

Sad News

Ice Capades International 1959-1968. Barbara O'Gara (Olson) passed on May 28, 2023.
Farewell Celebration July 29, 2023, 1:30pm at The Smoke House Restaurant in Burbank Ca.

In Loving Memory
OF
Barbara O'Gara

PLEASE JOIN US ON SATURDAY,
JULY 29, 2023 AT 1:30 PM AT
THE SMOKE HOUSE RESTAURANT
4420 LAKESIDE DRIVE
BURBANK, CA 91505

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS, WE ASK
THAT YOU PLEASE MAKE A
DONATION TO YOUR
FAVORITE CHARITY IN
BARBARA'S MEMORY.

Alumni in the News

Our Sarah Kawahara is featured in EMMY Magazine with her two Emmys. Awesome.



The Stuntmen's Association presented **J.P. Romano** a Lifetime Membership in recognition of his accomplishments and dedication. **Congratulations.** Well deserved.

[Click here to see his lifetime of credits.](#)



Where were you originally from and what brought you to join Ice Capades?



I was born in Marseille France after my father Tony Romano immigrated to France from Italy. Our bicycle family act 'The Romano's' was hired by Ice Capades in Oct 1967. We did tours with East Co and West Co. Later on I learned to skate and became a line skater for a couple years and never stopped auditioning comedy acts for Bob Turk. I finally was given a spot as a comedian and so toured as Jean Pierre in Continental, West Co, East Co and also did the Japan tour. I left Ice Capades in 1984.

What did you learn about being part of an ice show?

Our family did not know what an Ice show was, as we came from Vegas shows and circus. But that first time we saw the show (as we arrived in Cleveland to join) with 10 spot lights and the white ice, the skaters gliding with smiles on their faces and the music from a full orchestra, we were in Heaven. I remember telling my father that we hit the jackpot. Little did I know that I would end up doing Comedy in the greatest show on Ice.

What are your fondest memories of being part of the show?

It is the night we joined which changed my life. Opening nights. I love the train trips and the travels across Canada and the US. Also as a laugh, my brother locked Johnny Labreque in the bathroom without him knowing (in Chicago) and then yelled "fire" to this day I'm still laughing.

Where did you end up after you hung up your skates?



I left Capades in 1984 and was offered to go to Holiday on Ice in Europe but decided to switch careers and so stayed In Los Angeles and now live in Woodland Hills, CA with my beautiful family.

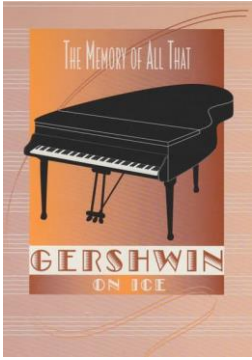


My career path took a turn to the movie industry and I became a Stuntman, a Stunt Coordinator and 2nd unit director for movies and television. I have doubled for Charles Bronson, Sir Anthony Hopkins. Worked with many wonderful movie stars of our era....

You might recognize me but you're not supposed to!

If you would like to get in touch with JP, here's his email address: Wobblybike@yahoo.com
'Never stop looking for what's not there'

Video of the Month



Dorothy Hamill's performance from A & E's Gershwin on Ice – S'Wonderful

<https://fb.watch/kTic41QBvp/?mibextid=2Rb1fB>

Pictures of the Month

ROY BLAKEY'S **ICESTAGE ARCHIVE**

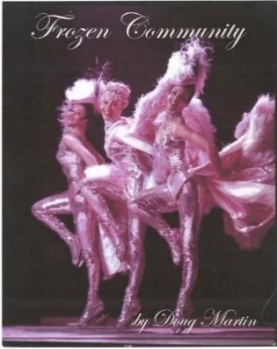
PRESERVING THE GREAT HISTORY OF THEATRICAL SKATING



Roy Blakey is not only the star of The Fabulous Ice Age, he is also a photographer and an amazing person who has the largest collection of the history of the ice shows he has named IceStage Archive.

[Click here for the link to see more 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. Here's a recollection from **Terry Derfield** with final rehearsals before opening the show. Those who were there will certainly remember the chaos that happened under the watchful eye of Mr. Harris.

My final storey deals with dress rehearsals, which were always very demanding, grueling experiences. But there was one particular dress rehearsal in Washington, DC, that was probably the worst of all. Our first show of the new season was scheduled to open at the outdoor Carter-Barron Amphitheater in Rock Creek Park for the summer months, outdoor ice surfaces couldn't be used during the day, and had to be covered with a tarp to protect the ice from melting.

Our dress rehearsal began at 8:30 pm, the night before the big opening. We had just gotten started with it began to rain. We'd try to rehearse when the rain let up usually only managing a half hour of rehearsal before it would start to rain again. We'd have to go back in our dressing rooms, wait indefinitely for the rain to stop, then start again. After multiple stops and starts, we were only about one quarter the way through our routines, and it was already 1:30 am!

Then the big boss John H. Harris, arrived, ominous and official like bosses are. He decided he wanted to see the show from the beginning, so we stopped mid rehearsal and started all over again. The skaters hadn't eaten since dinner, and the only food available was in a nearby vending machine, which emptied very quickly. The rehearsal went on until sunrise – skating and raining and starving, all under the close supervision of Mr. Harris – at which point, with the sun peeking through the gloomy clouds, the ice had to be covered again. And we'd barely begun rehearsal for the second half of the show. But we were done – with an unfinished dress rehearsal. Everyone went back to their rooms, tired and hungry. Yet we had a successful opening that evening and the audience was none the wiser.

Let's keep Doug's legacy going. I'm sure there are more 'interesting' stories out there from your time in the show. If you would like to share, please send them to me.

Upcoming Event

Ice Capades 2025 Reunion Cruise Announcement

'Escapades 2025 Cruise' We'll have a good time! 🎵🎵'



Please click below to join the Escapades 2025 Cruise – events page and get all updates relating to the cruise.

<https://facebook.com/events/s/ice-capades-escapades-cruise-a/746073810575573/>

THIS EVENT IS BEING CREATED AND COORDINATED BY Johnna "J" Bates...

PLEASE GET YOUR \$100 DEPOSIT IN ASAP TO SECURE YOUR SPACE. **Please Note: Deposit, is Non-Refundable.**

I would like to advise you of TRIP CANCELLATION and INTERRUPTION INSURANCE - it's your individual choice. Reach out to: www.allianztravelinsurance.com.

NOTE: PASSPORTS ARE REQUIRED!

Here are CABIN/CRUISE RATES based on Double Occupancy which include taxes, fees and gratuities. (Rm. Rates Does Not include your beverages nor their gratuities.) I'm trying to make it so that there are no hidden surprises when we disembark.

Rates are bound to go up between now, and 2025. Get your deposit in to secure your Cabin Rate.

Spacious Balcony: (bigger cabin space) \$703.77

Balcony: \$582.77

Ocean View: \$517.77

Inside Cabin: \$470.77

(Please note, these prices do not include the hotel. We'll get there soon)

TO SECURE YOUR CABIN AND CABIN RATES, and place your \$100.00 deposit, please contact Sheri as soon as you can at (914) 420-7808. You can also email her at scruises@aol.com. TELL HER that you are with the ICE CAPADES GROUP.

Cruise Itinerary

Ship starts boarding at noon time on Friday 4/11,
Sails at 4:30p - Arrives in Nassau at 7:00 am
Leaves at 9:00 pm - Arrives at Coco Cay at 7:00am
Ship Leaves at 5:00 pm - Arrives back in Fort Lauderdale at 7:00 am.

ROYAL CARIBBEAN CRUISES are ending their 3 day cruises out of Fort Lauderdale in April, 2025. Sooo..

In an effort to make sure no one "misses the boat" -- there will be an opportunity to enjoy a cocktail party, with a jazz group the Thursday night before at a nearby hotel.

Fort Lauderdale airport is VERY close to the Port and will be close to the hotel that I decide upon. I believe we'll be able to board around Noon time on the Friday.

Also, for those who live in colder weather - you'll probably be ready for some warmer weather! 🌞🌞🌞 Ty "J" ❤️

Questions: Contact 'J' directly - dabatej@bellsouth.net



All Skater's Reunion - Photos

[A few pictures from All Skater's Reunion –](#)

[May 1-3, 2023 – Las Vegas](#)

ICE CAPADES REUNION RECAP



[Click here for 2022 Reunion pictures](#)



The website, www.icecapadestheblade.com 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

HOME • NEWS • JOIN THE U.S. FIGURE SKATING ALUMNI NETWORK

**JOIN THE U.S.
FIGURE
SKATING
ALUMNI
NETWORK**

As a follow-up to the year-long Centennial Celebration, U.S. Figure Skating is piloting a new nationwide alumni program designed to bring U.S. Figure Skating alumni together in a fun and meaningful way.

Article | Announcement | Monday, January 24, 2022

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



Anita & myself are down in Mexico this month promoting (2) new ice rinks - We do some exhibitions and work with the local skaters. Then off to Germany to install our company (Glacier Ice Shows) new Show "Rock On Ice 2023" at Phantasialand Theme Park. Show opens April 1, 2023 and runs through October 31, 2023 (see attached)

Link to show trailer for show opening April 1 in Bruhl, Germany at Phantasialand:

https://www.tiktok.com/@phantasialand_official/video/7113860474940247302

Link to Phantasialand - Rock On Ice

<https://www.phantasialand.de/en/theme-park/fascinating-shows/rock-on-ice/>

Frank Sweiding <fsweiding@gmail.com>

*Ice
Theatre
of
New York*

CELEBRATING THE JOY
OF DANCING ON ICE

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presents

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

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