

April  
2004

# The Blade



## Board of Director Elections

Each year the membership of the club elects members to represent them on the Board of Directors. This year there are seven positions that need to be filled.

Each elected board member serves a two year term. Board meetings are held approximately every month, usually the Saturday before the month's test session.

While I'm sure many of the current board members whose terms are up will be seeking re-election, there are several positions that will need to be filled.

## WE NEED YOU AND YOUR IDEAS

If you are interested in serving as a director, please submit your name to the nomination committee. If you have any questions, please contact any of the following members of the Nominations Committee:

Rob Lichtefeld 770-513-2117  
rlichtefeld@yahoo.com

Lori Faris 770-338-0087  
loridfaris@aol.com

Marianne Campbell 678-309-0470  
hssoupteacher@yahoo.com

Debbie Richardson 770-461-2560  
debbie.richardson@bellsouth.com

## End of Year Party!

This year's End of Year Party will be held at Jillian's at Discover Mills on April 24 from 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm. Discover Mills is located between Sugarloaf Parkway and GA 120 and I-85.

Aren Nielsen's band, "Sucker Punch", will be playing. We will be giving out test certificates and End of Year Awards. And we will be showing photos and videos from this year.

The cost will be \$5.00 for Full Skating Members. The cost will cover the food, drinks, and a \$10.00 Jillian's Rewards play card.

The cost for all others will be \$20.00. Anyone can attend, parents, grandparents, spouses, brothers, sisters, etc.

For more information, or to reserve your space at the party, please contact your rink Vice President:

Duluth	Nancy Anderson	770-978-7138
Town Center	Marianne Campbell	678-309-0470
Southlake	Debbie Richardson	770-461-2560
Or,	Alicea Smith	770-554-2106

## End of Year Awards!

There is a ballot enclosed where you can vote for Skater of the Year, Adult Skater of the Year, Sportsmanship, Rookie of the Year, and Volunteer of the Year. .

Please take the time to fill out the ballot. **Every member of the club can vote.** The awards will be presented at the End of Year Party. Please vote by April 15.

**A list of this year's Rookies for the Rookie of the Year Award is on the next page.**

### Club Jackets and Merchandise

The club now has new jackets available with the new logo. You can download the order form and see photos of the jackets on the club's website:

<http://www.gafsc.org>

There are also order forms available at the rinks.

The youth jackets are only \$25.00 including a large embroidered logo on the back and the skater's name on the front.

We also have jackets available for adults and larger youths. These can have either a logo on the back or the front.

There are also stadium seats, blankets and gym bags with the new logo.

We will be placing orders every month for the next few months. After that we will order every other month.

If you order now, you can have your jacket for the upcoming competitions.

#### Errors and Corrections:

In last month's newsletter Dana Graham was left off of the list of Club Members working with the Atlanta 2004 LOC. Dana was the Co-Chair of the event.

### Rookies for 2003-2004

#### Duluth:

Louisa Barama  
Sandra Burns  
Catherine Carter  
Andrea Dorsey  
Christana Landress  
Deckontee Lowery  
Nicole Miller  
Monique Petrofsky  
Malika White  
Lisa Zhao

#### Southlake:

Leela Goshorn  
Mintis Hankerson  
Ashley Henderson  
Sheryl Love  
Ella Ondik  
Ashton Webb  
Beth Zakutansky

#### Town Center:

Christina Atkinson  
Michelle Bafford  
Julia Bila  
Elysabeth Borah  
Christina Carlisi  
Emmy Cohn  
Julie Comer  
Nicole Dillard  
Brandi Evans  
Donna Evans  
Ashley Hammond  
Taylor Johnson  
Anna Jones  
Tatiana Kozmava  
Amy Patterson  
Laura Pemberton  
Trish Pirkle  
Tracey Plotkin  
Jennifer Thornton  
Shane Williams

### Welcome New and Renewing Members

#### Town Center:

Ricardo Pena  
Sandra Burns



#### Club Skate Times:

Atlanta IceForum (Duluth)	Fridays 5:50-6:30 pm
IceForum at Town Center	Tuesdays 5:20-6:00 pm
IceAtlanta (Southlake)	Currently closed

## 2004 Peach Classic and Peach Open



The Georgia Figure Skating Club hosts the largest non-qualifying all adult figure skating competition in the world: the Peach Classic. The only larger all adult competition is the US Adult Figure Skating Championships (Adult Nationals). Last year we had 131 competitors from 24 states and 1 competitor from Estonia. We had 288 starts and 69 events.

This year we will be again hosting the Peach Open. Last year the Open had 101 skaters from 11 clubs and 6 states. There were 41 events and 210 starts. This was an excellent turn-out for a first time competition!

**Both events will be held over Labor Day weekend. The Peach Open is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, September 3-4. The Peach Classic is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, September 4-5.**

The Peach Open will be "open" to all USFS members from No-Test through Senior level. The Peach Classic is "open" to all USFS members at least 18 years old.

### Volunteers

Helen Ross and Rob Lichtefeld will be chairing these events again this year.

Last year we saw a dramatic increase in the number of volunteers needed. We are asking that you find a way to give your time to help with this worthwhile event.

We will need volunteers for the following areas: Hospitality, Ice Monitors, Registration, Music, Media Relations, Setup, Tear-Down, Practice Ice, and Judge's Transportation. **We cannot put on these two events without your help.**

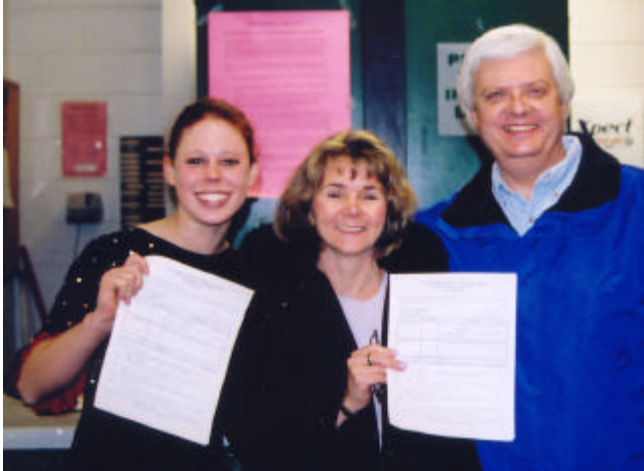
Jennifer Silas will be the Volunteer Chair this year. Please contact her at 770-338-9144, with your availability.

### Program Ad Sales Contest

One of the integral parts of a competition is a printed program. The program for the Peach Classic and Peach Open will contain ads. We are offering a "commission" for all of our members that sell ads to be placed in the program. For every \$100 that a member sells, they will be able to spend \$10 at the T-shirt/sweatshirt vendor that will be setup at the event. The more ads that we sell, the more money the club will make that we can use for our skaters!

### Logo Design Contest

The Peach Classic and the Peach Open need logos! The official logo is used on the T-shirts and sweatshirts and is on the cover of the program. Everyone is invited to offer as many designs as they would like. If your design is picked, you will win a free sweatshirt from the T-shirt/sweatshirt vendor. Get your pens, pencils, crayons, and/or computer mouse warmed up and get your designs on paper. Please submit your designs to the Peach Classic/Open committee before June 1.



Jade with Miss Patti and Greg Corbitt after passing her Senior Freestyle test

### Skating, by Jade Kohser

It is hard to believe that I only started skating 7 years ago. In these last 7 years, however, skating has been a major part of my life. It has consumed most of my free time. I have enjoyed every minute of it: from skating in group classes, to skating in competitions, to testing, to skating on Peach Frost, to where I am at now. Many times I asked myself "Why am I still doing this?". However, skating is kind of like a whirlwind that sucks you in and won't let you out.

My mom signed me up for a Pre-Alpha skating class shortly after the Ice Forum opened. For a year, I took group classes and worked my way through Freestyle 3. Almost all of my group classes were coached by Pattie VanDenEynde, and we started

developing a special bond that still lasts today. After Freestyle 3, I started taking private lessons with Pattie. In August 1998, I took my first



Jade with Peach Frost Intermediate Team Silver Medalists from the 2002 US Synchronized National Championships!

USFSA test and the journey began.

My long-time goal has been to be a triple-gold medalist like my coach, and I am getting closer every day. I am two-thirds of the way done, with only dance left. I cannot believe how far I have come, but it is amazing what you can accomplish if you have a good work ethic, dedication and a great coach. I can't imagine what a great feeling it will be when I finally pass my last dance test.

When I passed my Senior moves, it was an amazing feeling. All of my hard work had finally paid off. Recently I passed my Senior freestyle. When I got off the ice I knew that it was not my best skate, but it was a decent skate with no mistakes. When I received my test papers, I was so overjoyed. It felt amazing to have passed my last freestyle test on my first attempt and by all 3 judges. When I came back to skating the next week, I had this feeling of "What should I do next?" But then, I realized that I still had 7 pre-gold and gold dances left, so there is still plenty of practice ahead of me.

That is an aspect of skating that I love. No matter what level you are or how many things you have accomplished, there is always something you can work on.

I cannot believe how far I have come over the past few years. I feel especially blessed to be the first person who started out in group classes at the Ice Forum and who has

passed all of the moves in the field tests and all the freestyle tests with the same coach and rep-

*(Continued on page 5)*



Jade with Miss Patti after her first test

*(Continued from page 4)*

resenting the same club, the Georgia Figure Skating Club.

Skating has been a crazy road that I have traveled over the past few years. There were ups and downs along the way, but I have enjoyed it very much. I don't know where the road will take me; however, I know that it will be somewhere great. All of the downs along this journey have been nothing more than small stepping stones, because the ups have been so great; from passing my first test, to winning a National Silver medal with Peach Frost, to passing my gold moves in the field and freestyle tests. Skating is very good about that, it leaves you with a sense of accomplishment so many times throughout your career. It is an amazing road with lots of opportunities and challenges.

### Atlanta Open

The 2004 Atlanta Open will be held at the Cooler June 17-20, 2004.

Entries must be postmarked by April 29, 2004.

## John Hancock Champions on Ice.

### Champions on Ice

Philips Arena  
April 13, 2004  
7:30pm

The John Hancock Champions on Ice Tour, which features some of the worlds' most talented and recognized figure skaters, comes to Atlanta on April 13<sup>th</sup>.

Skaters scheduled to appear include Michelle Kwan, Sasha Cohen, Evgeny Plushenko, Timothy Geobel, Victor Petrenko, Jennifer Kirk and Tanith Belbin and Benjamin Agosto. For tickets, call Ticketmaster at 404-249-6400 or purchase tickets online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

### Rule Books

The club has ordered another 10 US Figure Skating rulebooks and binders. The rulebook & binder is \$21.00. The old binder does not fit the new rulebook.

If you are interested in purchasing them, please contact:

Rob Lichtefeld 770-513-2117  
[rlichtefeld@yahoo.com](mailto:rlichtefeld@yahoo.com)

## Happy Birthday Members

### March

1 Jennifer Silas  
 1 Beth Wright  
 2 Andrea Ivan  
 4 Lauren Arnone  
 4 Ellen Poulsen  
 5 Cari Cole  
 5 David Rohn  
 8 Rivka Emory  
 9 Danielle Emby  
 11 Darrah Cole  
 11 Mary Szabo  
 13 Mack Turner  
 15 Alicia Caldwell  
 17 Lori Faris  
 17 Laura Pemberton  
 17 Donald Wetter  
 19 Elaine Borovich  
 19 Lisa Dorsey  
 20 Trevor Rifkin  
 23 Laura Carter  
 23 Suzanne Wetter  
 27 Eugene Cohn  
 27 John Love  
 28 Scott Dorsey  
 28 Naomi Gunadeva  
 29 Debi Royer  
 30 Jennifer Gerlach  
 30 Hailey Rohn  
 30 Alice Smith  
 30 Wayne Teal  
 31 Craig Barlow  
 31 Rene Ostrowski  
 31 Jessica Richardson

### April

1 Janice Battersby  
 1 Tracey Thornton  
 2 David Bechtold  
 2 Keshun Zhao  
 2 Mary Kathleen Jones  
 6 Robert Lichtefeld Sr.  
 9 Aerial Breneman  
 9 Teresa Dale  
 9 Isabelle Surratt  
 9 Karen MacDonald  
 13 Leela Goshorn  
 13 Marie Puchalski  
 15 Cathy Procaskey  
 16 Felicia Gerlach  
 16 Natalie Thornton  
 19 Vicki Steiner  
 20 Brent Morgan  
 20 Christina Ott-Fornasiero  
 22 Jurgen Cole  
 22 Jody Stein  
 25 April Henderson  
 25 Terri Herron  
 25 Ben Loggins  
 28 Leah Anderson  
 28 Julia Bila  
 29 Daniel Strader  
 29 Brent Waits

#### Adult Nationals

This year the GaFSC will be represented by the following skaters at Adult Nationals April 14-17, in Lake Placid, NY:

Ginger Whatley  
 MaryAnn Surratt  
 Rob Lichtefeld

#### Would you like to be the newsletter editor/ producer?

We are looking for someone to help put together the newsletter. If you are interested please contact:

Rob Lichtefeld 770-513-2117  
 rlichtefeld@yahoo.com

Look at it this way: almost anyone can do a better job than I currently do!

**Congratulations to the Following  
skaters who passed tests on  
March 7, 2004**

Elizabeth Borah	Preliminary MIF
Aimee Boravich	Preliminary MIF
Hannah Cobb	Pre-Juvenile MIF
Danielle Emby	Juvenile MIF
Donna Evans	Adult Pre-Bronze MIF
Brandi Evans	Pre-Preliminary MIF
Kira Mecher	Juvenile MIF
Abigail Morgan	Novice MIF
Abigail Morgan	Juvenile FS
Emilie Morris	Pre-Preliminary MIF
Emilie Morris	Pre-Preliminary FS
Amy Patterson	Pre-Preliminary MIF
Alice Smith	Pre-Preliminary MIF
Jody Stein	Juvenile MIF
Taylor Johnson	Preliminary MIF
Nikki Thai	Pre-Juvenile MIF
Natalie Thornton	Pre-Preliminary FS
Brooke Wright	Preliminary FS

**Magnolia Open - March 12-14  
Results for GaFSC Members**

**Preliminary Compulsory Moves Group A**

Skaters in Event = 9  
 2 Jessica Fuchs  
 3 Felicia Gerlach

**Preliminary Compulsory Moves Group B**

Skaters in Event = 9  
 2 Louisa Barama  
 9 Lauren Arnone

**Preliminary Girls Freeskate Group A**

Skaters in Event = 11  
 6 Jessica Fuchs

**Preliminary Spins**

Skaters in Event = 8  
 1 Felicia Gerlach

**PrePreliminary A Girls Freeskate Group A**

Skaters in Event = 11  
 4 Tatiana Kozmava  
 10 Ashton Webb

**PrePreliminary A Girls Freeskate Group B**

Skaters in Event = 10  
 3 Leela Goshorn  
 4 Megan Floyd  
 6 Lauren Arnone  
 7 Jessica Richardson

**PrePreliminary B Girls Freeskate Group A**

Skaters in Event = 3  
 1 Louisa Barama

**Pre-Preliminary Compulsory Moves Group A**

Skaters in Event = 8  
 1 Tatiana Kozmava  
 4 Leela Goshorn  
 6 Ashton Webb

**Pre-Preliminary Compulsory Moves Group B**

Skaters in Event = 6  
 4 Megan Floyd  
 5 Jessica Richardson

**Pre-Preliminary Spins**

Skaters in Event = 6  
 3 Megan Floyd  
 5 Leela Goshorn  
 6 Jessica Richardson

**Upcoming Test Dates**

<b>Test Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
April 4th, 2004	Duluth
May 2nd, 2004	Town Center
June 6th, 2004	Duluth
July 11th, 2004	Town Center
August 1st, 2004	Duluth
August 8th, 2004	Town Center

Test dates and locations are subject to change. Please verify all test dates and times with your coach and on the GaFSC website: [www.gafsc.org](http://www.gafsc.org).

**Georgia Figure Skating Club**  
1533 Glencrest Trail  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043  
<http://www.gafsc.org>

## Mail To:

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**Would you like to write an article for the newsletter?**

We welcome all members to write articles for the newsletter.

Please email your article to [newsletter@gafsc.org](mailto:newsletter@gafsc.org). It is best if you can write them in the text of the email or in Microsoft Word. If you have any digital photos, also include them.

