

HURRICANE WARNING

Vol. 6, No. 2

The official newsletter of the Carolina Hurricanes Booster Club

September 2002

Canes Boosters Take 3rd Place at Convention!

Story by Lisa Wall

This year's 32nd annual NHL Booster Club Convention was held in early August in Atlantic City, New Jersey at the Sheraton, home of the Miss America Foundation. Your CHBC was well represented this year, led by three year veteran convention-goer, Chris Sharples, our merry gang included President Susan Stacy, Lisa Wall, Patrick Drollinger, Lynnae Pagels, Mary Lou Pierce, Walter Pierce, Clare Cook and Debbie Bragg. The convention was a mixture of business and pleasure, mostly the pleasure of renewing old friendships and making new ones. "Since having not gone to the past two years conventions, (Phoenix & Colorado) I had forgotten how many friends I had made. Besides getting reacquainted with friends, I love the "General Meeting" and listening to what all the other clubs do or don't do." said Chris. There was such an interesting group of people there. Even though an organization may change cities, the clubs continue on, including our 9 friends from the Hartford Whalers Booster Club that attended this year. There were several others, including the Atlanta Flames, the only fan club operating in Atlanta. One woman from the California Seals Booster Club has been to all 32 conventions. The New York Islanders won this year's award for the largest away group present at the meeting, for the 4th year in a row. Our hosts, the New Jersey Devils had 63 members attending, a great testimony to the strength and dedication necessary to host an event of this size.

Continued on Page 6...



Pictured:
Hurricanes Booster Club with their award-winning Irish-themed banner in Atlantic City!
Front Row (Left-to-right): Chris Sharples, Clare Cook, Lynnae Pagels, Patrick Drollinger (kneeling), Mary Lou Pierce, Debbie Bragg, Susan Stacy
Back Row: (L-R): Walter Pierce and Lisa Wall

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Congratulations 2002 Eastern Conference Champion Carolina Hurricanes!

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Newsletter deadline:
September 25th for
the October Edition

President's Message / SUSAN STACY

What a busy month August has proven to be! The convention in Atlantic City was fun for all. This year we had seven members from our club attend. I myself was a "rookie" and encourage anyone who might be interested in attending next year in San Jose, CA. to do so. We all had a great experience. I am proud to say that our Booster Club took 3rd place in the banner contest on Friday evening.

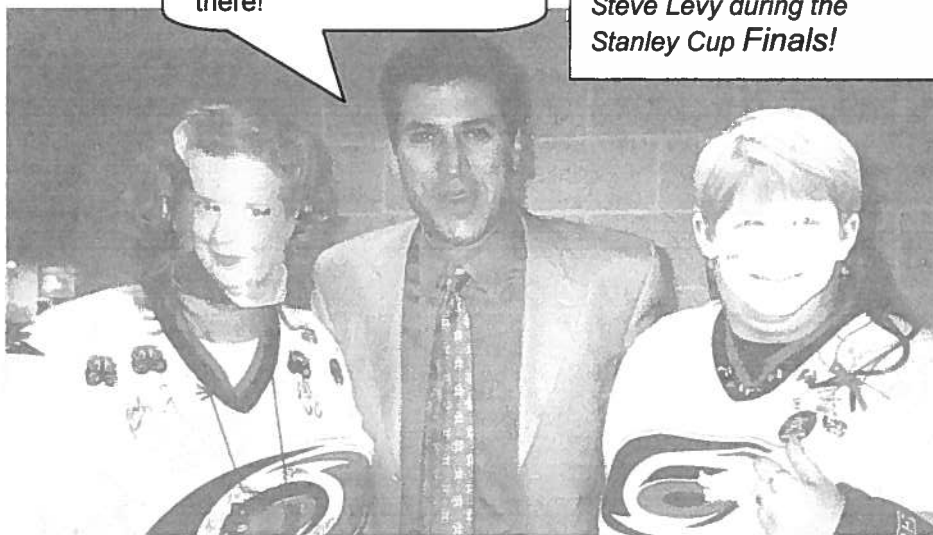
We also had the opportunity to host the Hospitality Suite with the Washington Capitals Booster Club and the Nashville Predators Booster Club. The Hurricanes Organization was kind enough to give us Playoff Inserts as well as beverage cups to hand out to the other clubs. **Special thanks to Brian, Fred, Anthony and Ron for making it all happen!!!** We had the pleasure of listening to the voice of the New Jersey Devils, Mike Emerick speak at our dinner on Saturday. His insight in the sport of hockey is extraordinary.

We also had our 3rd Annual CHBC picnic on Saturday, August 24th. Due to the weather and heat, this event was smaller than the last couple of years but we had great time socializing with each other. I look forward to next year's event.

Well, hockey withdrawal will soon be coming to a close. The ice will be installed on or about September 9th from what I understand. Our first preseason game in the ESA will be on Saturday, September 27th against the Philadelphia Flyers. 30 days and counting.... I for one can't wait to welcome the boys back in the arena!

Susan

Hayride, anyone?
Aunt B, Opie, and I will be
there!



*Pictured (Left-to-right):
Michelle Feldbusch and Dawn
Coe pose with ESPN's
Steve Levy during the
Stanley Cup Finals!*

Spooky Hayride – Friday, October 25 – 7:45pm

The CHBC is reserving Friday, October 25th, 8pm. at the Hill Ridge Farms in Youngsville for a spooky night of entertainment. We will have a bon fire, S'mores, hot dogs, cider, a costume contest and we'll all be taking a hayride to get to the bonfire. Everyone must meet at "The Store" by **7:45pm** to purchase a **\$7 ticket for the hayride**. We'll take off into the spooky forest to have our wits scared out of us. They don't suggest it for anyone under the age of five. After drop-off at the bonfire, we'll roast hotdogs, make S'mores and declare a winner in our costume contest. More information about Hill Ridge Farms is available at their website www.hillridgefarms.com and they have excellent directions available. Be watching for more emails from Susan with more details.

Please RSVP by contacting Donna Scanlon at donnascan@aol.com or call her at **919-481-3886** by Wednesday, October 24. We need to know how many are coming so we have S'more's for all.

MEDIA UPDATES, CHEERS AND JEERS KICK OFF WALL-ERA

Editor's Note: It is with great pleasure we introduce Lisa Wall as the new author of *From the Cheapseats*. Lisa brings five years of experience as a Caniac before there was such a word. She also sits in the 300-level of the ESA, making her qualified to write this article. Without further adieu, here is hockey to her...

Intro: Hi, I'm Lisa, vice president of your booster club. I've decided to take over *From The Cheap Seats* this year. John is doing a brief stint as newsletter editor and has graciously given me the reigns. Don't expect much to change. I see this column as an opportunity to report on the "goings on" and "whatevers" related to the Carolina Hurricanes and the NHL. I will confess to a twisted sense of humor and will try very hard to keep it under control. I hope I can be at least a tenth as entertaining as John has been, but...here goes.

State of the Canes: Kudos to Mr. Rutherford and Mr. Karmanos for resigning the majority of last year's 2002 Eastern Conference Champs. Aaron Ward and Sami Kapanen both avoided arbitration by signing and Niclas Wallin shored up the defense for the upcoming season. It's great to have Jeff Daniels back as well. His experience and strength are welcome this year. Steve Halko returns for his second stint with the Hurricanes. Welcome back to the team, Steve! The organization also resigned several prospects: Kaspars Astashenkco, Jesse Boulerice, Mike Watt, Randy Petruk and Nikos Tselios. My heart-felt good wishes to a man who was one of the



Pictured Above:
New Queen of Cheapseats,
LISA WALL!

greatest people associated with the Carolina Hurricanes, Martin Gelin. His hard work and fortitude as a player was echoed in our community. Marty was one of the nicest and most gracious players I have ever met. He will be missed.

Media Update: Great strides have been made this year from the Marketing and Communications group. There will be at least 50 games on TV this year. John Forslund will be back as Hurricanes play-by-play announcer having resigned his contract. We're very pleased to have Chuck Kaiton back as radio announcer and it looks as if his resounding voice will ring all over the Carolinas. Combined with Charlotte's Mix 106.1, and the KIX Combo of WKYU-FM (101.1), WKIX (102.3) AND WDTF-AM (570), the Hurricanes Radio Network will stretch across North Carolina. How great it is to see the Canes becoming solidified and a permanent part of our community.

Things you don't want to miss: *Training camp* starts **September 12th** with rookies and prospects beginning practice at the ESA with a scrimmage from 3-5pm. All

fans are invited to training camp and it's an excellent opportunity to check out and evaluate the up and coming Hurricane stars. The veterans report on September 15th for a few days before traveling to Estero, FL on September 19th for the rest of training camp and a few preseason games. The ESA's first preseason game will be **September 27th versus Philadelphia**. The training camp schedule and preseason schedule is available at the Canes web site.

The *Caniac Carnival* is scheduled for Sunday, **September 29th** at the ESA. The Carnival will feature the Prince of Wales Trophy, symbolic of the National Hockey League's Eastern Conference Champions. The Hockey Hall of Fame Legends exhibit returns, along with an open Hurricanes practice (from 1-2 p.m.) and autograph session. Fans will be able to watch the premiere of the 2002 Carolina Hurricanes season in review video on the Jumbotron and have a chance to be the first to buy it, as only 2,500 will be produced. There is no admission charge and parking is free to the Carnival, which begins at 11:30 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m.

Cheers: Lots of new members at the picnic, Clare Cook for her extraordinary work on the booster club convention banner (you bought us 3rd, girl) and for extra hard raffle selling (she knows to get them after they've "had a few").

Jeers: to the weather for chasing away people from the picnic (it thundered, a little lightening and a few drops of rain at Bond Park, go figure).

Sound off on the Hurricanes' Off-season moves. Is the team ready to defend the Eastern Conference Title and get back to the Finals?

Except for the somewhat messy Ron Francis negotiations, it was a great off-season for the Hurricanes. The Bret Hedican signing and the other free-agent deals keep this great team intact. I hate to see Martin Gelinás go, because he was my favorite player, but it's probably a good move for both the Canes and for Marty. Hedican's signing puts the word out again that Raleigh is a great place to live and play hockey. The Hurricanes are in good shape to put together another lengthy playoff run if Sami Kapanen and Jeff O'Neill can consistently score goals, and we don't see the kinds of sophomore slumps we've seen the last season or two. We need to develop some finishers among our wingers, and to get Tanabe signed, and we'll be set.

Bill Horner

The Hurricanes have been able to secure pretty much the same lineup for the 2002-03 season as the one that won the Eastern Conference last year, and that's commendable in itself. In order to pull this off, the team has committed to a rather healthy payroll increase, for which fans of a small market team like ours should be grateful. That said, the Hurricanes should be able to compete at a relatively high level in the upcoming season, although I think expecting a repeat as Conference Champs is probably a bit much. A good competition with Washington for the Southeast Division and a comfortable playoff berth is the level of my expectations, and that seems realistic based on the accomplishments of the off-season. Anything better than that would be gravy in my book.

Jeff Harrod

Yes, management did a great job of keeping the core of team together and the younger players like Cole, Vasicek and Svoboda have another year of experience to get better and bring the team to the next level. Hopefully we are at the arena tailgating in June again!

Patrick Drollinger

The 'Canes are without a doubt ready for the task of defending their title. In fact, I think the short off-season will make them even better. I hate that Marty's gone, but it'll be an exciting year with everyone else intact.

Dawn Sweder

Are you Kidding? With Nic Wallin back, look out NHL! The Canes are back and they will be champs!

Joseph Emitrevo

Very good moves, especially the Hedican contract. I just hope the canes can sign Tanabe also. However, getting back to the finals will be difficult.

Daniel Van Buynder

I'm very pleased that Mr. Rutherford has kept the majority of last year's team together. I think it's crucial to have that consistency not only for the team, but for the fan base as well. There were some strong trades made by Eastern Conference teams and they will be tough opponents. I think that seeing the Canes achieve as much as they did last year, will fuel the fire in some of the younger teams. Ultimately, if we stay healthy, we can do it.

Lisa Wall

It was important to resign all the key people especially Bret Hedican, Ron Francis, and Jeff O'Neill. I think they brought enough players back to have a successful year. They will go back to the finals.

Amy Lewis

There is no doubt that the Canes will contend for the Eastern Conference again. It was sad to see Martin Gelinás go, but it was also nice to see the Hurricanes management spends money wisely and not give in to the high salary demands to outside free agents.

Clare Cook

Canepoll:

***Which Player will lead the Canes in points this year?**

Jeff O'Neill	35%
Sami Kapanen	17%
Ron Francis	12%
Erik Cole	12%
Nic Wallin	6%
Bates Battaglia	6%
Aaron Ward	6%
Josef Vasicek	6%

***17 Total Responses**

Lots to See at the Hockey Hall of Fame

General Admission • \$12.00 Cdn, Youth (4-13yrs) \$8.00 Cdn

Hockey Hall of Fame (www.hhof.com)

BCE Plance
30 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M5E 1X8
416-360-7765

With the Stanley Cup Finals all said and done, what better way to spend some of the summer days than to visit the very origins of the sport of hockey! Yours truly took a quest far north to the city of Toronto and the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Before leaving, ensure that you have a passport or driver's license and birth certificate to prove you are a US citizen. Not bringing these very things could not only cause an international incident, but could have you staying the night in Buffalo, NY (not a bad thing if you can find this really great wings restaurant) or saying "AY" after every sentence when trapped in the Canadian universe.

Our trip across the border from Erie, PA (flew there) to Canada (drove there) was luckily uneventful. I would recommend using a credit card rather than worrying too much about exchanging US dollars to Canadian. However, it doesn't hurt to have a few bucks in Canadian money if you choose to frolic around town in a cab or subway. Both seemed safe enough.

Our first stop in Toronto was Wayne Gretzky's Restaurant. I had a hamburger appropriately named "The Great One" given the theme of the restaurant. The food and drinks were ok, but for the price and quality, I'd recommend going to Gretzky's to see the memorabilia and have a few drinks. There are many great choices in Toronto for food.



*Pictured above:
Direct from the "Vault"
- The Original Stanley Cup*

The Hall is quite surprising. My expectation was this great big place full of tons of stuff. In actuality, the Hall of Fame is not as large as one might think and the keepers of the place are quite selective in what is actually on display.

If you are looking for a lot of Carolina Hurricanes displays, you will be disappointed. Not that we don't have players worthy enough, but our franchise is too young to have a large presence at the present time. It will be a great day when Ron Francis goes in. The one walk-away you get from the Hall is an appreciation of all those legendary players and coaches that came before and shaped the game into what it is today.

The entrance of the Hall puts the butterflies in your stomach immediately. The logo is the perfect mark for such a place of history. My first thought was to have a puck, lapel pin, and t-shirt with the Hall of Fame logo on it. I would get my wish.

The first exhibit is the Toronto Sun Great Moments Zone complete with an audio-visual presentation of some of the greatest moments of the game. From Bobby Orr's famous "GOAL" to Wayne Gretzky's first Stanley Cup win, this video was bittersweet considering how close our Hurricanes came to joining the company of all those greats.

Next was the Wayne Gretzky Exhibit... Enough said.

The Grand Ole Houses of Hockey exhibit highlights the legendary addresses of hockey's Original Six such as Maple Leaf Gardens, the Boston Garden, and the Montreal Forum. In the midst of this display is a replicated dressing room of the Montreal Canadiens where the players prepared for the big games.

The Hall has some interactive exhibits for the kids that include a broadcast zone where fans can pretend to be Chuck Kaiton and call the game. Take your best slapshot to Dominik Hasek at the Coca Cola Rink Zone. There is also a chance to do your best Arturs Irbe impression against Wayne Gretzky and Mark Messier –WARNING: not for those with lack of coordination nor fear of embarrassment!

Continued on Page 7...

Thanks to all our renewing Members:

Paula Womack
Jane Weidig
Ken Thompson
Aimee Thompson
Jacob Thompson
Benjamin Thompson
Tony Amitrano
Kathy Marshall
Frank Marshall
Randy Wiersma
Nancy Wiersma
Lauren Wiersma
Michelle Feldbusch
Kendra Willis
Dan Andrews
Tom Carie
Matthew Carie
Susan Dunn
Ethan Dunn
Ruthie Dunn
Diane Haley
Jim Gates
Jennifer Griffith
Nick Gregory
Susan Yuh
Jeff Harrod
Kristy, Harrod
Sarah Harrod
James Harrod
Joanne Knecht
Alan Victor
Stephen Eleyet

Welcome NEW Members:

Victoria Larraz
Kim Nash
Gary Nash
Michelle Morris
Gerry Cohen
Aaron Cohen

Happy Birthday:

9/1 Scot Della Rosa
9/10 Barry Ostrow
9/11 Scot Della Rose
9/11 Matthew Carie
9/14 Terry Todd
9/16 Cheryl Sanders
9/18 Jeff Walter
9/20 Diane Haley
9/28 Janice Baptiste
10/4 Ian Peddicord
10/8 Deb Foulkes
10/9 Patsy Elliott
10/11 Dan Andrews

Convention, Continued From Page 1...

Since most of us didn't arrive until late on Thursday, Friday night started the convention off with a banner parade of the different NHL teams. This parade had an Irish theme and had to incorporate your team's logo in the banner. Each organization made a banner and dressed in costume or used the Irish theme. I'm very proud to report that your CHBC conventioners won 3rd place! This honor truly belongs to Clare Cook, master banner maker, Mary Lou Pierce, assistant banner maker and Chris Sharples, master seamstress. Clare and Mary Lou worked on the banner design and construction. We had a rainbow with the proverbial pot of gold, except our pot of gold held a whole lot of silver, the silver of The Stanley Cup. Each player was represented on a hockey stick affixed to a green shamrock.

Leprechauns on the rainbow represented Captain O'Francis and our two alternating captains O'Brind'Amour and O'Wesley. Chris took our home jerseys and covered all the red letters and parts of the logo that were red with green fabric or felt. It was so bizarre to see our jerseys with the green covering all the red, a little bit Whaler-ish, but very in touch with the theme. The banner and the whole look sold the judges and we were very proud to place third. Thanks to all the hard work and dedication from Clare, Chris and Mary Lou, we made a great showing. After dinner, we hosted the hospitality suite with the Washington Capitals and the Nashville Predators. We had several great raffles and giveaways for the other conventioners to take home. This is the time when everyone gets together and mixes and mingles and all those great friendships are formed.

Saturday started the day off with breakfast and the general membership meeting. This is an opportunity for each club to come forward and share a little bit about what they are doing with their members. It was interesting to hear some of the great ideas that other clubs had and I was very pleased to hear that we are very much in line with the rest of the NHL boosters. We also heard a great presentation from the San Jose Hammerheads who will host next year's convention. Their plans seem very well thought out and will include great trips to San Francisco and the Monterey Bay area, keep it in mind for next year. A presentation for the 2004 NHLBC convention was made by the Detroit Red Wings to be hosted in Toronto. That year will include a Friday night of fun in the NHL Hockey Hall of Fame, which has been reserved exclusively for the NHL conventioners. With the general membership meeting adjourning, two members from each organization attended a delegates meeting where NHLBC issues are discussed, giving the others a free afternoon to enjoy Atlantic City.

Saturday evening's sit down dinner was a chance for the New Jersey Devils Fan Club to have a few minutes to thank the various people who had supported them on their tortuous road to hosting the convention. Once again, I want to thank them for their hospitality and hard work. Our guest for the evening was New Jersey Devils commentator, Mike Emrick. His many years in the NHL give him a vast collection of stories to share. He had interesting, funny stories to tell of players, coaches and referees. He is a terrific speaker and we hope that some day, we may have the pleasure of having him at one of our meetings. He's a great supporter of all NHL booster clubs and recognizes that its members are the support base on which all NHL teams thrive. That evening, there was dancing and another hospitality room, hosted by next years convention city, San Jose.

All in all, it was a great weekend in a city that never sleeps.

HELP WANTED: Wildly enthusiastic Caniacs needed to help write articles for the Booster Club Newsletter. Please send your stories and photos throughout the season to John Gallagher at:

southside_Johnny@hotmail.com

or call 919-363-8817 with any ideas or comments.



Pictured: The Sanders family at this year's picnic: Back row (L-R): Larry and Paul; Front Row: Cheryl and Michael

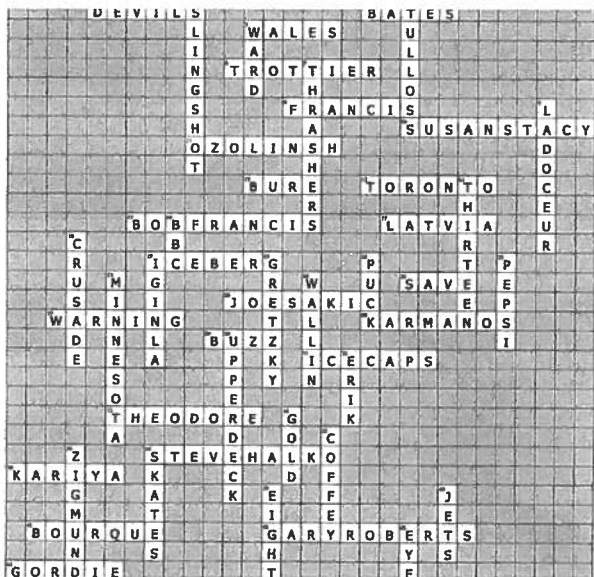
3rd Annual Picnic A Success!

Despite pending bad weather and humid conditions, the Booster Club carried on with its annual picnic this past August 24th at Bond Park. All who were there had a fabulous time chowing down on Bullock's barbeque and creating pins.

"We made some awesome buttons and keychains!! It was fun!" commented Donna Scanlon.

A very special thanks goes out to all the members who made the picnic a success including new members, Tara Kendrick and Amy Lewis. Thanks everyone and we hope to see you at next year's picnic!

Last Issue's Canes Quiz Answers



Hall of Fame Continued...

There is a fabulous display of the Canadian National Teams' Gold Medal performances and a nice all-star display. Even my wife, the most anti-hockey person I know, was impressed with all the Hall of Fame had to offer for the kids.

All this leads you into the Great Hall, the entire reason you visit! This is where all the honored member plaques and NHL trophies are kept. Keep at least an hour saved for this room. All the greats from Gordie Howe to Ken Dryden to Bobby Orr to Wayne Gretzky are right here in the Hall. I greatly enjoyed the "Vault" that contained the original Stanley Cup (pictured on page 5) and seeing "Badger" Bob Johnson's 1991 Stanley Cup ring. It made me cry (if you know the story of the 1991-92 Penguins, you know what I mean).

No words can truly express the experience I had at the Hockey Hall of Fame. It truly helps to have some knowledge and appreciation of the game pre-1980's to really understand the greatness in the museum. I recommend doing some surfing on the Hockey Hall of Fame Legends Website linked to the Hall of Fame's website and read about some of the Greats before your visit.

For your admission price, you also receive a cool program to keep as a memento. However, if that is not enough, the Hall of Fame has a great gift shop appropriately named, "the Spirit of Hockey," and you can't beat the prices when you consider the exchange rates.

The Hockey Hall of Fame is a great way to recover from the devastation of being ousted in the Playoffs and watching yet another team—that is not your favorite—hoist the Cup. To see and slightly experience the rich history of the sport, gives the fan a perspective on why the guys play and why we love to watch.



Pictured: The Bobby Orr display at the Hall of Fame chronicles the most famous goal in hockey!

Upcoming Carolina Hurricanes Events:

Caniac Carnival at the ESA

Sunday, Sept 29th

11:30pm – 5:00 pm

For more information, check out

www.hurricanes.com

Upcoming CHBC Events:

Next Membership Meeting

Thursday, Sept 26th - 7pm

At the

Raleigh Entertainment and

Sports Arena

Speaker to be announced.

***AUTUMN HAYRIDE**

FRIDAY, OCT 25th

***(DETAILS ON PAGE 2)**

Office DEPOT.

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