

April, 2012

This month we are expanding the release of the Chapter newsletter to our entire Chapter membership and not just the Board of Directors. I am thrilled to report that our membership initiatives have paid off well and we now number 85 people in the Chapter. This represents an increase in membership of over 78% since January of 2011, and sets us well on our way to our interim goal of 100 members. Second Vice President **Bob Holmes** deserves special recognition for all his efforts in this regard.

March is a busy month for the Chapter and this year was no exception. We began the month with the **New Balance Jack Grinold Eastern Massachusetts Chapter Coaches Clinic**. Thanks to the great work of board members **Tom Lamb** and **Barry Gallup**, and the **Boston College football staff** the clinic was our best attended ever, with nearly 200 registrants. It was literally standing room only in the main session and several of the other sessions. We were able to send a strong message to those in attendance as to the viability of the Chapter and the Foundation and we hope to gain even more new members from our efforts. Again, special thanks to **Jim Davis** and **Joe Gatto** for the sponsorship and efforts by *New Balance* in support of the clinic.

The following weekend we were offered a great opportunity by **MasterSports** to have an exhibit table at their clinic and address their awards luncheon about the Chapter and the NFF. We thank board member **Skip Bandini**, the founder of MasterSports, for his generosity and support. Special congratulations to **Tom Lamb** and **Bob Bancroft** for winning MasterSports Awards.

The Scholar-Athlete Committee reviewed nearly 50 applications for our **Scholar-Athlete Awards** and had very difficult decisions, finally choosing 34 recipients. The honorees will be named in the May newsletter.

The **Jack Daly Award** received nominees from Bentley, MIT, and Merrimack. The quality of each of the three young men nominated was truly outstanding. I am pleased to announce the inaugural recipient of the award will be **Bryant Johnson** of Bentley College.

Congratulations again to Everett High School coach **John DiBiaso** on winning the **Ed Schluntz Contributions to Amateur Football Award** and to Curry College coach **Skip Bandini** for being selected for the **Ron Burton Distinguished American Award**. The May newsletter will contain the biographical information on all of our award winners.

I invite each of you to our 37th Annual Awards Banquet that will be held Monday, May 14, at Lombardo's function facility in Randolph. For those of you receiving this by e-mail, I have attached a reservation form for your use. Please attempt to adhere to the May 1 deadline for reservations. Thanks go out to our new banquet chair **Jim Seavey**. Jim has taken the reins from **George Makris** who served the Chapter in that role for decades.

I hope to see you the 14th!

Roger