

-In the spring of 1996 Rocket member Joe Gagliardi started the bus trips to the Brooklyn and Queens half marathons for the Rockets and other Staten Island runners (In 1998 Tommy Hart, a SIAC member at the time, took them over from Joe). During this time Rockets got involved with Sneaker and T shirt drives for project hospitality. Members volunteered at the 1996 Chase Corporate Challenge and raised money for the team. The money raised was used to purchase t shirts for the first annual Gerald Anzalone Fight for Life Memorial 5K held on 9/2/1996. Rocket member Sal Anzalone organized the race, with the Rockets help, in memory of his father who died of lung cancer. On 9/1/1997 the 2nd annual race was held in Clove Lakes Park and was the first ever race put on totally by the Rockets. Over 200 runners participated. The race was also held in 1998 by the Rockets.

-Tony LaRocca joined the Rockets in March 1997. John Dixon joined July 1996.

- In January 1997 meetings started to take place at Dino's restaurant.

Membership was up to 60 members. January 1997 election results:

President-Steve Stafford, VP-Diana Dimeo (who took over as president that July-September), Secretary-Carmen Del Pino, Treasurer-Jose Orengo, Newsletter Coordinator-Jim Kumm, Men's Team Captain-Brian O'Hagan and Eddie Font, Women's Team Captain, Kathy Mahoney, Hanna Benshoan and Theresa Sorrentino, Men's Masters Captain-Chris Velasquez, Women's Masters Captain Lynn Makler, NYRRC Rep-Fred Jacob and Jim Kumm and Club Adviser-Mary Karasinski.

- Club Bylaws were written in April 1997 by Steve Stafford and Mary Karasinski. They were amended on 4/15/2001.

-December 6, 1997 Rockets presented their first ever year end awards. Most Improved Male-Dario Endozo, Most Improved Female-Diana Dimeo, Most Consistent Runner(Race Participation)-Mike Gacilos and Mike Tobin. Honorable Mentions went to: Steve Adler, Carmen DelPino and Doreen Scrimenti.