

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 Ext 221

The Triple Crown Newsletter



RESULTS OF MEET FOR: *October 23, 2024*

VOLUME 8 Number 2



3 – 2 – 1... AND THEY'RE



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Race One: This was our Oktoberfest Meeting for the Year and what a crowd packed the Clubhouse to share in the festivities. DPP 3x's Gino Ancona opened the meeting by asking all present to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag. Gino then asked DPG Joe Corace to say a blessing. It was a heart-felt and spiritual reflection of thanks and service. Then DPP Gino introduced our guest, Fritzie Schuster-Schweizer, who made his appearance by "coming out" of the elevator and immediately burst into song with "Du, Du, liegst mir am Herzen". I'll let the picture say the rest or what is needed to know.



Race Two: Then Fritzie began the meeting by giving a history of his German – Swiss roots as his grandparents both came from Europe in November, 1927, one on the Muenchen and the other on the Rotterdam steamer ships to Ellis Island. His **Großmutter** (grossmutter/grandmother) was immediately put on a train and sent to Sidney, Nebraska to be with her brother who was working on a farm and was her sponsor to come to America. Long story, short, there's a lot of history in those 100 years and although I went to German School for years, not much has stuck with me. Bob then made some introductions as there was a long and distinguished list of Kiwanians, Partners and Friends in attendance. DPG Joe Corace and First Lady Nydia Corace, IPLG for Queens West Janice Bar, DPLG John Stahl and DPP Margie Stahl. Now add NYPD Partners; PBQN Chief's Christine Bastedenbeck and Raymond Porteus, Lt. Kevin Donnelly, Community Affairs Officers Detective Mike Berish, P.O. Dilsia Bonilla, P.O. Andy Incantalupo and P.O. Mike Gonzalez. How about Ridgewood 3-2-1's Distinguished Past Presidents; Liz Fitzgerald, Gino Ancona, Janine Mahon, Bill Rennison and Danielle Kleiman.

Partnership: working together for the good of the communities that we serve. This is the CULTURE of the Ridgewood 3-2-1 Club and its members. For the CAUSE and not the APPLAUSE!!

Race Three: The menu included: Two trays of Chicken Schnitzel, One Tray of Wurst Platter, One Tray of Spaetzle, One 3 Foot German Hero, Red Cabbage, Mixed Vegetables, Home Fries, German Potato Salad, Creamed Spinach and Apple Strudel along with a HOME-MADE Black Forest Cake by BettyAnn Monahan. And you got all of this for only \$15 because the day was sponsored by Ben Messing, John Servideo and Alfred Ziegler of Forest Builders and, of course, our partners Werner and Hans Lehner from Zum Stammtisch.



Just look at the crowd of over 50 people at our Oktoberfest Celebration. The Ridgewood 3-2-1 Club is blessed to have their own Clubhouse to decorate and prepare for up to 100 people. Speaking of 100 people, the Forest Park AKTION Club will be having their Halloween Party, THIS Saturday, October 26th at the Clubhouse from 12 – 2 PM. We averaged a little over 60 folks for our last 2 meetings and hope to keep the streak alive for English Day!!!

Race Four: As everyone was enjoying their culinary delights, Fritzie asked for Happy Dollars to be given to our Sheriff Cat Siegel. Diane Cusimano gave much to ponder and it was hysterical. Then the bucks started flying around the room with everyone putting in their opinions of the dress code for the meeting. Bob mentioned that Carlos “Papi-Chulo” Rodriguez was his “dresser” and compared it to Diane sharing that experience for Rocky “Vanessa” the Drag Queen at his/her recent events. Tracy Rodriguez, Joseph Alfano, Joseph Then, Alan Bellone, Sheriff Cat Siegel and George Escobar from St. Pancras were at the same table. George had a couple of comments about the lack of parking lot spaces for guests. Sorry George, yours is bigger than ours. Oh come on, the Parking Lot at Pancras is definitely bigger.



Race Five: Did you know that Ridgewood 3-2-1 has already begun its SERVICE PROJECTS by partnering with IPP Ingrid Huber and DPP Richie Huber of the Glendale Club by donating items for the victims of Hurricane Helene in Asheville, NC. Linda Monte had happy dollars to thank the 321 Club for their continued support of the Harvest Festival at the Onderdonk House by donating games, arts & crafts, raffle prizes and more for our members, President-Elect Diane Cusimano and Linda to offer fun activities to the youth and families that attend the event. And if that was not enough, we donated \$ 500 towards the cost of having the KPTC medals framed and gave cases of youth masks to Ronald McDonald House. Alan Bellone made some shirts for Jon Kablack and his coaches at Martin Luther HS and Jon was presented with a NEW basketball called the GOAT and is made by the same company that made the ROCK. THIS Saturday, from 12:00 to 2:00 PM, our AKTION Club is having their Halloween Party at the Clubhouse. We are expecting to serve **100** Aktion Clubbers to Chinese Food, goodie bags and treats. We also have a best costume contest and medals are given to all who dress up for the event. And to think this is only MONTH # ONE. DPG Joe Corace thanked the 3-2-1 Club for ALWAYS being there for the KPTC and supporting their mission to serve those in need. Thanks Joe, much appreciated.



Race Six: Enjoying this wonderful feast (ALL for only \$15) were: Paul Hoffmann, Joan Hoffmann, Henrietta Maier, Linda Monte, BettyAnn Monahan and daughter Sara Grote, Mary Miller our newest member, Jayne Wadhawan, John Hennessey and guest Sophia Delgado from our Corporate Sponsor Ridgewood Savings Bank, Clark McKinney, Shiv Ramsamooj, Dina DePaola, Mary Benitez, Sabrina Sierra, Marc Darius, Edwing Vilsaint, Corporate Sponsor David Schwartz from the Gametruck world, Walter Welsh, Michelle Koch



**Having FUN
@ 3-2-1**

Race Seven: Really hard to fit all the things that happened at the meeting, but I'll try to consolidate most in this race. As the Happy Dollars kept rolling along, DIPLG Janice Bar said that she was tipped off that Fritzie would be "coming out" of the elevator with a big surprise for the huge crowd. Fritzie IMMEDIATELY stated that this was not his "COMING OUT" party and John Hennessey quickly replied that the shoulder strap on my lederhosen was coming off my shoulder and he wasn't so sure about that. The laughter was off the charts as everyone got into the fray. Detective Mike Berish let everyone know that it was P.O. Dilsia Bonilla's birthday and the club gave a wonderful rendition of Happy Birthday. Then we had a small auction for a Yankees/Dodgers memorabilia picture celebrating Sandy Koufax's Game 1 of the 1963 World Series at Yankee Stadium. Koufax set a record with 15 strikeouts in the Dodgers' 5-2 win. George Escobar won the auction for \$120, outbidding Ben Messing who was up to \$100. Good fun and nice money for the club. Chief Raymond Porteus had happy dollars to be with us *again* as he had just come from a meeting in Manhattan. No, we didn't bid for his tie as we already have one of his NYPD ties on our banner that brought in \$500 at the time of snipping. Corporate Sponsor David Schwartz had happy dollars to be part of a great and fun club, DPLG John Stahl spoke about his family history coming over in the mid 1800's and being instrumental in building St. Jacobus Church and how he had a chance to visit relatives in Germany. DPP Margie Stahl said it was great to be back in Queens after riding out Hurricane's Helene and Milton. Margie said that it was very scary to experience so close to the storms and was thankful that they didn't sustain much damage. We all expressed our gratitude for their safe return and good fortune.



Each year, NY District awards Clubs for outstanding Service. In ONLY 6 Years, the Ridgewood 3-2-1 Club has won lots of awards for their outstanding Service Projects. Kudos to 3-2-1 members.



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



Race Eight: Upcoming Events include:

- **October 26th** – **AKTION Club Halloween Party from 12:00 – 2:00 PM**
- **October 30th** – **Board Meeting in the Clubhouse at 5:30 PM – Food Served**
- **November 6th** – **English Day in the Clubhouse at NOON. Awesome FUN!**
- **November 20th** – **Board Meeting in the Clubhouse at 5:00 PM**
- **November 20th** – **Thanksgiving Celebration follows Board at 6:00 PM**
- **December 4th** – **Toy Drive Meeting in the Clubhouse at NOON**
- **December 7th** – **AKTION Club Holiday Party in the Clubhouse from 12 – 2PM**
- **December 7th** – **KPTC BINGO at the Clubhouse starting at 6:00 PM**
- **December 18th** – **Holiday Party for Members at 5:00 PM in the Clubhouse**

Race Nine: The meeting was off the charts lucrative. When all was said and done, with Food Money, Auction Money, Happy Dollars and an unexpected donation from RSB, the Club raised \$1,400 for the afternoon. It doesn't get much better than that.

ALWAYS HAVING FUN AT 3-2-1 !!!!

Passion + Respect + Inclusion + Diversity + Equity

3 – 2 – 1... AND THEY'RE



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*If we ALL pull together in SERVICE to OTHERS...
NOTHING is impossible and miracles will happen.*

There is an incredible advantage to having a partnership with the Greater Ridgewood Youth Council, and that is the use of our Clubhouse, our HOME. This awesome space is adorned with our many, many, many District Awards, our Banners filled with patches and our special "TIES" and our very own PRIDE Club and AKTION Club banners.

We have had as many as 100 members, friends and partners using this space at one time and can keep our food costs at an incredibly low number. Stop by and join us for a TRUE taste of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and a TON OF FUN. See ya, soon!

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



Joseph Then is chowing down on his meal and is contemplating his AFTER meeting respite time.



John Hennessey of Ridgewood Savings Bank presents a donation check to President Bob.



Clark McKinney arrived a bit late and was hysterical at Bob's garb and spoke of his German roots.



When you look at the many pictures that are in each 3-2-1 Newsletter, notice the AGE of the members in Ridgewood Kiwanis. At a time when young people are shying away from Service Groups & Organizations, we have been able to attract a whole range of ages to offer service to our communities. The underlying reason can be pointed at Ridgewood 3-2-1's absolute commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and our mission to serve others while having a ton of FUN.



What Time is it...

It's Time to SERVE!!



Having FUN @ 3-2-1



Chief Christine Bastedenbeck shows off her German heritage and Chief Raymond Porteus joined in the fun with President Bob. ALL NYPD are welcome guests at our club.



First Vice President Paul Hoffmann is joined by mom, Joan and Shiv Ramsamooj.



Henrietta Maier spoke of her German heritage and had her own cap to prove it. NICE!!



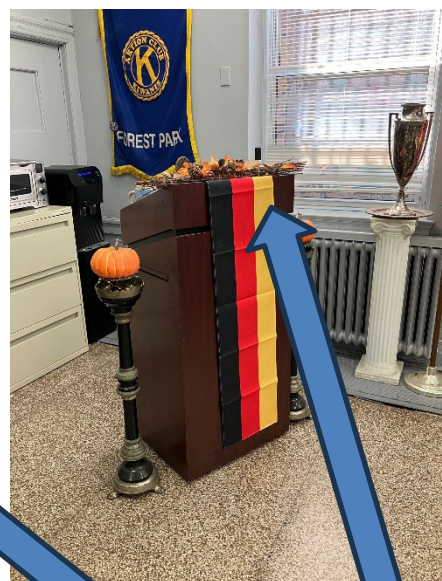
DIPPY Danielle Kleiman and her "bestie" Sara Grote show off their German smiles at our meeting.



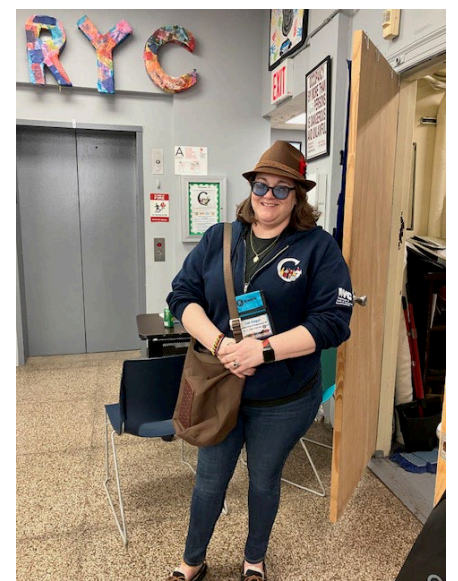
DPP Liz Fitzgerald is back in the fold after some time in the hospital. Welcome back Liz as Dina DePaola and Sabrina Sierra wait for their food.



And now I'd like to introduce Fritzel Schitzel Schmitzel!



NOW YOU SEE ME AND NOW YOU DON'T! MAGIC !!



Sheriff Cat Siegel, wearing her nametag, didn't have to fine herself. NICE HAT, CAT!!



Du, Du, liegst mir am Herzen”



**What time is it?
It's time to Serve!**

**Wie spät ist es?
Zeit zum Servieren!**