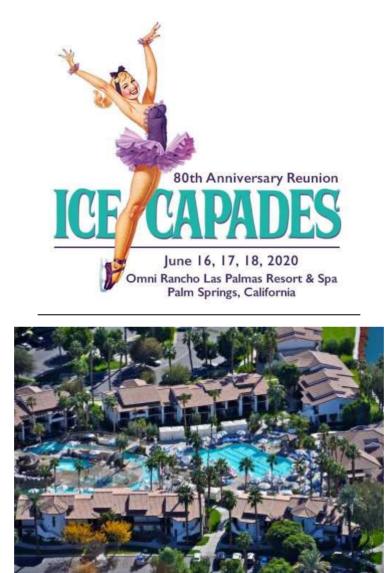


**REUNION EDITION** 

NEWS FROM ICE CAPADES ALUMNI

December 2019

# **Updated Reunion Information**

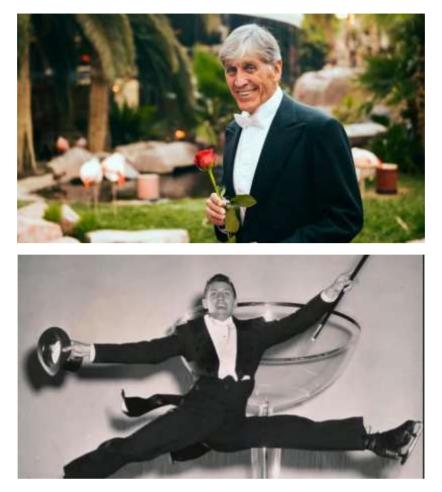


### Early Bird Registration ends Dec. 31, 2019

**Click here for all 80th Anniversary Reunion Information** 

Click here to see who's coming

## **OUR ALUMNI IN THE NEWS**



Happy Birthday "MR DEBONAIR" SKATING at 84! ...

Legendary Richard Dwyer, who's been performing the debonair role in ice shows since age 14, returned again to Hershey recently as a special guest, for Hershey Figure Skating Club's 85th anniversary.

(An HFSC alumnus, Richard has been a family friend since early '60s when my State Policeman Dad befriended him in Hershey, where he performed annually for decades since 1950.) He was inducted into the National Figure Skating Hall of Fame. And holds the Guinness Book Record for longest ever professional ice skating career. His smoothie act remains: skating in top hat & tails with lovely ladies; then solo leaps, axels, backward jumps & amazing agility all at age 84! Written by Paul Homick

## It's Time to go Skating Again



Meet this year's All-Star team of coaches at ICE AT SANTA MONICA, on now through Jan. 19, 2020. Just a few steps away from Third Street Prom, Downtown Santa Monica, the world famous SM Pier, all at 72 deg. weather outdoors.

https://www.downtownsm.com/ice-at-santa-monica/3281/ice-skating-lessons

#### Holiday Ice Rink Downtown Los Angeles at Pershing Square



**Click here for details** 

#### **Skate in the Heart of San Francisco**



**Click here for details** 

## **Videos of the Month**

#### Our Tim Estiloz was on "THE WEAKEST LINK" TV Game Show



Back in 2008, Entertainment reporter Tim Estiloz appeared as a contestant on NBC's popular "The Weakest Link" game show. The jackpot on this show went to an unusual high of over \$150,000 by game's end. Watch the video to see how he did.

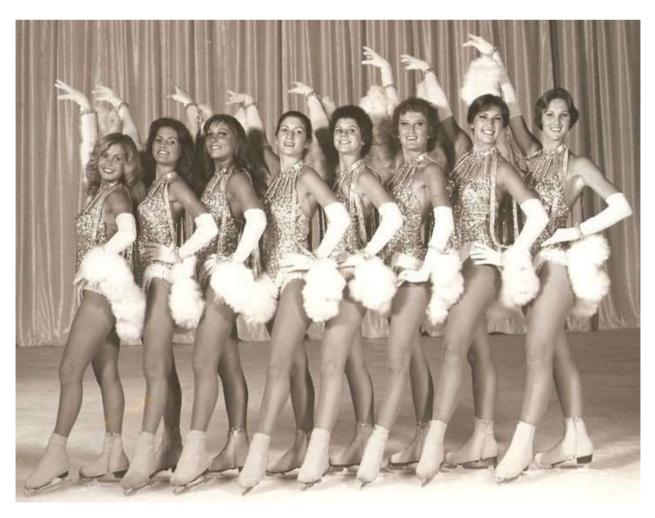
Click here

#### East Company TV Special - 1968



Haven't been able to find any of our official NBC TV Specials, but thanks to Anita Jackson and her video-taping skills, we have some of the TV Rehearsals for 'Highlights of the Ice Capades Special 1968' Starring Rowan & Martin, Joannie Sommers & Harper's Bizarre Includes Otto & Maria Jelinek, Tommy Litz, Ingrid Wendl, Ann Margret & Billy Chapel, Romayne & Steele. There are some production numbers from that tour as well.

Click her to view the video



## **Our Fantastic Ice Capets**

1977 - Mary Pinelli Farley-Fagan, Holly Scott Kirby, Sharon Smith, Georgia Bonatis, Brenda Lubeck, Brenda Stuart, Nancy Anderson King, Ronny Pomeroy Stewart and Andrea Wood.

#### A Trip Down Memory Lane

#### A couple stories by Doug Martin, from his book,

#### ' Frozen Community'

#### **Notes on Brigitte Voit**



Brigitte Voit was one of the show's Principal skaters. The Austrian beauty learned to skate when she was three, won the junior championship of Europe, and turned professional at age seventeen. I had been with the show a couple of years when they first brought Brigitte in to join the show. She was an immediate hit with the audiences, north, south, east and west. She could take the lead in complicated classical numbers, and in any children's production, Disney, etc., with supreme, confidence in everything she did. She also could laugh at some of the things she did, which weren't always

considered humorous by others around her. I'll never forget the time she took a fall in one of the numbers she performed. As she came off the ice, she said to one of the Chorus skaters, "How did you like my double loop?" He replied, "Brigitte, you fell." "Yes," she said, 'but it was high." Only Brigitte could think of a comeback like that.

I saw her a few months ago at the Las Vegas reunion. (2010) I couldn't believe how good she still looks. I hadn't seen her in forty years, and she looked the same as the last time I saw her in the show. She's married to Otto Hoke, who was also an Ice Capades skater.

#### **Memories of Pinky**



Patti (Pinky) Forbes is another former colleague who comes to mind, and believe me, there are a lot of stories I could write about Pinky. She's from South Philly, and is a walking storybook. I remind her every time we talk about when she first joined the show in Calgary, Alberta. She opened her purse, rummaged through it, and pulled out what she called a letter opener. I swear, it was as big as any sword carried by the Count of Monte Cristo. It was her way of making sure no one go any closer to her than she

wanted them to. But them, she did grow up in a rough area of South Philly.

She had a ton of talent and nothing seemed to scare her at all. We had a lot of laughing sessions through the years, sharing what we seemed to like as humor. She became my skating partner

after Tia left the show to join a show in Europe. Tia wanted me to go with her, but I wasn't interested at that time. So Pinky, who had some dance training, began to work out with me. Eventually we had our own number much like Tia and I did.



The website, <u>www.icecapadestheblade.com</u> has been revamped and more information has been added. It's still a work in progress. If you have something to add, please send them.

Look here for 2020 Ice Capades Reunion information, including the list of who's coming

Cast, Precision & Production Pictures – check it out. Relive some memories.

Rosters - Looking for someone or remembering who you skated with in the show?

Video links – have been collecting skating 'You Tube' links from the early years.

Program Covers – we had the most beautiful covers

Past Issues of The Blade – just in case you missed an issue

Past Reunion Pictures - relive the times you attended the reunions

In Memorium – remembering those who have left us

Check it out!

### **Upcoming Events**



http://www.icetheatre.org/

If you know if someone who would like to receive The Blade, please send me their email address or if you would like to be removed from receiving The Blade, please type 'unsubscribe' in the subject line. Email me directly at <u>gspoden@rogers.com</u>