Meeting Notice for July 11, 2024







**LXXI 39** 

It was a rather warm afternoon, but we still had a good group at the Stammtisch for today's celebration of *Independence Day.* Pres Ingrid Huber rang our version of the Liberty Bell precisely at 12:30 and began the meeting with an Invocation presented by Bruce Kramer, back with us after hip replacement surgery. We followed with the Pledge and Patriotic Song. Ingrid's introduction of the Past Leadership in the room was rather shaky (who is SDPLG *Bill* Kueber, and when did DPLG Kerrie Maher start using her maiden name again?)

**Today's Guests:** Richie Adams introduced his wife, Barbara; Dorie Figliola introduced her guest Anthony Cammarata; DPP Bill Maher treated Pat to lunch, as did Vin Arcuri for his aide Maria; Kathleen O'Hara introduced her husband Kenny, and Rudy Jonke did the same with his wife Marilyn. DPLG Kerrie introduced our special guest, Mark Pohl, NY District Membership Chairman.

We started the program today with some excitng news. This service year is flying by, and it is time to prepare next year's *Slate of Officers*. At our Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, it was announced that Kathleen O'Hara has volunteered to step up and become the President of the Glendale Kiwanis. Secretary DPLG Kerrie read the slate for the first of three times, and Kathleen received a rousing round of applause. She has a long organizational history, and will be an excellent leader for our club. The slate reads as follows:

President Kathleen O'Hara Immediate Past President Ingrid Huber

Vice President Open

Secretary DPLG Kerrie Hansen
Treasurer (Administration) DPP Steven Hansen
Treasurer (Community Service) DPP Teresa Donahue
Treasurer (Foundation) SDPLG Bob Kueber
One Year Board DPP Dave Fitzgerald

**DPLG Debbie Kueber** 

**DPP Bill Maher** 

Two Year Board Richie Adams

Karen Kramer

Gjorgi Kukuvikov

Three Year Board DPP Fred Haller

**DPP Anthony Sauro** 

Open

The slate has two open positions. **EVERYONE** is encouraged to consider joining the Board and contributing to the operation and success of our club. The slate will be repeated twice more before elections are held.

The Declaration of Independence, the founding document of the United States, was approved by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, and announced the separation of thirteen North American British colonies from Great Britain. Officially, the Congress declared its freedom from Great Britain on July 2, 1776, when it approved a resolution by a unanimous vote. After voting on independence on July 2, the group needed to draft a document explaining the move to the public. The Declaration was written on parchment paper and on August 2, 1776, delegates began signing it. And so began the history of the greatest democratic nation on Earth.

Our Independence Day program was hosted by Mike Porcelli. Instead of a history lesson, Mike decided that a discussion about some facts about the traditional celebration was in order. It began with a letter by John Adams to his wife Abigail, which read:

I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. it ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more.

Americans aparently took John Adam's words to heart. Families often celebrate Independence Day by hosting or attending a picnic or barbecue. Many take advantage of the day off and, in some years, a long weekend to gather with family members or friends. Parades often occur in many towns and cities, with many floats and participants. Fireworks displays typically occur in the evening, like New York's famous Macy's display. Decorations are generally colored red, white, and blue, the colors of the American flag, and many homes and businesses display American flags on their properties.

In this light, Mike began a list of fun facts and trivia about the most American of holidays:

- There are over 15,000 fireworks displays across the country. Fireworks were invented around 200 B.C. by the ancient Chinese. In the 1830s, Italians figured out how to add colors to fireworks. We're still figuring out how to make BLUE fireworks.
- Spaniards are believed to have invented barbecue, called 'barbacoa'.
- George Stephen had an idea that revolutionized our way of backyard grilling in 1952. People grilled on "open braziers", some as simple as a pit of charcoal with a cooking grate on top. He needed a place to burn Orin Kingsford's charcoal briquets
- Approx. 150 million hot dogs sre consummed on July 4, not all by Joey Chestnut.
- On average, Americans consume 68 million cases of beer on the Fourth of July, which is the equivalent to 8,618 40-foot shipping containers.

We had a special guest at today's meeting. *Mark Pohl, the NY District Membership Chairman*, stopped by to give us an update on membership figures and the challenges we face. He reported that the majority of members that leave Kiwanis state 'lack of interest' as the primary reason. Mark suggested some easy habits to get into:

- Interesting, topical meeting programs are the easiest way to draw attention to your club.
- REACH OUT to current members that haven't attended in a while. Show some interest.
- Ask current and potential members to attend when it's convenient to THEM; "When can we talk?"



Coincidentally, Mark mentioned that he is a retired history teacher, and did his thesis on American History. He picked an ideal day to attend our meeting, and added some additional historical facts to the discussion. Pres Ingrid closed the meeting with her weekly 'Did You Know?' presentation, concerning the Independence Day. It was truly a day of 'Dueling Trivia'

## **Club News:**

DPP Steve Hansen reported that the next *Veterans BBQ* will be on Saturday, July 27, starting at 3pm at the Edward R. Miller Post, 71-32 Cooper Ave in Glendale. Generous support of our 13 Run Pools have made this event possible. All members are welcome to participate.

The \$100 Raffle is coming around again! DPP Big Bill Maher announced that tickets for our annual fundraiser are available again. If you have a favorite number(s) from last year's raffle, it is available for you again. The drawing will be held on Thursday evening, August 15 at Yerman's Irish Pub, 70-26 88 St in Glendale. Doors open at 6:00pm, and the first ticket out of the barrel will be pulled at 6:30pm. A buffet dinner will be served, free for all ticket holders. Contact Big Bill, SDPLG Bob Kueber or DPP Steve Hansen for ticket information.



Our annual *Presidents Dinner* will be held on Thursday evening, September 26<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at Vetro's Restaurant in Howard Beach as the final meeting of our club year. The price for members is \$75 each, and guests are \$100. It's not to early to Save The Date and make plans to celebrate another great year.

Sheriff: Fran Cottone for Rose Fegan. Pres Ingrid donated the Attendance Prize.

**Lunch Monitor:** Rosemarie Fitzsimons **Invocation: DIPP Bruce Kramer** 7-11 Pot Passer: Karen Kramer

7-11 Winners: Mark Pohl, 'Pop' Alberici, Kenny O'Hara and Alice Montano

Winner and Losers **DPLG Kerrie Hansen** 

Losers: Dorie Figliola, Anthony Cammarata, Mike Porcelli

Winner: Mark Pohl Richie Adams Pig Walker:

Happy \$: 205 Pig: 35

**Next Meeting:** Birthday and Business Sheriff: Dorie Figliola

## Calendar of Events:

| July 4    | No Meeting                                   |                                      |              |
|-----------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| July 4-7  | International Convention                     | @ Denver, Colorado                   |              |
| July 6    | First Saturday Food Drive                    | @ Stop & Shop                        | 10:00-2:00pm |
| July 18   | Community Update                             | @ Zum Stammtisch                     | 12:30pm      |
| July 20   | NY District Governor's Visit                 | @Skyline Cruises, Worlds Fair Marina | 12:00-4:00pm |
| July 23   | KPTC Cyclone Game                            | @ Maimonides Park, Coney Island      | 7:00pm       |
| July 25   | 104 <sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council | @ Zum Stammtisch                     | 12:30pm      |
| July 27   | Summer Veterans Barbeque                     | @ Edward R Miller Post #7336         | 4:00pm       |
| July 30   | <b>Board of Directors Meeting</b>            | @ Yerman's Pub                       | 7:00pm       |
| August 15 | \$100 Raffle                                 | @ Yerman's Pub                       | 6:00pm       |
| Sept 26   | Presidents Dinner                            | @ Vetro's Restaurant                 | 7:00pm       |



## We meet every Thursday, 12:30pm at Züm Stammtisch, located at 69-46 Myrtle Ave, Glendale, NY 11385 (unless otherwise specified) <a href="https://www.glendalenykiwanis.org">www.glendalenykiwanis.org</a>



Happy Birthday, America