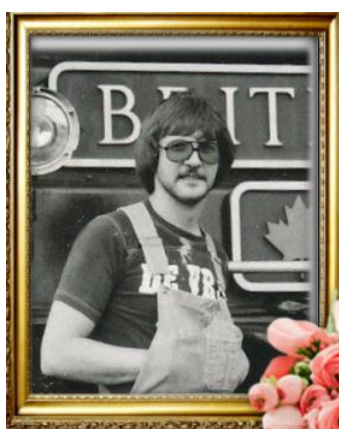


Sad News

Dave Beazer – August 6, 2023



Beazer, David Forbes Passed away at Leacock Care Center in Orillia on Sunday August 6th, 2023, in his 77th year. Loving father of Rhiana Beazer, Tyler Beazer (Gloria Mak), and Logan Beazer (Sarah Derejko). Dear brother of Wayne Beazer (late Carol). In his early twenties, David figure skated professionally with the **Ice Capades**, travelling extensively across the United States and Canada. The show ran for 10 months of the year and visited approximately 25 cities. He was an artistic person who enjoyed painting and the fine arts. In his later years, he spent his time building unique, one - of - a - kind birdhouses. David will be missed and lovingly remembered by Kristine, his family, and many friends. Visitation will be held at the Simcoe Funeral Home, 38 James Street East in Orillia on Monday August 14th, 2023 from 12:00 p.m. until the time of the service in the chapel at 1:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Ontario SPCA or to a charity of your choice. Messages of condolence are welcomed at www.simcoefuneralhome.ca

Gloria Smith – August 7, 2023



Gloria Smith, 97, of Philpot passed away Monday, August 7, 2023, at the Heartford House under the care of Hospice of Western Kentucky. Born in Washington State, on October 6, 1925, raised in California, she was the daughter of the late James Ellard and Gertrude Hill Ellard. True to her family, Gloria spent her time raising her children at home and making sure her day-to-day activities were taken care of. Outside of the home, Gloria spent her time as the PTA President and playing golf with the Lady Duffers of DeBell Golf Course in Burbank, California. When moving to Owensboro in 2005 with her family, Gloria became a proud and loving member of Restoration Church.

Gloria was born into show business life. Her father James “Jimmy” was a Vaudevillian Big Band leader and was fairly well-known in his day. Gloria soon followed in her father’s footsteps in the performing lifestyle and skated with the **Ice Capades** during her time at San Jose State

University. Gloria was selfless, she devoted her time to her family and friends. She was always up for an adventure; she loved traveling but wasn't able to do much near the end of her journey.

Gloria is survived by her children: Spencer (Lindsey) Smith and Brian (Janice) Smith; grandchildren: Nicholas, Jenelle, Brianne (William Kilmartin), and Amy; and great-grandchildren: Tanner Lee, Jasmyne Failds, and Jordan Smith.

Newsworthy

Be on the lookout in early 2024 for a special article in The Blade introducing a new initiative from Olympic pairs figure skating champion Bill Fauver. It will detail what CoachFax is and how to join. Backed by a Board that includes tennis pro Pam Shriver and three attorneys, its aim is to help keep youth safe in today's too-often unhealthy sports environment. We have all likely read articles or seen TV coverage about athletes being abused in their sports—This is to avoid the egregious few from spoiling it for both youth and the many coaches who are caring and legit. CoachFax is nearing completion, and we'll update you here once the rollout is ready! Hint: hit this link and discover what the new [CoachFax private club is all about!](#)



Photo



Bill Fauver and his partner doing a pair sit spin.

by WTVF/Nashville

Banner, Demetria Kalodimos July 14, 2023

Jan O'Brien Coopman is a wife, mom, and part-time freelance senior content writer and former Ice Capades skater with West and East Companies.

Alumni in the News

Ice Capades made it into the Barbie Movie

If you want to see one second of Ice Capades nostalgia, go see Barbie.

Ice Capades made it into the Barbie movie and got an honorable mention. How neat is that? The show did a Barbie production number in 1989/90 and Barbie & Ken Dolls were made. Trying not to give too much away from the movie, there is a scene where Barbie tosses out all of her old Barbies. Keep an eye on the upper right corner of the screen and don't blink.



Goodbye old Friend

Brigitta Francoeur decided it was time to send an old friend on its way.



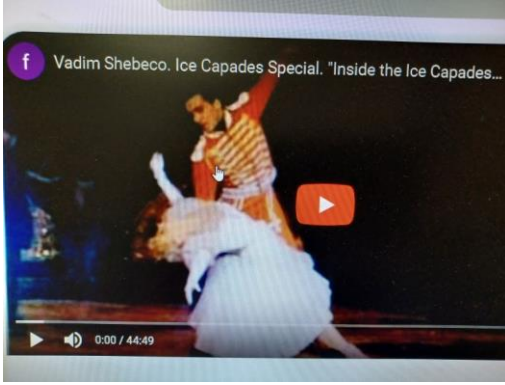
Well, this is a bittersweet day for me, as I have decided it's time to get rid of my steamer trunk. For those of you who don't know, this trunk is my trunk from when I was on tour with the Ice Capades. Every cast member had one, and Ice Capades had a designated semi truck just to carry our trunks from city to city. This trunk has been to all 50 states - every major city, Capital, and small cities in between. The crew that travelled with us would then deliver them to our hotel, and they were deposited in the hallway outside of our hotel room. They were for personal use, and our costumes were the responsibility of the wardrobe department, which went into a multitude of cases on wheels that went into their own semi. A hotel guest could tell where the skaters were staying, because the entire hallway of the hotel would be full of trunks. I bought my trunk at an antique store in Albany, New York. Most trunks were covered in a metal/tin, which made them quite

durable. My trunk was the largest on tour, but mine was even older and therefore covered with a type of cloth/canvas glued to the trunk. Due to age and wear, the cloth slowly started to tear away. Probably didn't help that when it arrived in one city, it fell off the back of the semi!! Fell right onto the lock side, and broke the lock! Everyone on tour knows those locks... not something you can just run out to the store and get! But thanks to one of our longtime crew guys, he repaired it for me - thanks Doones (Bob Schellhammer)!!

This trunk has sat in my parent's garage and has not been opened since it was delivered some 30+ years ago... so it was a time capsule waiting to be opened. Some things I knew were in there... like my retainer! Lol! It was fun and yet bittersweet at the same time going thru it. Keeping a few items, but most is going into the trash... including the trunk. 😞

It was very hard to let that go. I had lost the keys to it, which is part of the reason why it sat for so long. Yesterday I decided was the day, and I asked my 22 yr old son to help break into my trunk. I wanted him to use a screw driver and a hammer, and instead he came back with an ax!! I said to him absolutely not, and he asked me why... I was throwing it out anyways. I just couldn't do that to my trunk. I already felt like I was betraying it, and I didn't have the heart to take an ax to it. I literally felt like I lost a part of me. It was very sentimental to me. So, I broke into it myself with the screwdriver and hammer. This early this morning I heard the garbage truck stop in front of my house... it woke me up. I was half out of it, and then remembered my trunk was out there. I scrambled to grab my phone to take a picture, but I was too late, they had already taken it. In hindsight I'm glad I didn't see them pick it up because I think I would have cried!

Video of the Month



Vadim Shebenco. Ice Capades Special. "Inside the Ice Capades. A Skater's Dream"

w/Elizabeth Manley 1996

Click here: https://youtu.be/9t6K9Dq_yMw

Picture of the Month

Love, Love & More Love - 1970



Dave Beazer, Rob Stevens, Ricky Reid, Cheri Moritz, Pete Smerick, Frank Taylor,
Skip Dolan, Ronnie Burns, Richard Morse.

**What were you thinking the first time you stepped on the ice
as a member of the world-famous Ice Capades?**

Sarah Horst (IC 1991-93)

My mom never had a skating lesson in her life. She was just a natural born skater. She first took me skating when I was three, and took me to see Ice Capades, Holiday on Ice and Ice Follies all throughout my childhood.

My mom loved the very beginning of the ice shows, when the arena was still in blackout. You could finally hear the skaters on the ice as they got into position, and just see the glint of their blades and a glimmer of sequins in whatever tiny bit of light there was. She loved knowing the lights were about to come up, and together we shared the anticipation.

So, standing behind the curtain as an Ice Capades performer for the very first time in Green Bay, WI, in my beautiful ball gown for the “Masquerade” number from *Phantom of the Opera*. I could barely breathe – not so much because I was nervous, but because I could hardly believe some other little girl was anxiously waiting the start of the show as I used to do, watching for the glint of a blade or the glimmer of sequins...and I thought of my mom.

Marilyn Bate (IC 1957-62)

After auditioning in Victoria, BC in 1957, I was to join the show in Vancouver. I left on the CPR midnight boat to Vancouver (there were no ferries in those days), and arrived at 7:00 am. I took a taxi to the Forum at the Pacific National Exhibition and was met by show manager Phil Taylor, Jerry Renaud, the Ballet Captain, told me I'd be skating in the first show (it was a 3 show day), and to come backstage where they would have me rehearse. Ice Capades International that year performed *Peter Pan* with Hazel Franklin.

Dolly Pierce was our Line Captain, and the precision number was “Autorama”. My part was the tow truck. When the girl fell off the wheel, I was to go out and tow her off. After Lucille Vogt, the Wardrobe Mistress, fitted my costume, I was ready to go.

What's funny is that for a long time no one knew me by my name, but instead they called me Truck. To this day we keep in touch with a lot of people from our Ice Capades days and there are still those who call me Truck. John & I thoroughly enjoyed our time with Ice Capades. It was a great life, and we have memories that will last forever.

Jan Smith (IC 1965-1969)

My thoughts were jumbled as I waited to hit the ice the first time I skated with Ice Capades. I worried that I wouldn't remember the routine, and how could I possibly skate with the ridiculously high 'Masquerade' wig on my head and not tumble over from the weight of it. All I could concentrate on was balancing that wig on my head, and managed to pull it off. It was such an exciting night, with the lights, the orchestra, the beauty of the number. I still get sentimental about my years with Ice Capades. I was so fortunate to be a part of that wonderful world.

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...

NOTE: **PASSPORTS ARE REQUIRED!**

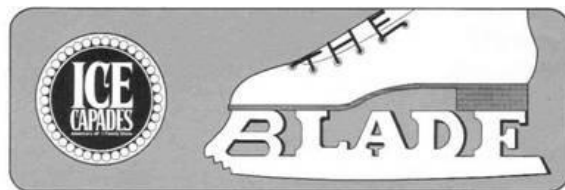
[Click here for more Reunion information](#)

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

Pictures from Past Reunions

[All Skater's Reunion – May 1-3, 2023 Las Vegas](#)

[Ice Capades 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



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>



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