



## The Triple Crown Newsletter

RESULTS OF MEET FOR: June 16, 2021

VOLUME 4 Number 18

**Race One:** Another colorful day for our meeting to celebrate our start of the summer barbecue. It is still Pride Month and it showed around the clubhouse. It was a beautiful sunny day with over 40 people on hand to break bread with us. President Janine clapped the gong and asked everyone to rise from their seats to recite the Pledge to our Flag and then asked Bernie Zablocki to give the Blessing. Kevin and Maureen are vacationing in an undisclosed location in America, as they are on the NO FLY roster. Bernie asked the club to remember those in need, thanked God for the gift of each other, in-person, and asked us to reflect on the gifts that we have to offer in service to others.

**Race Two:** The meet was held indoors and a little bit outdoors since it was a barbecue and the grill is outside. The large meeting room at the clubhouse and arranged in a way that allowed for compliance with CDC rules. President Janine had Gino introduce our guests from the Sunnyside Kiwanis Club who were inter-clubbing as our Queens West Lt. Governor Kerrie Hansen was in the house. At that point, I was able to come down to the meet and as I got off the elevator, the place was applauding for something and I thanked everyone for their warm welcome. Seems it was really for Linda, Michelle and Howard Brickman who were here to pick up our donations for their Veteran's Project. Also at the ranch was DPG Sal Anelli who is the District Chair for Kamp Kiwanis and was sent by DPG Joe Aiello to pitch and putt for their Golf Outing Fundraiser. The Ridgewood Club is donating Backpacks and T-shirts to the Outing, along with a few autographed pictures to auction off. At that point, the food was ready and folks began to dig into the Sausages, Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Veggie Burgers and all the toppings. No DPP Kenny Dunn today, so, Bernie Zablocki got to get up first without being physically accosted.



Howard, Michelle and Linda thanking the 3-2-1 for their donations.



**Race Three:** Today we had our good friend, Jayne Wadhawan from Valley Bank bring along Felix De La Cruz, also from Valley who spoke about the great Mortgage situation that exists in today's marketplace. Felix was really brief after seeing the abuse that was dished out to Sal Anello for his "sharing" with the club members. Our Lt. Governor Kerrie Hansen was also well within her time and complimented Janine on her year so far and encouraged her to enjoy her next four months in office. Thanks for coming to our gathering, Kerrie. Then there was our NYPD contingent and Bob (me) mentioned that there were 5 members from the 104 present and that he liked 4 of them. Lots of laughs. Deputy Inspector Louron Hall, Commanding Officer of the 104 came along with Community Affairs Officer Mike Berish and then we had Sgt. Michael Mercurio, NCO's Pat Nessler and Maria Santos. Just when we thought it couldn't get any better, RETIRED Detective Tommy Bell strolled in. Not to be outdone, Sgt. Gerard Salvia from PBQN spoke about some of the events and things going on in Queens North.



**Race Four:** Seems that Diane Cusimano had happy dollars for the opportunity to teach our Pre-Kindergarten students at Fairview Avenue how to plant flowers in the monument space. This was done at the former Garity VFW Post using planters that were repurposed Ammo Boxes and following in the theme of “Where Have All The Flowers Gone” by Peter, Paul and Mary. Rumor has it that Diane is very familiar with the “60’s and 70’s, Washington Square Park, Sly and the Family Stone, The Who in concert in Central Park at the Schaefer Music Festival Concert in Wollman Skating Rink and some other things that are coming back around again in NYC and State. There were absolutely no **weeds** in this garden and Diane had a **smokin’** good time reminiscing. Only problem with all of this was someone forgetting that they did the same thing at PS/IS 128 for DPP Liz Fitzgerald. If a picture is worth a thousand word, well, here it is!! Things started **rolling** from there with Happy \$\$, that is!



Are you freakin’ kidding me, you and I planted flowers at PS/IS 128 for three hours and you ONLY have happy dollars for Pre-K at Fairview!! Well, Knock my mask right off.

**Race Five:** President Janine then asked NYPD Sgt. Gerard Salvia to let us know what was going on in the Patrol Borough Queens North precincts and we heard of a number of initiatives being planned for the summer and a Job Fair that is going to happen in the next week for youth ages 14 to 19 years old. The goal is to keep as many young people off the streets with little or nothing to do and get them engaged in employment and mentoring situations. Then, our very own 104<sup>th</sup> Precinct Sgt. Michael Mercurio gave happy dollars to mention that the YCO Officers Bush and Amato will be coordinating efforts to have murals displayed within the boundaries of the 104 communities of Ridgewood, Glendale, Middle Village and Maspeth. Hey, each of those communities has an active Kiwanis Club, how about we get together and make this happen. The GRYC offered to work with their Summer Day Camp participants and Staff to make that happen on 4 x 8 foot sheets of plywood and put a Plexiglas covering on it to avoid vandalism. NCO’s Nessler and Santos gave happy dollars, again to say they are looking for an active and busy summer. Deputy Inspector Louron Hall gave happy dollars to be back with the club and mentioned Night Out Against Crime in August. The 3-2-1 Club will be there and make our member proud. In addition, Community Affairs Officer Mike Berish spoke about the Backpack giveaway for September and Janine made it clear that we will be there again offering Back to School Blessing Bags for up to 250 students. Wouldn’t it be awesome if our each of the Kiwanis Clubs in the Precinct added another 50 backpacks each, raising the bar to 400 giveaways. Let us remember that students have been home using up all their supplies for over a year and probably need NEW STUFF. Together we can accomplish so much more than individually.

**Race Six:** Our 3-2-1 member Carlos “Papi Chulo” Rodriguez went out to deliver all of the items that the club donated to the Ronald McDonald House. It included cases of Hand Sanitizers, Disinfecting Wipes, Baby Wipes, Girl Scout Cookies and Bottled Water. He was really, really upset that this guy just sat on the bench and watched as he unloaded the van. The nerve of some folks! Carlos didn’t just deliver the donated items, he delivered a BIG MAC slap to the side of his red head, ouch. This was combined with the grid box that raised \$500 and was donated at the last meeting. We were delighted to be a part of this mission to serve families who are dealing with their children’s life-threatening illnesses. Ronald McDonald House is a “home away from home” for struggling families from all over the world.



**Race Seven:** An great showing of members from the “G” at today’s meet to catch a brief respite from their hard work and commitment to prepare for the largest SUMMER PROGRAM in the agency’s history. The GRYC will serve over 3,000 kids in Day Camp and over 1,100 Summer Youth Employment Programs participants. ALL HANDS ON DECK. In spite of all of that, President Elect Maricelis Romero, Danielle Kleiman, Dina DePaola, Edwing Vilsaint, Andy Villion, Marc Darius, Christine Halloran, Maria Batista, Celina Rosario, Bryana Winkleman, DPP Liz Fitzgerald, Carlos Rodriguez, Elvira Rodriguez, Cynthia Rivera, Josiah Vera, Catherine Siegel, Carmen Resto, Paul Hoffmann and Shiv Ramsamooj had a fun time and ALL were happy about something. Joan Hoffman was back in the house, as were, Master Beekeeper Tom Wilk and of course, our Club Secretary Hank Kraker. If I missed anyone, I truly apologize & will make it up next time.

**Race Eight:** Upcoming Events include:

**July 7<sup>th</sup> – Regular Meeting at the Clubhouse, 12 noon. Barbecue for July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration.**

**July 14<sup>th</sup> – Board Meeting in person at the clubhouse. Start time is 4:00 PM. Any 3-2-1 members may attend and see how we do business and spend our money. Please join us.**

**July 21<sup>st</sup> – International President Peter Mancuso visits with Ridgewood 3-2-1. Need to know if you are planning to be here for this momentous occasion.**



**Race Nine:** The meeting ended at 1:00 PM and the total amount of money collected in Happy Dollars and Food Money was \$550 and a few more in VENMO.

**3 – 2 – 1... AND THEY'RE OFF**



***Happy Father’s Day***  
to those present and those watching over us from above.