



Albany
Figure Skating Club

INK FROM THE RINK

NOVEMBER 2007

CONGRATULATIONS!



Penguin Invitational November 17, 2007

-Isabelle Lombardi:

- Preliminary Freestyle Test Track: 3rd Place

-Micaela Jones:

- Pre-Preliminary B Freeskat: 4th Place

-Katie Howard:

- Pre-Preliminary B Freeskat: 1st Place

-Alyssa Hopsicker:

- Pre-Preliminary B Freeskat: 5th Place

-Shea Coleman Foley:

- Pre-Preliminary Compulsory MIF: 1st Place
- Pre-Preliminary Test Track Freeskat: 3rd Place

-Amanda Gemmiti:

- Juvenile Compulsory MIF: 3rd Place
- Pre-Juvenile Freeskat: 4th Place

-Catherine Amodeo:

- Basic 4 Compulsory MIF: 1st Place
- Basic 4 Music Program: 2nd Place

-Shelby Lynn Fichter:

- Basic 4 Compulsory MIF: 2nd Place
- Basic 4 Music Program: 2nd Place

-Alexis Mouzakes:

- Basic 6 Compulsory MIF: 1st Place
- Basic 6 Music Program: 2nd Place

-Grace DiRisio:

- Basic 6 Music Program: 3rd Place

-Trisha Roohan:

- Freestyle 2 Music Program: 2nd Place

-Meagan Clawar:

- Freestyle 2 Compulsory MIF: 3rd Place
- Freestyle 2 Music Program: 1st Place

-Rachel Gray:

- Freestyle 2 Music Program: 2nd Place

-Christina Lombardi:

- Intermediate Ladies Short Program: 4th Place
- Intermediate Ladies Freeskat: 4th Place

-Lukas Sotola:

- Pre-Preliminary A Freeskat: 1st Place

-Desiree Larrivee:

- Beginner Girls Freeskat: 4th Place

-Jessica Marinstein:

- Pre-Preliminary Test Track Freeskat: 6th Place

-Elory Smith:

- Pre-Preliminary Test Track Freeskat: 5th Place

-Bryce DiRisio:

- Basic 6 Music Program: 3rd Place

ISI National Artistic Challenge November 3, 2007

Katelyn Masullo:

- Artistic 4: 1st Place

USFS TESTS PASSED

November 18 @ Saratoga

Rachel Gray:

- Pre-Preliminary MIF

Taylor Kennedy:

- Intermediate MIF

Karla Schallehn:

- Ten-Fox

Emma Briceland:

- Silver Tango

Christina Lombardi:

- Killian

Adrienne White:

- Swing Dance
- Cha-Cha
- Fiesta Tango
- Pre-Bronze Dance

Stephanie Lombardi:

- Blues Dance

Isabelle Lombardi:

- Fiesta Tango
- Pre-Bronze Dance

Gina DiNapoli:

- Intermediate MIF

Katie Howard:

- Intermediate MIF

Aislyn DiRisio:

- Preliminary FS

Rachel Staudt:

- Dutch Waltz
- Canasta Tango

WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

- ❖ Rachel Roberts

YOU MAKE US PROUD!

Last month we congratulated our skaters who have donated their hair to Locks of Love or Wigs for Kids. We have other skaters who have donated their time to help others.

Hannah Conroy, with her 4H Club, helped organize and participated in the very first Susan G Komen "Llama Walk for the Cure" held on October 7, 2007 in Saratoga State Park. They raised over \$6,200.00 towards finding a cure for breast cancer. Maybe next year more skaters would like to join Hannah!

Alexandra Richer has also volunteered at various fundraising events. She volunteered her time selling refreshments at the Catie Hoch Foundation annual softball game between the Saratoga Jockeys and the NYS Police. The Catie Hoch Foundation is dedicated to helping children with cancer. Alexandra has also sold toy bears at the Kathleen Ryan Foundation Gala to be sent to breast cancer survivors.



SYNCHRO NEWS

Flapjack Breakfast Fundraiser: On Saturday, November 3rd, the AFSC Synchronized skating teams held a flapjack breakfast fundraiser sponsored by Applebee's Restaurant in Glenmont. The event, coordinated by Pat Clancy, was a huge success. Skaters from all three Achilles Edge Synchronized Skating teams (Beginner, Pre-Juvenile, and Open Juvenile) sold a total of 272 tickets. On the morning of the breakfast, team members greeted and seated the guests, served them delicious pancakes and beverages, and then cleared the tables. Overall, 183 breakfasts were served and the teams raised \$1,525.00. A big thank you to all who participated!

The Achilles Edge pancake experts were Rachel Bluth, Emma Briceland, Hannah Conroy, Laura Cox, Quinn Desiderio, Gina DiNapoli, Aislyn

DiRisio, Grace DiRisio, Soojee Eckardt-Rigberg, Demi Flack, Gianna Foley, Shea Foley, Morgan Gillies, Rachel Gray, Alyssa Hopsicker, Katie Howard, Anne Kennedy, Taylor Kennedy, Desiree Larrivee, Christina Lombardi, Isabelle Lombardi, Stephanie Lombardi, Jessica Marinstein, Izabella Martin, Alexis Mouzakes, Maddy Olberg, Catherine Roberts, Trisha Roohan, Danielle Sgroi, Lea Sposito, Rachel Staudt, Allie Tedeschi, Claire Triller, Leah Triller, Adi White, and Sammy Zayas.

Adult helpers included John Conroy, Pat Clancy, Tedi Coleman, Chris Eckardt, Lisa Flack, Ann Margaret Foley, Becky Gray, Jim & Dawn Hopsicker, Bill Howard, Colm Kennedy, Mandy & Dan Kennedy, Carol Larrivee, Tom Lombardi, Robyn Marinstein, Paulette Morgan, Becki Nikolski, Liz Roberts, Dorothy Roohan, Matt & Nancy Sposito, Rhonda Staudt, Maria Tedeschi, Anne & Darrin Triller, Jayne Deane White, Andrea Worthington and Michele Zayas.

Upcoming Performances: All 3 synchronized skating teams, the Achilles Edge Beginner, Pre-Juvenile, and Open Juvenile teams, will be performing their competition programs at the Albany FSc Winter Ice Show on Saturday, December 8, 2007. Come and see a preview of their new and updated programs and cheer on our hard-working teams!

The teams will be competing for the first time this season at the 2008 Lake Placid Synchronized Skating Classic on January 506. This competition regularly attracts synchro teams from all over the northeast and Canada.

Questions about our synchronized skating teams? Contact Dawn Hopsicker @ 357-0934 or jhopsick@nycap.rr.com.



AFSC MEMBER AMANDA GEMMITI SKATES FOR RPI HOCKEY FANS

While many people enjoyed the malls shopping on Black Friday, Amanda Gemmiti was skating. The 57th Annual RPI Holiday Hockey Tournament was being held and AFSC's Amanda Gemmiti was asked to skate during the Notre Dame/University of Alabama at Huntsville Game. She skated her artistic program, Shania Twains' "From This Moment On", and was warmly received by all the hockey fans at the game.



RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL TRIP

Many AFSC members went on the bust trip to New York City on November 10, 2007 to see the Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular. AFSC members were amazed by the precision of the high-kicking Rockettes, and especially the synchro team members recognized many of the moves the dancers did, like the pinwheels and open blocks, since these are also used in synchro routines. Those synchro skaters came to synchro practice the next day newly inspired by the show. All had a great time at the show and in New York City.





2007 HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING FESTIVAL DECEMBER 2

25 AFSC skaters including Helen Serafini, Olivia Serafini, Victoria Carach, Samantha Carach, Katie Howard, Micaela Jones, Shea Foley, Grace DiRisio, Katelyn Masullo, Gianna Foley, Bryce DiRisio, Danielle Sgroi, Amy Barba, Soojee Eckardt-Rigberg, Abigail Smentkowski, Lily Digman, Emily Digman, Catherin Amodeo, Rachel Bluth, Katelyn McGlauffin, and Christina Lombardi will be skating on December 2, 2007 in Albany's Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony. Have a great time and take some good pictures so we can show them off in next months newsletter!



Happy Birthday!

- Judy Bovitz: November 12
- Kylar Coleman Foley: November 27
- Quinn Desiderio: November 11
- Bailey Hogan: November 3
- Rachele Kalin: November 18
- Christina Lombardi: November 30
- Alexandra Pigliavento: November 13
- Louis Tomaino: November 19
- Caley Vangelis: November 3



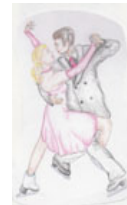
BASIC SKILLS/LEARN TO SKATE FALL 2007 & WINTER 2008

The winter session will start January 6th following the same schedule with 45 minute lessons for all school age and adult skaters. Preschool skaters will still have the option to sign up for extra lesson time or not. Included in the winter program is participation in Albany Figure Skating Club's Spring Ice Show. Skaters will skate group numbers to music in our ice show. We hope our skaters find this an exciting addition to our program!

New Basic Skills Coordinator Needed:

Janet will be stepping down as Basic Skills Coordinator after this Winter 2008 session. A new volunteer coordinator is needed. Janet will work closely with the new coordinator through next year. Please contact Janet if you are interested.

Questions? Contact Janet Sotola jsotola@nycap.rr.com or 861-6705



SHALL WE DANCE?

As you know the ice dance class at the Albany Academy will be cancelled after this fall ice is ended due to lack of enrollment. Members were also recently pooled to determine if there was enough interest to support an ice dance class starting in January at the Clifton Park Arena. Unfortunately there were not enough skaters interested so we will not be able to offer group ice dance classes to our skaters at this time. Thank you to all who took the time to respond to the query on ice dance and the board is sorry to have to disappoint those of you who did want to take the group ice dance classes. We do hope to offer classes in the future, possibly this coming spring and/or summer.



QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What is the new USFS Test Track that some of our skaters skated at the Penguin Invitational?

Quoted from the USFS website: "The competitive test track is a new event for all nonqualifying competitions that limits the difficulty of skating elements performed in each level. The test track will line up the test structure requirements with the competition levels, giving skaters a fair playing field to continue competing and testing according to their abilities.

Skaters may choose to participate in either the test track or free skating track but not both during the same nonqualifying competition. The 6.0 judging system will be used for this new track. This will replace the Basic Skills free skating competitive events and direct skaters from the Basic Skills badge levels into the test track or free skating track.

Adding an alternative track for restricted competition will encourage skaters, offer them opportunities for success in a competitive atmosphere while they continue to progress through the test structure, gain credentials for future endeavors and retain membership in U.S. Figure Skating. Competitions that host these events will be offering more opportunities to keep skaters motivated along the pipeline and keep them enthusiastic about their abilities in hopes of retaining skaters who may be discouraged by the high level of technical elements at all levels.

For more information check out the USFS website:
<http://www.usfsa.org/Programs.asp?id=79>

ITEMS OF INTEREST:

1. Rooms reserved for AFSC at the Lake Placid Comfort Inn for the January 2008 **Lake Placid ISI Competition**. Group rate of \$135.00 per night for a minimum 2-night stay for a room with 2 double beds between Thursday January 17 and Saturday January 19, 2008. The rooms will be held at this rate until December 17, 2007. There are limited numbers of rooms and they will be given out on a first come first serve basis so reserve your room early. Poolside rooms are available. To make a reservation call (518) 523-9555 and mention the group rate for the Albany Figure Skating Club.
2. www.icenetwork.com promotion: everyone should have received an email about this but just to remind you this is a great opportunity to be able to view some high quality figure skating via the internet that is not available on TV. Albany FSC members can use our discount code ICECLB21OFF and AFSC Basic Skills members can use the discount code ICEBSP21OFF to save \$10.00 off the regular season pass price of \$29.95. Basic Skills members will also earn our Basic Skills Program a \$2.00 promotional fee! If you do not know your membership ID # feel free to email Janet Sotola: jsotola@nycap.rr.com.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

1. **Saturday December 8, 6:00 PM** Winter Ice Show
2. **April 14-18, 2008** Spring Clinic Week 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
3. **Friday April 25, 2008** AFSC Annual Rewards Banquet



SKATING ON TV

- **December 2, 4-7 PM:** ESPN 2007 Cup of Russia
- **December 9, 4-7 PM:** ESPN 2007 NHK Trophy
- **December 16, 10AM-12 PM:** Style Kristi Yamaguchi Friends & Family
- **December 21, 5-7 PM:** Style Kristi Yamaguchi Friends & Family
- **December 23, 4-6 PM:** ESPN Wynonna Tribute on Ice
- **December 23, 4-7 PM:** ESPN 2007 ISU Grand Prix Final
- **December 25, 2:30-4:30 PM:** NBC Capital One Holiday Celebration on Ice
- **December 26, 5-7 PM:** Style Capital One Holiday Celebration on Ice
- **December 30, 10AM-12PM:** Style Capital One Holiday Celebration on Ice

UPCOMING COMPETITIONS FOR THE SEASON:

USFS COMPETITIONS:

1. **Saturday December 8:** Christmas Brook Competition, North Adams, MA
2. **Saturday January 12, 2008:** Mohawk Valley Classic, New Hartford, NY. Applications available on their website: www.scrnh.org. Application deadline is December 8th.
3. **Sunday January 13, 2008:** 6th Annual Winter Escapade Competition, West Orange, NJ.

4. **Friday February 1 to Sunday February 3, 2008:** Bay State Games, Adams, MA given by Christmas Brook FSC.
5. **Saturday, March 29, 2008:** The Garren, given by Hudson Mohawk FSC, Troy, NY.

ISI COMPETITIONS:

1. **January 17-20, 2008:** Lake Placid ISI Competition, Lake Placid, NY. Group discount rooms are reserved at the Comfort Inn at Lake Placid – see above Items of Interest. Competition applications now available at www.riverdaleice.com. Application deadline December 1, 2007.
2. **April 5 & 6, 2008:** Saratoga Springs Invitational, Saratoga, NY

UPCOMING USFS TEST SESSIONS:

1. **Friday December 7, 2007:** North Adams, MA given by Christmas Brook FSC. Application deadline November 26, 2007.
2. **Sunday January 13, 2008:** @ Saratoga Springs, Weibel Rink given by SSFSC.
3. **Sunday March 30, 2008:** @ Saratoga Springs, Weibel Rink given by SSFSC.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

MEMBERSHIP AS OF OCTOBER 21: **121**
 BASIC SKILLS MEMBERSHIP: **39**

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP TO ALBANY FIGURE SKATING CLUB?

Contact Membership Chair Janet Sotola @ jsotola@nycap.rr.com for information & registration form or go to our website: www.albanyfsc.org.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday December 19 6:30-8:30 @ the Delmar YMCA. All are welcome to attend.

