



The Triple Crown Newsletter

RESULTS OF MEET FOR: January 5, 2022

VOLUME 5 Number 8

Race One: What a way to start the NEW YEAR 2022. It is déjà vu all over again as Yogi Berra would say. This time last year we were in the same predicament with COVID going nuts and folks hunkering in to be safe. Now we have Delta and Omicron variants testing our resolve and winning some of the battles. As has been the case when we are unable to meet in person, you get to receive a virtual newsletter in an effort to keep all of us connected and focused on the mission to serve during these difficult times. So here we go folks. It was near impossible to believe that over 50 members and friends were present to see President Maricelis clap the gong with her personalized gavel and ask everyone to rise from their seats to recite the Pledge to our Flag. Everyone was socially distanced and at the completion of honoring our Flag and what it stands for, Maricelis asked Father Kevin Powell to give the blessing. As always, Kevin was inspiring *as he asked for the club to remember those in need and the gifts that we have to offer in service to others. It was so moving, that a chorus of AMEN began and the members were moving and swaying and clapping their hands. AMEN brothers and sisters and ...*

Race Two: The meet was held indoors in the large gathering space, a fancy new term for our big room in the basement. As the weather was not cooperating, only a few brave souls spilled out onto our beautiful outdoor Deck where Carlos and Joseph had the tents put up, along with their side panels to keep the hot air in. Yes, you guessed it, Kenny Dunn WAS out there speaking with Chris McDougall about retro-fitting a heater/blower to make the space more comfortable and available. That's another attendance credit Chris. Kenny Dunn was not able to be in his usual seat because we had some special guests in attendance. NYC Mayor Eric Adams joined us, AGAIN, and had the distinction of sitting in Kenny's seat to be upfront and personal with the crowd. Community Affairs Officers Mike Berish and Dilsia Bonilla were joined by Inspector Louron Hall to assure that His Honor was comfortable and safe. Assisting in that task were 4 really huge guys from the NYPD Mayor's Unit. I can't explain it, but, somehow, Diane Cusimano sauntered past all of them and was engaged in a riveting conversation with the new Mayor. Something about composting, fertilizer, the ecology, global warming, vegetarian and vegan lifestyles. Can't quite explain the look of happiness on Diane's face as one of those huge guys picked her up and moved her to the other side of the "gathering space". No one could explain it, but, DPP Gino Ancona, seeing this, jumped to the front of the line to speak with the Mayor and "meet" his security detail. All you could hear was, "ME NEXT, ME NEXT".



Santa, all you need to bring me is something that will make me HAPPY in the New Year. Yes, for the WHOLE Year, big guy!! WOW you deliver faster than Amazon, thanks...



Race Three: Maricelis asked for any Happy Dollars and guests (REALLY??!!) and Bob introduced NYC Mayor Eric Adams who had a really busy first few days in office. Then he introduced a super line-up of heavy hitters in NY Politics. Joining the new Mayor were; Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz, NYS Senator Joe Addabbo and NYS Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar. We invited the Commander-in-Chief and his First Lady, but they were really busy in Washington DC working on ways to manage the COVID pandemic. If you remember from last January, Janine and Dr. Jill Biden are Sorority Sisters and keep in touch on a regular basis. Life is strange sometimes, really, really strange. There were lots of members giving happy dollars to congratulate each of our dignitaries on their leadership skills and roles. Speaking of leadership skills, just at this point, and not to be over-shadowed, our very own, Kiwanis International President Peter Mancuso jogged into the house and was well received. If you follow President Mancuso, you know that he runs 6 ½ miles, regularly, and all over the world. Very impressive indeed. For those of you who are into running and jogging, these stickers represent goals and achievements:

C'mon y'all. I'm Rocky the wonder dog! Let me come to the next meeting to say, "Hi".



26.2

26.2 miles is the FULL Marathon;

13.1 miles is the HALF Marathon.

13.1

Most readers wouldn't know this, but, not only was our member Bernie Zablocki a light weight Golden Gloves Champion, back in the day, but he finished in the top 100 in the 5th NYC Marathon. Not to be outdone, P.O. Dilsia Bonilla was also a Golden Gloves Champion and finished 321st in the Long Island Half Marathon. These are amazing accomplishments and we should recognize those major feats at our meeting in March for St Joseph and St. Patrick's Day. Michael Addeo said that he would make this event another special day with lot's to celebrate. Oh, for those of you who must know, I, Bob Monahan was on the track team at La Salle Academy from 1966 to 1970. Yes, back in the day, I could run you down in a hurry. Today, I live a more relaxed life schedule and belong to the club listed below. Yes, there are things that Kenny Dunn and I have in common.

Twice around Victory Track in less than 2 minutes, 4 laps in under 5 minutes. Oh, the good old days.



0.0

These are my running club numbers today. Who's snickering!

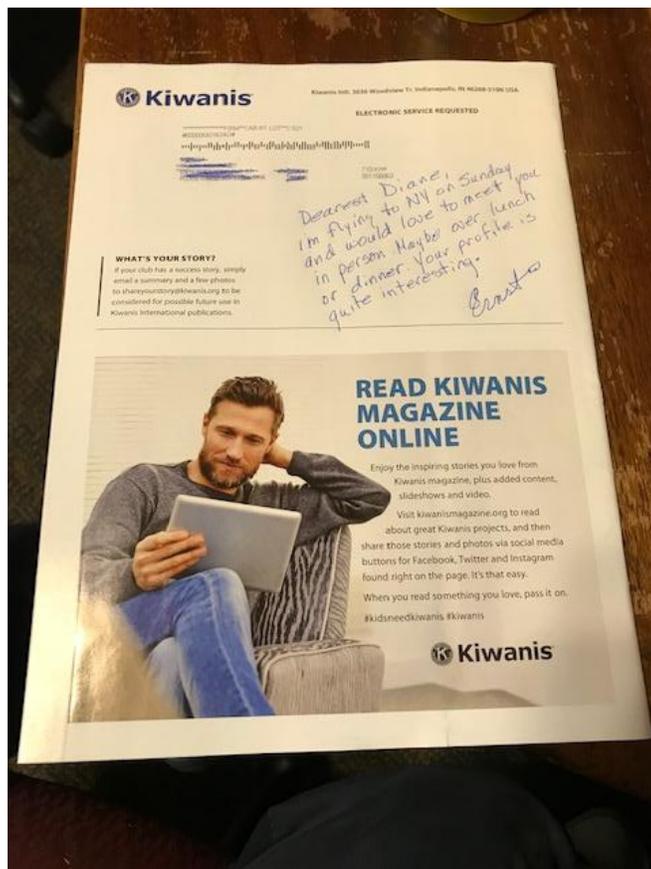


Half a block to the deli on the corner in under 2 minutes, Oh, Happy days.

Race Four: Happy Dollars continued when the members revived Diane and Gino. LOL. It was all in good fun and most were "questioning" dollars for Janine to find out if the Bernie and Dilsia information was actually true. There is "some" truth to the statements made and anyone who would like to guess the true statement will add \$5 to the kitty for every correct answer. No calling either person, gotta guess on your own. Only one guess per customer. Not sure what was going on, but after Diane came to, Janine and Liz Fitzgerald joined her in the corner and holy cow were they laughing. More happy dollars came from our members as they raised money to get a GRID started to pay for Diane to travel to Kiwanis International Headquarters in Indianapolis to uncover who her mystery man really is. I wonder if Kiwanis Magazine would put an "old" picture of a young stud in the magazine when he really looks like the real "old" guy. Oh, did I just say that after taking some license above. You can't make this stuff up!! Oh wait a second, YES YOU CAN.

HOLD THE PRESSES.

Oh my God, can you believe it. We asked our Kiwanis International President if he knew this stud muffin on the back of the Kiwanis Magazine and this is what we had scanned over to us. Good Lord, Diane is down for the count, AGAIN!! Seems that his name is ERNST and he is from a club in Vasistlos, Germany. Ach du liebe. Hey, there are only a few degrees of separation and if Diane has her way...



Race Five: Hank Kraker was able to make the meeting today and gave Happy Dollars for his Green Bay Packers win last weekend. JR Velepec came to the meeting but was seen outside chatting with Kenny Dunn. As our Football Donation Pool is wrapping up the regular season, we will be about \$1,200 to the good. Thanks to all who made this fundraiser happen. This donation program was started by Hank, JR and Kenny a few years ago and all the credit goes to them for this great fundraiser. Bill Rennison, Michael Addeo, Diane Cusimano, DPP Liz Fitzgerald, DPP Dave Fitzgerald, Bob Monahan, Joe Florio, JR Velepec, Kevin Powell, Carlos Rodriguez, Chris McDougall, Chris Jardin, Alan Bellone, Lucian Matej, John Hennessey and Bernie Z are all in the mix. Thanks all for your generosity. It will grow a bit if a few of these teams keep winning in the playoff rounds. Having fun at Ridgewood 3-2-1.

Member Name	Team Name	Total
Liz Fitzgerald/Diane Cusimano	Las Vegas Raiders	90
Bernie Z/Dave Fitzgerald	Las Vegas Raiders	90
Hank Kraker	Green Bay Packers	120
JR Velepec	Dallas Cowboys	110
Lucian Matej	Los Angeles Rams	120
Carlos Rodriguez	New England Patriots	100
Bill Rennison	NY Giants	40
Michael Addeo	NY Giants	40
Bob Monahan	Pittsburg Steelers	70
John Hennessey	Los Angeles Chargers	90
Kevin Powell	New York Jets	40
Joe Florio	New York Jets	40
Chris McDougall	New York Jets	40
Chris Jardin	Miami Dolphins	80
Alan Bellone	Miami Dolphins	80
TOTAL		1150

John and Margie Stahl were at the meet to ask for and accept more diapers and wipes for the Blessing Bags that continue to go to MICIH at Wyckoff Heights Hospital. Jayne Wadhawan donated Baby Wipes and has a new, year's supply of honey coming her way. Anyone who wants to be gifted with honey, come on in for the exchange. Joan Hoffmann was in the house with son, Paul. Liran Gross made it out to the meet from Manhattan and Michael Addeo gave some bucks for a New Year and for all the merchants who made the holiday lights on Fresh Pond Road a reality. Gino got some happy dollars for helping to coordinate all of the Pools and Raffles payments through VENMO and the Square. The 3-2-1 Club continues to overcome many/all obstacles to accomplish amazing service projects throughout the pandemic stuff. This picture is for Hank Kraker who runs our English Day. Yes, there is a Christmas Tree in that phone booth. Does anyone see the hidden clue in that picture???



Race Six: As of this time, it is impossible to hold our regular in-person meetings because we have too many members who would attend. The Board will meet on January 26th and we are, once again, looking at St. Patrick's Day/St. Joseph's Day in the middle of March to possibly be our next REAL meeting. Vaccine, Vaccine, Vaccine, is critical to our health and we are hopeful that this will help folks recover quicker. One year ago, I made this statement about our club. **Ridgewood 3-2-1 is an opportunity to SERVE others who have less than us, who need us to bring a smile to their faces, to make a difference in the lives of others. Are you an ACTIVE Kiwanian, proud to be a part of so much great stuff, or, do you need to get more involved?? Our club potential is multiplied by the number of ACTIVE members that we have.**

Race Seven: Another nice representation of GRYC Directors and staff came to enjoy the meal and support their friend and leader, Maricelis. If I remember correctly, here are the attendees: Dina DePaola, Danielle Kleiman, Papi Chulo Rodriguez, Paul Hoffmann, Mary Benitez, Raquel Chin, Aidan Leavens, Elvira Rodriguez, Marc Darius, Edwing Vilsaint, Andy Vilion, Francesca Fedkowskyj, Joseph Then, Linda Manetta and Xiomara Pina. DPP Liz Fitzgerald and Catherine "Siegel" Zahedi were back at the ranch and some of the Directors went to dine "outdoors" on the deck. Walter Welsh decided to stop down along with Sky Pilot Kevin Powell and his bride Maureen Powell. IPP Janine Mahon was happy to see her daughter, Claire at the meeting. John Hennessey from Ridgewood Savings stopped by for a short trip and Bronco Bill Rennison was in the corral and had to lasso Diane to help keep her calm and relaxed with our surprise guests.

Race Eight: Upcoming Events include:

January 26th – Round Table at the clubhouse – 12 noon

January 26th – Board of Directors meeting at 4:00 PM in person, at the clubhouse.

February 16th – Round Table at the clubhouse – 12 noon

February 16th – In-Person Board Meeting at 4:00 PM at the Clubhouse.

There will be a maximum of 15 people in the big room and we will be socially distanced.

March 2nd – Round Table at the clubhouse – 12 noon

March 16th – Next In-Person General Meeting at the Clubhouse, conditions allowed. Indoor/Outdoor dining.

Race Nine: The meeting ended on time with a total of \$711 collected in Happy Dollars, Food Money and the 50-50 collection.



3 – 2 – 1... AND THEY'RE OFF





Pictured Left (L to R): PDG Joe Eppolito, PFL Virginia Eppolito, and GLAS VP Alex Brown (in front)

Back Row: GLAS EMTs: Steve Evans, Brian Rhodes, and Brendon Yeman

Pictured Right: DPP Bob Monahan with his mentor and buddy, PDG Joe Eppolito



- Liverpool Kiwanis Donates a LKTC Trauma Kit to the Greater Lenox Ambulance Service
- The Liverpool Kiwanis Club donated a KPTC Trauma Kit to the Greater Lenox Ambulance Service of Canastota, NY. Canastota is Joe's hometown.

The Kits were donated by the Kiwanis Club of Ridgewood, NY 3-2-1 to the Liverpool Kiwanis Club. The Liverpool Kiwanis Club, itself, has donated two other Kits over the last two years to the Onondaga County Parks & Recreation Department.



**Here is a David and Goliath story in Atlantic City
Wow, must love to gamble and win.**



Congratulations Mayor Eric Adams

Thanks for being a friend and sharing time from your busy, busy schedule to join us in service to our communities. What an exciting time in NYC to witness your "GSD" approach and mantra.

GET STUFF DONE

**We support you and your vision and want to let you know that we have your back and are ready to help serve our communities and City.
Be safe and well, friend!!**



This is sunrise on Myrtle Avenue standing on the side of Zum Stammtisch Restaurant. It was a beautiful sight to behold.



NCO Pat Nessler with our Community Affairs Officer Dilsia Bonilla, demonstrating two distinctly different styles of consuming Grace Pizza. It seems that Ridgewood 321 treated the 104th Precinct to a New Year's Meal to say "Thank You for being our partners and keeping us safe".

I'm sure that Pat needed to demonstrate this ART because he was using his other hand to take a "selfie" with another Officer. Wow, not sure that makes complete sense, but we are talking about our good friend and member.