

Greetings to All Members,

Spring has finally sprung and we all looking forward to once again being outside. The last few months were very busy for the RIATA. To update you on what's been going on within the organization, the Executive Board awarded Joyce Freeman as Athletic Trainer of the Year for 2006. Kim Bissonnette and John Rock were inducted into the Hall of Fame at the EATA convention in Boston. Steve McDonald from WHJY received our Service Award, and Lauren Goley received the Dr. Kathleen Laquale Professional Development Scholarship.

Our Christmas party was held at Casey's Restaurant in Wakefield and was well attended and a great success due in large part to Michelle Levreault.

On March 28th, many members of the RIATA came to the State House to represent our organization and speak directly with Governor Carceiri about the importance of athletic training. We received a proclamation from the Governor as he recognized Athletic Training Month in March.

Please be advised that the ATOM meeting takes place in May here in Rhode Island. Also, the NATA National Convention will be held in Anaheim, California in June. Let's show that Rhode Island can have a good turnout.

The RIATA picnic is in the planning stages for July. If you have any suggestions to make this a very successful outing, please contact me or Michelle.

Be aware of some very important upcoming deadlines in the RIATA calendar, such as nominations for Rhode Island Athletic Trainer of the Year, Hall of Fame, and Service Award. The nomination forms can be found on www.riathletictrainers.org. I encourage you to check the website often.

Lastly, I am diligently working on speaking at Parent Teacher Organization meetings throughout the state on the topic, "Who's Watching over Your Children" during practices and athletic events? Any members who wish to get involved in this very important task please contact me.

I want to thank the Executive Board and our Committee Chairs for the support and positive contributions they have extended to me. It truly makes the job as President of the RIATA much easier. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Alan Segee on being elected as President Elect. I know he will do an outstanding job in his new position.

Yours in health,

Paul L. Roberti, MS, ATC