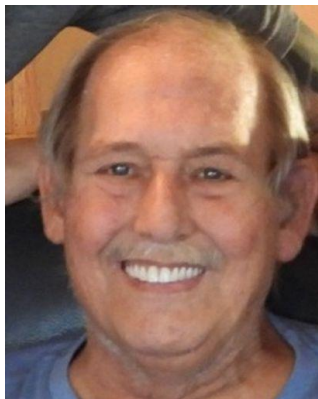
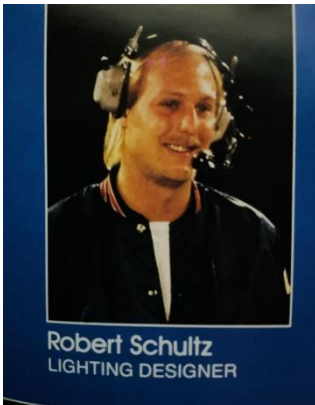


Sad News

Jean Piroth – Dec. 14, 2024

Unfortunately, this is the only information I have on Jean's passing in Pittsburgh. She was a skater in the **Ice Capades** many years ago. Jean was an English teacher at Mt. Lebanon High School in Pittsburgh. Condolences to Jean's family from her Ice Capades family.

Bob Schultz – Lighting Designer – Dec. 2, 2024



Robert David Schultz, affectionately known as Bob, was born on December 2, 1959 and passed away peacefully on December 2, 2024 in Orlando, Florida. Bob was a vibrant individual who lived life to the fullest. He was known for his big heart, captivating personality, and a wicked sense of humor that left a lasting impression on everyone he met.

Bob's journey began in his hometown of Mountain Top, PA where he graduated from Crestwood High School. His dedication and sense of duty led him to serve as a Military Police in the United States Army in Washington, D.C. Following his military service, he embraced a remarkable career in the entertainment industry. He began by first joining **the Ice Capades**, built his career and established himself as a renowned Lighting Designer. In 1989, Bob and his family made Las Vegas, Nevada their home where he worked with the iconic Siegfried and Roy Show at the Mirage Hotel and Casino. His expertise and creativity allowed him to travel extensively, impacting the lighting design of numerous shows and events around the globe.

He is survived by his beloved spouse of 41 years, Brigitte, his son Bobby and his wife Christina (Las Vegas, Nevada) and his daughter Katherine (Fredericksburg, Virginia). Bob also cherished his role as a grandfather to Devin, Sophia and Parker. He is remembered fondly by his mother, Jean; brothers Joseph and David, along with their respective spouses Anne and Kelly; sister-in-law Lisa; and nephews Christopher and Noah.

Bob was preceded in death by his father, John, and his brothers Jack and Gene. The legacy he leaves behind, enriched by his passion for life and the connections he made will continue to resonate with all who had the privilege of knowing him. His laughter, wit, and warmth will be deeply missed.

<https://www.newcomerorlando.com/obituaries/robert-schultz>

Our Alumni in the News

JUST ANNOUNCED! Legendary Choreographer Sarah Kawahara! 🏆



Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work with the legendary Sarah Kawahara, two-time Emmy Award-winning ice-choreographer who has reshaped figure skating history? Sarah choreographed *Blades of Glory*, *I Tonya*, and her many clients have included - Michelle Kwan, Scott Hamilton, Kristi Yamaguchi, Dorothy Hamill, and Peggy Fleming, to name a few!

As The Artistic Director and Choreographer of Willy Bietak Productions, Sarah oversees 17 Ice Shows on 15 Royal Caribbean International Cruise ships that employ over 300 professional skaters. She's been Inducted into World, Skate Canada, U.S. and P.S.A Halls of Fame, and will reveal her secrets to you, in an EXCLUSIVE Worlds Boston Professional Workshop! Register today! Join us, it's ABSOLUTELY FREE!

Torvill & Dean announce their final ever performance together

Skating legends and Winter Olympic Gold medallists Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean have announced the date of their last ever performance together.



The finale of their farewell 'Torvill & Dean: Our Last Dance' UK Tour - will take place on Saturday, 12 July, 2025, in Nottingham, their birthplace.

It's also the city where they formed their incredible partnership and skated together for the very first time 50 years ago.

Speaking to ITV News Central, the skating pair are hoping to bring nostalgia to their farewell tour next year.

<https://www.itv.com/news/central/2024-12-09/torvill-and-dean-announce-their-final-ever-performance-together>

Great Memories

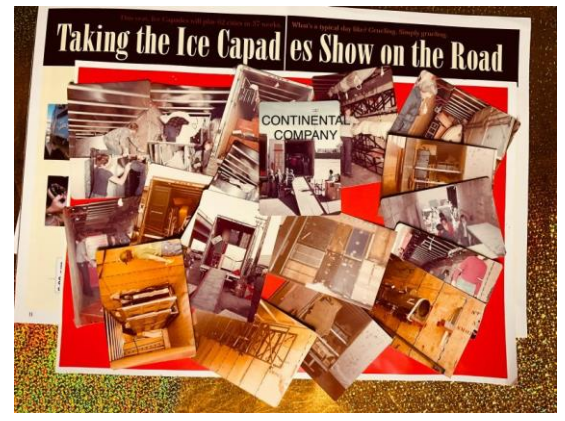


Freddie Trenkler, Tommy Litz, Ingrid Wendl, Otto & Maria Jelinek, Cathy Steele, Phil Romyne



One of my longest professional skating relationships ever.
Decades With Tai and me - Willy @ [Willy Bietak Productions, Inc.](#)
We even did a few whoopedoods.
— at [ICE at Santa Monica](#).

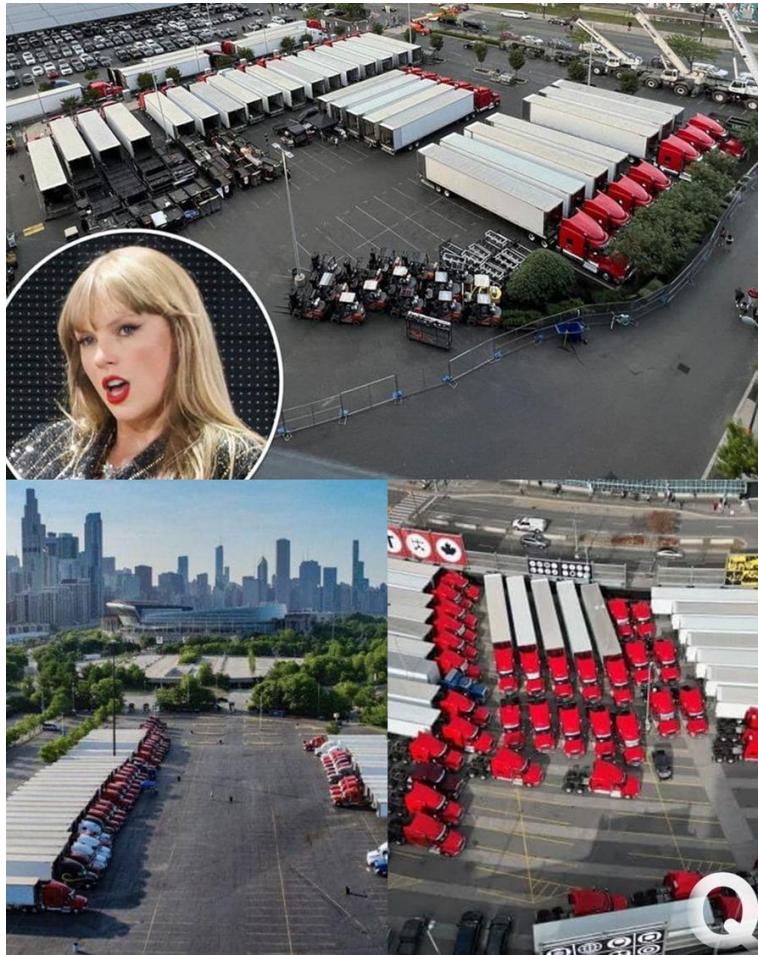
How Ice Capades used to move our shows ..



How Taylor Swift moves her shows today

Taylor Swift's highly anticipated six-show run at Toronto's Rogers Centre, requires an impressive logistical effort. Her production team reveals that two fully independent stages and stage crews are employed, each supported by 90 semi-tractor trailers. This setup allows for simultaneous operations in different locations, ensuring a seamless experience for fans. In total, 180 semi-tractor trailers are dedicated to this production. It's no wonder they can ensure a seamless experience for fans.

Times have certainly changed



It's Almost time to make new memories



70th reunion flash mob

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GCUIiYN6lh4>



75th reunion flash mob –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ejPbbFYkJVl>



75th Ice Capades anniversary Vimeo - <https://vimeo.com/130949837>

Ice Capades 2025 Reunion New Cruise Update Ahoy there Mateys!

Attendee's list updated as of December 1, 2024

[Click here](#)

For those attending –



I am charging a \$45.00 party gift fee, payable to me in cash or check at registration at the hotel.
It is for the bags, the surprise party gifts that go in them and the pizzas and salads at the pool party.
I have paid for some out of my own pocket. J

SAVE THE DATE!

Johnna "J" Bates is HOSTING and COORDINATING.

APRIL 10th Cocktail Party - on land, at close/local hotel.

APRIL 11th CRUISE LEAVES - Boarding generally begins at Noon, so plan to get to ship early, to get settled in your room. We'll be getting the party started early, while also starting to reconnect with friends!

MORE DETAILS TO COME... as the Event starts to come together!

Payments for the Ice Capades -Escapades Cruise

are due by January 10, 2025.

We'll have a good time 🎵

There is still time to join us! Contact Sheri at scruises@aol.com
(Payment information will need to be sent to her at the email above)

Have you made your reservation yet?

We can look forward to catching up with old friends and making new ones!

It's getting closer.

You can reach J at dabatej@bellsouth.net

'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/>

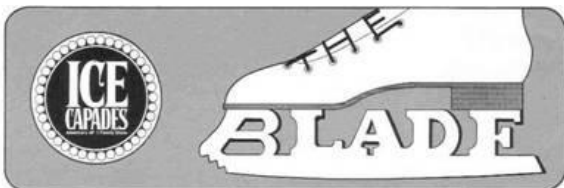
THIS EVENT IS BEING CREATED AND COORDINATED BY Johnna "J" Bates...

NOTE: **PASSPORTS ARE REQUIRED!**

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!

Upcoming Events



**CELEBRATING THE JOY
OF DANCING ON ICE**

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