



SAVE THE DATE!

Skaters, All-Performers, Production, and Administration personnel...

You may have traveled around the world, but have you been to beautiful Palm Springs? We will be celebrating at one of the most stunning Palm Springs properties, the **OMNI Rancho Palmas Resort & Spa**, on **June 16, 17 & 18th, 2020!** This is a spacious property, with lots of different areas for us all to gather and catch-up with friends, both in the sun and the shade, and inside the hotel. You shouldn't have any problems locating your friends here!

WELCOME RECEPTION Tuesday Night

DANCE PARTY Wednesday Night

GALA BANQUET on Thursday Night

Specific details about the hotel rate and our 'rate', along with cost for the event to follow soon. Please note that fun activities and things to do, are being planned for during the daytime. Watch for those updates, here, and on our Facebook Event Page, and Group page. If you are on Facebook, *please take it upon yourself to invite 'your' Ice Capades friends to the event, on The 80th Reunion Event Page.* All 'Professional Ice Show' skaters, production, and administration staff from other shows, are also invited.

EVENT and HOTEL registration information to be posted soon! Till then, Please Mark Your Calendar - and Hold That Date!

**THE OMNI RESORT HAS A LAZY RIVER, AND 2 POOLS – and lots of lounge chairs!
We will also have 3 Cabanas by the pool for our groups' use.**



The OMNI RESORT ALSO HAS ITS OWN GOLF COURSE

Morning golf outings planned, with a possible Golf Tournament, if enough people are interested. We are receiving Discounted Fees for Golf and Equipment Rental, and Tennis time and rental, too.

We are also being given a *10% Discount on Spa Services*. When we get closer, if you want to take advantage of their services, please consider making your appointment for a massage or facial, or other treatment prior to your arrival.

The **Omni Resort** is directly across the street from shopping, entertainment and restaurants at **“The River”**, and it is only a 5-minute car ride to the high-end **El Paseo Shopping District** (between Highway 74/Monterey and Portola, in Palm Desert).

GETTING TO RANCHO MIRAGE / PALM SPRINGS

This beautiful **Palm Springs Airport (PSP)** has direct flights – every day. Plenty of flight options. PSP now offers 11 airlines flying non-stop from PSP to 21 destinations, and connecting to more than 500 destinations worldwide.

[Palm Springs International Airport](#)

NEARBY AIRPORTS

ONT: Ontario International Airport (1 hour 15-minute drive)

SNA: John Wayne Airport – Orange County (1 hour 30-minute drive)

LAX: Los Angeles International Airport (2-hour drive)

SAN: San Diego International Airport [2-hour 15-minute drive]

Other regional airports include:

LAS: Las Vegas McCarran International Airport (4-hour drive)

PHX: Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (4-hour drive)

FOR THOSE THAT LIKE TO GAMBLE ...

CASINOS IN THE RANCHO MIRAGE & PALM SPRINGS AREA

Aqua Caliente (less than 10 mins.), 32250 Bob Hope Dr, Rancho Mirage; Fantasy Springs, 84245 Indio Springs Dr, Indio; Augustine Casino, 84001 Avenue 54, Coachella;, and Spotlight 29, 46200 Harrison Pl, Coachella, all just a car/taxi/Lyft or Uber, ride away. There are a couple more, but they are a little further away - Spa Resort Casino, and the Morongo Casino Resort Spa.

The weather in mid-June in Palm Springs, is comparable to Las Vegas. It is expected to be in the high 70's to mid-80's during the day, and beautiful in the evening – in the mid-60's, to low-70's at night, historically.

Looking forward to a memorable event!

Hope you will plan to join us! Till then...

HAPPY NEW YEAR Everyone!

Want to Volunteer or offer your services, please write: sperom@outlook.com

Our Alumni in the News



Congratulations to our Julie Lynn Holmes who will be inducted into the US Figure Skating Hall of Fame at US Nationals in January 2019.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

A spectacular blend of skating and singing beguiles audiences

[22/12/2018 Oman Observer](#)

"Opera Festival on Ice" has officially made its debut at the Royal Opera House in Muscat, Oman. We are thrilled with the reception this brand new production has received by the audiences in Oman. Congratulations to our amazing Creative Team, Singers, Skaters, Crew and Ice Technicians! A job well done!



Imagine the stage at the Royal Opera House Muscat extended over the pit, iced over and turned into a giant skating rink. Then imagine the impeccable Prague Philharmonia, Muscat's favourite orchestra, placed at the back of the stage on a raised platform, under guest conductor Dario Salvi. The magical worlds of ice-skating and first-class opera with multi-media effects were presented by Willy Bietak Productions last weekend.

[Click here to read the whole article.](#)

Family Pictures

Otto & Maria Jelinek recently travelled to Europe and one of their stops was having dinner at a Czech restaurant called the Bohemian Spirit in the Bohemian National Hall. They naturally enjoyed the Czech food and ambience but Otto and Maria especially enjoyed Aja looking down at them from where her picture is displayed. It was quite the spiritual feeling and they loved looking right back at her.





Check out who's still skating. You can't keep her off the ice! Ta da!

Video of the Month

Magic Memories on Ice – Figure Skating Documentary featuring some of our World & Olympic Champions who became part of the Ice Capades family over the years. If you have the time (1.27.37) enjoy your history lesson.

[Click here to view the video](#)

Appearing in this video are: Figure skating documentary featuring: Gillis Grafstrom, Sonja Henie, Dick Button, Tenley Albright, Hayes Jenkins, Carol Heiss, David Jenkins, Otto & Maria Jelinek, Donald Jackson, Belousova & Protopopov, Peggy Fleming, Gabriele Seyfert, Tim Wood, Schwomeyer & Sladky, Starbuck & Shelley, Ken Shelley, John Misha Petkevich, Beatrix Schuba, Janet Lynn, Rodnina & Ulanov, Rodnina & Zaitsev, Dorothy Hamill, Toller Cranston, John Curry, Pakhomova & Gorshkov, Babilonia & Gardner, Robin Cousins, Jan Hoffman, Charlie Tickner, Anett Poetzsch, Linda Fratianne, Denise Biellmann, Elaine Zayak, Rosalynn Sumners, Blumberg & Seibert, Torvill & Dean, Scott Hamilton, Kitty & Peter Carruthers, Katarina Witt, Debi Thomas, Elizabeth Manley, Midori Ito, Watson & Opegaard, Gordeeva & Grinkov, Bestemianova & Bukin, Brian Orser, Brian Boitano



[2020 Reunion Update link](#)

[For those not on Facebook, save this link](#)

[and share with other alumni](#)

<http://icecapadestheblade.com>

If you know if someone who would like to receive The Blade, please send me their email address.

Email me directly at gspoden@rogers.com

Comments from December Blade

Your efforts are always noted. Thank You. - *Bob Recker*

What a great job you did on my "Then and Now" feature. Thank you so much, this is a "keeper" for my grandchildren!
You are absolutely amazing. - *Donna (Marsden) Good Campbell*

You are a gifted communicator! Your same talent composing / editing the Blade is evident. You are mostly appreciated-
-but when you must stop your work with the Blade & IC alumni things, even those who take your work for granted will
wake up, and realize that it will take 20 or more to do all that you do by yourself! You are one in a million. – *Robert
Strong*

Thanks soooooo much for being the glue of the Ice Capades Family... – *Darlene (Pepe) Ripeppe*

Upcoming Events



On May 25th to May 28th, 2019, onboard Royal Caribbean's Symphony of the Seas, we will be celebrating 40 years of Willy Bietak Productions. Come join us for this incredible reunion of friends, family, skaters and employees from around the world!!!

REMINDER to make sure you book your Bietak Celebration Cruise today!

We also need your help. If you have a cast photo from any Bietak Production show you were part of, please email a copy to reunion@bietakproductions.com. Make sure to include in the email the show name, year, and location.

Visit <https://www.bietakproductions.com/bietak-celebration/>



<http://www.icetheatre.org/>

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