



# NATIONAL FOOTBALL FOUNDATION

## Jack Grinold/Eastern Massachusetts Chapter Newsletter

Summer, 2014

It seems unbelievable that the 2014 football season is upon us already. The pros have begun their pre-season games, college teams have either reported or are preparing to do so, and the opening of high school football camp is just around the corner. As we approach the new season, I wanted to highlight some of the activities of the Chapter since our last newsletter.

### SCHOLAR-ATHLETE BANQUET RECAP



*Our 2014 Scholar-Athlete Class*

A new day and venue enhanced our 39<sup>th</sup> annual Scholar-Athlete Banquet as the Chapter honored 33 high school scholar-athletes, one of the top collegiate players in the region and the legendary Ipswich High School tandem of **Jack Welch** and **John Thomas**.

The switch to a Sunday evening banquet was very well received by those in attendance, as the traffic problems that have sometimes plagued our attendees in the past were non-existent. The Boston-Newton Marriott produced a great meal and showed tremendous professionalism and hospitality in hosting the event. Additionally the hotel is much more centrally located in the Chapter footprint.

Boston College play-by-play broadcaster **Jon Meterparel** again donated his time and talent as master of ceremonies for the evening. We were able to thank Jon this year by presenting him with a three year membership to the National Football Foundation.

The 33 scholar-athletes were listed in the Spring, 2013 Newsletter. Accepting on behalf of all the scholar-athletes was **Kyle Wisnieski**, the quarterback of the 2013 EMass Superbowl Champion Mansfield Hornets.

**John Moriarty**, a multiple award winning lineman from Massachusetts Maritime Academy, received the third annual Jack Daly Award for Academics, Citizenship and Football. Moriarty was selected from a deep and immensely talented group of nominees.

Welch was the recipient of the Ron Burton Distinguished American Award. In addition to his outstanding coaching career, Welch was a Navy SEAL prior to his coaching career.

Welch's former Ipswich High School student and long time Ipswich High athletic department employee Thomas received the Ed Schluntz Contributions to Amateur Football Award.

Over 230 people attended the banquet.



*Massachusetts Maritime Academy Sports Information Director Jim Seavey, Director of Athletics Bob Corradi, and Head Coach Jeremy Cameron flank Jack Daly Award winner John Moriarty*

## JON BAKER NOMINATED FOR NFF SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD



*Jon Baker of the Millis High School Mohawks and the Boston College Eagles*

Our Chapter has been very fortunate over the past several years to have two of our scholar-athletes selected as one of the four national scholar-athletes that is honored each year by the NFF at its annual awards extravaganza at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City each December. In 2011 Chelsea High School alumnus and current Princeton University wide receiver **Matt Costello** was picked, and in 2013 Matt's current teammate, former Barnstable High quarterback and valedictorian, **Nick Peabody** was honored.

This year the Chapter's nominee is **Jon Baker**. Jon played offensive and defensive line at Millis High School. After graduating in 3 ½ years, Jon enrolled at Boston College in January on a full football scholarship. Jon is fluent in Spanish and graduated with a 4.56 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale). 15 of the 25 classes he took at Millis were either honors level or advanced placement courses and in his five courses in his final semester at Millis, he received five "A+" grades. Jon was a four time Tri-Valley League All-star and was both an all-state and all-scholastic selection.

The four recipients of the national scholar-athlete award will be released in October.

## METERPAREL JOINS BOARD

**Jon Mererparyl**, the play by play voice of Boston College football and basketball, and the play-by-play voice of the Boston Cannons of Major League Lacrosse, has agreed to serve on the Jack Grinold/Eastern Massachusetts Chapter Board of Directors. We welcome Jon and look forward to his insight.



## SUMMER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Jack Grinold Chapter Executive Committee met in late July with four items on the docket. The group reviewed the Scholar-Athlete Banquet held in May. The Chapter was so pleased with the new venue, we have again contracted with the Boston-Newton Marriott to host our banquet again next May 3. Banquet Chairman **Jim Seavey** is to be commended for his all his work on the event, not the least of which was arranging for payment to be made by credit card.

There was also much discussion of the annual Coaches Clinic. Board members **Barry Gallup**, **Steve Addazio** and **Brad Bates** at Boston College could not have been more gracious hosts. Clinic Chairman **Charlie Stevenson** reported on the record setting attendance at the event that was booked to capacity. Several minor changes may be in store for next March, not the least of which is the inclusion of vendors.

The recipients of the Ed Schluntz Contributions to Amateur Football Award and the Ron Burton Distinguished American Award were announced. The names of the honorees will be made public following the Board of Directors Meeting in December.

Chapter President **Tom Lamb** reported on the work of the Concussion Committee. It was agreed that as important as the work high schools, colleges, and the NFL is doing, much more important is the teaching of proper fundamentals of tackling at the youth level. Tom has been contacting experts in the field of concussions and hopes to have a report to deliver at the annual December Board of Directors meeting.

## THE THIRD ANNUAL GRINOLD CHALLENGE

In December, **Jack Grinold** once again issued a challenge to members of the Chapter that bears his name. Jack offered to match any donations made to the Chapter up to a grand total of \$3,000. Due to the generosity of our members, Jack's wallet is currently \$1,995 lighter. Those who have contributed to the Challenge either through straight donations or sponsoring scholar-athlete dinners at the banquet are: **Skip Bandini**, **Rich Beal**, **Roger Crosley**, **Jim Davis & New Balance**, **Bob Glatz**, **George Kovatch**, **Tom Lamb**, **Vito Maida**, **John McCarthy**, **Jim Seavey** and **Scotty Whitelaw**.

## THE THIRD ANNUAL GRINOLD CHALLENGE (continued)

In addition Judge **David Harrison**, **Bob Holmes** and **Dwight Smith** contributed to both the Challenge and sponsored a scholar-athlete dinner as well. We thank everyone who has donated for his generosity and support.

The Challenge remains open for another month and we will gladly accept any further donations. Checks may be sent to:

Bill Gorman  
47 Paine Street  
Winthrop, MA 02051-1912

The check can be made payable to, "National Football Foundation".

## MEMBERSHIP REACHES 91

Membership in the chapter has reached 91 people, an increase of nearly 94% over three years ago. Our goal is at least 100 sustaining members, so if you know of anyone that might be interested in Chapter membership please direct them to either [grinoldchapter.com](http://grinoldchapter.com) or [footballfoundation.org](http://footballfoundation.org) where membership information is available.

## SEAVEY HONORED

Congratulations to Chapter Banquet Chair and Executive Board member **Jim Seavey** who was recently selected as Employee of the Year by the Massachusetts Maritime Academy where he serves as Sports Information Director and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Scheduling. Among the perks associated with the award is Jim's very own personalized parking space for the upcoming year.



Enjoy the season!



**new balance**

CORPORATE PARTNER OF THE JACK GRINOLD EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER

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