

Presidents Message -March 2003

Our February meeting was held at Cabot's Ice Cream & Restaurant in Newton on Monday evening, the 24th. Our host for this fun and relaxed meeting was member and owner Joseph Prestejohn, who prepared a wonderful dinner for us. Our dinner began with Joseph's grandmother's hearty chicken noodle soup, which was followed by a tasty antipasto full of imported fine meats and cheeses. Next came our entrée of Grilled Sundried Tomato Pesto Chicken, served over Pasta with Oven Roasted Garden Vegetables. To cap off this delicious meal, our hosts set up a "Make-Your-Own-Ice-Cream-Sundae Buffet". It was refreshing seeing that the buffet brought out the child in many of us as we got to choose our favorites from an impressive variety of Ice cream and toppings. To end this evening, all who attended received a unique parting gift from the Prestejohn's, an assortment of bottled beverages that were customized with the ECB logo. I would like to express special thanks to Joseph Prestejohn and his family for closing their restaurant for our meeting, for treating us to a wonderful meal, and also for the gifts. Our appreciation goes out to the Cabot's staff as well as our two guest speakers from the Tremont Credit Union, David Pfeil and Duston Ladieu, CHFC, for their educational tips on the credit union's financial products and programs. ECB members received one hour of continuing education for attending this meeting.

Our upcoming March meeting, which will be held at Sid Wainer & Son in New Bedford is shaping up to be a special event. The ECB had extended invitations to all of the ACF chapters in New England and upper state New York, and so far confirmations have been received from chapters in Maine, New Hampshire and Worcester. The meeting has been billed as an AFC New England Summit and will feature a seminar, networking sessions and four hours of continuing education. In addition, you will have the opportunity to renew some friendships, and last, but not least, there will be no cost to attend this meeting.

This year's scholarship meeting will be held in April at The Country Club in Brookline. The ECB will award six scholarships at this meeting in the amount of \$1,000 each, to the following schools and colleges: The New England Culinary Institute, Montpelier, VT; Newbury College, Brookline, MA; Johnson & Wales, Providence, RI; Endicott College, Beverly, MA; North Shore Community College, Danvers, MA and Massasoit Community College, Brockton, MA. If you would like to apply for an ECB scholarship, please contact the financial aid departments of any of these schools you are interested in. Important Note: If you would like to attend this meeting, you MUST CALL THE COUNTRY CLUB at 617-566-0240 to make a reservation. Those are the only reservations that will be accepted. Therefore, please do not call the ECB reservations line or send your reservation via email for this meeting. As in years past, this meeting will fill up fast, so please make your reservations early so that you do not miss out on a great evening. Please also note that for this meeting,

each member is limited to one guest only. The cost for ECB members will be \$20 and the cost for a guest will be \$25. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and I hope you will attend.

Also in April, ECB member Kevin Hanrahan, CEC will host The American Academy of Chefs Chair Scholarship Fundraiser New England Region Dinner. This will be held on Sunday, April 27 at The Brae Burn Country Club in West Newton. The reception will begin at 5:00 p.m., dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m., and the cost is \$90.00 per person. Proceeds from the event will be awarded in the form of scholarships through the American Academy of Chefs, which makes it possible for culinary students to further their education. To make a reservation, please contact Gino Corelli, CEC, AAC, Academy Dinner Chair, at 723 Central Avenue, Johnston, RI 02919. You may also call Gino at 401-944-6751 if you would like more information on the event.

In closing, I'd like to offer sincere thanks and much appreciation to the following for their generous donations of \$1,000 each in support of our scholarship and member grant programs: Steve Connolly, Steve Connolly Seafood Co.; Peter Marks, Paul W. Marks Co.; and Susan Downey, Tyson Foods, Inc. It is this kind of support that makes it possible for the ECB to help fulfill the educational needs of, as well as make dreams come true for, our future culinary community. Last, but not least, we'd like to wish our Junior Team the very best of luck at the ACF NE Regional competition in Philadelphia – GO TEAM! Thank you all again, and hope to see you soon

Warmest regards,

Rico DiFronzo, CEC