



THE PLAGIARIST

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF GLENDALE, NEW YORK

OUR EDITORS, PAST AND PRESENT:

JOE MALLON LEO SCHMID SAM THATCHER MICK ENNIS GEORGE SCHWILLE HANK KRAKER BOB KUIEBER



Meeting Notice for February 15, 2024



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Today was our monthly **Birthdays and Business** meeting at the Stammtisch, and there was a large gathering of members and guest in attendance. President Ingrid hit the bell and began the meeting. She asked Karen Kramer for an Invocation, and he delivered an appropriate message about birthdays. We recited the Pledge and sang our Patriotic Song. Pres Ingrid introduced the Past Leadership perfectly.

Today's Guests: Vin Arcuri had his aide Maria with him once again; Pat Maher was the guest of hubby DPP Big Bill Maher; Richie Adams treated Barbara to lunch;

As we do each month, we celebrated our members' February birthdays with a "free" lunch and a rousing Happy Birthday. Our celebrants this month were: Dave Koehler (5th), Paul Cutrone (6th), Richie Adams (20th), and Corporate Members Richie Coppola of Grace Pizza (7th) and Ben Messing of Phoenix Building Supply (22nd). Dave, Richie Adams and Paul were on hand. Paul had a Happy 100 to be back to celebrate another birthday, and noted that Karen must have had a hard time praying for a lawyer. Richie Adams had a Happy 20, and can't believe we get away with calling it a "free" lunch. Pres Ingrid named celebrity birthdays for each of them. Many \$\$ were raised by members for loved one's birthdays.



With Valentine's Day on the horizon, we had a special guest speaker today. Joe Palmeri of **Gemelli Jewelers**, another of our Corporate Sponsors, presented a program about his business and the jewelry industry. Gemelli Jewelers was formed by Joe and his brother in 1998. He got into the business young, and loves the work because, as he put it, "Jewelry keeps memories alive, because it is usually attached to momentous occasions, and holds sentimental value". Because of his business, he has developed longstanding relationships with many of his customers (just ask his sponsor Big Bill Maher). That led to expansion into Insurance and Claims, and he spoke about common sense tips on how to protect yours.

- ❖ WEAR IT! Statistics prove it is safer on you
- ❖ Most jewelry is stored at home. Make your house look occupied. Keep some lights on.
- ❖ Use obvious cameras and signs.
- ❖ Purchase good locks, and make sure you use them.
- ❖ Burglars go straight to bedrooms. Try finding a secure alternate storage place.
- ❖ As for insurance, have appraisals done every five years or so.
- ❖ Policies are generally inexpensive, around 2% of value.
- ❖ Take pictures of your jewelry. It expedites claims.

Joe was asked a question about lab-grown diamonds, and he is quite knowledgeable about them.

Lab diamonds are *real*. They have the same chemical composition, hardness and brilliance. The high quality is controllable, and for about a half the price! There is a lot of debate surrounding the topic of lab grown diamonds vs. mined diamonds. Some people argue that natural diamonds, which are mined from the earth, are superior because they are rare, with a formation process that began billions of years ago. Others claim that lab grown diamonds,



which are created in a laboratory, are just as good as, if not better than, natural diamonds because they are environmentally friendly and conflict-free. Because of these reasons, the interest in lab grown diamonds is growing. We were thrilled to have Joe with us today to deliver such a “brilliant” program.

Did You Know?..

- ❖ The word *jewelry* comes from the Latin word *jocale*, which means ‘plaything’.
 - ❖ In many cultures, jewelry is supposed to ward off evil.
 - ❖ Cro-Magnon ancestors wore simple necklaces made of bone, teeth, berries and stones threaded on a string or animal sinew.
 - ❖ Ancient Egypt loved making jewelry from gold, but ancient China loved making jewelry from silver.
 - ❖ Engagement rings date back to 1477, popularized by the marriage of Maximilian I to Mary of Burgundy. Today it is a multi-billion dollar industry.
 - ❖ It is estimated that US shoppers will spend \$6.4 billion on jewelry for Valentine’s Day in 2024. So, if you haven’t bought your special someone a gift yet, go see Joe at Gemelli Jewelers!
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On Saturday, Feb 3rd, we had our monthly **Food Drive** at Stop & Shop on Myrtle Avenue in Glendale. Happy to say we had a surprise visit from Sen. Joe Addabbo and Councilwoman Joann Ariola, and they donated a generous portion of food to our collection. I would like to thank them for that, and also thank DPG Joe Aiello for stopping by and adding his generous donation of food to our collection. I would also like to thank PP Ken Voisin, Karen Kramer, DPP Teresa Donahue, and Dorie Figliola for helping out with the donation. I would like to thank Shamika Narain from Ozone Park/Woodhaven for making her generous donation of food to our collection. Thanks to all for making our food drive another success. We collected a total of **20** cartons of food and donated it to the Salvation Army.

Submitted by IPP Bruce Kramer

Vanessa Brocetty-Ormsby is the Founder/Executive Director of **Expecting Relief**, a not for profit 501c3 community organization founded in 2011. Their mission is to create community based solutions towards poverty, hunger and miseducation. Their goal is to help individuals, families, expecting parents and children with resources to fill the poverty gap. *Expecting Relief* was able to donate 25 bags filled with diaper, wipes, outfits and toys for our expecting mothers in May's **Baby Shower**. Vanessa had come to our Baby Shower in the past and was at Stop and Shop the day we were having our Food Drive. She recognized our Kiwanis banner and offered to help us with donations. We greatly appreciate her organization and donations. Her website expectingrelief.org if you would like to check it out.

Submitted by Karen Kramer and Dorie Figliola

As you know by now, Carole Aiello, DPG Joe’s First Lady, has been struggling with some severe medical issues and had the Whipple Surgery to address the long term effects of her chronic pancreatitis on Tuesday. Reports continue to be favorable, and we pray for a successful recovery. The fundraisers being planned to help with the staggering medical costs continue to come together. Ridgewood 3-2-1 Kiwanis has put a grid together which raised \$10,000. The clubs of the Queens West Division are working hard on the **Dinner Dance** on Saturday, March 16th at St Helen’s School Auditorium in Howard Beach. The dance will include a hot and cold buffet, with soft drinks served, BYOB. Great dance music will be provided by *Risky Business*. There will be raffle prizes, grids and a 50-50 offered. The cost will be \$85 a person, and the entire proceeds will benefit the Aiello family. The turnout from our club has been underwhelming so far, and it is hoped that more of our members will contribute to support our favorite Governor. See the attached flyer for sponsorship opportunities.

Club News:

We had a surprise visit from our friends at FDNY Ladder 135/Engine 286. That's right; *Captain Italiano was in the house*, along with four of the Bravest from the Glendale firehouse. It is always great to have the Myrtle Ninja Turtles join us. Captain Carl reported that Lt. Todd Vetter will be replacing him later this year, and we'll be sorry to see you go.



JR Velepec announced the winners of the Super Bowl Pool:

1st Quarter	\$125.00	Adele Licata Box -80
Half	\$250.00	Richie Huber Box - 100
3rd Quarter	\$125.00	Richie Huber Box - 100
Final	\$1000.00	Mike Miller - Box 14

Congratulations to the winners, and thank you all for supporting our "little fundraiser".



The next **Karaoke Night** will be held at the *Avenue Bar Restaurant* on Saturday night, March 9th, starting at 8pm. Besides all the fun and nonsense, we will be raffling off several baskets and a 50-50, the proceeds of which will be donated to the Trade School Scholarship Fund, which is President Ingrid's major emphasis.

IPP Bruce Kramer reported that DPG Joe Aiello was the winner of the **7-11 Pool** with #77 on the 7th. Congratulations.

Sheriff:	DPLG Kerrie Hansen for Councilwoman Joann Ariola (who supplied the Attendance Prize)		
Lunch Monitor:	Rosemarie Fitzsimons		
Invocation:	Karen Kramer		
7-11 Pot Passer:	Karen Kramer		
7-11 Winners:	Gjorgi Kuvikov, Dave Koehler and Paul Cutrone		
W-L Finder:	DPLG Kerrie Hansen		
Losers:	DPLG Debbie Kueber, Vin Arcuri, DPLG Kerrie Hansen and Marisa Beckmann		
Winner:	SDPLG Bob Kueber		
Pig Stroller:	Richie Adams		
Happy \$:	345	Pig:	60
Next Meeting:	Valentines Day	Sheriff:	Marisa Beckmann

Calendar of Events:

February 20	QW Division Meeting	@ Buccaneer Diner	7:00pm
February 22	TBD	TBD	
February 22-25	Mid-Winter Conference	@ Desmond Hotel, Albany	
February 27	Board of Directors Meeting	@ Yerman's Pub	7:00pm
February 29	Greater Ridgewood Restoration	@ Zum Stammtisch	12:30pm
March 9	Karaoke Night	@ the Avenue Bar	8:00pm
March 16	Aiello Family Fundraiser	@ St Helen's School	7:00pm
April 12	Wine Pairing Fundraiser	@ Gino's Trattoria, NHP	



**We meet every Thursday, 12:30pm at Züm Stammtisch,
located at 69-46 Myrtle Ave, Glendale, NY 11385 (unless otherwise specified)**