

Special Events: 2022 Report

How did SE come about... a quick history lesson:

In the mid-'50s Special Events was started by Sophie Byrne and Edith Goman to give the children of Quonnie planned activities and to raise money to support miscellaneous projects that the associated budget could not cover.

Today that community spirit and volunteerism remain strong! Our group of dedicated volunteers' plan and host cherished activities throughout the summer as well as help facilitate Sunday's Merchandise Logo Sales whose profits fund our events and necessary central beach projects that benefit our community.

To keep this tradition going join Special Events!

- **All commitment levels wanted...** We love when we have hand-raisers to host full events but if you can't commit to that we have varying levels of involvement that will fit any schedule (i.e., judging, prize making, logistics, joining a sub-committee...)
- Email specialevents@quonniecentral.org or connect via cell at (617) 320-7123

Summer 2022 Recap:

Merchandise Logo Sales: A special thanks to Dede and Kathy! Dede DePatie Consoli has done another fantastic year concepting, sourcing, buying and managing the Q Logo Shed. Her eye for design paired with the attentive financial management of our funds by Kathy Alperin enables us to return profits from the sales directly back into the community. We sincerely appreciate all their hard work and effort!

Quonnie Cooks: After a 30-year hiatus we were thrilled to bring back the beloved Cookbook filled with recipes from all generations in our community, past and present. A grateful thank you to all contributors and the team who made it happen: Linda DePatie Buffum, Dede DePatie Consoli and Sue Hess.

Event Recap:

We had a robust schedule this year due to the commitment of strong lead hosts and their many helping hands! Host recognition denoted below but my sincere gratitude goes out to every person that supported these hosts to make these events so successful!!

- **Opening Picnic:** Thank you to the whole Picard Family and Maud & Vin Bailey for hosting a fun gathering where old and new neighbors welcomed in the start of Summer with a picnic on the beach.
- **July 4th Parade:** Appreciation goes out to Sarah Matthews Minea for her strong organization of a festive holiday parade celebrating all of the things we do here 'On Quonnie Time'. Thank you to all supported the day's event including Glenn Thomas, Barry O'Brien, Vin Bailey, Emily Poggi, Neal Simon and to those who registered in our participants and judged!

- **July 4th Fun Run:** After a 2-year delay, we were thrilled to bring back the July 4th run led by Jenny and Chris Licht. Their well-organized event was a huge success with 210 registered runners, custom t-shirts and a well-marked route. We appreciate them, Patti & Rusty Rueff, Kathy Alperin and all their many helpers of all ages who got up early to set up, provided water, mark the route and cheered on all of the runners! You were invaluable to making it happen!
- **Ballfield Movie Nights:** Appreciation goes out to Diane McEnroe and Julie Low for hosting Goonies and James Bond on two perfect summer evenings.
- **Anniversary Dance:** Our two-year delay did not stop this amazing event from being a huge success! We celebrated with a wonderful big tent dance, an awesome band, great food and delicious local Peet's Point oysters. My gratitude goes out to so many... your helping hands were so necessary and appreciated to bring it all together!
 - Our community came together with excitement to help set up, break down, donate flowers, and make incredibly beautiful floral arrangements.
 - Also, a special thanks to Kathy Alperin, the backbone of our operation who for 3 years renegotiating with our food, band, and tent vendor to keep our event scheduled. She was a great partner to think through all the special details with!
 - 250 tickets were sold at the affordable cost of \$30 per person, with Merchandise Sales funding another \$50 per person on top of that!
 - Another dance is on the horizon. The date TBD but we are approaching our 95th!
- **Sandcastle Contest:** Appreciation goes out to Eric Buse, Erin Neubardt and Debbie Dupre who planned an awesome sandcastle contest, complete with building categories, prizes and refreshing popsicles. Thank you to them and all their helpers and judges!
- **Quonnie Social:** Our gratitude goes out to the Marlor Family! For the past 5 years, they have hosted a wonderful ballfield social event that has become a staple community gathering always on the first Saturday of August. My appreciation goes out to Keith Marlor, Tracy Marlor and their helpers including Jon Murphy, Jack Marlor, Clare Crosson and Charlie Low. This year we had 170 guests attended the social!
- **Open Mic & Sing Along Night:** Vin Bailey with the help of Barry O'Brien and The Quonnie Troubadours led a fantastic night of good listening, playing and singing, showcasing all levels of Quonnie talent including original songs and wonderful renditions of the classics. It was a perfect night to cheer on neighbors at the ballfield.
- **Kids Scavenger Hunt:** The dream team of Katherine Huntington and Nancy Picard hosted another amazing kids' scavenger hunt! Every year they make it so fun and enjoyable for all participants. Thank you to them and their helpers.

- **Adult Scavenger Hunt:** Why let the kids have all the fun! New this year was the adult hunt conceived and hosted by Suzanne O'Brien. Her long list of fun clues kept us all entertained and commenced in a fun gathering with drinks, food and prizes at the dock.
- **(UPCOMING) 9/17 Annual Meeting Bonfire:** to conclude the summer we are inviting everyone to join us for a central beach bonfire to toast another wonderful season together. Our hosts will be Maud & Vin Bailey who will set and manage fire prep and close. **All are invited from 6:30p - 8:30p and please bring your own everything: chairs, drinks, snacks, etc.**

Looking ahead...

- **New Event Ideas:** Although many of our events have been successful for years, we are always open to new suggestions. New ideas are welcome and encouraged. A few I've received so far are an 'all level corn hole tournament', 'beach bingo' and doing another musical showcase night.
- **Seeking The Next Special Events Manager:** I have happily served as Manager of Special Events for the past few years and next year will be my last. Please reach out to me if you'd like to get involved and lead special events. It's a fantastic way to get to know the members of our community and I'd be happy to partner with you next year to pass on what I know before you take it on!

Thank you to everyone for a great summer!

Warm regards,
Elaine Jarvis Heilemann
Special Events Manager