



## Sad News

### Dorothy Bragle - 12/09/2021



Age 89, of Upper St. Clair, passed surrounded by her family on December 9, 2021. She was the loving wife of the late William Bragle Sr.; Beloved Mother to William (Debbie) Bragle Jr. , John Bragle, Debra Ferguson, Elizabeth (Tim) Leavey, and the late Robert Bragle; dear Grandmother of Aimee (Andy) Weidl, Alison Bragle, Kaley Ferguson, Kelsey Ferguson, James Ferguson, Connor Leavey, and Keating Leavey; cherished Great Grandmother of Payten, Luke, Christian Weidl, and Killian; treasured sister to Judy Lawrence and Noreen Barrett; she was

also an amazing Aunt to many nieces and nephews. Dorothy started her figure skating career in Boston and then joined **the Ice Capades** where she traveled the United States while being featured as one of the top 8 skaters in the show. She then went on to have a 35 year career as a gold figure skating judge. Dorothy was an amazing mother and homemaker to 5 children. Arrangements by BEINHAUERS, 2828 Washington Road, McMurray, 15317. Family and friends are welcome on Sunday, December 12, from 2 p.m. – 6 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Monday, December 13, at Resurrection Parish, St. Thomas More Church at 10 a.m. Interment will immediately follow at Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Dorothy's name to the U.S. Figure Skating Memorial Fund at <https://www.usfigureskating.org/support/donate>. Please add or view tributes at [www.beinhauer.com](http://www.beinhauer.com)



## **REUNION UPDATE**

### **MEMORABILIA TRADE, SELL and SHOW & TELL - HAPPY HOUR! (Wednesday afternoon)**

Do you have some old special items or photos or sketches, you'd love to show/share with others? Or do you have old but in good condition Ice Capades clothing that you'd be willing to sell or give to a friend or fellow skater?

We'll be celebrating early afternoon Wednesday, with a Memorabilia - Happy Hour (about 1 ½ hrs.).

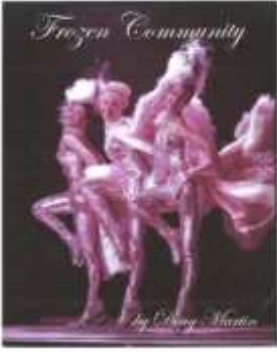
1. **Would love you to bring items you want to share**, programs, photos, other souvenirs – that you may want to sell or trade as well. (2-3 people per table)
2. Photo albums, or other kinds of memory books/scrapbooks, would be fun to see too!
3. Feel free to place items not for sale in Ziplock bags, as not to get confused with what you might be willing to trade or sell.
4. All money's earned are yours, should you decide to sell any of your treasures.

This should be a fun opportunity to see what people have saved over the years. Perhaps you have some things you would like to pass down to a younger generation? Personally, I was just gifted from a skater, some small very unique trinkets from 1948 and 1958. I was floored by the uniqueness of the pieces. Some amazing things out there.

Hoping a good handful will want to participate. You must reach-out to us and sign up in advance, so we know how many tables we will need. **Deadline for this will be Wednesday, May 27, 2020.** Additional spots *may be* available at event, but no guarantees of placement. Let's make this a fun happy hour. Yes, we will have a cocktail bar.

**To sign up, write [IceCapadesReunion@outlook.com](mailto:IceCapadesReunion@outlook.com)**

## RELIVING FOND MEMORIES



Doug Martin had published two books called 'Frozen Community' where he wanted to have skaters tell funny stories about their time on the road. Stories were posted before but worth sharing again. **Carolyn Hartling** has a few to share with us -

We were in Detroit and somehow ended up with a few rare nights off. I was invited to go out with some of the cast to celebrate, and was thrilled, as they were the 'older' gang. I had just turned eighteen. I was sitting at the bar with the guy who was the show's accountant at that time, trying to be sophisticated and choking on a cigarette. I said to him, 'Would you like a fag?' because that's what we called them in Canada, and he said 'Oh, honey, would I.' He asked me if I knew what the word 'gay' meant. I told him, "Of course, Drink, laugh, and have a good time.' He laughed so hard at my reply he fell off the stool, and I ran back to the hotel. Aww, the good ole days.

Another event Carolyn recalls as a newcomer to the show had to do with the 'Bus rules.'

I thought a particular woman we worked with was Linda Blair from *The Exorcist*, she turned so purple yelling at me one night. She said 'How dare you, new girl, for sitting down when I worked so hard tonight and need my rest.' Ha, guess the bar stool they were heading for wasn't restful enough.

In Raleigh, North Carolina, we stayed in a god-awful hotel with rats as big as they used them as bellhops. Seems the hotel where we were originally booked had been sold out with a teacher's convention. Guess we didn't look school-marmish enough. Ha. So we were stuck with "Bates Motel.' Drunks used our trunks at night to peak through the louvers, and that was just our folks. Ha! Horrible, horrible.

On to Honolulu, where we stayed at the Ilikai, a brand new, not yet-finished luxury hotel, for twelve bucks a night. I shared accommodations with my two roomies. It was my first time in that beautiful state, and what a welcome change from Raleigh.

One of my roomies kept a couple of pet turtles on the road and crazy as it sounds, they were loved. One night I heard a scream and went running into the room to find that one of the turtles had taken a dive over the balcony from the twenty-sixth floor. Oops. Thinking, we can't even make turtle soup out of this, we rushed downstairs to look for that poor ninja turtle. Well, lo and behold, there it was, alive. It was caught in a bush that had broken its fall, and all was well.

That is until Calgary, where we arrived in the dead of winter. The temperature hovered around -25' one morning. On our way to the train station, which was close enough to walk to from the hotel, I again heard a scream. Ninja had been left by the window in our hotel room. Yep, he was one frozen critter for sure.

How about a memory about a certain prima donna.

We aren't talking about the mob here, but in New York State we utilized union workers for backstage hands and for dressers, all of whom seemed to belong to the Kelly clan, of which one was on the staff of Ice Capades. They were great workers, but let me tell you, you didn't mess with this group of relatives. Well, one of the Principal skaters, who was a major prima donna with a wee bit of a temper, to say the least, was making a habit of slapping the dressers if they weren't fast enough for her liking. I reiterate, that's something you just don't do with that group.

So the chorus line was dressing the set when we heard someone yelling in the audience. We were all pretty sure that whoever it was, was yelling at this Principal, who was on the ice at the time. We didn't know whether to duck or stay and watch the drama. Being the professionals we were, we stayed the course. Ha. Thinking the same thing we were thinking, two stagehands ran out on the ice, slipping and sliding all over the place, to get that gal out of there, and off they went. It was unbelievable. But I don't think she ever slapped anyone after that scare.

Then there was the time that Metromedia bought the show and big shots were sitting in the front row, center, in Champaign, IL, for opening night. It was without a doubt the smallest ice surface we performed on. I was lead show girl, and wore a beautiful, bright pink gown and a wig/hat that weighed at least fifty pounds. As I swizzled up the ice – as only I could swizzle – the crazy gown caught the tip of my blade, and down I went. The bloody wig went flying through the air and landed on the lap of John Kluge, the president of Metromedia. And there I was with my hair in pin curls, with a bright green shower cap covering the pins. Oh my gosh. Poor Mr K. was in such fits of laughter. I thought for sure he was having a heart attack – and that I would be fired the moment he caught his breath. Thankfully, he had a great sense of humor and it all worked out just fine.'

'Who of us in the show could forget our Christmases in Spokane, Washington, and those formal dinners complete with Santa Clause? Well, we had a guy from Germany named Sepp Sholmeister, and he decided he wanted an authentic Christmas tree – you know, O Tannenbaum – complete with lighted candles. Once his mind was set on it, nothing would dissuade him, so light the candles he did. Needless to say, the tree went up in flames, along with his hotel room. He and his girlfriend, a former roommate of mine, were frantically trying to put out the fire and stop the smoke from escaping beneath the door of their room by stuffing trowels along the lower opening. Alarms were going off all over the place and people and people were evacuating the building. But Sepp and his girlfriend wouldn't come out of their room. They tried to convince everyone the smoke was from cooking holiday sausage. But Jack Balmer, the show manager, knew better, and fined Seppe a ton of money.'

We all had to be dressed to the nines at all times, even when disembarking the train t, say, 4:00 am, with snow to our waist. Try that in heels! Still, being in Ice Capades was a wonderful experience. I love reflecting back on those days.

# Video of the Month



For those of you who didn't see the Protopopovs in action, they have included some of their spectacular lifts.

Highlighting – Protopopovs, Tai & Randy, Underhill & Martini, Starbuck & Shelley

Pair skating is perhaps the most exciting discipline in figure skating. Lifts have evolved greatly over the last few decades. Here is a look at some of the most spectacular lifts we have seen over the years. (Figure Skating Compilation, Pairs Skating Lifts) Skaters: Babilonia and Gardner, Rodnina and Zaitsev, Gordeeva and Grinkov, Mishkutenok and Dmitriev, Ina and Zimmerman, Duhamel and Radford, James and Cipres, Volosozhar and Trankov, Savchenko and Massot, Zagorska and Siudek, and many more!

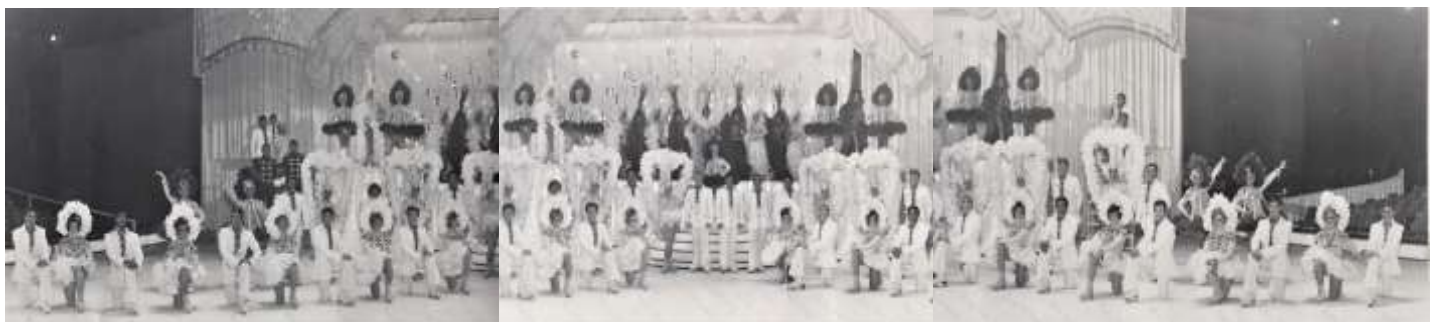
<https://youtu.be/KRhu9EOZxbs>







## Memories - Cast Pictures



1970



1975



1975-76



**NEW DATES for the Ice Capades Reunion – June 14, 15, 16, 2022**, at the stunning and spacious **OMNI Resort & Spa, Rancho Mirage (Palm Springs), CA.**

**If already registered**, your event registration will be transferred to June 2022! While it may seem to be a long wait The Ice Capades Reunion 2022 committee is still excited and committed to providing a fun experience, in what could very well be the last chance to gather ‘this many’ of us in one spot. Please save any requests for cancellations, for extreme personal situations only. Much appreciated.

**If you already have a hotel reservation**, know the OMNI Resort has moved all reservations over to the new date(s). Feel free to call and confirm, to ease your mind. The 2022 OMNI Resort Reservation Website is not up yet. Know they are working on a skeleton crew, but I am told the website will be Live in a few days. Info regarding the new OMNI Resort website will be posted soon. Our hotel rates, will remain the same in 2022.

We are all getting older. (Still glamorous, but older). And after all this Covid-19 craziness it will be so good to see old friends again! So, please make a plan to come join us, and fully enjoy this special, unique reunion!

[Click here for 2022 registration form, which can be printed out](#)

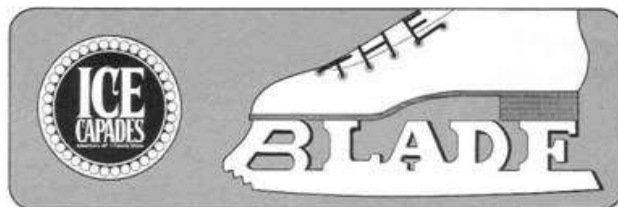
Click here to register: [New Hotel Reservation Link](#)

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS UPDATE FROM STEPHANIE...** Here's who the **OMNI Resort & Spa** has reservations for - in **2022!** If you have made a reservation for 2020 or 2021, *but your name is not here*, please call the hotel with your Confirmation Number to be sure your reservation has been changed to 2022. They feel confident all reservations have been moved... but please check if your name is not here, and you know you already made a reservation. Remember to use our Code to get our Special Rate: **061422Capade** Thank you! Sorry for any confusion.

Questions: -- Stephanie Perom, Event Producer, (310) 962-5908 -Cell, [IceCapadesReunion@outlook.com](mailto:IceCapadesReunion@outlook.com)

[CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT WHO'S COMING TO OUR REUNION...](#)





The website, [www.icecapadestheblade.com](http://www.icecapadestheblade.com) 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 **2022 Ice Capades Reunion** information, including the list of **who's coming**

**Cast, Precision & Production Pictures** – Relive some memories.

**Past reunion Pictures** – Check them out for some you may have missed.

**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 too soon

Check it out!

## Upcoming Events



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

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