



THE PUCK

**Philadelphia Flyers
Fan Club**
Volume 24, Issue 4
February 2015

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT...

Hi Everyone,

With the season entering the final stretch, the Flyers are working their way back into the playoff picture. Since before the All Star break the Flyers have been playing well and getting points in most games. I want to congratulate our All Stars, Claude Giroux and especially Jake Voracek who had a fun time during the Skills competition and really stole the show.

Thanks to our January guest Pierre-Edouard Bellemare. Pierre-Edouard was one of the best guests we ever had. He was extremely personable, funny and insightful about his hockey career and life. Pierre-Edouard graciously answered questions, signed autographs and took pictures with the members in attendance.

Welcome back to Kimmo Timmonen who was cleared by doctors to begin skating and hopes to practice with the team when they return home after this road trip. Kimmo was a guest at a meeting several years ago and we the Fan Club wish him well as he finishes his career, as he has stated "with his skates on and not his shoes". All I can say is stay tuned...

Joe Fisher, President

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**Drawing will be held
on March 1, 2015**

PFFC MEETING REMINDER

Next Meeting Date & Venue to be Determined

**Please visit our website at www.flyersfanclub.org or
check our Facebook page for the latest PFFC news**



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Gordie Howe's Son - A Book Review by Lois Witulski

When Mark Howe attended our meeting last season, it brought back some early Flyers memories for me. I have an autographed picture of Mark in my collectibles from the days when my friends and I would actually write fan mail to our favorite Flyers. So when Mark spoke of his new autobiography "Gordie Howe's Son – A Hall of Fame Life in the Shadow of Mr. Hockey" (written with Jay Greenberg), I was sure pick up a copy. Well, I finally got around to reading this excellent book and was not disappointed...

This is a book about hockey but to me it was more about Mark's relationships with family, friends and teammates. There are some really funny stories about his early years growing up with his siblings Marty, Cathy and Murray and his devoted parents. Besides his exceptional hockey talent, Gordie Howe was an unassuming and kind man, a great Dad. But behind this man was an amazing woman, Colleen Howe. There wasn't a thing this woman didn't do (you'll have to read the book to find out) but I can't say enough about how much she impressed me with her business sense and savvy.

In the 1982-83 season, Mark became a Philadelphia Flyer. By this time he and his then wife Ginger were proud parents of Travis and Azia (another son Nolan would come along during his time in Philly). I loved reading about his years in Philadelphia, especially the mid to late 80's. There were several chapters of incredible stories, some funny, some tragic, that had me both laughing and crying as I read about Mark's 10 seasons in orange and black.

After battling many injuries during his final seasons in Philadelphia, it was fitting that Mark was traded to Detroit where he spent 3 years with the Red Wings before retiring in 1995. Mark's extraordinary career was honored with an induction to the NHL Hall of Fame in November, 2011. The Philadelphia Flyers retired his #2 in March, 2012. Mark also took part in the Flyers-Rangers Legends Game at the Winter Classic in 2012, where he scored the game winning goal. Mark is currently working as the director of pro scouting for the Detroit Red Wings and spends his free time with his girlfriend Sharon. Flyers Fans: Read this book for some great hockey history!!

PUCK ADVERTISING AVAILABLE

If you would like your business to reach potential new customers, try advertising here in the official Flyers Fan Club newsletter, The Puck. The Puck is mailed to all Flyers Fan Club members and available at all the Flyers home games. The following prices include advertising in 8 issues of the Puck: Full Page Ad \$200.00, Half Page Ad \$105.00, Quarter Page Ad \$55.00 and Business Card Ad \$35.00. If interested, please contact Lois Witulski at (215) 551-7998 or email lwitulski@verizon.net. Disclaimer: Ads published in the Puck do not indicate endorsement of items advertised.

We'd like to hear from you!

The PFFC welcomes all ideas and comments. You can submit your articles to: Lois Witulski, c/o PFFC, 3601 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148 or email to: lwitulski@verizon.net.

Please note: All materials sent for publication are subject to approval. We reserve the right to edit any portion of any article to better suit the needs of this publication. Articles printed strictly represent the opinion of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Philadelphia Flyers, its Fan Club or the editor of this newsletter.



Our First Flyers Road Trip by Jackie & Mark Castaldi

On Monday morning January 19th at 8am, we met at the Stadium Holiday Inn, to begin our journey to the Island and our first Philadelphia Flyers away game. After a short wait in the parking lot, we boarded the luxury coach bus along with other fan club members who were making the trip. Our bus driver Kermit assured us of a smooth ride and the bus was quite comfortable with Wi-Fi, electrical outlets, DVD player, and bathroom. Once underway we realized why Lou is in charge of running these trips. He definitely comes prepared - tickets, movies, beverages, snacks, and interesting stories. Plenty for the journey up and back. The movie of choice for the ride to the Island was Slap Shot and Lou kept himself busy gathering participants numbers for the total goals pool. We pulled the numbers 3 and 4 and were optimistic in thinking we had a good chance...more on that later.

The trip was uneventful and included a scenic tour of Manhattan and Queens. Our bus load of those that love the Orange and Black (except for two and you know who you are) arrived at Nassau Coliseum close to 11:30am. With tickets in hand and an undying enthusiasm in our hearts we passed through security and entered our first away venue. Immediately inside we were taken back by the sea of blue and orange and had to remember that we were the visitors at this game.

Unlike at the Wells Fargo Center, entrance to your seat here is only an hour prior to game time so we made our way downstairs for lunch where we enjoyed a nice buffet and cold beverage. We were only heckled once by an Islanders fan wearing a Nystrom jersey and handled the situation with true Philly class.

We joined our group in section 331 and settled in for what we hoped would be an exciting game. We've heard it called the mausoleum but didn't find it that bad - reminded us of the Spectrum days. The Islanders scored first...and second...and then third and it didn't take long for us to become sick of their goal song. Although we did have a few chances to stand and cheer for the Flyers, they just couldn't get within one goal. It was an exciting push to the finish but the Islanders sealed their fate with an empty net goal.

We noticed how narrow the concourse area was as we along with everyone else, attempted to exit to the parking lot. We posed for a few pictures with the Coliseum in the background as we knew this was our first and last trip here.

It didn't take long for the bus to depart and before we knew it we were heading back home. Lou had the pool winners figured out in no time. Who would have thought that the "ones" would have won? To lift our spirits we watched the Flyers Fortieth anniversary DVD and were able to view the NY City skyline lit up at night. Arrival time back at the Holiday Inn was right on schedule.

We enjoyed the trip, the game and the nice group of people that we were able to meet and talk to. For us, our first away Flyers game was a memorable experience and we are looking forward to attending more away games in the future.

**Fisher & Ash 2015 Oscar Predictions by Joe Fisher & Josh Ash****BEST ACTOR IN A LEAD ROLE:**

STEVE CARELL (Foxcatcher)
BRADLEY COOPER (American Sniper)
BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH (The Imitation Game)
MICHAEL KEATON (Birdman)
EDDIE REDMAYNE (The Theory of Everything)

Fisher's Picks:

Should win: Eddie Redmayne,
The Theory of Everything
Will win: Michael Keaton, Birdman

Ash's Picks:

Should win: Eddie Redmayne,
The Theory of Everything
Will win: Michael Keaton, Birdman

BEST ACTRESS IN A LEAD ROLE:

MARION COTILLARD (Two Days, One Night)
FELICITY JONES (The Theory of Everything)
JULIANNE MOORE (Still Alice)
ROSAMUND PIKE (Gone Girl)
REESE WITHERSPOON (Wild)

Fisher's Picks:

Should win: Julianne Moore, Still Alice
Will win: Julianne Moore, Still Alice

Ash's Picks:

Should win: Julianne Moore, Still Alice
Will win: Julianne Moore, Still Alice

**BEST ACTOR
(IN A SUPPORTING ROLE):**

ROBERT DUVALL (The Judge)
ETHAN HAWKE (Boyhood)
EDWARD NORTON (Birdman)
MARK RUFFALO (Foxcatcher)
J.K. SIMMONS (Whiplash)

Fisher's Picks:

Should win: JK Simmons, Whiplash
Will win: JK Simmons, Whiplash

Ash's Picks:

Should win: JK Simmons, Whiplash
Will win: JK Simmons, Whiplash

**BEST ACTRESS
(IN A SUPPORTING ROLE):**

PATRICIA ARQUETTE (Boyhood)
LAURA DERN (Wild)
KEIRA KNIGHTLEY (The Imitation Game)
EMMA STONE (Birdman)
MERYL STREEP (Into the Woods)

Fisher's Picks:

Should win: Patricia Arquette, Boyhood
Will Win: Patricia Arquette, Boyhood

Ash's Picks:

Should win: Patricia Arquette, Boyhood
Will win: Patricia Arquette, Boyhood



BEST MOTION PICTURE OF THE YEAR:

AMERICAN SNIPER
 BIRDMAN OR
 (THE UNEXPECTED VIRTUE OF IGNORANCE)
 BOYHOOD
 THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL
 THE IMITATION GAME
 SELMA
 THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING
 WHIPLASH

Fisher's Picks
 Should win: Whiplash
 Will win: Birdman

Ash's Picks
 Should win: Whiplash
 Will win: Boyhood

BEST DIRECTOR:

ALEJANDRO G. IÑÁRRITU (Birdman)

RICHARD LINKLATER (Boyhood)

BENNETT MILLER (Foxcatcher)

WES ANDERSON (The Grand Budapest Hotel)

MORTEN TYLDUM (The Imitation Game)

Fisher's Picks
 Should win: Richard Linklater, Boyhood
 Will win: Richard Linklater, Boyhood

Ash's Picks:
 Should win: Richard Linklater, Boyhood
 Will win: Richard Linklater, Boyhood

PFFC 2014-15 Trips by Lou Milano (2/1/15)

BOSTON/NEW JERSEY (Friday to Sunday) 3/6 - 3/8/15 Bus Trip

This will be a chance to see two games in the same trip. We'll depart at 7 AM and have almost two full days to explore Boston (a GREAT Town!!). Our hotel, Wyndham Beacon Hill Hotel is located within walking distance of the TD Bank Center (Flyers/Bruins 1PM on 3/7/14) AND many bars/eateries that Boston is most famous for. And, the hotel is not far from Faneuil Hall!! Around 11AM on 3/8/15, the bus will depart Boston for home but on the way, we'll stop at Newark's Prudential Center to watch the Flyers battle the always tough NJ Devils (5 PM). After the game we'll head home with expected arrival around 9:45 PM that evening. Two game trips are hard to come by, you may want to take advantage.

Price includes roundtrip Motorcoach, two nights lodging, taxes, welcome reception at hotel, snacks on the bus and TWO game tickets (Flyers-Bruins 3/7/15, Flyers-Devils 3/8/15). Quad \$549.00, Triple \$599.00, Double \$699.00, Single \$1099.00 All prices are per person.

Provide Your Own Transportation (no bus) and Save (although if driving, pricing at Boston parking lots is ASTRONOMICAL!!): Quad \$429.00, Triple \$475.00, Double \$575.00

See Lou for single price. All prices are per person.

For more info contact: Lou Milano at 609.922.2234/ Lmstut@comcast.net/ 1608 Lucas Lane, Voorhees, NJ 08043 or visit the PFFC website www.flyersfanclub.org.



**Happy Birthday to
PFFC Members
celebrating in
February!!**

Catherine Callahan
David Cherubini
Mary Ann Corner
Marty Crennan
Joanie Doremus
Frankie Hartman
Steve Johnson
Carol Maher
Al Neher
Cheryl Sharp
Stacey Squilla
Christine Straka

**PHANTOMSTRIP 3/22/15 (Sunday) 5 PM
Bus trip and Game tickets only**

Join the PFFC on our first ever trip to the new PPL Center in Allentown (PA) to see the Lehigh Valley Phantoms battle the visiting Wilkes-Barre Penguins in their beautiful new arena. Football season will be over and what else is there to do on a Sunday in March? If these two teams play each other like the parent clubs do, we're in for a treat!! We'll depart the Philadelphia area at 1PM and return after the game with scheduled return approximately 10 PM.



Get your seats today!!

Price includes round trip Motorcoach, snacks and game ticket \$75.00 per person. Purchase Game ticket only: \$25.00 per person.

For more information please contact Lou Milano

Birthday List Compiled by: PFFC Corresponding Secretary Randee Rubin

(current as of 2-1-15)

**2015 NHLBC Convention in Nashville, TN hosted by:
Detroit Red Wings For'em Club**

Nashville Airport Marriot August 7-9th, 2015

**For more information follow the link on the PFFC website,
www.flyersfanclub.org**

**Prices per person are: \$530 single; \$399 double; \$365 triple;
\$335 double; children staying in a parent's room are \$175**

***Additional nights are \$122 + taxes.**

Payment schedule as follows: (payments are due to Evelyn on the date shown)

12/5/14 \$100 per person

1/25/15 \$100 per person plus any pre-convention activities

3/25/15 \$100 per person

5/24/15 balance due

**Checks are payable to Philadelphia Flyers Fan Club and should be mailed along
with the registration form, waiver form and pre-convention trip form to:**

Evelyn Gross, 4205 Poplar Street, Garnet Valley, PA 19060-6874





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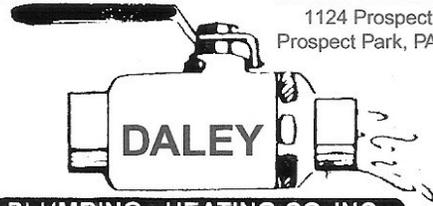
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