

The Boston Athletic Association has a Hall of Fame for Boston Marathon volunteers that have demonstrated dedication and volunteerism to the race year after year.. It is referred to as the Vol of Fame, and it contains the names of several GNBTC Members. I would like to thank Leo Rodeillat and Mary Fitzgibbons for sharing the photos, information and reaching out to the B.A.A to ensure the members would get credit for their outstanding service. It was interesting to learn the history of club involvement that led to waivers into the race. I am forever grateful to the club for giving me the opportunity to participate in last years race on a waiver. We want to acknowledge the members service with a write up and photos

The Boston Marathon is a bucket list race for most runners, and an experience that last a lifetime. The amount of manpower and behind the scenes work to put on a top notch event would not be possible without the volunteers. The Greater New Bedford Track Club for many years has been highly invested in the volunteer effort. As popular Past President Leo Rodeillat recalled before the age of technology the GNBTC would track the number of runners at the five mile mark in Framingham. This would seem to be a daunting task but the GNBTC volunteers took it in full stride and had fun with it. They would provide encouragement with high fives, smiles and witty signs for the runners making the trek from Hopkinton to Boston until their final year in 2012. In fact if you were to combine all the years each member at the five mile mark volunteered it would total one hundred and nineteen years.

Not all volunteers are located on the course. If you are fortunate enough to pick up your bib prior to the race you will see the smiling face of long time track club member Rick Rosenfeld. The Boston Athletic Association understands the significance of volunteerism. So much so that they have created a Volunteer Hall of Fame. There is no surprise that this distinguished and dedicated group boast multiple Greater New Bedford Track Club members.

The prestigious list recognizes volunteers of over fifteen years. The B.A.A wrote about the club recognizing it's efforts. "Throughout the last two or more decades, you have steadfastly set the example, exhibited by the spirit of volunteerism, and taken your stewardship seriously. Simply put, the Boston Marathon and it's volunteer program would not be where it is today without your work and vision"

I feel obligated to add that because of the dedication and volunteerism the track club has benefitted through the years. Our best members dedication make it possible for the Track Club to receive waivers each year so that members can fulfill their dream of running the Boston Marathon.

GNBTC Members on B.A.A Vol of Fame

Benedetti, Bill
Carreira , Kenneth
Daniels, Ken
Harrison, Bill
Piva, Phil
Richard, David
Rodeillat, Leo
Rosenfeld, Rick
Talbot, Ed

Scroll down to see some familiar (alot younger) faces at the Mile 5 stop!

PHOTO ONE: 2012 the final year.



Rear row, from left: Captain Ed Talbot, Mark Roderigues, Leo Rodeillat, Bill Benedetti, Ken Daniels,

Dave Richard. 2nd row, from left: Chuck Donohue, Taylor Days-Merrill, Front row, from left: Roland Dufresne, Ken Carreira.

These GNBTC members play a most important part in the distribution of the waivers granted to the club each year by the BAA.



Another day at the office for these volunteers!

Donald Sweet, Ed Talbot, Leo Rodelliat ,Ken Daniels, Bill Bennedetti, Carol Ann Days Merrill,
Ken Carreira

Front row: Dave Richards

Remembering

This dedicated group continues to get together on Marathon Monday. Every year on Patriots Day the group meets at Bertucci's in Taunton. They gather around the television enjoying beer and pizza. They reminisce about their days at the five mile mark. When they were informed that 2012 would be their last round up the group made a pact to stay connected and remember the good times together. They call it their enjoyable recollection of past Boston Marathon Events.

I hope you have enjoyed reading out all these outstanding individuals and their impact on the running community and the benefits we current members can reap.

For more information and to view the names on the VOL OF Fame go to:

For more information go to: <http://www.baa.org/utilities/volunteer/vol-of-fame.aspx>