

# The Fan-atic Flyer

July 2004  
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## What is a Falcon Fan-atic? Part II

*By Joe Cooper*

*I received this letter from Karen Beard and I just had to share it with the club. This is a heartfelt and warm thank you from one of our own. This letter is not just for me but it is also for all of you who call yourselves Falcon Fan-atics.*

Dear Joe:

We want to express my deepest thanks to you and our friends in the Falcon

Fan-a-tics Club for all the kindness and support shown to me and Kim after Rod's death. Your presence at the funeral home and funeral, the beautiful cards, flowers, cards and calls have meant more than we will ever be able to express. Your tribute in the June newsletter was incredible and very moving for us. We saw the post from "Merlin" titled Reality Check" on the Fan Message Board a few days after Rod died and the responses from other fans who may or may not have known Rod, but took the time to say something kind. Even our in-season



nemesis, Johnny Buck had a heart felt and gracious post. I have attached a picture from a trip we took to Tampa Bay in December of 2002 with Dan and Selinda Mahan, Sharon Kelley, and Rod's mother, Jeanne. It was the year we were in a heated battle for a playoff berth & Johnny invited us to share his tailgate party with him. He was a very gracious host, at least until the game started. Such is the heart of a true football fan where you

can be rabid in your support of your own team while having the class to

appreciate the love that other fans have for their teams.

I saw that one of the fans on the message board also suggested a beautiful keepsake for the family from the Falcons to be given at the funeral, a flag from the Falcons organization. We were greatly surprised and incredibly touched when you guys appeared at the funeral with such a flag, but signed by the team, coaches Tommy Nobis and Billy "White Shoes" Johnson. I know Rod would agree with me that the flag does not honor just him.

*Continued on Page 8*

# Annual Fan-atic

## Banquet

*Chuck Ruffino*

**Annual Banquet** is confirmed for Saturday August 21st at Lake Lanier Islands Emerald Pointe Resort & Conference Center – we will use a meeting room; a good poolside and outdoor view.

The Charges and menu are the same as before & the menu will be the same. The date for receiving the pre-paid registration is changed to **Monday 8/9/2004**; you can send in the money at any time before the due date. Discounted room rates are \$119/night that will be good for 3 days before and after 8/21 and should be booked by each individual directly with the resort by asking for the “Atlanta Falcon Fan-Atics Club” rate. Right now I have only blocked a total of 5 rooms & have claimed 1. So people wanting to stay overnight should register ASAP.

Last year bunches of us came early and enjoyed all that Lake Lanier Islands had to offer, golf, lake, Emerald Point Resort including the pool, and fellow Fan-Atics. After the banquet, we retired to the pool and rousing game of Trivia Pursuit. Of course, we all hoped for the sports question to come up. Go figure!

To make this a successful banquet we need silent auction items, attached is a letter of request directed at potential businesses for donations. Goods or services most welcome. Please print it out and give this request form

to everyone you do business with restaurants, gas stations, stores, hotels or who ever you think might want to contribute. These are some of the charities we have raised money for:

- The Tommy Nobis Center
- The Atlanta Food Bank (Keith Brooking’s charity)
- The Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta (Michael Vick’s charity)
- The Atlanta Women and Children’s Day Shelter (Cheerleaders’ charity)
- The Revitalization Programs of the Thomson-McDuffie County Chamber of Commerce (Chris Mohr’s charity)

Last year we raised \$1500 for our charities from the Silent Auction alone.

As a personal note I wish to ask all members of our club to attend meet and socialize with everyone at our annual dinner. I think everyone in the club are great people and life is so short. Honor Rob Beard by coming to one his favorite charity events.

## 2004 Kickoff

### Luncheon

Unfortunately, we were unable to secure tables for this year’s kickoff luncheon. The Falcons do not run the event any more. After contacting the Atlanta Sports Council, it was determined that the club would have to purchase a sponsorship to

secure the tables. The cost of the sponsorship was not in the budget at this time.

Please attend the luncheon and represent the Fan-atics. Tickets can be purchased through the Atlanta Sports council at **(404) 586-8510**.

## 2004 Season Parking

After thorough investigation and negotiation, the Fan-atics will continue to haunt our old spot in the gravel parking lot across from Gate D at the dome.

If you are interested in parking with us, send an e-mail to [falcon\\_fanatics@yahoo.com](mailto:falcon_fanatics@yahoo.com). Cost for parking will \$250 and checks will need to be received by July 20<sup>th</sup>.

## Moving/Change of Address or E-mail

If any member has a change of address or e-mail or is planning to have a change of address, please let Joe Cooper know so he can update the records so that he can make sure you continue to get your newsletter. Thank you.



## Spotlight on a Falcon Fanatic

Often, we highlight Atlanta Falcon fans and Falcon Fanatic members from distant parts of the United States and even different parts of the world. This month, we are happy to spotlight a born and raised Atlantan, Juanita Mulligan, and she says to tell you, if Juanita doesn't ring a bell, think of Mel and Juanita.

Juanita was one of the first ten fans to join the Fanatics and she has been a faithful Fan-atic since 1990. Further, she has been an Atlanta Falcon fan since 1966. Juanita said, "I joined the Fan-atics to be around people as excited about the team as myself." If you know Juanita, then you certainly know why she said, "Everyone that I have met in the Fan-atics, I consider a friend. Everyone is great."

After 33 years with the same company, she retired in 1995, but she soon went back to work with a small company in mid-town Atlanta. Juanita has a son, Kevin and a daughter, Julie. Kevin has provided Juanita with two granddaughters and Julie has provided a third.

Juanita plans to retire again next year and do a lot of traveling and spoiling her grandchildren even more. She also wants to devote more time to the Fan-atics. She has twice been a secretary of the Club, she has twice been the treasurer and she has been the interim coordinate another time. She says she treasures each experience.

Juanita has been a season ticket holder since 1968. She not only attends all of the home games, but she watches every televised away game on TV and she often tapes them, so she can watch them again, sometimes two or three times.

Juanita's favorite memory is bringing her daughter Julie and son-in-law Chris to a home game. Chris is a career US Marine and had never been to a pro football game. Juanita had converted him from a Dallas fan to an Atlanta Falcon fan. Remembering the game, Juanita said, Chris had just returned from a six month tour in Afghanistan. Every one at the game was super nice to him. It made him feel good. So many people told him thank you and he was introduced to everyone in his entire section in the Dome. They gave him a round of applause. It was wonderful. Colonel Joe got them tickets in his section."

Favorite players over 36 years are hard to remember, but most were defensive players. Tommy Nobis, John Zook, Chuck Smith. Scott Case, Jessie Tuggle and now Patrick Kerney were Juanita's most memorable.

A real setback was when the Falcons went to the Super Bowl. Juanita says "It was great however because of a death in the family I sold my tickets and watched it at home." Now she is waiting for another chance to go. She says, "The next time, they'll win." This year, she expects the Falcons to go deep in the play-offs and "Who knows, maybe this year I'll get to the super bowl.

## Southeastern Brain Tumor Race for Research

*Karen Jenkins*

Hi Fanatics,

You have helped with volunteers at the Southeastern Brain Tumor Race for Research for the past 4 years. We are planning the 5th annual Race for Research to be held on Saturday, July 17th at Lenox Square (as opposed to Mall of Georgia) and wondered if some of the fan-antics would like to volunteer to help us again. You have been so great to help us in the past.

We hope to have Cheerleaders and Craig Heyward there as we have in the past. Please let me know if you can help and how many might be available.

Thanks for your consideration. I hope to see you on July 17th.

Karen Jenkins  
Race for Research  
Coordinator

email: kk-jenkins@msn.com  
Phone: 770-234-9417

# Atlanta Falcon Fan-atics Annual Awards Dinner & Silent Auction

Saturday, August 21, 2004

At

*Emerald Pointe Resort at Lake Lanier Islands (www.emeraldpointe-resort.com)*

Registration & Cocktails - 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Program, Dinner and Auction - 7:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m

Based on the attendance and financial success of last year's Atlanta Falcon Fan-atics Banquet and silent auction, the club has decided to return to Emerald Pointe Resort & conference Center near the Falcon Training Complex at Flowery Branch.

The Offensive, Defensive & Special Teams Players of the Year will be recognized at the banquet and we are working with contacts at the Falcon Complex to try to get player(s) for the banquet, the team will be in town..

We have again reserved a poolside conference room with a good outdoor view to escape the bugs and August heat, as well as the chance of "dog days" rain showers. The resort has a nearby dock for boaters. **THE LAKE IS FULL !!** After the banquet last year, many of us enjoyed the resort's "Dive-in movie," pool volley ball and trivia games. There is also a nice poolside patio bar for those who want to just hang out after the banquet. The water park is also open. See the attached registration form for more information on special room rates.

## MENU

TOSSED GREEN SALAD WITH CHOICE OF DRESSING,  
SOUTHERN POTATO SALAD

COLE SLAW, BARBEQUED PORK WITH BUNS  
HAMBURGERS WITH BUNS AND CONDIMENTS,  
BAKED CHICKEN, GREEN BEANS WITH BACON  
CORN ON THE COB, CORNBREAD WITH BUTTER  
WATERMELON WEDGES, PEACH COBBLER  
COFFEE AND SWEET AND UNSWEET COLD TEA

CASH BAR WILL BE AVAILABLE

\$36.95 ADULTS, \$18.50 FOR CHILDREN 6-12  
CHILDREN UNDER 6 FREE

**PRE-PAID RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY  
AUGUST 9, 2004.**

Make Checks Payable To The Atlanta Falcon Fan-atics with  
the attached registration form – Mail To:

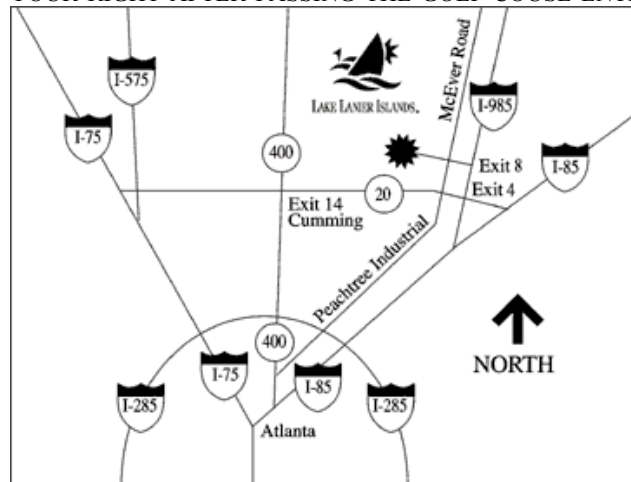
FALCON FANATICS, INC.  
BANQUET RESERVATIONS  
P.O. BOX 7117  
MARIETTA, GEORGIA, 30065-1117

E-Mail [cruffino@charter.net](mailto:cruffino@charter.net) or call Chuck Ruffino at 678-472-2616 or Selinda Mahan at 678-482-0856 if you have questions

**DIRECTIONS - LAKE LANIER ISLANDS IS LOCATED 45 MINUTES NORTHEAST OF DOWNTOWN ATLANTA. TAKE I-85 NORTH TO I-985 NORTH TO EXIT 8 (FRIENDSHIP ROAD). TURN LEFT ON FRIENDSHIP ROAD. FRIENDSHIP ROAD WILL TURN INTO HOLIDAY ROAD AND WILL DEAD END INTO THE GATES OF LAKE LANIER ISLANDS. (\$7 PARK ADMISSION FEE)**

OR

TAKE GEORGIA 400 TO EXIT 14(GA.HWY. 20). TRAVEL EAST ON GA.HWY.20. TURN LEFT ONTO PEACHTREE INDUSTRIAL BOULEVARD. TURN LEFT ONTO HOLIDAY ROAD. HOLIDAY ROAD DEAD ENDS INTO THE GATES OF LAKE LANIER ISLANDS. CONTINUE UNTIL YOU SEE THE SIGN FOR EMERALD POINTE RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER ON YOUR RIGHT AFTER PASSING THE GOLF COUSE ENTRANCE.



**Reservation Form for  
AtlantaFalcon Fan-atics  
Awards Dinner & Silent Auction**

Saturday, August 21, 2004 At

***Emerald Pointe Resort at Lake Lanier Islands ([www.emeraldpointe-resort.com](http://www.emeraldpointe-resort.com))***

**Registration & Cocktails - 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**Program, Dinner and Auction - 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m**

Enclosed is my Check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ which represents \_\_\_\_\_ Adult(s) @ \$36.95,  
\_\_\_\_\_ Child(ren) ages 6 – 12 @ \$18.95 - I will also bring \_\_\_\_\_ Child(ren) under 6 (Free)

**Note that prices for the dinner includes all tips, taxes and gratuities**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Contact Telephone#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip/Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**e-mail address :** \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE BY AUGUST 9, 2004**

*Make Checks Payable To The Atlanta Falcon Fan-Atics And Mail To Atlanta Falcon Fanatics, Inc.*

**Att: Banquet Reservations, P.O. Box 7117, Marietta, Georgia, 30065-1117**

**OTHER INFORMATION ON EMERALD POINTE RESORT & ROOM RATES -**

*Please contact Emerald Pointe Resort & Conference Center directly at (770) 945-8787 to reserve a room for the weekend and ask for the **Atlanta Falcon Fan-atic** group discount rate. The room rate for those who want to stay is \$119.00 per night (plus \$12 per night resort fee that all covers tips, unlimited local calls & long distance access, tennis, the health club, etc.,) which is a discount from the midsummer rate of \$159 to \$169 for mid summer. The rate is good for up to 3 days prior and 3 days after August 21, 2004 **or** you can choose one of the resort's weekend package rates to include golf, water park tickets, spa services (facials, massage), etc. You can get more information at the website above.*

*The check-in time is 4:00 pm, however, luggage storage will be available for anyone who wants to come early for golf, boating, water park, etc. The hotel offers some spa services, such as massage, facials, etc. We can block out some tee times in advance for Saturday or Sunday mornings, if we know who wants to play. We can get discount tickets for the water park also. Like Stone Mountain Park, the island requires an admission fee of \$7.00 per car, but that is good for the length of your stay*

*The resort also has some 2 bedroom lakehouse cottages which have a kitchen & deck with Jacuzzi formation on discounts. Our Group Coordinator at Emerald Pointe is Wendy Parham – (678) 318-2051 if you need more information on amenities or special rates for the lake houses.*

# Silent Auction Letter of Request

July 9, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Falcon Fan-Atics Banquet – August 21, 2004  
Request for Silent Auction Donation

The Falcon Fan-Atics club, one of the Atlanta Falcons fan clubs, is having its annual banquet at Lake Lanier Islands on August 21, 2004. Part of the banquet program consists of a silent auction, for which various donated items are being collected that the club can use for bids. The proceeds from the silent auction go towards the club's donation to a local charity. Last year, the proceeds raised through club fundraisers such as the silent auction enabled the club to provide 3 pizza parties to patients and their families at the 3 hospitals that comprise Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and make contributions to:

- The Tommy Nobis Center
- The Atlanta Food Bank
- The Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta
- The Atlanta Women and Children's Day Shelter
- The Revitalization Programs of the Thomson-McDuffie County Chamber of Commerce

This year's banquet is exceptionally special to the club, its members and to the attendees because the club lost a very dear friend and charity committee chairperson, Rod Beard. Rod passed away on May 24 as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident. The club is trying to get as many attendees to the banquet as possible to honor his memory and dedicated contribution to the Fan-Atics as well as his hard work for charity events. Rod loved the Atlanta Falcons and the cheerleaders and doing charity work, and in everything he did he worked so tirelessly. It would be a special tribute to Rod to have some wonderful items donated for the silent auction for the club.

I hope that you will be able to donate any kind of item or service you may have for this special project. If you can help, please call me at 678-472-2616 or you can email me at [cruffino@charter.net](mailto:cruffino@charter.net). Thank you very much on behalf of the Falcon Fan-Atics fan club.

Sincerely,

Chuck Ruffino  
Membership Chairperson

# Anticipation

Joe Cooper

Webster's Dictionary defines anticipation as the act of looking forward; *especially* : pleasurable expectation. Many fans I have spoken to are looking forward to the new season of the Atlanta Falcons.

But are they looking forward to the season with a pleasurable expectation? When asked, most answered with a wait and see attitude. Who can blame them? Many times in the past, fans have anticipated an upcoming season with pleasurable expectations only to have their expectations to be crushed within 5 weeks of the season.

As fans should we be anticipating this new season? I believe the answer to that is a resounding yes. Many things have occurred during this off-season that has made this upcoming season one to look forward to.

I am looking forward to the Fan-atics tailgates. Sharing time with fellow fans and friends before games. Meeting new friends as they come to Atlanta for the first time to see the Falcons. I am looking forward to the great tailgate food and drinks.

All that is great, but as usual it all boils down to the game and how the team performs. I still am looking forward to the team playing. I am looking forward to seeing the new personnel that the

Falcons have brought together.

I am looking forward to seeing Michael Vick return from injury and lead this team under a new offensive scheme. I know that he will have a learning curve this year and may well make some crucial mistakes. But I am looking forward to watching him grow into a NFL elite quarterback.

I am looking forward to see if Warrick Dunn and T J Duckett end up in the backfield together.



I am looking forward to see Justin Griffith with another year under his belt.

I am looking forward to seeing the

Impact of McKay's first picks as Falcons' GM, Deangelo Hall, Michael Jenkins, Chad Lavalais, and Matt Schaub.

I am looking forward to Coach Mora's first year as Falcons head man and the new schemes on offense and defense.

Overall, I see that there are many things to be excited about. In the true sense of the definition of anticipation, I am anticipating this season. Are you?

# July's Fan-atic's Meeting

We will have a meeting in July and it will be at Corky's near Gwinnett Place Mall on July 13th at 7:00 p.m.

No guest speaker is announced at this time.

## Directions to Corky's:

Phone Number: 770-564-8666

From I-85N

- I-85N to Exit 104 (Pleasant Hill Road.
- Take a right and proceed approx. 6/10<sup>th</sup> of a mile.
- Turn right onto Sweetwater Road.
- Corky's will be on the right

From I-85S

- I-85S to Exit 104 (Pleasant Hill Road.
- Take a left and proceed approx. 6/10<sup>th</sup> of a mile.
- Turn right onto Sweetwater Road.
- Corky's will be on the right

The flag is also a symbol of how the Falcon Organization really does appreciate the monetary and personal support our club gives in community outreach at the children's hospitals and other charitable efforts. Kim, Tim and I will be at the banquet on August 21st with the flag to share with you guys, and yes I have renewed our season tickets. So we will be seeing you all soon and hope to keep the charitable works of the club going strong this next year. I have even replaced my wrecked car with a Falcon RED one, suitable for tailgating. Thank you and God bless all of you.

Love Karen Beard, Tim and Kim Montcalm

Falcon Fan-Atics  
Newsletter  
301 Meadow Lane  
Auburn, GA 30011

Place Stamp  
here