



Kiwaniis®

THE ROCKAWAYS

May 16, 2024: Submitted by MaryAnn Nellen

Meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Rockaways; May 16, 2024 @ Rogers Pub, 205 Beach 116th St.

Members in Attendance: President Scott Valentine; Vice President, Jeanette Garramone; Secretary Stacey Savitsky; Treasurer, MaryAnn Nellen; Dolores Orr, Kathy Guiseppone, Michelle Hettich, Rikki Lawless. Guests in attendance – From Rockaway Beach Autistic Families (RBAF), and another Queens West Kiwanis Club, Jeremy Bularia joined us accompanied by Joe Featherston, the organizer of our local Special Olympics, Matthew and Michael Wolf from RBAF and Tnyetta Spencer from the Bay 84th Street Community Garden.

We enjoyed focaccia sandwiched and Caesar salad from **Flipflops_Rockaway** Catering, it was \$10 per person. We will continue to cater our meetings at \$10 per person. You can follow them on Instagram!

At 7:30 President Scott Valentine led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance

Tnetta Spencer gave us a rundown of the projects she is involved with at the Bay 84th Street Community Garden. They are currently collecting pill bottles and lids from bottles and jars for an arts project they are conducting in October. They collect books and clothing for a Free Items Page on Facebook called "Free Items Only-Rockaway Peninsula/Howard Beach". The garden grows vegetables in member boxes, there's a box for children to plant and a box that is free to anyone to plant or collect vegetables. Perhaps we can do a project together.

Joe Featherstone introduced himself, along with Matthew Wolf and his son Michael who are members of RBAF. Mr. Featherstone organizes the Special Olympic individuals that meet every Monday at St. Camillus between 6:30 and 8:00 PM, volunteers are welcome. President Scott Valentine presented Mr. Featherstone with a new mini basketball net that Rockaway Kiwanis purchased for the Special Olympics at the request of Jeremy.

A motion was made, seconded and the minutes report from April's meeting was accepted

The Treasury Report was read and we spent \$132.20 on outstanding dues from the Administrative Account and \$150 on a journal ad for the Howard Beach Gala out of the Service account. Leaving \$1600.65 in the Administrative Account and \$2751.80 in the Service Account. A motion was made, and seconded and the Treasury Report was accepted.

Scott Valentine gave a report from the 5/4 Earth Day event with RISE. We set up a table at the event, RISE supplied us with soil, planters and seeds. We helped the community plant the seeds, told them a little bit about what we do and we put Kiwanis stickers on the planters.

Club officers' elections are yearly, please let us know if anyone else is interested in becoming an officer. The year runs from October 1, 2024 through September 29, 2025. We are looking for a recording secretary, Kathy Guiseppone, is currently considering the position.

Next Month we are hosting the Queens West Division Meeting at 7:00 PM on Monday, June 17th at the Wharf. The cost of dinner will be \$50 per person and unlimited drinks are available for an additional \$20. We would like to support our Lieutenant Governor, Janice Bar, if you can, please join us. Dolores Orr is going to ask Shawn Slevin from Swim Strong to be our guest speaker.

Our Division Governor, Lucien Giancursio, is visiting on Saturday, July, 20th. Janice has arranged a Cruise around Manhattan Island. It leaves from the World's Fair Marina in Flushing at 12:00 PM, and returns at 4:00 PM. Boarding begins at 11:30. There is plenty of parking. It is \$60 per person which includes hot lunch buffet, beverages, desert, DJ, Dancing. There will be a 50/50 and Raffles. RSVP BEFORE 7/8 to MaryAnn Nellen. After July 8 the ticket price rises to \$150.

We are awarding 4 Explorers with a Certificate of Appreciation for their hard work at the Easter Egg Hunt. The awards will be presented at the 5/29/2024 Community Council Meeting at the Knights of Columbus. The Explorers are Matthew Geraghty, Serenity Screen, Jayden Rosario and Ryan Meyers.

Reminder: June 8th is the Library Food Distribution event

Reminder: June 14th is the Walk-a-thon. We would like as many members as possible to participate. We would like 15 members, to get 15 sponsors, for \$15 each. If we achieve our goal, we will be well on our way to get our goal of 24 Swimming Scholarships this summer. Our Summer shirts are \$20, let me know who needs one! I have extras.

Rock, Stock and Barrell is Saturday, June 22, 8:00AM – 6:00PM. We are putting up a table with information and raffles. Volunteers – Scott, Jeanette, Brian, Michelle, and MaryAnn

Radio Bingo is scheduled for Friday, October 4, 2024. Jeanette, Dolores and Grace A. are met on Monday 5/20/24 with the Knights of Columbus for a walk through.

National Night out is Wednesday, August 7, 2024. We need enough volunteers to set up in both the 100th and the 101st Precincts.

Swim Strong is starting a new series of classes, The Classes are on Saturdays. We can plan to visit the class/facility on one of the Saturdays that they are instructing.