Georgia Figure Skating Club

February 2004

The Blade

From the President,
Alicea Smith

With the US Figure Skating Championships finished, we can now get back to our regular activities in the club.

I wish to thank everyone that volunteered their time and efforts before and during the Championships. I also want to thank the Atlanta FSC and the Local Organizing Committee for hosting the event. I think that the success of the event shines a positive light on figure skating in Atlanta and the state of Georgia.

It appears that the rinks are busier than they have been the last few years on public sessions and in their Learn to Skate programs.

Now we need to build on this success and grow the sport in Atlanta.

How do we do this? By reaching out to new skaters, encouraging our current skaters, and by talking up the sport whenever possible. We know how great the sport can be, we just need to let everyone else know.

Congratulations Jade Kohser
on a Gold Medal Performance

She passed her Senior Freestyle test on February 6, 2004!

She also has the distinction of being the first skater to pass all her tests with the Georgia FSC.

Above is a screen shot of Jade Kohser (left) presenting flowers to Michelle Kwan at the 2004 US Figure Skating Championships where Jade was a presenter. This was shown during the live portion of the Ladies Long program on January 10. Also in the screenshot is Rob Lichtefeld (right), your not so humble newsletter editor.

Board of Director Elections
Rob Lichtefeld

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, we urge all interested members to consider running for the board.

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
rlichtefeld@yahoo.com or 770-513-2117

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

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

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

Welcome New and Renewing Members

Duluth

Valerie Auber
James Auber
Amy Bryan
Matt Bryan
Andrea Ivan
Carmen Ivan
Tammy Waits
Erin Waits
Brent Waits

Greenville Pavillion

Elizabeth Taylor
Marilyn Taylor
Gary Taylor

Southlake

Mintis Hankerson
Masonya Hankerson
Ashley Henderson
April Henderson
Gary Henderson

Town Center

Michelle Bafford
Olivia Bafford
Julia Bila
Ihor Bilyy
Emmy Cohn
Eugene Cohn
Harold Cohn
Amanda Kriegel
Amy Patterson
Debbie Patterson
Roger Patterson
Samantha Schenosky
Carla Schenosky
Patrice Van Den Eynde
Mike Van Den Eynde

Club Skate Times:

Atlanta IceForum (Duluth)	Fridays 5:50-6:30pm
IceForum at Town Center	Tuesdays 5:20-6:00pm
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 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 USFSA members from No-Test through Senior level. The Peach Classic is “open” to all USFSA members at least 18 years old.

Volunteers

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.**

Nancy Anderson is handling the volunteer assignments again this year. Please contact her with your availability this coming Labor Day weekend. Her phone number is 770-978-7138, and her email is: nanston1@bellsouth.net

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.

Many of our club members made significant contributions to the 2004 US Figure Skating Championships. Below is just a partial listing:

Terri Herron	Co-Chair
Greg Corbitt	Director, Operations
Ginger Whatley	Director, Marketing/Sponsorship
Andrew Austin	Communications Chair
Matt Breneman	Transportation Chair
Marci Drost	Volunteer Services Co-Chair
Lori Faris	Awards/Presenters Chair
Bill Fuchs	Ice Tech Chair
Rob Lichtefeld	Venue Manager—Philips Arena
Debi Royer	Sweepers Chair
Carolyn Schwab	Medical Services Coordinator
Jennie Vry	Housing, Asst. Chair

Many others contributed their time and efforts to bring this event to a successful conclusion, spending hours and hours at the venue making sure everything was perfect for the skaters and officials.

Heather Schwab, Alicia Caldwell, Holly Faris, Lauren Arnone, Hannah Jones getting ready to present awards

The US World team sitting for their official photo.

Magnolia Open

March 12-14, 2004
The Cooler

Good Luck to all Magnolia Open competitors.

We are proud of you.

The Logo on the ice at Philips Arena

Nationals—what an experience
by Linda Saunders- Bradley

The essence of magic was in the substance of 2004 Nationals. Incredible senior programs by Johnny Weir and Michelle Kwan reminded us all of where dedication, the ability to stay focused and patience with the process of artistic and technical development can lead our local skaters. Dance Champions Belbin and Agosto transported us back to a more sophisticated time as they skated the required elements in a glamorous gown and tails with technical excellence.

As the mother of a sweeper, I felt even closer to the energy of the experience and was so proud that Amelia will forever have this memory to hold in her heart.

I enjoyed the wonderful sense of comraderie as the skaters left the ice and joined us in the stands making themselves accessible to the fans. Meeting Mark Lund and Lois Elfman (publisher and editor of International Figure Skating , respectively) was also a highlight!

All in all, this was a wonderful experience that has come and gone all too soon!

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 13th.

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

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, contact Rob Lichtefeld

rlichtefeld@yahoo.com or 770-513-2117

Happy Birthday Members

February

1	Brittany Cook
2	Roger Patterson
3	Elysabeth Borah
3	Gaye Borah
3	Darius Bradley
5	Christina Thai
7	Philip Darby
9	Kerry Stamey
11	Shirley Dominy
11	Barbara Gary
13	Erica Rifkin
13	Meredith Rohn
14	Kristel Fuchs
17	Charles D'Ambra
21	Elisabeth Curtis
21	Tina Washington
23	Bill Fuchs
23	John Vry
25	Matt Bryan
26	Theresa Loggins
28	Patty Beelen

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

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 at rlichtefeld@yahoo.com or 770-513-2117.

Look at it this way: almost anyone can do a better job that I do.

Congratulations to these skaters who passed tests recently

December 2004

Naomi Bradley	Juvenile MIF
Tatum Corley	Dutch Waltz
Tatum Corley	Canasta Tango
Tatum Corley	Rhythm Blues
Taylor Corley	Junior MIF
Alexandra Curtis	Adult Silver MIF
Alexandra Curtis	Adult Silver FS
Holly Faris	Juvenile MIF
Holly Faris	Pre-Juvenile FS
Lydia Gokeman	Preliminary FS
Jade Kohser	Paso Doble
Megan Leftwich	Preliminary FS
Megan Leftwich	Pre-Juvenile MIF
Kira Mecher	Preliminary FS
Christopher Nolan	Ten Fox
Shelby Sheldon	Juvenile MIF
Caitlin Summey	Swing Dance
Caitlin Summey	Cha Cha
Malika White	Preliminary FS
Christina Atkinson	Pre-Preliminary MIF
Elysabeth Borah	Pre-Preliminary MIF
Hannah Cobb	Preliminary MIF
Hannah Cobb	Pre-Preliminary FS
Nicole Dillard	Pre-Preliminary FS
Taylor Johnson	Pre-Preliminary MIF
Brad Martin	Preliminary FS
Nikki Thai	Pre-Preliminary FS
Jennifer Thornton	Pre-Preliminary MIF
Shane Williams	Pre-Preliminary MIF

Atlanta Open

The 2004 Atlanta Open will be held at the Cooler June17-20, 2004.

Entries must be postmarked by April 29, 2004.

February 2004

Jade Kohser	**Senior Freeskate**
Amy Bryan	Adult Bronze MIF
Amy Bryan	Swing Dance
Amy Bryan	Cha Cha
Catherine Carter	Preliminary MIF
Kristie Chepaitis	Intermediate MIF
Karina Chobanyan	Adult Bronze MIF
Tatum Corley	Juvenile MIF
Jennie Chun	Preliminary MIF
Rivka Emory	Pre-Preliminary MIF
Rivka Emory	Pre-Preliminary FS
Jessica Fuchs	Pre-Juvenile MIF
Jennifer Gresenz	Pre-Juvenile FS
Jennifer Gresenz	Pre-Juvenile MIF
Heather Hatzenbuhler	Juvenile FS
Gloria Lewis	Pre-Preliminary FS
Gloria Lewis	Dutch Waltz
Danielle Logano	Paso Doble
Brad Martin	Juvenile MIF
Trish Pirkle	Pre-Preliminary MIF
Cathy Procaskey	Dutch Waltz
Cathy Procaskey	Canasta Tango
Cathy Procaskey	Rhythm Blues
Tina Washington	Juvenile MIF
Brooke Wright	Pre-Juvenile MIF

Upcoming Test Dates

Test Date	Location
March 7th, 2004	Town Center
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.

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

Mail To:

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**. 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.