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AFSC

Freestyler

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ATLANTA FIGURE SKATING CLUB

www.atlantafsc.org

Dolensky Captures Bronze at Junior Grand Prix Volvo Cup

Letter from Club President Kathy Shehee

Dear Atlanta Figure Skating Club Members,

Welcome back to our entire Atlanta FSC family as we begin our 2011-2012 skating season!

First, let me thank each of you for your support in having me continue to serve on the Board of Directors and, to my fellow Board members, in once again electing me as President. We remain committed to the mission of this Club; i.e., "to promote, encourage and cultivate ice skating and a spirit of fraternal feeling among skaters."

The Board understands the trust you have placed in us. With our overall view of the needs of our Club in all areas, we will continue to (1) encourage and promote skating for all our skaters; (2) support our judges, officials and coaches and thereby maintain our standards for our skaters, our competitions and numerous test sessions; (3) welcome all our great volunteers, old and new, without which our Club could not function.

Our Special Events on Club Ice have begun with our Ice Cream Social and the exhibition by Tim Dolensky. Anna Marie Champion, our Special Events Chair, is in the midst of planning much more. We again plan on using Club Ice to introduce various aspects of skating to our members – and definitely have fun! Our stroking class will continue at the beginning of each Club Ice thanks to the generosity of Coach Eric and Coach Anya and all the other coaches who are sharing their knowledge and talents with our skaters.

The 2011-2012 season will include our two competitions, the Magnolia Open and the Atlanta Open, a Spring Ice Show, and an Ice Dance Weekend plus numerous Special Events.



Congratulations to **Tim Dolensky**, 2010 U.S. Novice Men's bronze medalist, who won Junior Men's bronze at the Junior Grand Prix Volvo Cup in Riga, Latvia on August 31 - September 4.

Final	3rd/22
Free Skate	3rd/22
Short Program	4th/22

Tim composed and played the score of his short program music ("Windfall") and was the pewter medalist at the JGP in Great Britain last fall.



Tim (right) on the podium.



With coach Debbie Prachar.

As always we welcome feedback and ideas from our members. We look forward to a great year for our Atlanta FSC family and for this unique and amazing sport that we love!

Sincerely,

Kathy Shehee



Welcome Back Ice Cream Social August 12







SPOTLIGHT SKATER

Helena Fisher

What made you decide to start skating?

I got to skate at Phillips Arena after a Thrashers hockey game and really loved it!

What keeps you motivated to continue skating?

I love performing!

What is your weekly training regimen?

Usually I skate six days a week, two sessions a day. I go to the gym three days a week after school and train with Chaz once a week.

What are your favorite and least favorite elements?

My favorite elements are a double toe, turtle spin and Axel, and my least favorite is a double Salchow because I can't seem to take off in time!

Favorite music/program.

I really love my current long program and my dramatic showcase to "Blackbird." The music for my long is an upbeat show tune which makes me really happy when I skate to it!

What is the most memorable event of your skating career?

When I was a sweeper at Skate America 2009 in Lake Placid. It was so cool!

Whom do you admire most?

My mom and Coach Debbie because they always give the best advice, have a strong mindset and are thoughtful.

Who is your favorite skater?

Kim Navarro and Brent Bommentre because I love watching ice dancing and have had the opportunity to take lessons from them the past two summers in Sun Valley. They are wonderful, kind and very helpful! I also love watching Mirai Nagasu skate because she seems so happy when she is on the ice!

Tell us about your school and extracurricular activities.

I am currently an 8th grader at High Meadows. My favorite subjects are English and Spanish. I have also been playing the flute in my school's band for four years.

I help my mom every once in a while at Good Mews, a cat shelter near our home. I am also part of a school group called H.E.L.P.

Tell us about your family.

My older brother, Nicholai, goes to boarding school in Gainesville so I only get to see him on the weekends. I have a lot of pets...cats and dogs!

What are your future skating and educational goals?

Because I love performing showcase routines, I would really like to skate in ice shows. I am also looking forward to when I turn 16 and can learn to be a trial judge! Yes, I plan on going to college but I'm not sure what I really want to do yet with my life. I couldn't imagine myself not skating so of course I will continue to skate!

My three favorite things are

Chocolate, animals, good books.

I would like to meet ...

Amanda Bynes and Emma Stone...their movies are so funny and make me laugh!

If I weren't a skater, I would have been

Probably a dancer because I took for six years but ultimately chose skating over dance.

Tell us something about yourself or your family that no one knows.

I have a huge rock and mineral collection!

Best advice you have ever re-

Avoid the drama.

Favorite word: CHOCOLATE!

Least favorite word: Peculiar

Favorite quote: "It's not who you are that holds you back, but it's who you think you're not." - Anonymous

Favorite book: "The Hunger Games" series

Favorite movie: "National Treasure"

Favorite song: "Wannabe" by the Spice Girls because Emily Haar and I have our own dance to it!

Favorite TV Show: "Glee," "Top Chef" and "Chopped"

Sound I love: A waterfall and a cat's purring

Sound I dislike: My alarm clock buzzing in the morning!

I would never want to be: A math teacher or a politician

Three words that best describe me: Friendly, caring, talkative

If I were stranded on a desert island, I would have to have: Sunscreen because I burn easily, a TON of books and chocolate!

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2011 - 2012 Atlanta FSC Officials' Competition Appointments

EVENT/LOCATION/DATE

North Atlantic Regional Championships
Amherst, NY; 10/14 - 10/18

OFFICIAL

Alison Arnold
Catherine Hackney
Gloria Lewis
Marie Pearce
Sara Stephens

POSITION

Asst. Referee
Judge
Judge
Judge
Judge



South Atlanta Regional Championships
Aston, PA; 10/21 - 10/25

Sharon Hyre
Susan Johnson
Terri Maurice
John Millier
Laurie Vieth

Judge
Judge
Judge
Judge
Technical Specialist



Eastern Sectional Championships
Jamestown, NY; 11/15 - 11/19

Dana Graham
John Millier
Sharon Wiggins

Judge
Dance Referee
Judge



U.S. Championships
San Jose, CA; 1/22 - 1/29

Dana Graham
John Millier

Alternate Judge
Alternate Judge



Eastern Synchronized Skating Sectional Championships; Hersey, PA; 1/26 - 1/28

Marie Pearce
Sara Stephens

Alternate Judge
Judge

2011 - 2012 Special Events



*2011 South Atlantic Regional Championships Exhibitions/
Send-Off Party*

*October 7 (Non-Qualifying) PARTY
October 14 (Qualifying)*



2011 Eastern Sectional Championships Exhibition

November 4



Pre-Holiday Pot Luck Dinner

November 11



2011 U.S. Figure Skating Championships Exhibition

January 13

*Spring Show Extravaganza &
Annual Awards Banquet*

*April 27 - 29
April 29, The Cooler*



Ice Dance Weekend

June 1 - 3



Peach Open and Peach Classic

Georgia FSC, Duluth, GA

September 3 - 4

JUNIOR LADIES

Free Skate

Martine Szanto 1st/2

Short Program

Martine Szanto 1st/2

NOVICE LADIES

Free Skate

Taylor Johnson 1st/2

Short Program

Taylor Johnson 2nd/2

INTERMEDIATE LADIES

Free Skate

Maya Neel 2nd/7

Wendi Hiller 3rd/7

Grace Liu 5th/7

Dezarae Vazquez 6th/7

Short Program

Wendi Hiller 3rd/10

Grace Liu 4th/10

Maya Neel 5th/10

Dezarae Vazquez 6th/10

Aspen Ono 7th/10

JUVENILE BOYS

Free Skate

Jabe Roberts 1st/1

JUVENILE GIRLS

Free Skate

Amanda Bao 1st/8

Madeleine Brown 3rd/8

Stephanie Niu 5th/8

Short Program

Kayla Moradi 1st/5

Grace Rathbun 2nd/5

Madeleine Brown 3rd/5

Emily Stark 4th/5

Stephanie Niu 5th/5

PRE-JUVENILE GIRLS

Free Skate

Grace Rathbun 1st/4

Kayla Moradi 2nd/4

Emily Stark 4th/4

Spins

Emily Stark 1st/3

PRELIMINARY GIRLS

Free Skate, Grp. A

Mingda Liu 2nd/4

Free Skate, Grp. B

Hannah Carleton 1st/2

Spins

Alyssa Levitt 2nd/3

Hannah Carleton 3rd/3

PRE-PRELIMINARY A BOYS

Free Skate

Charles Liu 1st/1

PRE-PRELIMINARY B GIRLS

Free Skate, Grp. A

Rahly Osenbaugh 1st/6

Nile Ziegler 3rd/6

Free Skate, Grp. B

Ying Yip 2nd/4

PRE-PRELIMINARY A GIRLS

Free Skate, Grp. A

Alexa Phillips 4th/5

Free Skate, Grp. B

Alyssa Levitt 1st/4

PRE-PRELIMINARY

Compulsory Moves, Grp. A

Charles Liu 2nd/5

Alexa Phillips 3rd/5

Compulsory Moves, Grp. B

Nile Ziegler 2nd/4

Jumps

Alexa Phillips 1st/3

Spins

Charles Liu 2nd/3

Alexa Phillips 3rd/3

Showcase

Alexa Phillips 4th/5

Alyssa Levitt 5th/5

LIMITED BEGINNER TEST

TRACK

Free Skate

Alexandra Strain 1st/3



Jabe and Hannah.



ADULT SILVER III LADIES

Free Skate

Nancy Ellis Riggs 4th/5

ADULT SILVER III - V

Light Entertainment

Nancy Ellis Riggs 1st/4



Grace, Nile, and Hannah.



Kayla and Grace.



Hannah and Madeleine.



Junior Lady Martine Szanto (pictured with proud dad Terry) was the recipient of the first Lone Barama Award for highest level free skate score.



Rocket City Classic

SC of Huntsville, Huntsville, AL
August 19 - 20

INTERMEDIATE LADIES

Free Skate

Maya Neel	1st/3
Grace Liu	2nd/3

Short Program

Maya Neel	1st/3
Grace Liu	3rd/3

JUVENILE GIRLS

Short Program

Emily Stark	1st/2
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Jumps

Emily Stark	2nd/3
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PRE-JUVENILE GIRLS

Free Skate

Emily Stark	4th/5
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Compulsory Moves

Natalie Martin	3rd/3
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PRE-JUVENILE GIRLS

Spins

Emily Stark	1st/3
Natalie Martin	2nd/3

Jumps

Natalie Martin	2nd/3
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PRELIMINARY B

Free Skate

Natalie Martin	2nd/6
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PRE-PRELIMINARY

A Free Skate, Grp. C

Charles Liu	3rd/7
Alexa Phillips	7th/7

Compulsory Moves, Grp. B

Charles Liu	1st/7
Alexa Phillips	5th/7

PRE-PRELIMINARY

Jumps, Grp. B

Alexa Phillips	1st/3
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Spins, Grp. B

Alexa Phillips	2nd/5
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Spins, Grp. C

Charles Liu	2nd/6
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PRELIMINARY/

PRE-PRELIMINARY

Interpretive, Grp. B

Alexa Phillips	4th/4
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FREE SKATE 4

Free Skate

Melody DeMerchant	2nd/3
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Compulsory Moves

Melody DeMerchant	1st/2
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2011 Liberty Summer Competition
 Liberty FSC of Philadelphia. Aston, PA
 July 12 - 16



SENIOR MEN

Free Skate

Alexander Aiken 5th/9

Short Program

Alexander Aiken 9th/11

JUNIOR MEN

Free Skate

Timothy Dolensky 3rd/8

Short Program

Timothy Dolensky 4th/18

JUNIOR LADIES

Free Skate, Grp. D

Martine Szanto 11th/15

Short Program, Grp. D

Martine Szanto 11th/15

INTERMEDIATE LADIES

Free Skate, Grp. D

Alice Qiao 9th/17

Free Skate, Grp. F

Maya Neel 9th/15

Grace Liu 12th/15

Dezarae Vazquez 15th/15

Short Program, Grp. F

Maya Neel 12th/17

Grace Liu 16th/17

Short Program, Grp. G

Dezarae Vazquez 16th/17

Short Program, Grp. I

Alice Qiao 9th/13

JUVENILE BOYS

Free Skate

Jabe Roberts 5th/11

Compulsory Moves

Jabe Roberts 1st/1

JUVENILE GIRLS

Free Skate, Final Rd.

Alice Qiao 17th/24

Free Skate, Grp. C

Alice Qiao 4th/16

PRE-JUVENILE GIRLS

Free Skate, Grp. B

Maria Son 8th/9



U.S. Figure Skating National Showcase
 Greater Cleveland Council of FS Clubs, Mentor, OH
 August 3 - 6

MASTERS

Light

Angela Smith 5th/13

Dramatic

Angela Smith 1st/10

YOUNG ADULT

Dramatic

Ariel Collins 2nd/5

Light

Ariel Collins 5th/7

Extemporaneous

Improvisation

Ariel Collins 3rd/5

Duet

Ariel Collins/ Megan Joseph 4th/4

JUVENILE

Dramatic

Helena Fisher 5th/14

Light, Grp. B

Helena Fisher 5th/11

TEEN

Dramatic, Grp. A

Teara Preston 7th/10

Dramatic, Grp. B

Emily Haar 6th/11

Light, Grp. B

Emily Haar 8th/10

Teara Preston 10th/10

Duet

Helena Fisher/ Emily Haar 3rd/5

PRELIMINARY

Light, Grp. A

Gabrielle Kuse 12th/14



Helena, Emily, Megan, Ariel, and Teara

2011 Ice Dance Championships

SC of Lake Placid, Lake Placid, NY
 July 28 - 30



Tatiana Kozmava

SOLO GOLD Free Dance 2nd/2

SOLO PRE-GOLD

Dance 1 7th/12

Free Dance 10th/12

Final 9th/12



2011 U.S. Collegiate Championships
 Sun Valley FSC, Sun Valley, ID
 July 21 - 24

Alexandra McCarthy
 (Miami University of Ohio)

Senior Ladies Free Skate 20th/28

Senior Ladies Short Program 18th/28

Test Sessions

<u>Test Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Application Due Date</u> (Postmark)
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2011

August 21	Sunday	July 31
September 23	Friday	September 2
October 21	Friday	September 30
November 18	Friday	October 28
December 16	Friday	November 25

2012

January 13	Friday	December 23
February 10	Friday	January 20
March 18	Sunday	February 26
April 15	Sunday	March 25
May 20	Sunday	April 29
June 24	Sunday	June 3
July 22	Sunday	July 1
August 19	Sunday	July 29

Club Ice

2011

August	12, 19, 26
September	9, 16, 23, 30
October	7, 14, 21, 28
November	4, 11, 18
December	2, 9, 16

2012

January	6, 13, 20, 27
February	3, 10, 17, 24
March	2, 16, 23, 30
April	6, 13, 20, 27
May	4, 11, 18, 25

2012 Club Competitions



Magnolia Open
March 9 - 11



Atlanta Open
June 14 - 16

Consignment Sale at The Cooler

Sale Dates

October 21	6:00 am - 10:00 am 4:45 am - 6:45 pm
October 22	9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Drop-Off Dates

October 7	4:45 pm - 6:45 pm
October 14	4:45 pm - 6:45 pm



Profits from consignment sales may be allocated to special events such as the recent ice cream social and spring show as well as to the Skaters and Officials Fund, which assists skaters who demonstrate financial need and current and trial officials who must pay their own expenses for required training and education. Disbursement of these funds is at the discretion of the Board of Directors.



VOLUNTEER Movers & Shakers

Christi Fisher Our Own Cheerleader Extraordinaire

When did you join the Atlanta FSC, and how did you first become involved as a volunteer?

Helena started skating in summer, 2006 and competed in her first competition (Magnolia Open) in March, 2007 so it was soon after that that we joined the club. It became apparent very quickly that she loved this sport and wanted to continue with it so it only seemed logical to become a part of this great club! I have met so many wonderful people through my daughter's skating that I am now happy to call friends, and it was one of these people who first got me involved with volunteering. Louise Szanto was the first person in the club to ask if I would volunteer as an Ice Monitor at an upcoming competition. Of course I said "yes" because I always want to help the club and the skaters whenever and wherever I can. Being an Ice Monitor at competitions is really enjoyable because you get to see the skaters perform up close and personal, and I love the interaction with them and their coaches.



Christi and Helena

Describe your past and current positions as well as any other contributions to the club.

After working as an ice monitor for a couple of competitions, I became chair of this area three competitions ago as well as a member of the LOC for both the Magnolia and Atlanta Opens. I have also worked shifts at registration and helped play music with John Richardson. This is another great area to volunteer in, and I am sorry that since I have taken over chairing competition ice monitors I can no longer be available! Chairing ice monitors lead directly into chairing ushers for our Spring Show; I am already looking forward to next year's show. My other contribution to the club is what I call the "fluff" department...making things look pretty! I updated the signs for the ice monitor area, helped along with Peggy McCarthey and Joyce Jiang spruce up the awards area with new curtains, decorations and podiums, and just recently I decorated for the ice cream social. I love to let my creative side flow every once and awhile!

Please describe your accomplishments as a skater or your participation in other sports.

I only wish I were a skater and could do the things that I see my daughter do on the ice! I keep threatening that one of these days I am going to buy a pair of skates and take lessons but in the meantime, as a parent, I get goose bumps every time I watch my daughter take the ice. It is such a beautiful sport and one that I have always loved to watch. As a teenager in high school, I ran track for 4 years with hurdles being my specialty (hmmm...maybe there is a metaphor in that now later on in my life!) and I was also a member of my school's Pom Pom/Drill Team which I loved because I grew up as a dancer. I also continued my love of dancing by being a professional NFL cheerleader for the St. Louis Cardinals from 1982-1986!

Why do you stay involved as a volunteer with the Atlanta FSC?

I stay involved because I always want to support whatever my children choose to do in life. Helena's love of skating rubs off on me and motivates me to want to help the club be the best it can be and provide activities and a warm environment for the skaters. It truly is all about them! These past five years have also provided so many fun mother-daughter times for Helena and I as we embark on our road trips to competitions and skating camps. These are memories that she and I will have forever, and I cherish them more than words can describe.

Tell us a little about your background, profession, hobbies, and family.

My husband Greg and I have been married since 1987 and have a son, Nicholai, 17, in addition to Helena. I graduated from Emory University with a degree in Art History which I have done absolutely nothing with, but I did work in the mortgage lending field for 6 years before I became a stay-at-home mom. My other big passion in life is animals (especially cats!) and for the past 19 years I have been very active with Atlanta's first cage-free, no-kill animal shelter GOOD MEWS. I have served on their Board, cleaned and fed the animals at the shelter, organized fundraisers, served as interim Shelter Manager for two years, helped with medical care, picked up litter in a moving truck...you name it I have done it and loved it! For the past five years, I have handled all of the shelters merchandising as well as creating a calendar for the shelter each year. And yes, as a family we do have many pets, and I will leave it at that!

Hip, Hip, Hurray!

POTPOURRI

Tests Passed



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Alice Tang	1	Angela Smith	18
Graham Payne	2	Bob Corbin	
Kathy Shehee	4	Edward Culotta	19
Rose Rausch		Amanda McDaniel	20
Jessica Gregory	5	Jeslyn Choi	22
Lynn Miller		Mary Stark	
Lindsay Hornecker		Brittany Marshall	24
Emily Zhang	7	Lee Schaffer	26
Megan Joseph	15		



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Julie Lapina	1	Gary Kisella	17
Terri Maurice	2	Hong Xu	
Wendi Hiller	3	Derreck Cole	18
Caroline Mura	7	Madeline Green	19
John Millier	8	Dawn Kisella	21
Wade Williams		Jason Garrett	
Denise Carleton	9	Frances Gregory	24
Kristie Chepaitis		Bob Rausch	26
Darren Joseph	10	John Vazquez	27
Maya Neel		George Strain	28
Suesan Phillips		Felix Levitt	30
Alison Arnold	16	Hunter Sohn	31
An Roberts	17		

July

Grace Liu	Intermediate Free Skate
Amanda McDaniel	Juvenile Moves Preliminary Free Skate
Rahly Osenbaugh	Preliminary Noves
Olivia Patrick	Pre-Preliminary Moves

August

Christina Cole	Novice Free Skate Pre-Silver Dance Test
Parastoo Mashinchi	Novice Free Skate
Alice Tang	Juvenile Free Skate
Dezarae Vazquez	Senior Moves
Renee Wang	Juvenile Moves



Cheryl Faust	Kelly Mi	Nicole Strain
Madeline Freeman	Jia Mi	Svetlana Strain
Denise Freeman	Fendi Mi	George Strain
Doug Freeman	Caroline Mura	Emily Zhang
Olivia Garrett	Curry Mura	Hong Xu
Christina Garrett	Dave Mura	Zhe Zhang
Jason Garrett	Alexandra Strain	

Many thanks to judges **Dana Graham, Sharon Hyre, and Susan Johnson** for critiquing programs for our South Atlantic competitors!

2012 South Atlantic Regional Championships Exhibitions

Exhibitions for the 2012 South Atlantic Regional Championships will be held on October 7 for non-qualifying (up to Pre-Juvenile) competitors and October 14 for qualifying (Juvenile - Senior). The send-off party will be hosted on October 7 at The Cooler. You must pre-register by contacting Leon Qiao by September 30 at liangqiao8888@yahoo.com to secure a spot.



Atlanta Figure Skating Club
P.O. Box 185
Roswell, GA 30077



Upcoming Events



<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>SPONSOR/LOCATION</u>	<u>DUE DATE</u>
John Smith Memorial	September 16 - 18	Carolinas FSC, Indian Trail, NC	
Southwest Florida Fall Classic	September 22 - 25	Southwest Florida FSC, Ellenton, FL	
TEST SESSION	September 23	Atlanta FSC	
National Solo Dance	September 23 - 25	Broadmoor SC, Colorado Springs, CO	
South Atlantic Non-Qualifying Regional Championships	October 15 - 18	IceWorks SC, Aston, PA	
South Atlantic Qualifying Regional Championships	October 20 - 25	IceWorks SC, Aston, PA	
TEST SESSION	October 21	Atlanta FSC	September 30
Eastern Sectional Championships	November 15 - 19	Jamestown SC, Jamestown, NY	
TEST SESSION	November 18	Atlanta FSC	October 28