



The Triple Crown Newsletter

RESULTS Of MEET For: August 21, 2019

VOLUME 2 Number 18

Race One: The meet began with a nice attendance of over 40 members and another 20 Summer Youth Employment Program workers on hand for our meeting that ends the summer for us. Many of the GRYC Directors have escaped their day camps and are on vacation, recuperating from their long summer hours. Liz Fitzgerald was unable to get to the meeting as she is on vacation. Gino opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and asked Bob to do the invocation, who immediately pass on the duty to Bernie Zablocki. Really nice job, Bernie.

Race Two: Gino then opened with a few announcements and folks were trying to put them on their phone calendars, but, they said he was speaking to fast for their fingers. (all except one of those fingers) Gino, remembering how successful our last meeting was, called for everyone to come up to eat their lunch. It was left over day from the Arbitration Rock fest at the Onderdonk House as we had Hot Dogs cooked by the one and only Lucian Matej. Seems two of his buddies, CHEATED, and had dogs outside, hot off the grill, from their chef and buddy Lucian. As I was standing in the front, I cut the line and even got to the dogs before Kenny Dunn. Kenny still beat out all of the other members, AGAIN. Carlos said that next week he's putting the food in the back of the room. LOL



Lucian hammers home his point to Carlos "Papi" at the meeting. School of hard knocks grads.

Race Three: Our sheriff was Diane Cusimano and she was ready to go to town with her outfit and hat. Diane left Bronco Bob in the corral but added a twist to the Happy Dollar collection by bribing folks with CANDY to donate. Give a dollar, get a candy. How sad it was for me to have donated a bunch of dollars to the feed bag only to hear, AFTERWARDS, that there was a candy reward. NO DO OVERS, so I really was and am a LOSER. There is no justice in this club, as I watched folks donating a dollar and munching down on candy from the sheriff. LOTS of dollars today. As said, the happy dollars brigade started when the club presented "Bungalow Bar" Bill Rennison with his own coin changer to hang on his belt. It was filled with quarters, dimes, nickels and pennies and Bill is half way home to realizing his childhood dreams of owning an Ice Cream Cart. That will be the next order of business to get him out there dishing out ice cream to kids and adults, alike. Keep the faith Bill, plus, you are the Sheriff next meeting.

Race Four: Hop-along Hank had some bucks along with JR, Kenny and Master Beekeeper Tom who is gearing up for the harvesting of his hives throughout the city and upstate. Sorry, gotta say it, "SWEET". John Hennessey had some dollars to be with the club, but more on John's stuff in a later race. At this point in the meet, we had a little 5 year old Gjorgi, who is battling cancer, with us along with his mom. Mom gave a history of his diagnosis and treatments and it was very heartfelt and sincere. The night before, at a Board Meeting of the 3-2-1, Gino, a lifelong friend of the family asked if we could contribute to the cause. The Board agreed to match \$500 for a grid box that was distributed to those present at the meeting. Gino sold out 2, yes you heard that right, two grid boxes for \$1,000 and with the Clubs donation, a total of \$1,500 will be given to the LCH Research Foundation. This is one of the most amazing group of service minded people on this fragile planet. In addition, little Gjorgi went home with a case of Matchbox cars that magically appeared for him.



Race Five: Happy dollars were given to welcome nearly 20 of the GRYC's SYEP participants who were having lunch. They were on their best behavior because Beverly McBeth, Edwing, Oscar and their supervisors were enjoying the meeting with one eye...Carmen Resto had happy dollars for Principal Joe Miller from IS 77 for his understanding of "youthful enthusiasm" this past summer. Seems Detective Bell made a visit to the school after a urinal was damaged to impress upon the workers that that is a crime and has no place in the work world. Thanks Tommy and the men and women of the 104 for always supporting our efforts. OK, while I'm at it and speaking of the 104th Precinct, Ridgewood 3-2-1 Member Captain Victoria Perry strutted into the meeting with a full complement of officers to celebrate and showcase (BRAG) about the Backpack Giveaway at the 104 the day before the meeting. Yes, that would be Tuesday. The 104 Precinct in partnership with the GRYC and Ridgewood 3-2-1 distributed over 225 backpacks filled with school supplies, snacks, puzzles, coloring books, crayons and more. The Officers served hot dogs and hamburgers, great music from their resident DJ, had Mounted & Highway and "the dreaded rock wall" for everyone to enjoy. 3-2-1 member P.O. Lenny O'Toole was at the grill, sweating up a storm, The detail attending the meeting consisted of Community Affairs Officer Asar Sanad, NCO Santos and Police Officer Lenford Goldbourne "G" who is one of the happiest human beings on this planet, always smiling and bringing you UP just by being around him. Lots and lots of happy dollars were given for this incredibly successful community event. Kudos to Captain Perry and her fine officers. That about sums up how things happen at the Ridgewood 3-2-1 meetings.

Race Six: Lucian Matej was cooking up our lunch but made it inside to give a bunch of dollars, and, as you saw, in the picture, was teaching life lessons to his buddy, Carlos "Papi Chulo" Rodriguez. John and Margie Stahl were in the house and gave happy bucks for the Art Gallery and Auction that they are chairing for the 3-2-1 Club. BTW, whoever signs your attendance slips has incredible penmanship. My guess, it's Margie. Their Blessing Bags Project at Wyckoff Heights is going extremely well and is going to become a project of First Lady Bonnie Baker in the new South Buffalo Club. We will be having a drive to help the Blessing Bags cause starting in September and the return of our students in Builders Clubs. Thanks Bill Rennison for the diapers that you brought to today's meeting. Remember back in Race Four that I mentioned there would be more about John Hennessey and his ordeal. Well, it seems like I brought up an old tradition in Kiwanis about tie cutting and raising money for the club. Trying to be nice and just give everyone a warning of what "COULD" happen at future meetings and since John was the ONLY ONE PRESENT WITH A TIE ON, I was willing to let it go, UNTIL John said that if we did actually raise enough money, HIS tie would add some CLASS to the Banner hanging on the wall in the clubhouse. In a matter of 2 minutes, \$130 was raised and here is what happened next.



John went back to Ridgewood Savings Bank with half of his tie and proved to everyone present that he is an awesome good sport and a total team player. Thanks John for allowing us to have so much fun and laughter at your expense and know that your half tie will honor our banner for the history of our club. It will be sewn on after you have the opportunity to sign your name to it.

Race Seven: Tom “I beg you not to pick me for sheriff” Wilk gave some dollars to announce his Honey Festival at Rockaway Beach in September. Seems that Tom has organized the Queens Beekeepers Guild and they have a bunch of fun things to do at the Festival, including; Meet the NYPD Bee Cop (from the 104th Pct) Honey Beer tasting, face painting (hopefully without honey) and more. Sheriff Diane Cusimano had dollars for a bunch of stuff and spoke of the great time everyone had at the Arbitration Rock event at the Onderdonk House. Emily Waelder was introduced to the club as the co-organizer of the event. Emily is a former employee of the GRYC and is a Teacher during the year. Alan Bellone off on a cruise and Kevin was home waiting on someone to repair something in the house. Maureen was at the meet and they will be off on a cruise soon, themselves. Henrietta Maier off on vacation as are a good number of the GRYC Directors. Perfect Attendance streak is alive for Tina Forte as she continues to make the effort to break bread with us at each meeting. Thank you Lord that Mary is on vacation, but left Linda and Carlos behind to bother all of us. Shiv was joined by some of the GRYC Directors; Carmen, TJ (go get your own gluten free meal), David (sporting his new hair color), Irene, Cynthia, Walter, Xiomara, Joann, Dina, Lynn, Ricky and new member Patrick Wagner. Christine and Danielle were there and Danielle mentioned that she was happy to get the shout out last newsletter. Robert Molina was there with the YAIP staff; Barbara, Tiffany, Kevin and Liza. First Lady Bonnie and Governor Hank Baker appreciate the 200 Blessing Bags that we sent for their NEW South Buffalo Kiwanis Club. Now let’s do a drive to help them fill them up with goodies. Let’s see if some other clubs and Divisions can help with this cause, too. Really impoverished area in South Buffalo and could use some support. Gino and Jed were our delegates at the Convention and had a great time in Niagara Falls. HMMM...Bernie and Ann were there and Bernie said that he would donate money if I could correctly answer a question. Here’s the question, “How many dog days of summer are left for this year”? I said 210 and he laughed at me, along with other members of the club. He said the correct answer was 35, but I reminded him that in dog years that’s over my 210 at 245. Needless to say, Bernie didn’t buy that and reneged. He actually borrowed two dimes and a nickel from Bill Rennison’s coin changing machine and added it to his .75 to make a happy dollar. Now that’s sad.



Race Eight: Upcoming Events include:

- August 26th – Ronald McDonald House barbecue in Manhattan. We are the sponsors and if you want to help please let me know ASAP. There are 6 members going and more could be used.**
- September 4th – Next meeting of the Ridgewood 3-2-1 at the Clubhouse @ 12 noon**
- September 5th – 8th – Fresh Pond Road Street Festival. We are having an information table and prizes**
- September 14th – Honey Festival at Rockaway Beach**
- September 18th – Gino’s running the show. Let’s make it most memorable. 12 noon at the clubhouse**
- September 23rd – Queens West Division Mtg at 7 PM.**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- September 29th – Belmont Race Track Day and Installation of Officers. SAVE THE DATE**
- October 2nd – Gino’s Installation along with his Board of Directors. This is at 7PM at the Clubhouse.**

Race Nine: Gino ended the meeting a few minutes tardy at 1:10 by hitting the gong. Happy Dollars and Food Money collected for this meet was \$ 610. PLUS \$1,000 in Grid Boxes for fundraiser.

3 – 2 – 1... AND THEY'RE  **FF**



Gjorgi gives a little smile because he had his backpack filled with Matchbox Cars.



Arbitration Rock Event at the Onerdonk House



Carlos and the SYEP participants filled 400 backpacks for our GRYC/3-2-1 Giveaway.

The link below is a video done for the Ridgewood 3-2-1 Builders Clubs

<https://youtu.be/X6mNC7fVHes>

This link is for the GRYC Summer Programs. Yes, the Steel Drum Band is a GRYC/YECA site band.

[Here is the new video uploaded to the YouTube channel.](#)



Join us in our fight to knock out Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis

Gjorgi is 5yrs old and was diagnosed with LCH July 2018 when we found a lesion on his skull from a bump on his head. We went to the ER and testing was done and he was brought to the OR the next day to remove the lesion and, unfortunately, we were told by the doctor he has LCH. We then followed up with his oncologist where he was being screened and we were told Gjorgi should be fine, and we were to monitor him for the next 10yrs.

In May of this year, Gjorgi started to complain about back pain, so after a visit to the ER, the doctor told us he was fine, and we followed up with his oncologist and they decided to do an MRI which was scheduled. After the MRI was done, we saw his oncologist that same day, and were told that the LCH spread to the disc in his spine, which is why he was having pain, and that he would need to start treatment right away.

Everything seems to happen so sudden and fast with this disease. We are raising money in his honor for the LCH research. Help us raise money for the cause so we can find a screening for this disease that will help other families out there so they don't have to go through finding out the way we did. If it wasn't for us being so persistent and taking him to the ER and having a scan done, we would have never known about his disease until it would have taken over Gjorgi.

Please visit <http://bit.ly/FightAgainstLCH>
to donate to fight against the cause for LCH

