



THE PLAGIARIST

The Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Glendale, New York
Established September 1953



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January 8, 2026

President
Anna Mastrolembo

Immediate Past President
Ingrid Huber

Secretary
DPLG Kerrie Hansen

Treasurer
(Admin Fund)
DPP Steve Hansen

Treasurer
(Comm Svc Fund)
DPP Teresa Donahue

Treasurer
(Foundation)
SDPLG Bob Kueber

OnsKiwanis2024

Happy New Year! We held our first meeting of 2026 today at Zum Stammtisch. As we do each week, we gather for our weekly program with a certain agenda in mind. Sometimes, the meeting develops a mind of its own. Today was one of those days.

We had a packed back room for today's **Birthday and Business** program. Pres Anna rang the bell to start the proceedings, and asked Karen Kramer to deliver an Invocation, which she did, asking for peace, health and friendship this coming year. After the Pledge and Patriotic Song, Anna walked around the room and introduced our Past Leadership flawlessly once again (well, almost. A little bird reminded her that Vinnie Alberici was a Past President).

Today's Guests: The 'wonderful' Maria accompanied Vin Arcuri; Frank Kotnik's 'beautiful' wife Tina was with him; The 'marvelous' Marilyn Jonke (the woman who started this all) and Claudia Huber were treated to lunch by Lucien Matej; Richie

Adams introduced his wife Barbara (he couldn't come up with anything witty); Bill Dobranski introduced his brother John to a second meeting (could he be prepping for membership?)

Pres Anna led off the program with the Birthday portion. We have a good number of Capricorns and Aquarians among our members: Flo Rose (3rd), DPP Bruce Kramer (7th), PP Vinnie Alberici (10th), Rudy Jonke (14th), DPP Big Bill Maher (15th), DPP Dan Vessio (19th), DPP Richie Huber (19th), Karen Kramer (24th), JP Sanchez (30th),



and DPP Tony Sauro (30th). Pres Anna noted the celebrity birthdays they share, and in a new twist, the national holidays each birthday commemorates. Six members were on hand for their "free" lunch, and all were treated to candlelit bowls of ice cream and a ragged singing of 'Happy Birthday'.

Our Business portion of the meeting was a report by Bill Dobranski, club member and founder of **Faith in the Future**. For the last 30 years, this grassroots organization has been raising substantial amounts of money for the express purpose of providing a Catholic school education for at-risk children, as well as assisting young

men considering attending seminary to become priests. For many years, they held a fundraising dinner called the "Spaghetti and Eggs Dinner", with hundreds of attendees. Covid put an end to that event, but so many families continue to support the foundation, and they continue to help children. Our club was introduced to them when Sean Kearney, the first student they helped, met SDPLG Bob Kueber's son Eric at St Joseph's College. Bob was the President of our club at the time, and thought that their mission was something that would make a great Major Emphasis. From that time on, we have been supporting their foundation, and have seen many men and women succeed. Today, we presented Faith in the Future with another \$1000 donation to continue their great work.

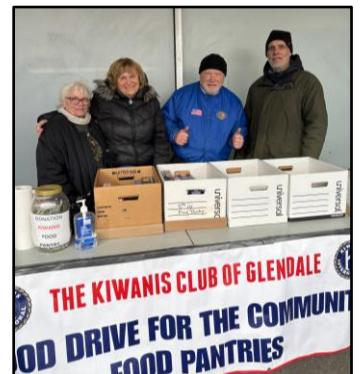


During his presentation, Bill mentioned that he attended Brooklyn Tech HS, which just so happens to be where Bob graduated from. What followed was a hysterical show of pride and boasting from everyone about their schools, and Pres Anna could not get a word in edgewise. She was warned that this can happen, and she rolled with it. (It didn't hurt the Happy \$\$ either).

Speaking of meetings getting off topic, Anna asked if anyone had made a New Year's Resolution. Besides the usual "lose weight, be happy, save money, be productive" promises, the topic of uncluttering the home came up. Apparently, this struck a nerve with several couples in the room, and the good-natured debate raged on, with a lot of finger-pointing and laughter thrown in. It looks like marriage councilors are going to be busier than usual this year.

*"Happy New Year! I would like to thank Karen, JR and Dorie for helping to make our **First Saturday Food Drive** another success. We collected 12 boxes of groceries for the Salvation Army, another 3 boxes and 4 bags of groceries for the Sacred Heart Pantry, and \$141 in donations for Easter hams. Also, thanks to DPP Len Licata for a \$50 donation for groceries. A good day!"*

- DPP Bruce Kramer



Club News:

We had another pre-meeting today. After all the adventures with this year's **Christmas Tree** display, it was time to take them down for the final time. JR, Karen and Bruce, Bob Kueber, Richie Adams and Dorie removed the decorations and lights, and the trees were placed at the curb for the Sanitation Dept to pick them up for composting. Remarkably, the large tree donated a Happy \$, because JR found a dollar bill stuck in the base. Another Christmas miracle.



Lots of **Happy \$\$** were raised today.

Werner Lehner, proprietor of this fine restaurant, had a Happy 100 for the great turnout at the Christmas Luncheon, and for all the help setting up the Christmas trees, and setting up the trees again, and setting up the trees AGA/N, and finally removing them.

Bill Dobranski had a 100 for the generous donation this year and every year to *Faith in the Future*. DPP Richie Huber had a 50 for his birthday, and for Bill and God's good work that *Faith in the Future* performs. DPP Big Bill Maher had 50 for his and Vin Arcuri's birthdays, and promised they would be back next year for more resolutions they won't keep.

DPP Lou DiRico sent a Happy 20 to the club for all we do. He owns *Arland Printing*, and prints the Bulletin book we submit at the Mid-Year Conference, so he sees all that goes on. It's great that members who can't always attend our meetings still support us.

DPP Dave Fitzgerald is in Wyckoff Hospital after a fall in his home. He appears to be in good spirits. If you would like to say hello, his cell # is 646-515-8997.

Sheriff:	JR Velepec for DPP Dave Fitzgerald, who donated the Attendance Prize		
Invocation:	Karen Kramer		
Lunch Monitor:	JR Velepec		
Winner and Losers:	JR Velepec		
Losers:	Tina Kotnik, Marilyn Jonke, Rudy Jonke and Irene Kofler		
Winner:	DPP Richie Huber		
7-11 Pot Passer:	DPP Bruce Kramer		
7-11 Winners:	DPP Ingrid Huber, Peter LaBella, Lt Gov Steve Hansen and Tina Kotnik X2		
Pig Walker:	Richie Adams		
Pig:	60		
Happy Dollars:	582		
Next Meeting:	Expecting Relief	Sheriff:	Gary Giordano

Calendar of Events

Jan 20	Past Governors Council	@ O'Neill's Restaurant	7:00pm
Jan 22	104 th Pct Community Affairs	@ Zum Stammtisch	12:30pm
Jan 26	Membership Social	@ Rudy's Bake Shop	6:00pm
Jan 27	Board of Directors Meeting	@ Yerman's Pub	7:00pm
Jan 29	Kiwanis Meeting	@ Zum Stammtisch	12:30pm

Feb 7

Paint and Sip Fundraiser

@ the Avenue Bar Restaurant

TBD



Anna Mastrolembro, President

We meet every Thursday, 12:30pm at:

Züm Stammtisch, 69-46 Myrtle Ave, Glendale, NY 11385

www.glendalenykiwanis.org

All Correspondence can be sent to:

67-13 Myrtle Ave, Glendale, NY 11385