

REUNION EDITION

NEWS FROM ICE CAPADES ALUMNI

February 2023

Sad News

Irmgard Rivierzo (IceCapet 59-67). [Maiden name Gratzl]



Irmgard passed away peacefully in her home in New Port Beach late afternoon Dec. 24, 2022. She was surrounded by her husband Dominik and close family members.

Besides her husband, she is survived by his extended US family, and her nephew's family in Vienna.

She also leaves behind many friends including her best friend Henni (Sonnleitner/ Hauser) Colberg.

Irmgard was born July 10,1941 in Vienna. Austria. After finishing

school, she joined the VIENNA EISREVUE 1956 and skated with the ensemble until summer 1959.

She left Europe in August 1959 on the Queen Elisabeth 1, destination New York-Atlantic City, USA to fulfill her contract with Ice Capades. Her Ice Capades career ended in 1967.

She went on to settle and work in Las Vegas, NV, where she met her loving husband Dominik.

In remembrance, Irmgard was a most generous, loving, courteous, smart, funny, beautiful lady, who will be missed insurmountably.

.....and off she flew with her wildly different hopes into the arms of God while the angles sang.....

A Funeral Mass will be held in Las Vegas, NV. Tuesday, Feb. 28 at 10:30 a.m. at Guardian Angel Cathedral, 302 Cathedral Way.

Alumni in the News

The 98.3 Key station from the Pacific Northwest, posted this question to their viewers -

Does anyone in the PNW remember the world famous <u>Ice Capades?</u> It's a nice article on two of our alumni – Lorraine & Carol Brinckmann who were in the show in 1943 – 3rd edition. Enjoy the memory. <u>Click Here for the video</u>

Videos of the Month

Here are a couple memorable videos of our super stars

Christopher Bowman and Scott Hamilton

Christopher Bowman's entertaining performance at the 1991 U.S. Figure Skating Championships



Click here

Scott Hamilton still has the best 'feet' in the business.

#FlashbackFriday to 1992 - the Men's Technical Program at the 1993 Pro-Am Figure Skating Challenge in Hershey, PA!



https://fb.watch/i1ghiVp1IH/?mibextid=c059er

Down Memory Lane

NBC Specials from the 60's

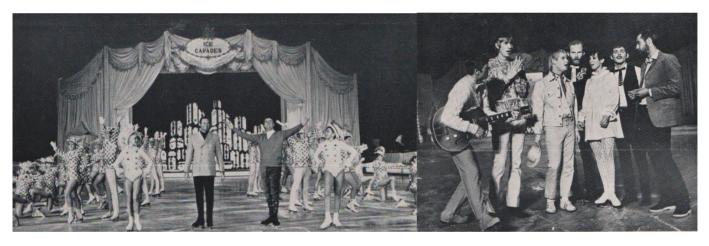
'Highlights of the Ice Capades 1965' with Arthur Godfrey, Liza Minelli & Roger Miller



'Highlights of the Ice Capades 1967' with Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Durante & The Supremes



'Highlights of the Ice Capades 1968' with Rowan & Martin Harper's Bizarre & Joannie Sommers



'Highlights of the Ice Capades 1969' with Louis Nye, Nancy Sinatra & Jack Jones



'Highlights of the Ice Capades 1970' with Lorne Greene, Bobbie Gentry



'Highlights of the Ice Capades 1971' with Florence Henderson, David Janssen



Upcoming Events



All Skater's Reunion – May 1 – 3, 2023

JANUARY REUNION UPDATE



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We're delighted to welcome in the New Year with 142 registered, and the majority of registrations paid!

Please note that Regular Registration is open through April 1st, 2023, with the room rate shown below guaranteed through April 1st.

Reminder, if by March 1st we have 200 + registered and paid, we will move the Opening Night Cocktail Reception back to *The Theater* with the upgraded live entertainment, should the *The Theater* remain available.

So, what WILL the Opening Night Reception and the Final Night Dinner look like?

<u>OPENING RECEPTION</u>: We will gather in the Napa Room, with Food Station Buffets, Two Drink Tickets per person, background entertainment, highboys and rounds to provide ample seating.

<u>GALA DINNER</u>: We will gather in the Grand Ballroom for a Deluxe Buffett Dinner, Two Drink Tickets per person, Dessert Station, DJ Entertainment, Dance Floor, and tables of ten, linens and centerpieces.

Those of you that have registered, but not paid as yet, please send you registration fee in ASAP.

REMEMBER! This Reunion is open to everyone who worked in any capacity in any of the Ice Shows around the World! We're one big family, and this is a family reunion of sorts.

The price per person to attend the three-day event is \$345.00 per person and \$195.00 per person to attend a single event.

Click here to see who's coming and Reunion info.

For folks who want information about the 2023 Las Vegas Ice Show Reunion, DATES: May 1-3 of 2023 (Monday-Wednesday) or are not receiving the newsletter updates, please email us at HOIFamilyreunion@gmail.com, and we'll put you on the newsletter distribution list.

Online Link to register: https://www.formpl.us/form/6524508642738176

Click here for details & updates

ICE CAPADES REUNION RECAP



Bob Recker kindly supplied this video from the recent reunion in Palm Springs. Click on either link

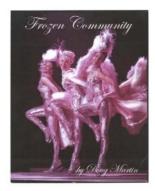
ICE CAPADES 2022 REUNION.mp4

https://tinyurl.com/3chzb9ak

Click here for Facebook Reunion pictures

Click here for David Sadleir's pictures

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.

Janice Smith recalls when Ice Capades made the trip to Australia. This should bring back a few memories for those who were with

her. In Sydney, we rehearsed in that huge arena with birds flying

everywhere dropping their, um, droppings on us and the ice. We girls had the privilege of having our own Ice Capades Pony Wagon, because there were no bathrooms at the arena. So we'd catch the Pony Wagon and be driven to a separate building that did have bathrooms. The only

problem – besides the inconvenience – was that the driver would sit in the wagon and drink while waiting for us, and would be half stewed by intermission.

Not only that, but the building which housed our dressing rooms leaked, so when it rained we had to walk on boards to keep from walking in the water pooling on the floor. But the worst part of our dressing rooms were that the stagehand/lighting technicians had great birds-eye view into our dressing rooms from their overhead lighting booths. Isn't that where we went on strike due to the working conditions, and management paid off the union. So we skated in spite of the conditions?

Then we were on to Melbourne to perform at the Memorial Auditorium. It was the site of the summer Olympics swimming pool. They actually jackhammered the floor, then put down the ice.

In Adelaide, our skating surface was a tennis court covered in heavy-duty aluminum foil. Then it rained...and rained...and rained. The foil leaked and we went through our principal skaters as each one was injured till only the understudies were skating. As you can imagine, the three months we spent in Australia created a lifetime of memories.



The website, <u>www.icecapadestheblade.com</u> has been revamped and more information has been added. If you have something to add, please send them.

Look here for 2022 Ice Capades Reunion information, including reunion pictures

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!

USFA is Looking for Skaters



US Figure Skating for the Centennial Year is reaching out to find and connect former and current members who skated any time in USFS history to reconnect. Please consider registering!!! Share with those skating friends you stay in touch with!!

I can imagine some fun reconnecting events!!!

Click here for more information

Upcoming Events

Ice Theatre of New York, Inc ®

presents

https://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 gspoden@rogers.com



CELEBRATING THE JOY OF DANCING ON ICE