Marine Park Kiwanians Celebrate The Holiday Season With Joy

Marine Park Kiwanis held its annual Christmas Party at Romano’s Restaurant in Brooklyn this past holiday season. Pictured above left to right standing: Frances Marciano and Theresa Carbonara, Seated Treasurer Ann Troiano, President Linda Alessi, Vice President Janet Honovic and Brooklyn Division First Lady Helen Schiavo.

Hickey Honored By Riverdale Kiwanians

The Kiwanis Club of Riverdale honored DPP Brian Hickey for his extended service (3 1/2 years) as President of his club. Left to right: Riverdale Secretary Marie Hickey, DPP Brian Hickey and their son Doug Hickey. Governor Peter was proud to attend the event.

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4. General interest items about members (birthdays, anniversaries, trips, etc.)
5. Division and district upcoming events
6. Kiwanis education
7. Report of board actions
8. Biographical sketches of new members
9. Notice of official meetings such as elections when members will be asked to vote
10. Community events of interest to the members
11. Fun items - cartoon, quotes, jokes, etc.
12. Inspirational messages and motivational quotations (see Spiritual Aims SA #1 and “Quote for Club Newsletters”)
13. Contact information (name, phone number) for club president, secretary and newsletter editor.

There is a Club Newsletter Editor’s Kit available from KI. It includes suggested quotes, education spots, and even some templates for mastheads. The “best” format for your newsletter is whatever works best for your club, 8 1/2 by 11 or 8 1/2 by 14. Also plan the format and size with the folding, stuffing and mailing in mind. Keep the content pertinent; members don’t want to spend time reading more material than they need to.

A prospective editor doesn’t have to be a literary genius, just give the information as succinctly as possible. Have a clean, neat appearance so your message goes through clearly.

Who else should receive a copy other than your members? Other clubs in your division, the Lt. Governor, and possibly other clubs in your community. Send a copy to Governor Peter and/or to me. Consider also entering the district newsletter contest.

John Gridley

In a previous ESK, I discussed in great detail Member Satisfaction. A natural follow up is renewing your commitment. The Club’s board of directors needs to define commitment. The difference between expectations and performance should be addressed. As a group, identify the 10 assets that club members need to bring to the club to make it effective. Then identify the 10 benefits the club is expected to provide to its members. All Kiwanis clubs should undergo regular checkups, because no matter how good your club is, you can always do better. Annual assessment will help you identify the current status of your club based on member input. The membership committee should administer the assessment. If that is not possible, it should be someone other than the club president.

Present all the assessment findings to the board of directors and the membership committee. Review the club’s strengths and weaknesses as well as suggestions the members provide. These should help you discuss possible strategies for enhancing the club’s quality. My advice to you is to use the Club Improvement Plan (Club Operations and Administration, Membership Development and Recruitment, Service and Fund-Raisers, Sponsored programs and public awareness) to prioritize strategies and create a timeline for implementation. You should address all concerns, action should be taken, and a deadline for completion should be set. Please keep in mind that harm can be done if member input is solicited and nothing is done with the information. Act swiftly and keep the members informed of the progress.

JP Gridley Becomes NYC Police Officer

This past December John Paul Gridley graduated from the New York City Police Academy at a ceremony in Madison Square Garden. Left to right above: DPG John Gridley, PD John Paul Gridley, also the Vice President of the Kiwanis Club of Floral Park, and SDPLG Ben Cirlicione.