

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: August 16, 2023

VOLUME 6 Number 18



3 – 2 – 1... AND THEY'RE



OFF



Race One: Well, this was our regular meeting day in August after our Night Out Against Crime service meeting. It was an afternoon event that began at 12:00 PM with President Bill Rennison hitting the gong with his gavel to call the meeting to order by asking those in attendance to rise for the Pledge to our Flag. Anyway, I think that's what happened as I was on my way up to Massachusetts or half way up to Maine and Vermont for vacation. I'm sure that there was a short prayer for the few members that could make it, but, I didn't get a chance to ask who gave it.

Race Two: The weather has been toasty and rainy of late but we still opted to have Two – 3 Foot Heroes for our gathering. One was American and the other Veggie, both were Delicious, that is they were Deli-licious. Gino probably put out some of our School Foods sandwiches with some chips and pretzels, soda and water. With only a handful of peeps in attendance, everyone had plenty to eat and I believe it was FREE today.

Race Three: After our members and friends filled their plates with food, I have no idea what happened, but I'm pretty sure that President Bill gave some information on our upcoming events and our incredibly successful Night Out Against Crime for both the 3-2-1 and Pride Clubs. There were 1,000 Mamita's Ices distributed and another 1,000 bottles of Hand Sanitizers.



Race Four: Folks from the 3-2-1 and Pride Club showed up in numbers for the Night Out Against Crime with our partners from the 104th NYPD Precinct and members showed up in BIG numbers to prepare for our next Service Project, the 104th Precinct Backpack Giveaway to be held on August 30th at the Station House on Catalpa. The Project is being headed up by our members, Community Affairs Officers Mike Berish and Dilsia Bonilla and of course, Inspector Kevin Coleman who is a member of both, the 3-2-1 and Pride Club. Over 200 Backpacks were loaded with school supplies; Pencils, Pens, Crayons, Markers, Rulers, Erasers, Pencil Cases, Glue Sticks, Composition Books and Safety Scissors for each backpack. Our members and allies got this going at 8:30 AM and were finished loading over 400 bags by 10:00 AM. And that included a well-deserved, but short Dunkin' break and some fun.



How amazing to have members from the Ridgewood 3-2-1 and QW PRIDE Club working side by side to complete the Backpack Giveaway Service Project. In total, along with their Community Partner, the GRYC, over 3,000 Backpacks will be given to students for the upcoming 2023-2024 School Year. Many hands make light work, congratulations!!

Race Five: The 3-2-1 Club has an amazing partnership with the NYPD, the GRYC and most especially, our Elected Officials who represent Ridgewood. Congresswoman Nydia Velasquez has secured a \$250,000 grant for the GRYC to serve youth & families at PS 68, 91, 239 & 305 in afterschool and Ridgewood 3-2-1 will partner to work with the students from these sites on multiple Service Projects.



Race Six: So much has happened since our last newsletter and it's hard to put everything in print, but, we must let our members know that 2 times SDPLG Mike Miller has joined the Ridgewood 3-2-1 Club as a Life Member. Mike has also joined our Board and will be a tremendous addition with over 30 years of Kiwanis experience. WELCOME Mike. In addition to that great news, more great news is that DPP Al Gentile and Diane Marzuillo have also joined our awesome club from Middle Village, bringing with them a ton of great ideas, passion and interest in our communities. Diane has also joined our Board. Welcome.

Race Seven: Ridgewood 3-2-1 had its Board Meeting on Wednesday and lots of incredible things are going on or being planned. Turkey Shoot is back, A Vegas Night is in the works, we are supporting the KPTC new Bear Project and on a sad note, the Board voted to disband our Builders and K-Kids Clubs for monetary reasons. It would cost the club over \$3,600 to sponsor 17 SLP's and the sentiment was that we could partner with the GRYC and have the same kid's service projects, without branding it. We just completed a joint project with KPTC at the Long Island Ronald McDonald House, providing 120 Hamburgers and Hot Dogs, all of the buns and rolls, condiments and 48 backpacks for the children living at the house. Then the 3-2-1 Club donated 30 Soccer Balls, Playground Balls, Footballs and Basketballs to the children from Ronald House who went to Coney Island for a day of fun and rides. The GRYC partnered by giving some T-Shirts to the children.



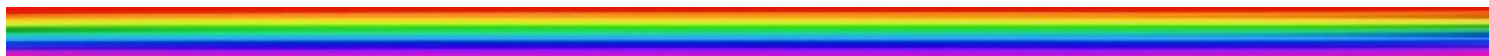
As you can easily see, much of the 3-2-1 success can be attributed to our partnerships with the NYPD, Greater Ridgewood Youth Council and some other community based organizations, businesses and groups. Working **TOGETHER** always works **BETTER**.

Race Eight: Upcoming Events include:

- **September 6th – Regular Meeting in the Clubhouse at 12:00 PM**
- **September 20th – Regular Meeting in the Clubhouse at 12:00 PM**
- **September 23rd – Aktion Club Meeting in the Clubhouse at 12:00 PM**
- **September 27th – Board Meeting at 5:30 PM – Bill's Last Board Meeting**



Race Nine: Bill closed the meeting at 1:00 PM. There were no Happy Dollars or Food Money. It was a still a good day!!!



Passion ✦ **Respect** ✦ **Inclusion** ✦ **Diversity** ✦ **Equity**

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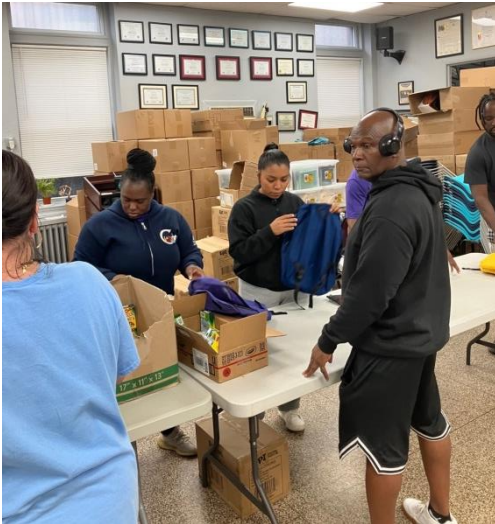


This year's Major Emphasis for President Bill Rennison was Autism Awareness and Support. To that end, my Son-In-Law, Mike Reynolds is riding 50 miles in the Bike to the Beach Event next weekend. If you would like to support this effort, please click on the link below and contribute. An anonymous donor has already kick started 3-2-1 with a \$125 donation.

<https://my.biketotheseach.org/mreynolds2357721448>



Backpacks loaded a ready for delivery to Councilman Bob Holden's Office.



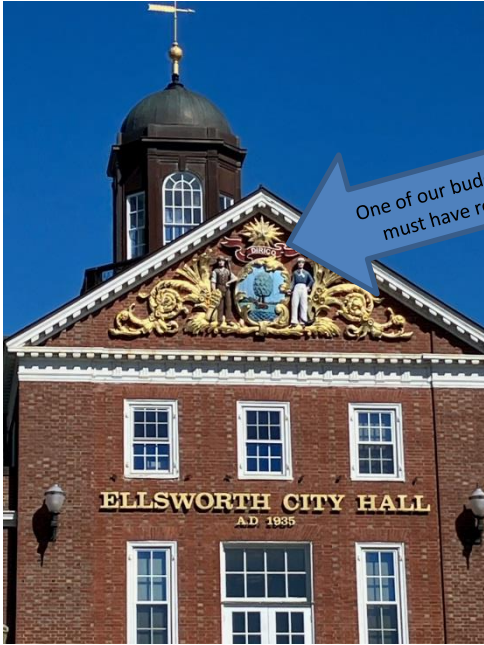
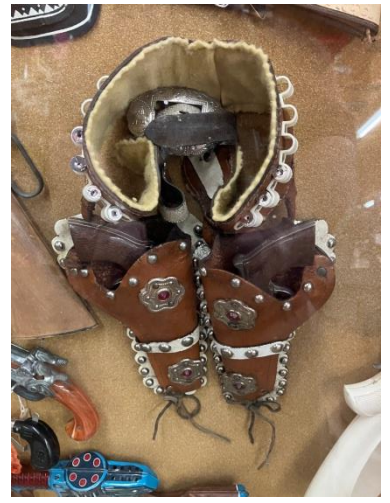
How awesome to have so many dedicated & active members of the Ridgewood 3-2-1 and PRIDE Clubs doing service projects together. Partnerships is what makes us special clubs in Kiwanis, along with our GRYC, Maspeth Federal Savings Bank, Ridgewood Savings Bank, Cross County Savings Bank, Ridgewood Office Products and all of our Corporate Sponsors who make these things happen.

Having Fun at 3-2-1



There was a TOY MUSEUM in Vermont and I saw these two items and smiled.

Of course, Santa reminded me of Bob Pullano and the years of gifting kids at Christmas and then I saw this set of cowboy pistols with a holster. These were similar to the ones that I had when I was 6 or 7 years old.

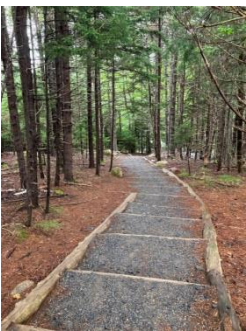


One of our buddies Lou DiRico must have roots in Maine

I'm not sure what DIRICO actually means on the City Hall Building, but, there it is on that ornate front. Then, I came upon Bob's Service Center and just had to fill it up.



Lots of things to do in Vermont



Gino's smile says it all for the two sculptures that I saw up in Maine.

First I had to climb the steps to get to the other set of steps to get to our vacation house.

Grandchildren checking out this amazing train set in Vermont. Made me think of my friend Chris McDougall who loved trains. Miss ya, buddy.



Editor's Page

Dear Readers,

Well, it's that time of year when the ***Dues are Due***. Let me start by clarifying the types of Dues that we have at the Ridgewood 3-2-1 Club.

Individual Member Dues: This is for Individual members who come into the club for \$125.

Business Member Dues: This is a small local business that comes into the club for \$250.

Mid – Corporate Member Dues: This is for a local business or institution that joins for \$1,250.

Corporate Member Dues: This is for a large business or establishment that joins for \$2,500.

Now let's get a better understanding of what each means.

- If you are an Individual from the community or just a person who wants to get involved with Kiwanis to do service for the community, this is the level that you want to join our club.
- If you are a Business in the community and want to join as a Business with more than one possible member, then this is the level that you want to join.
- If you are a Mid-sized Corporation or institution with more employees and want to help to sponsor service projects and help in a bigger way, then this is the level that you would join at.
- If you are a larger Corporation, that comes into Kiwanis to sponsor BIG events and things that allow us to maximize their contribution without hammering our members with too many fundraisers during the year, you are awesome. Corporate Sponsors are really helpful and are the lifeblood to some things like the Backpack Giveaways, Pride Day, Ethnic Days, Blessing Bags and so much more that we do.

Although many Kiwanis Members ask what, exactly, is it that we get for our dues, the answers could vary from person to person, from club to club, and beyond, about the benefits of being a member of Kiwanis. From this Editor's perspective, the biggest benefit is Insurance Coverage for events and other activities that we all participate in. All the rest is fluff, with members forming their own opinions of International Travel Costs, Dinner Costs, Kiwanis Apparel Costs, and the list goes on and on. In addition we get emails from Kiwanis International and plenty of requests for things. If we are to be truthful, Ridgewood 3-2-1 paid or sponsored over \$14,000 in dues, this year, that would have gone a long way to serve others in need.

And then there are dues/fees for Service Leadership Programs like Builders Clubs, K-Kids, Key Clubs, Aktion Clubs and for 3-2-1, our Kiddy Kidz Club. Last year it cost us \$4,000 to sponsor 11 Builders and 6 K-Kids and, as mentioned earlier, this year we will go it on our own and conduct our Service Projects with our GRYC partner sites, using GRYC staff and members to achieve great things. All of our partnerships & collaborations are service focused and accomplish incredible results by sharing costs, responsibilities and project tasks. Although history has shown that more is achieved by working together for the common good of Kiwanis, there is an underlying parochialism and mean spiritedness among some leaders and clubs that are becoming the "NEW CULTURE" of an organization that I have been a member of for 40 YEARS. Enough said, but SAD!

After all, ***change isn't the same thing as progress.***

Ridgewood Kiwanis

@Ridgewood-Kiwanis



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