



## *The Swamp Gazette*

*Official Newsletter of the Florida Everblades Fan Club  
February 2006*

### *President's Message*

*Doug Byington*

Hi everyone. The All-Star break is over and now it's time to start making our push toward the playoffs. We are currently running 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Southern Division and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the American Conference.

Our last player function for the year is the Spring Picnic and Awards Ceremony is on 3/12/06. I want to thank everyone on the committee; it looks like it will be a great party as usual. We will have all the details and sign up sheet at the table so you will need to come by so we know you're coming and how many.

I would like to encourage all our members to come to our meetings. This is where all our ideas come from for raffles, parties, special events and too many more to mention. I know that somewhere out there someone has a great idea for a raffle or a fundraising project. We would love to hear it and hopefully use it but we can't unless you come to a General Meeting.

In every President's Message I have to ask for the help of our members to make our club be the best one in the ECHL. I want to thank all the new members that have come forward to help out. This really does help but of course we are still looking for more. Remember, this is your club and needs your help. Please contact any Board member when you come by the Fan Club table to ask how you can help. As you read our current edition of THE SWAMP GAZETTE and you have an idea for any article or column put it on paper or email and you could have a byline in our next issue. Our guys are the best in the ECHL and need our support at home and on the road. Last but not least.

**GO BLADES!!!**

#### *Board Members & Contact Information*

**President** – Doug Byington  
[fanclubpresident@earthlink.net](mailto:fanclubpresident@earthlink.net)  
**Treasurer** – Melissa Willis  
[avhockeynut@aol.com](mailto:avhockeynut@aol.com)  
**Member** – Dean Damron  
**Member** – Mark Adams  
**Member** – Robert Brunda  
**Member** – Sharon Woodard

**V. President** – Charles Devan  
[mobletraviler@webtv.net](mailto:mobletraviler@webtv.net)  
**R. Secretary** – Kimberly Christiansen  
[kchristiansen1@earthlink.net](mailto:kchristiansen1@earthlink.net)  
**Member** – Jay Willis  
**Member** – Keith Moore  
**Member** – Dawn Hazlett

**V. President** – Gerry Hill  
[biggerry5@earthlink.net](mailto:biggerry5@earthlink.net)  
**C. Secretary** – Sandra Harper  
[sandrad242@aol.com](mailto:sandrad242@aol.com)  
**Member** – Leann Knapp  
**Member** – William Ferguson  
**Member** – Mike Stauffer

**Membership**  
*Gini Hogenson*

WOW!! Keep those members coming! If you were at the Holiday Party, you can truly realize how important it is to have a large membership. It was the Best Ever!!

Good news – Our memberships now total 177!!

Welcome to our Newest Members  
Sue, Josh & Kenneth Hardy  
Donna, Krystle & Taylor O'Green  
Teryl, Jeff & Justin Schmidt  
Bryan, Yvonne, Siena, Zachary & Lily Purse  
Glenn, Dawn, Cameron, & Kelly Hazlett  
Rodney, Carol, Erica, & Emily Benson  
Nicoll Fisher, Bill Dabroski, & Alicia Fisher  
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Kenrick & Tina Goerz  
Josh Wadsworth & Melissa Monaco  
Bill Travis  
George Penafiel & Benita Carter  
Elisa Araujo  
Jodi & Nicki Thompson  
Delores & Bill Brecker  
Belinda and Keaton Hanley

We are holding a contest for membership recruiting. Please include your name at the bottom of the membership application you give to a possible new member. The member recruiting the most new members wins a prize.  
Contest Ends – March 1, 2006!!

Questions – Ideas – contact Gini Hogenson  
At [membershipchair@earthlink.net](mailto:membershipchair@earthlink.net) or cell  
Phone at 239-839-3324

**Sunshine/Hospitality**  
*Karen Devan*

This has been a slow month. Only one player had a birthday this month. A birthday card with a gift card enclosed was delivered to Phil Osaer. Birthday greetings were mailed to all February birthdays of The Fan Club.

The players were treated to some wonderful goodies and a sweet surprise for Valentine's Day. The wives/girlfriends were also presented with a package. We are sure a few of them really enjoyed their extra special surprise!

Don't forget we are getting ready for the spring picnic on March 12<sup>th</sup> at Lakes Park. Be sure to stop by The Fan Club table and sign up.

**Fundraising/Raffle Table**

Be on the lookout for some very interesting items to be coming to the table in the upcoming weeks. The Fan Club will be selling green and blue bracelets with Florida Everblades on them. We are sure they will be a great success.

We are also planning to hold special "Shirt Off Your Back" Raffles. A player will be selected for each night of the raffle. You will have a chance to purchase a raffle ticket to win the shirt/jersey off his back at the end of the game. Game dates and Jersey colors have yet to be determined.

***LET'S GO BLADES***

**Road Trips/Transportation  
Sponsorship**  
*Chuck (BUBBA) Devan*

We just finished a two game road trip, the first trip since the west coast swing. Our boys are now on a four game trip. We had to increase some supplies on the bus, because some of these younger players can really put the food away. We had some more donations for this trip. Thanks to Bill Ferguson and Brenda Sterling. We can use power bars, and sport drink for the rest of the season. Please contact Bubba if you would like to help out at 9944499.

**Transportation**  
We had a donation of money from the Idaho Steeleheads for the help of transporting their equipment. The Fan Club thanks them for their donation.

**Sponsorship**  
We can always use more sponsors. If you know anyone you would be willing to help out, please let Bubba know and he will provide them with the information. Thank you to Ditto Kiddo for their donation of a changing table to help one of our players. Perkins has also donated ten additional gift certificates to the club.

## BUBBA'S QUICK FIX

By Doug Byington, President

I have a little tale to tell. While Bubba and friends (the president included) were at dinner New Years Eve a cell phone rang. It was Big (John Jennings) the equipment manager. The sewing machine he uses for the numbers and names on the jerseys and to repair them when they're ripped decided to self destruct. He asked Bubba if he could take it and get it fixed. Bubba said no problem, because that's what we do. Well, after looking at the machine the repairman gave us an estimate. It didn't take long to figure out that the machine was beyond repair. Then Bubba came to the rescue. With speed of a Stevie Saviano and the determination of a Grant McNeill, Bubba worked a deal to get Big a new machine. It's called a PFAFF made in Germany. According to Big it's the best thing since sliced bread. Everyone is happy, Big has a new machine he loves and the Fan Club has come thru again. Remember, anywhere or anytime the Fan Club is there to help the players, coaches or staff.

The Swamp Gazette is the official newsletter of the Florida Everblades Fan Club, Inc. It is intended for use by current members of the club, sponsors, as well as members of the Florida Everblades organization.

We actively solicit interesting and informative articles, photos, puzzles, poems about hockey from club members, as well as others within the hockey community; however, we reserve the right to edit such articles for length and content.

The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the FEFC, its' officers, or the Florida Everblades organization.

Articles for consideration may be sent to the **Florida Everblades Fan Club, 11000 Everblades Pkwy, Estero, FL 33928, ATTN: Newsletter Editor.**

## Evening of Appreciation

Gini Hogenson

Doug & I, as representatives of the Florida Everblades Fan Club, recently attended an "Evening of Appreciation" sponsored by the Board of Trustees of the Lee Memorial Health System Foundation. We were very proud to be able to represent our club at a reception in recognition of the generous support which our club has given to Barbara's Friends. Speakers included John Gleeson, Linda Brown, Jim Nathan and Sharon MacDonald, who all provided insight into the many programs receiving volunteer help as well as financial donations from organizations and clubs such as ours. The evening included a video presentation showing how the funds have been raised, where they are being directed now and where they will be in the future. Your Florida Everblades Fan Club was included in the Program Book on the donation page for \$1,000+ Fiscal Year 2005. We should all be proud to donate to such a worthy cause. Have a Grand Day!!

## Florida Everblades Fan Club Mission Statement

We, the members of the Florida Everblades Fan Club, are committed to act in a professional manner, as a booster organization, in supporting all efforts for the promotion of professional hockey in Southwest Florida. The objectives of the Fan Club are to have fun, along with providing a forum for hockey enthusiasts to exchange ideas and have opportunities to enjoy the game of hockey. Furthermore, the Fan Club will provide support for the members of the Florida Everblades hockey team and their families.

## PUCKS, CARDS, STICKS, AND MORE

Jake Pease is selling some items from his Florida Everblades Collection. He has many autographed items for sell. If you are interested in purchasing any items, see him at the Fan Club table for a complete listing of items to be sold.

PS: He is the young one with the LOUD mouth!!!!

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## Florida Everblades Fan Club Committees

### Committee Chairpersons 2005-2006

Membership – *Gini Hogenson*  
 Road Supplies – *Bubba Devan*  
 Special Events – *Gerry Hill*  
 Newsletter – *Leeann Knapp*  
 Fundraising – *Open*  
 Sunshine/Hospitality – *Karen Devan*  
 Community Services – *Kimberly Christiansen*  
 Volunteer Services – *Open*  
 Phone – *Sandra Harper*  
 Website Coordinator – *Open*

## GrandPop Gator comes to Germain!

Gerry Hill  
 February 26, 2006

Swampee has called in one of his family members to help get the “BLADES” back on track. \*“OLE GRAND POP “ is spending some time in the locker room to see if he can get the Blades on the move with his appearance. OLE GRAND POP visited the Blades in their locker room on Sunday night to try and put some “BITE” into the Players game. He hitched a ride from the Swamp in the Delivery Truck of WATER 911 to get here and help the team take care of any other team that cares to come in town. He is expected only to stay a few days as it is “COLD” out of the Everglades Swamp. Maybe he will heat up the Blades and be allowed to come back some other time. No, he did not eat the Blades Captain!

- Old Grand Pop is on loan from Water 911. He is 12 feet long and weighed around 1200 lbs. +- before coming to Germain Arena.

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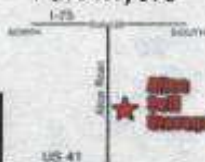


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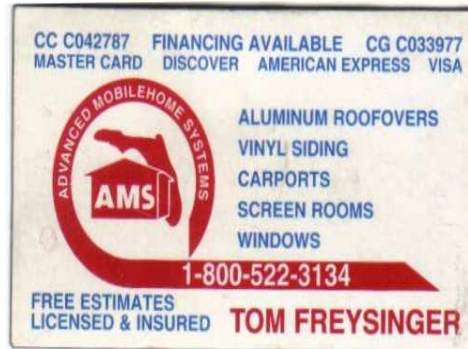


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