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: September 1, 2021

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Race One: Who invited Ida to this gathering? Rain was expected today as the hurricane that spanked Louisiana winds down her fury in New England. We had over 30 people on hand to break bread with us as our Directors are back in the saddle. President Janine tapped the gong to get everyone's attention and asked all to rise from their seats to recite the Pledge to our Flag. At that point, Janine asked Father Kevin Powell to give the Blessing. Kevin was recently ordained to the priesthood in the Old Catholic Benedictine Order and, as always, he gave a magnificent blessing, asking the club to remember those in need, thanked God for the gift of each other and asked us to reflect on the gifts that we have to offer in service to others. Can I get an "Alleluia and an Amen"!

Race Two: The meet was held indoors in the large meeting room at the clubhouse and arranged in a way that allowed for compliance with CDC rules. President Janine thanked, soon to be President, Maricelis Romero for stepping up last meet in her absence. Then, Janine welcomed everyone to the meet and introduced her Chief of Staff to continue with the meet. Bob then showed the members this picture of the Monastery that Kevin had to live in for a month prior to his ordination. The rumor is that the monks living in this remote enclave are charged with teaching candidates for ordination, "humility and mercy". It is also a time to fast for up to one week with the exception of water. You can't see it, but Kevin is on the side of the mountain attempting to climb to the first balcony. It took him 6 days to get there and, believe you me, you are "HUMBLED" as you beg the Lord for "MERCY" that you don't fall. Please don't show this to anyone else, it is supposed to be a "confidential" practice and we wouldn't want to spoil it for anyone thinking of following in Kevin's footsteps. BTW, Fr. Mike Lopez and Fr. Angel Lugo all had to conquer this challenge. Truth be told, that trinity of men tip the scales at a number that magnifies this quest. Any thoughts that I may have had to join these men of service vanished with this picture. "I missed the gym this morning.....oh, that makes six years in a row".

Race Three: First order of business was to invite everyone up to eat the last minute order to Richie and Grace Pizza. Seems that the Sandwich Trays from Boston Market, a huge salad with dressing, delicious Hot Turkey, Meatloaf, Creamed Spinach, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Veggies and an assortment of drinks were cancelled by them an hour before our meeting. Everyone was able to chow down and enjoy plenty of good food thanks to the quick response from my brother Richie. Oh, did I say that Kenny Dunn was unable to make the meeting!! After everyone had a chance to get their food, Bob spoke about the Backpack Giveaways for some of our friends, like; the 105th Precinct, the Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz's Office, the Queens

Borough President Donovan Richards' Office, our very own 104th Precinct, and the GRYC. Low and behold, at that very moment, in walked our friend, Borough President Donovan Richards. He stopped by to speak with our Club, thanked us for always being supportive of his efforts to serve Queens County and mentioned that the last time he had come to our meet, we had Grace Pizza. The GRYC/Ridgewood Kiwanis 3-2-1 Partnership was able to donate over 240 School Supply filled Backpacks to the BP's giveaway. There were Crayons, Markers, Composition Books, Rulers, Erasers and a really nice 17" multi-color Backpack. The BP is holding a package of wooden rulers and he and Bob reflected on their youth when those instruments had a whole other meaning in school. Come on now, NUN of that folks.













Race Four: Happy Dollars started to fly around the room as President/Sheriff Janine Mahon gave \$\$ for the GRYC Directors who worked their butts off for 7 weeks in the summer to service over 3,000 Day Campers. Bob then echoed those sentiments and gave a stack of \$\$ to recognize the hard work and dedication of our members. Then there were dollars for Michael Addeo who joined the meeting a few minutes late, with his collar wide open and minus a tie. Comments were made back and forth and it was obvious that he remembered his nice tie that hangs on our club banner. Diane Cusimano had happy dollars for a recent excursion to FROST's Restaurant with Janine, Cynthia Ortiz, DPP Liz Fitzgerald and Dina DePaola. Something about Artichoke's and not sharing and wanting to share with some guy from Australia Online and giving even more dollars for an Interclub visit, or something like that. Then the conversation went to Tiramisu vs. Cannoli's and how awesome the food was at Frost's. Oh, did I mention that Dina's dad is the owner of that historic establishment?

Race Five: Present at the meeting were John Toscano of Mr. T Carting and our New Community Affairs Officer Dilsia Bonilla who had the misfortune of having to sit with Alan Bellone for lunch. P.O. Mike Berish was assigned to the US Open and couldn't make it to the meet, Inspector Louron Hall was MIA but promised to see us at the Precinct School Backpack giveaway on Thursday. Henrietta Maier, Chairperson of the GRYC Board of Directors was joined by BettyAnn Monahan, Jayne Wadhawan and Diane Cusimano. Bronco Bill Rennison was primed and ready to spring into action to the food line when Michael Addeo plopped himself in the seat directly blocking his path to chowing down. They were joined by Father Kevin Powell and his lovely wife Maureen.

Race Six: Our very own Master Beekeeper Tom Wilk was unable to make the meet today as he was preparing for Honey Fest that will be held on Sunday, September 12th on the B106th Street Boardwalk in Rockaway. Anyone who can make it should support our friend and Active member of Ridgewood 3-2-1. P.O. Dilsia Bonilla introduced herself to the members and is super excited about becoming our newest member. Welcome. Did anyone see Sexy Legs Bernie Zablocki today, he was Missing In Action. Sky Pilot Father Kevin Powell thanked

those who were able to attend his Ordination. On hand for the blessed event were; Bronco Bill Rennison, Diane Cusimano, BettyAnn Monahan, Fr. Mike Lopez, Fr. Angel Lugo, Bernie Zablocki, Maureen Powell and me.

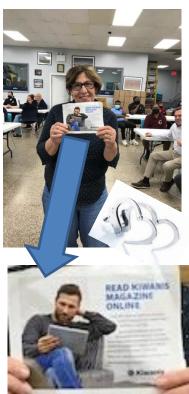
Race Seven: A nice showing of members from the "G" at today's meet as the Summer Program has ended and they were in the building getting ready for the School Year Program. Here was the lineup for today's game: Edwing Vilsaint, Andy Villion, Joseph Then, Mary Benitez, Mike Miller, Danielle Kleiman, Francesca Fedkowskyj and Maria Batista. Shiv Ramsamooj, Xiomara Pena, Walter Welsh, Raquel Chin, Elvira Rodriguez, Celina Rosario, Carmen Resto, Patrick Wagner, Jennifer Lamberty, DPP Liz Fitzgerald, Cynthia Rivera and Aidan Leavens rounded out the other lineup. Our Club Secretary, Hank Kraker was unable to attend and JR Velepec was busy at work and unable to break free. If I missed anyone, I truly apologize & will make it up next time.











Race Eight: Upcoming Events include:

September 8th - Board Meeting in person at the clubhouse. Start time is 4:00 PM. Any 3-2-1 members may attend and see how we do business and spend our money. Please join us.

September 12th – Honey Fest at B106th Boardwalk. Details in Race 6.

September 12th – 9-11 Memorial Ceremony at 80th Street and Myrtle Avenue.

September 15th – Regular Meeting at the Clubhouse. Program to be announced in next newsletter.

<u>Race Nine:</u> The meeting ended at 1:00 PM and the total amount of money collected in Happy Dollars and Food Money was \$350 and a few more in VENMO.

3 – 2 – 1... AND THEY'RE



What appear to be dots in the photo are Dragonfly's at the Beach





If you could sit on this bench for ONE HOUR with ANYONE in your life, past or present... ...Who would that be?