Four: DPP Gino Ancona, DPP Janine Mahon and President Danielle Kleiman set up the room and tables to prepare for our large crowd. EVERYONE is equal in making things happen at the 3-2-1 club. To our delight, Inspector Victoria Perry came strolling in and was greeted warmly by EVERYONE. Our former C.O. of the 104 is now the Commanding Officer of the Community Affairs Bureau. Tagging along was Detective Kaili Harper from the Office of Professional Development who is another participant in the NYPD mentoring initiative. Then we had some more of our former 104 C.O.'s stop by; Inspector Kevin Coleman, now at the 109th Precinct, Inspector Greg Mackie, now at the 70th Precinct, Inspector Mark Wachter, C.O. of the Health and Wellness Section and then we had our very own Community Affairs Officers from the 104, DETECTIVE Mike Berish and P.O. Dilsia Bonilla, THAT'S B-O-N-I-L-L-A!! Coming down from Upstate was retired Detective Tommy Bell who was the mentor for both Mike and Dilsia and he stated how proud he is of both of them.



*Everyday
Hero
Awardees*

If there's anyone out there reading this newsletter, this editor would love to see this group of RISING STARS at the next BIG event down at 1 PP. Then we all celebrate at Zum Stammtisch.

Race Five: Just as folks were completing their meals, someone yelled out that they had \$100 for the tie of Chief Raymond Porteus. There was an immediate, \$200, then \$250, \$300, \$400 and finally \$500. It was amazing and a quarter ton of fun, get it?? President Danielle did the honors of cutting the tie and this gem will be placed on our banner to complement our collection. The laughter and fun that was had continued as the Happy Dollars started to flow like the Bronx River after 6 inches of heavy rain. Members and friends just started to say what a great partnership we have, some gave for Detective Mike Berish's bump, come on folks that's another way to say PROMOTION, some gave for the delicious food, some for the Everyday Heroes, some for health and happiness and then there was a bunch for BERNIE ZABLOCKI who was back with us. And yes, Bernie gave dollars to comment about the "desserts" or partial lack thereof.



What time is it? It's time to serve!!





Everyday Hero Awardees

Race Six: There were other Everyday Hero Awardees, DPP Gino Ancona, DPP Janine Mahon, DPP Maricelis Romero, President Danielle Kleiman, DIPPY Bill Rennison and DPP Bob Monahan. Unable to attend were DPP Liz Fitzgerald and Diane Cusimano. DPG Joe Corace and SDPLG Mike Miller coordinated this ceremony and we would like to thank each of you for your support. Also at the clubhouse was DPG Joe Ruggiero, DPLG Nydia Corace, our Queens West Lt. Governor Janice Bar and DPP George Silkes who bartered for some items for his Victory Games for the Physically Challenged. George this is amazing work that you have done for so many years. Now let's throw in some more names and folks who had a great time. Karamjit Dhaliwal, a Corporate Sponsor, his Executive Assistant Ewalina and his son Manpreet all came to share with us and had an outstanding time. We weren't short on dignitaries as DPLG John Stahl and DPP Margie Stahl came to enjoy themselves with our members, Faith Marshall from the Shelter on Summerfield Street came to give us some insight on the amazing work that they are doing for families who reside there, AND, Faith left with two gigantic bags of toys and gifts for the children. As you know, the 3-2-1 Club had a toy drive and then we got some more from our partners at the 104 and the kids were going to have a wonderful holiday. Henrietta Maier was joined by Master Beekeeper Tom Wilk, Nick Katsoris from the Loukoumi Foundation and a member of the Fordham Kiwanis Club in the Bronx, John Hennessey, Ridgewood Saving Bank Corporate Sponsor, better known as the Great Wizard/Santa, Jayne Wadhawan, BettyAnn Monahan who made the 48 homemade cupcakes (that Bernie stole one of on the ride over) Fr. Kevin Powell and Maureen Powell, Linda Monte, Edwing Vilsaint and Andy Villion, Paul Hoffmann and Joan Hoffmann and Cat Siegel. More names to come in next race. I need to catch my breath.



Happy Holidays from 3-2-1

Race Seven: Ridgewood 3-2-1 is blessed during this Holiday and Giving Season to share so many gifts with others in need. Many of you may not know this, but just as we chartered as a Kiwanis Club five years ago, my best friend Bob “Santa” Pullano left this planet to become a star. We would visit 20, 30 ,40 homes on the days leading up to Christmas and gift children with toys and fun stuff. When only the “Elf” was left, Dennis Gallagher began a fundraising effort each Christmas to keep the tradition of Claus – N – Elf alive and we have been dropping off wish list items to children for the past years. Thanks Dennis for remembering Bob in such a special way. That said, in partnership with the 3-2-1 Club, Claus-N-Elf will donate over \$7,000 to children, families and others in need, again this year. To wrap up this edition, I’ll try to get the rest of those present into this edition. Mike Porcelli, Shiv Ramsamooj, Eudis Batista, owner of Deli-licious on Myrtle Avenue stopped by to celebrate our partnership, Mary Benitez, Tracy Rodriguez, Carlos “Papi-Chulo” Rodriguez, Joseph Then, Dina DePaola, Fernando Soto and a few Police Officers who didn’t fill out their paperwork (sorry, couldn’t resist) so I’ll get names later.

Race Eight: Upcoming Events include:

- **December 25th – A Blessed and safe Christmas Wish for All**
- **December 31st – Happy New Year to one and All**
- **January 3rd – Regular Meeting at noon in the Clubhouse – New Years Resolutions**
- **January 17th – Regular Meeting at noon in the Clubhouse – TBD**

Race Nine: Danielle closed the meeting at 1:30 PM. There was \$1,205 for Happy Dollars, Tie Auction and Food Money. It was a phenomenal afternoon!!



Passion ✦ Respect ✦ Inclusion ✦ Diversity ✦ Equity

3 – 2 – 1... AND THEY'RE OFF



What makes you think that the Ridgewood 3-2-1 Club's commitment to DEI is above and beyond the norm in all of Kiwanis?



How can you say that the 3-2-1 Club members are truly spirited, caring and totally understand what true service to the community is all about?



Editor's Page

But remember, *change isn't the same thing as progress.*

People may doubt what
you say, but they will
ALWAYS believe what you
DO.



MERRY
Christmas

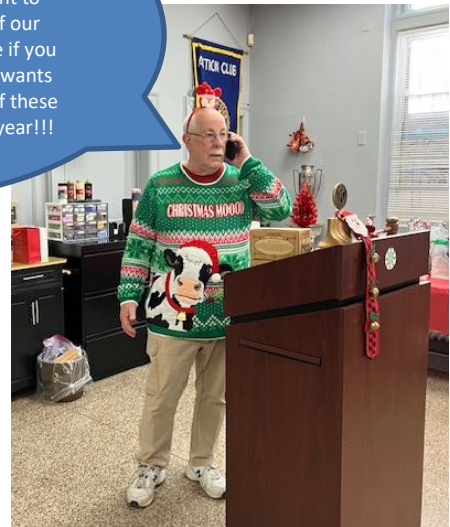


*Happy
&
Healthy
New
Year*



This is what the table should actually look like in the photo below.

Yes Santa, I understand that you are busy at this time of the year and can't make the meeting but I still want to chat with you about a couple of our Everyday Hero Awardees and see if you can let the Chief know that if he wants to be on the NICE List, a couple of these folks need to get promoted this year!!!



If you look closely, this picture, it is actually two pictures that are laid out side by side to show the full house attendance. LOL

Smiles Everywhere at 321



Karamjit Dhaliwal and son Mani join Det. Berish and PBQN Chiefs Bastedenbeck and Porteus for a Community Partnership moment.



Plenty of mentoring going on here. Chief Christine Bastedenbeck has her Executive Officer Chief Raymond Porteus and also Sgt. Benely Santos, who is shadowing the Chief, joining her at the Kiwanis meeting. Oh Bob, he's just in the picture for effect.



**MOOOVING
RIGHT ALONG**



Members of 3-2-1 and QW PRIDE go to distribute toys to the GRYC's 3-K, Pre-K and the KIDDY KDZ. Santa (Joseph Then), Elf (Jed Santiago) DPP Janine Mahon and DPP Gino Ancona smile for their selfie.



SDPLG Carol Verdi joins 3-2-1 President Danielle Kleiman and DPP Gino Ancona to present a sponsor check to RE-Activate one K-Kids Club at Ridgewood.



Oh Lord I pray that Bob doesn't put my picture in the Newsletter!



Let me make this grumpy face for Bob Monahan's picture because he may use it one day when I'm in a Big Shot Position in the NYPD. How's this BOB??!!



This page is dedicated to my good friend Inspector Mark Wachter. Yes, I have known Mark for a long time, including his Grammar School days at St. Pancras School where he and my daughter Marybeth spent 8 years together. Thanks for your partnership and for your friendship.

THEN



NOW



Inspector Mark Wachter
C.O. Health & Wellness Section



1st Place

Joe Corace

2nd Place

B & B Monahan



3rd Place

Jayne Wadhawan

4th Place

Nydia Corace



5th Place

George Silkes

6th Place

Joe Ruggiero



Consolation Places

**Everyone else wearing a
Christmas Sweater, Ugly
or not so ugly.**



CLAUS - N - ELF 2023





Those gift baskets are part of the Claus – N – Elf Committee of the Ridgewood 3-2-1 Club. After mom told those two beautiful girls that Santa had COVID because she didn't have money for gifts, or even a Christmas Dinner, some miracle happened and those smiles tell the rest of the story. Thank you Tom & Rosemary DeJulio for bringing this to us in such a humble and special way.



Bob and Carlos were joined by Principal John Riley and one of the Teachers at St. Anthony's School in Yonkers when they brought up the gifts and other items for the children and families. Bob is showing the children (the picture below) on his phone to highlight Santa and his Elf as the students were preparing for their Christmas Holiday Break. It was an amazing time and brought back many memories of Bob Pullano and the reason for the season.



Kiwanis Club of Ridgewood 3-2-1 Everyday Hero Awardees



Joining 3-2-1 President Danielle Kleiman (third from left) and DPP Bob Monahan (second from right) are the 2023 Everyday Hero Award recipients:

- ***Detective Michael Berish, Community Affairs / 104 Precinct***
- ***Inspector Gregory Mackie, Commanding Officer 70 Precinct***
- ***Inspector Victoria Perry, C. O. / Community Affairs Bureau***
- ***P.O. Dilsia Bonilla, Community Affairs Officer / 104 Precinct***
- ***Inspector Kevin Coleman, Commanding Officer 109 Precinct***
- ***Chief Christine Bastedenbeck, Patrol Borough Queens North***
- ***Inspector Mark Wachter, C. O. Health and Wellness Section***

These outstanding service leaders were recognized for their tireless efforts to serve all New Yorkers.

Congratulations to ALL honorees.