



Albany
Figure Skating Club

INK FROM THE RINK

OCTOBER 2008

CONGRATULATIONS!



Helen & Olivia Serafini competed at the 2009 North Atlantic Regional Competition in Jamestown New York. Helen finished 6th in her qualifying round in Intermediate Ladies Group B scoring a personal best in her Intermediate Free Skate. Olivia finished 3rd in her qualifying round (Juvenile girls group D) which advanced Olivia to the Final round. Olivia went on to place 6th overall in our region at the Juvenile level! For those who subscribe to Icenetwork, you can watch Helen and Olivia's performances online.



Stephanie Lombardi:

- Intermediate Ladies Short Program: 2nd Place
- Gold Solo Dance/Viennese Waltz: 1st Place
- International Solo Dance/Silver Samba: 1st Place
- Novice Ladies Test Track: 1st Place

Helen Serafini:

- Intermediate Ladies Short Program: 1st Place
- Intermediate Ladies Long Program: 2nd Place

Will Fichter:

- Basic 2 Compulsory Moves: 3rd Place
- Basic 2 Program: 1st Place

Bryce DiRisio:

- Basic 6 Compulsory Moves: 1st Place
- Basic 6 Program: 2nd Place

Lily Digman:

- No Test Freeskate: 4th Place
- No Test Artistic/Showcase: 4th Place

Danielle Sgroi:

- No Test Freeskate: 2nd Place
- Pre-Preliminary Compulsory Spins: 6th Place

Allie Tedeschi:

- No Test Freeskate: 3rd Place

Olivia Serafini:

- Intermediate Ladies Long Program: 2nd Place

Gina DiNapoli:

- Open Juvenile Freeskate: 2nd Place

Amanda Gemmiti:

- Open Juvenile Freeskate: 1st Place
- Juvenile Compulsory Moves: 1st Place

Verena Mohanlali:

- Basic 2 Program: 2nd Place

Adriannah Saunders:

- Basic 4 Program: 1st Place

Rachel Watson:

- Basic 6 Program: 3rd Place

Samantha McDevitt:

- Basic 6 Program: 1st Place

Sabrina Zayas:

- Basic 7 Program: 4th Place

Kyra Fragale:

- Beginner Test Track: 3rd Place

Sophie Kemp:

- Basic 7 Program: 3rd Place

Alexis Watson:

- Basic 7 Program: 2nd Place

Eleanna Sakoulas:

- No Test Compulsory Moves: 3rd Place

Amy Barba:

- No Test Compulsory Moves: 1st Place
- Limited Beginner Test Track: 2nd Place

Catherine Amodeo:

- No Test Compulsory Moves: 4th Place
- Limited Beginner Test Track: 5th Place

Grace DiRisio:

- No Test Compulsory Moves: 3rd Place
- Beginner Test Track: 2nd Place

Leah Triller:

- Pre-Preliminary Compulsory Moves: 4th Place
- Beginner Test Track: 1st Place

Alexis Mouzakes:

- Pre-Preliminary Compulsory Moves: 8th Place
- Beginner Test Track: 1st Place

Emily Mueller:

- Pre-Preliminary Compulsory Moves: 7th Place
- Pre-Preliminary Test Track: 4th Place

Meagan Clawar:

- Pre-Preliminary Compulsory Moves: 6th Place
- Pre-Preliminary Test Track: 4th Place

Claire Triller:

- Pre-Preliminary Compulsory Moves: 4th Place
- Pre-Preliminary Test Track: 5th Place

Aislyn DiRisio:

- Pre-Silver Solo Dance/Foxtrot: 2nd Place

Christina Lombardi:

- Gold Solo Dance/Viennese Waltz: 2nd Place
- Intermediate/Novice Compulsory Spins: 1st Place
- Novice Ladies Test Track: 2nd Place

Shea Coleman Foley:

- Preliminary Compulsory Moves: 2nd Place
- Pre-Preliminary A Freeskate: 1st Place

Emma Briceland:

- Pre-Juvenile Compulsory Moves: 1st Place
- Pre-Juvenile/Juvenile Compulsory Spins: 1st Place
- Pre-Juvenile/Juvenile Artistic/Showcase: 4th Place
- Pre-Juvenile Freeskate: 6th Place

Abigail Smentkowski:

- Preliminary Compulsory Spins: 2nd Place
- Pre-Preliminary Artistic/Showcase: 2nd Place
- Pre-Preliminary A Freeskate: 1st Place

Katie Howard:

- Pre-Juvenile/Juvenile Compulsory Spins: 2nd Place
- Juvenile Test Track: 3rd Place

Emily Digman:

- Pre-Preliminary Artistic/Showcase: 3rd Place
- Pre-Preliminary A Freeskate: 3rd Place

Lukas Sotola:

- Preliminary Artistic/Showcase: 6th Place
- Preliminary Boys Test Track: 1st Place

Isabelle Lombardi:

- Preliminary Artistic/Showcase: 7th Place
- Pre-Preliminary B Freeskate: 4th Place

Jennifer Glenn:

- Pre-Juvenile/Juvenile Artistic/Showcase:
2nd Place

Demi Flack:

- Limited Beginner Test Track: 6th Place

Emma Paradise:

- Beginner Test Track: 2nd Place

Emma Kimble:

- Beginner Test Track: 4th Place

Lea Sposito:

- Beginner Test Track: 4th Place

Alexandra Richer:

- Beginner Test Track: 5th Place

Izabella Martin:

- Beginner Test Track: 2nd Place

Ellory Smith:

- Pre-Preliminary Test Track: 2nd Place

Anne Kennedy:

- Pre-Preliminary Test Track: 3rd Place

Adi White:

- Juvenile Test Track: 2nd Place

Samantha Zayas:

- Pre-Preliminary A Freeskate: 7th Place

Desiree Larrivee:

- Pre-Preliminary A Freeskate: 4th Place

Gianna Foley:

- Pre-Preliminary A Freeskate: 5th Place

Judy Min:

- Pre-Preliminary B Freeskate: 3rd Place

Trisha Roohan:

- Pre-Preliminary B Freeskate: 1st Place

Hannah Conroy:

- Preliminary B Freeskate: 6th Place

Taylor Kennedy:

- Preliminary B Freeskate: 8th Place



TEST SESSION
OCTOBER 26, 2008

Emma Kimble:

- Pre-Preliminary MIF

Samantha Carach

- Pre-Juvenile MIF

Shea Coleman Foley:

- Juvenile MIF

Victoria Carach:

- Juvenile MIF

Taylor Kennedy:

- Pre-Juvenile FS
- Swing Dance
- ChaCha
- Fiesta Tango
- Pre-Bronze Dance Test

Gina DiNapoli:

- Juvenile FS

Christina Lombardi:

- Novice FS

Rachel Staudt:

- Hickory Hoedown
- Ten-Fox

Lukas Sotola:

- Willow Waltz
- Bronze Dance Test

Allie Pigliavento:

- Preliminary MIF
- Preliminary FS

Gianna Foley:

- Preliminary MIF

Sarah Booker:

- Preliminary MIF

Trisha Roohan:

- Pre-Preliminary FS

Samantha Zayas:

- Pre-Juvenile MIF

Jennifer Glenn:

- Pre-Juvenile FS

Anne Kennedy:

- Preliminary MIF



SYNCHRO NEWS

All teams continue to practice and refine their programs getting ready for their first competition in December.

For more information about our synchro program, contact team manager Dawn Hopsicker at hopsick@nycap.rr.com.



BASIC SKILLS 2008-2009

The Fall 2008 Program started with a bang! We have more skaters (75!!) than any of our other fall programs to date. We have so many skaters that we had to hire another coach – Chelsey Hammond. Welcome Chelsey!

Our first week was hectic but the skaters actually complimented us on how well organized we were – thanks to all our

volunteers & to the coaches who came early to help.

It's our third week of the program and already skaters are giving up the buckets and skating independently! I know each and every member of the Albany Figure Skating Club remembers those days well. We hope our club members are an inspiration to all our Basic Skills skaters. Every skater has to start somewhere. As skills are learned our Basic Skills skaters will be tested and awarded badges for levels passed. Their first test day is December 7th. Everyone at the Albany Figure Skating Club wishes all skaters good luck!

Thanks to our volunteers who continue to make a huge difference in our program:

- Jessica Marinstein
- Lukas Sotola
- Rachele Kalin
- Ellory Smith
- Ray DeMarco
- Lauren Mahoney
- Christina Lombardi



Win a registration for our Winter 2009 program as a Christmas gift for yourself, a friend or family member by bidding online @ <http://www.wmht.org/index.php?s=11&b=107> from November 14-25 during the WMHT online Holiday Auction.

Registration for our Winter 2009 Program will be held during our skating session on December 7th. So, let your friends know – spaces are very limited.

Questions about our Basic Skills/Learn to Skate Program visit our website www.albanyfsc.org or contact Janet Sotola jsotola@nycap.rr.com or 518-861-6705.



Stephen William Cummerford
CONGRATULATIONS
LIZ & DENNIS!!

Delivered October 28, 2008 @ 12:58 PM,
weighing in at 7lb 3oz and measuring 19 ½
inches!



THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED!

This is a big thank you to all parent/grandparents & guardians & skaters who volunteered their time on Saturday for the 2nd Annual AFSC Competition:

A special thanks to each of you, as in your roles, you not only spent hours during the actual competition/test session itself, but numerous hours in preparation. We could never have run a successful event without each of your contributions. Thank you again!
Laurie

From Laurie Briceland Lombardi, Competition Chair: On behalf of the Albany Figure Skating Club, I want to extend a huge thank you to the many families who participated in the 2nd Annual AFSC competition and/or test session over the past weekend. What a wonderful accomplishment! Over 50 of our skaters participated in the competition, with over 140 skaters from nearly 20 club affiliations represented. We also had close to 80 tests on Sunday –so a very busy weekend! We also view the competition as a major fundraiser for the Club, and while all tallies are not yet in, we are certain to have raised funds this weekend as well.

I want to thank each of the skaters who volunteered at the event, including many who did not skate in the event but volunteered as well – you were invaluable in your “runner” responsibilities, and we received so many compliments that our skaters were so polite and quick to catch on! We were very fortunate to have an excellent chief referee from United States Figure Skating, Bob LaMontagne, who scheduled the competitors and judges, and over 13 hours of competition, kept us on time. We also offer thanks to our wonderful accountant, Elliot Schwartz, also from USFS who worked with us last year as well; Elliott, who tallies the judges scores and posts results, amazingly gets to know the volunteer runner skaters by name (and remembers them from last year to this year!), and we appreciate that personal touch that he adds.

We also would like to thank our coaches who avidly supported our events by preparing and entering numerous skaters in our events. Without your support, the event would not have been nearly as successful –so thanks to each of you.

And to the many AFSC skating families, including adult skaters, who participated in so many ways: chairing committees that planned details; providing generous hospitality; securing tables for vendors and decorating the lobby areas; creating and posting signs throughout the arena; registering skaters, both on-site and in computer system; organizing first aid kits; coordinating volunteers duties and schedules; playing music/announcing competitors; monitoring skaters at the rinkside; tending to the travel and hospitality of the judges; organizing the awards ceremonies; running to the store for those last minute items; working with accounting and posting results; taking photographs; running a very successful “Nearly New Sale”; providing donations and assembling goody bags; sponsoring ads for our competition program; and in general, supporting the AFSC event – we believe that over 75% of our membership participated in some way! Remarkable!

From Jayne Deane- White, the Competition Volunteer Coordinator:

I would like to recognize the following adult volunteers:

- Annie Serafini
- Dawn Hopsicker
- Maria and Matt Tedeschi
- Jeanne Wilson
- Robyn Marinstein
- Lynn Gemmiti
- Bonnie Barba
- Mandy Kennedy
- Judy Schoonover
- Laurie and David Kimble
- Mandy Kennedy
- Jessica Richer
- Ann-Margaret Foley
- Tedi Coleman
- Bonnie Mueller
- Heather Masullo
- Anne Triller
- John O’Sullivan
- Ron & Betty Richards
- Carol Larrivee
- Jennifer Paradise
- Mary Amodeo
- Nicole Watson
- Janet Sotola
- Tara DiRisio

Thank you also to the runners - skaters who assisted throughout the event. The skaters that helped include:

- Allie Tedeschi
- Adi White
- Gina DiNapoli
- Grace, Bryce and Aislyn DiRisio
- Sarah Booker
- Abby Smentkowski
- Alyssa Hopsicker
- Christina, Isabelle, and Stephanie Lombardi
- Olivia & Helen Serafini
- Katelyn Masullo
- Amanda Gemmiti
- Jessican Marinstein
- Danielle Sgroi
- Alexis & Rachel Watson
- Alexandra Richer
- Rachel Staudt
- Amy Barba
- Emily Mueller
- Claire & Leah Triller
- Lukas Sotola
- Taylor Kennedy
- Izabella Martin
- Desiree Larrivee
- Samantha Zayas
- Gianna Foley
- Anne Kennedy



Question of the Month

What do I need to do to qualify for Regionals?

Singles Skating Qualifications for the 2009 Qualifying Competition Season:

- Juvenile: Under age 13
 - Passed Juvenile free skate test
 - Passed Juvenile MIF test or higher
- Intermediate: Under age 18
 - Passed Intermediate free skate test
 - Passed Intermediate MIF test or higher
- Novice: No age restrictions
 - Passed Novice free skate test
 - Passed Novice MIF test or higher
- Junior: No age restrictions
 - Passed Junior free skate test
 - Passed Junior MIF test or higher
- Senior: No age restrictions
 - Passed Senior free skate test
 - Passed Senior MIF test

The U.S. is divided into nine "regions." Skaters placing in the top four at their respective regionals earn a spot to compete in "sectionals." Those who place in the top four in their sectionals then compete in "nationals."

If you want your child to compete at regional championships you will not only need to take the time to plan on passing tests required before the entry deadline but make sure your skater knows many more difficult elements than it takes to pass the free skate test. For instance the Juvenile free skate requires:

- 6 jump elements, 1 must be an axel-jump
- Double jumps permitted, no triple jumps
- 3 Spins, 1 must be a flying entry spin
- Straight line, circular or serpentine step sequence that uses the entire ice surface.

So, kudos to Helen & Olivia!



Happy Birthday!

- Meagan Clawar: October 31
- Rocky Irish: October 31
- Katelyn Masullo: October 31
- Sabrina Zayas: October 22



SKATING ON TV:

1. **November 8, 4-6 PM:** Kristi Yamaguchi Friends & Family (NBC)
2. **November 16, 4-6 PM:** Skating Rocks (NBC)
3. **November 30, 4-6 PM:** Holiday Celebration on Ice (NBC)



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

1. **Sunday December 21, 4-7PM:** AFSC Winter Ice show @ YMCA:
2. **Sunday March 8, 2009 5-7:30:** AFSC Spring Ice Show @ YMCA
3. **March 29, 2009:** Stars on Ice

UPCOMING COMPETITIONS FOR THE SEASON:

USFS COMPETITIONS:

1. **Saturday November 22, 2008** Pioneer Valley Penguin Invitational: Basic Skills through Intermediate. Applications are now available on the Little Sun Valley website: www.littlesunvalleyskating.org.
2. **Saturday December 6, 2008:** Snowflake Open & Basic Skills Competition, North Adams, MA.. For additional Info: Please contact Laura Cece at Lcece20@aol.com or (413) 374-6395. **Deadline for registration November 15.**
3. **Sunday, January 18, 2009:** Mohawk Valley Classic. For more information visit: www.scnh.org. **Deadline for registration December 13, 2008.**
4. **Sunday, January 18, 2009,** Winter Escapade Competition, West Orange, NJ. For information visit: www.essexskatingclub.org.
5. **Saturday, March 21, 2009:** Garren Invitational, Troy, NY. Visit www.hmfsc.org for more information.

ISI COMPETITIONS:

1. **January 15-18, 2009,** 2009 Lake Placid ISI Championships. Applications are now available @ www.riverdaleice.com. **Deadline for registration December 1, 2008.**

UPCOMING USFS TEST SESSIONS:

1. **Sunday November 23:** Sponsored by Saratoga Springs FSC @ Weibel rink Saratoga Springs, NY. Applications are now available at the new SSFSC website: www.saratogaspringsfsc.com.

2. **Friday December 12:** Sponsored by the Clinton FSC. Applications must be postmarked by December 1 to avoid late fee. Email Denise Truchon-Borek @ rdrborek@aol.com for more information.
3. **Sunday January 25, 2009:** Sponsored by Saratoga Springs FSC @ Weibel rink Saratoga Springs, NY.
4. **Sunday March 1, 2009:** Sponsored by Albany FSC @ the YMCA Delmar, NY.
5. **Sunday March 29, 2009:** Sponsored by Saratoga Springs FSC @ Weibel rink Saratoga Springs, NY.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

118 Albany FSC Members!

Thanks to those who have renewed their membership with Albany FSC:

- Micaela Jones
- Amy Schimmel

Welcome new members!

- Hope Hickman

Questions? Contact Membership Chair Janet Sotola @ jsotola@nycap.rr.com

NEXT AFSC BOARD MEETING

Tuesday November 25, 6:30-8:30 at the YMCA



Competition Photos:



