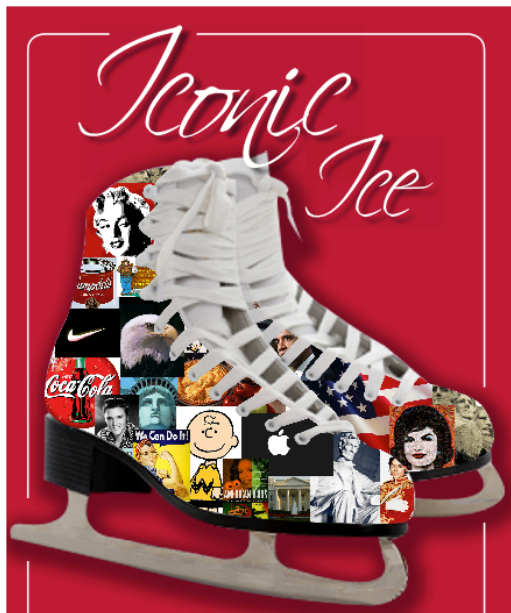




THE INSIDE EDGE



IT'S SPRING ICE SHOW TIME



The Spring Ice Shows at Parade Ice Garden have a long and proud history. Generations of skaters from Minneapolis and surrounding areas have skated on Parade ice in dozens of shows through the years. (Try to answer the show trivia questions inside this issue.)

This year, *Iconic Ice* will be the 37th Parade Ice Show. Skaters will celebrate iconic people, places movies, shows and other icons that defined a generation.

Performances will include group numbers from the skating club, skate school and Starlight Ice Dance Club. Several club skaters earned the right to showcase solo performances.

Senior skaters Lucy Albin and Maria Kalina, both long time club skaters will be honored as graduating seniors. Lucy has skated in every ice show since 2000; Maria since 2006.

The ice show committee of Show Directors Michael Luedtke and Melissa Kaiser and members Beth Newkirk and Raleigh Weld has been working on planning and production details for months.

Regular emails with important show information have been sent to all skaters. If you are not receiving emails from "Spring Ice Show", please contact Beth Newkirk at springiceshow@gmail.com.

See the website www.sqsaparade.com under the "Spring Ice Show" tab for forms, practice schedules, ticket information and other show details.

Picture Night is Wednesday April 11th. Please be at Parade EARLY to allow for getting costumes on and any hair and makeup needed. Check with your group number coach on specific timing for your group. Skaters in multiple numbers should be sure to have ALL your costumes and accessories and pay particular attention to the schedule so we can keep to our allotted times with the photographer.

The ice show souvenir program is a keepsake of the show. Picture Night is a great opportunity to order a personal ad in the program congratulating your skater, thanking a coach or for skaters to thank their parents. The ad deadline is April 14th. The ad form with details is on the web site. Ad coordinator Terry Richardson will be available at Picture Night to answer questions.

The ice show will be professionally, multi camera videoed. DVDs may be ordered at Picture or Dress Rehearsal Nights. We are also offering a chance to purchase videos of previous shows, back to 2005, if you are a veteran ice show family and need to complete your set.

(continued on next page)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Summary of major events. See website CALENDAR for complete club schedule

April: Ice Show group rehearsals. See website under "Spring Ice Show" for rehearsal schedule.

April 11, 4:00-8:30: Spring Ice Show Picture Night in Parade Main Lobby

April 23: NO STARS CLASS

Apr 26, 5:00 pm Spring Ice Show Dress Rehearsal (mandatory)

Apr 27-28: Spring Ice Show, Friday 7:30 and Saturday, 2:30 & 7:30

May 13: Registration deadline for Braemar (Edina) USFS Competition

May 15: Registration deadline for Skate St. Paul

May 17-20 Roseville USFS Competition

June TBD: Annual Club Spring Banquet

June 11: SummerQuest program begins

June 22-23: Braemar (Edina) USFS Competition

July 1: Registration deadline for Minnesota State Figure Skating Championships

July 13-15: Skate St. Paul USFS Competition at Richfield

July 16-20: SQSA Summer Camp at Breck

August 15: Last day of SummerQuest

August 17-19: Minnesota State Figure Skating Championships at Bloomington Ice Garden

September 14-16: Maplewood Fall Classic USFS Competition

October 12-16: Upper Great Lakes Regional Figure Skating Championships in Green Bay

Volunteers are still needed for many positions. Families of all ice show skaters are encouraged to sign up for positions as soon as possible. The link to sign up is on the website.

Ice Show registration fees are a great value for the ice time, coaching and choreography that each number receives. We are able to offer that value by relying on families for help.

Tickets for the ice show will be for sale at Picture Night and Dress Rehearsal. They are also on sale at the Parade office and on eventbrite.com (search SQSA or Iconic Ice).

The ticket policy is set by Parade Ice Garden and strictly enforced. Our arrangement with the rink is that we receive practice time for show numbers, while Parade Ice Garden receives the ticket revenue. Attendees, including parents, who are not volunteering at that show, must purchase a ticket. Family member skaters do receive free admission.

The mandatory dress rehearsal is Thursday, April 26th. The club will be selling pizza during the evening. Skaters should take care to cover skating attire if eating.

We're looking forward to another great Parade ice show. If you have any questions, email springiceshow@gmail.com.

SPRING ICE SHOW TRIVIA

Test your knowledge of Parade's long history of ice shows:

1. The first Parade Ice Show was held this year.
2. The first ice shows were not in April or even in the Spring. The early shows were in what season?
3. He skated in ice shows for 20 years and this year plays a prominent role.
4. She skated in Parade ice shows in the 1970's and 80's and will be at *Iconic Ice* with her skating daughters.
5. Named the favorite Ice Show of the majority of this year's high school graduating senior members?
6. She was Show Director for many years and still returns each year to serve as Blades of March chief referee.
7. She skated in several Parade ice shows in the mid-90's and now is a prominent financial anchor and reporter on CNN.
8. This group has skated in dozens of ice shows and this year will perform waltzes to "Moon River" from the 1961 hit movie, "Breakfast at Tiffany's"

(Answers on back page)



COMPETITION RESULTS

SPRING FLING - BLUE MOUND

Isabel Kleinschmidt Garcia	FS 5	Footwork	1st
Isabel Kleinschmidt Garcia	FS 5	Freestyle	1st
Isabel Kleinschmidt Garcia	FS 5	Interpretive	1st
Isabel Kleinschmidt Garcia	FS 5	Jump & Spin Int	3rd
Kirby Goodman	FS 7	Freestyle Platinum	1st
Kirby Goodman	FS 7	Freestyle	1st
Kirby Goodman	FS 7	Footwork	1st
Kirby Goodman	FS 7	Interpretive	1st
Kirby Goodman	FS 7	Compulsory	1st
Kirby Goodman	FS 7	Jump & Spin High	1st
Laura Lehman	FS 5	Compulsory	2nd
Laura Lehman	FS 5	Freestyle	2nd
Laura Lehman	FS 5	Couple Lt Ent Spot	3rd
Laura Lehman	FS 5	Interpretive	2nd
Laura Lehman	FS 5	Lt. Ent. Spot	1st
Greta Paschke	FS 6	Compulsory	1st
Greta Paschke	FS 6	Freestyle	1st
Greta Paschke	FS 6	Freestyle Gold	1st
Greta Paschke	FS 6	Jump & Spin High	1st
Casey Schwarzkopf	FS 4	Footwork	4th
Casey Schwarzkopf	FS 4	Compulsory	5th
Casey Schwarzkopf	FS 4	Freestyle	3rd
Sophie Sela	FS 5	Compulsory	3rd
Sophie Sela	FS 5	Freestyle Silver	2nd
Sophie Sela	FS 5	Couple Lt Ent Spot	3rd
Sophie Sela	FS 5	Dramatic Spotlight	2nd
Sophie Sela	FS 5	Jump & Spin Int.	3rd

Big production numbers were popular in early ice shows. This "Drill Team" is from the 1981 Parade Ice Show.

Photo courtesy of Amy Pihlstrom.



COACH *SPOTLIGHT* – MICHAEL LUEDTKE

It's fitting that this issue of *Inside Edge*, which is dedicated to the Spring Ice Show, features Michael Luedtke in the Coach Spotlight. Michael is Co-Show Director this year with Melissa Kaiser and his history with Parade Ice Shows spans more than 30 years.

Michael grew up skating at outdoor rinks in Minneapolis. He didn't take a skating lesson until he was 25 years old when he enrolled in learn-to-skate classes at Parade. "My goal was just to learn to skate backwards", he commented. He got hooked on serious skating and competing at the ISI championships in Chicago.

Competing was one love for Michael, but the other skating love was performing. He has skated in numerous Parade Ice Shows over the years. "In my first ice show I was a wolf, jumping from story to story trying to find the one I was supposed to be in."

He also performed in five different Minnesota Ice Symphonies, along the likes of skating legends Michelle Kwan, Dorothy Hamill, Todd Eldridge and Rudy Galindo.

Michael was coached through the years by Char Martin, who is also still at Parade. They remain close friends and coaching colleagues.

As an experienced skater, Michael was a natural to be more involved in ice shows. He has co-directed ten different ice shows at Parade.

Michael was determined to skate competitively until the ISI World's competition came to Minnesota, which it did in 1991. He hung up his competitive and ice show skates soon after, but remained at Parade as a coach.

As a coach and judge, Michael says he understands and empathizes with skaters. "I tested my Freestyle 6 three times and the second time I fell and broke my thumb, requiring surgery, but that made me more determined to pass the test the next time." (He did).

Michael has dedicated hundreds of hours to our non-profit arm by serving several terms on the board of directors of Parade Figure Skating Club and as a perennial volunteer at *Blades of March* and other club events.

Michael coaches in the Learn-to-Skate program at Plymouth Ice Center and is a Team Ensemble coach with SQSA Parade. He is also available for private lessons.

In addition to co-directing the show this year, Michael is busy training to walk the 3-day 60 mile Breast Cancer walk in August, a cause that is dear to him. The route will pass right by Parade Ice Garden and he would love to see a group of skaters cheering him and the other walkers.



Michael in an early Ice Show

SQSA PARADE SKATERS WITH ELITE SYNCHRONIZED TEAM USA

The Team Braemar (Edina) Junior Synchronized skating team, which includes SQSA Parade skaters Liz Burke, Alana Christie and Jillian Christie won the National Championship at the Junior level at the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships in Worcester, MA, March 2-3.

They also represented the United States at the French Cup in Rouen, France, in February.

Perhaps most impressive is their fourth place finish while representing the U.S. at the Junior World Championships in Gothenburg, Sweden March 16-17. Strong European skating teams generally dominate the world competition.

A team from Finland won the Junior World Challenge Cup. The "Skyliners" from New York, another Team USA team, finished fifth.

ANSWERS TO SPRING ICE SHOW TRIVIA

1. The first show was held in 1975.
2. Early shows were held in the summer.
3. Michael Luedtke who learned to skate at Parade, skated in 20 shows and is a show director and team ensemble coach this year.
4. Amy (Rivera) Pihlstrom performed as a skater and is the mother of skating daughters, Ava and Vivien.
5. *The Color of Ice*, 2005
6. Jean Albrightson, long time director of Parade Skate School and ice shows.
7. Poppy Harlow (yep, she's a PFSC alum!)
8. Starlight Ice Dance Club, also based at Parade Ice Garden and home USFS club for most of our USFS competitors.



"Like" the SQSA Parade page for extra reminders, photos and information on skating and club activities at Parade.

ROAD TRIP TO BLUE MOUND

A small group of skaters traveled to Luverne, Minnesota in late March to attend the Spring Fling ISI competition hosted by Blue Mound Figure Skaters.

The trip originated as a way to reciprocate to Blue Mound for their support of our home Blades of March competition. They perennially send dozens of skaters to BOM.

Michael Luedtke accompanied the group as coach and as a judge for the competition. Char Martin also attended and served as Chief Referee.

We're hoping to make this an annual trip. The group had an incredible time and was impressed by the rink and the well-organized competition. Families car-pooled and stayed in nearby Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

A VERY SPECIAL "THANK YOU" . . .

. . . to the following people for helping the editor in researching Parade's ice show history for the trivia and for a longer term project of researching and compiling a history of the Parade Ice Shows:

Amy Pihlstrom for loaning ice show programs, photos and newspaper clippings from the 1970's and 80's.

Michael Luedtke for donating copies of ice show programs from the 1980's and 90's.

Reggie Krakowski for loaning his large collection of ice show programs.

If you have duplicates or old programs from Spring Ice Shows or Blades of March competitions you would be willing to donate to the club archives or programs we could borrow and copy for the archives, please contact Rita Goodman at sqsaparade@gmail.com.

SUMMERQUEST SUMMER PROGRAM & CAMP

The annual, highly popular *SummerQuest* Summer figure skating training program will be held at Parade Ice Garden again this year. *SummerQuest* is run by Page Lipe, owner of SportQuest Skating Academy and will run from June 11 - August 15, 2012. The program is open to SQSA Parade members, SQSA Skate School participants and to skaters from throughout the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. It is highly respected and has been the summer training home to several regional and national competitors over the past several years.

Daily training sessions, on ice and off ice classes, as well as leveled freestyle sessions will be offered. Contracts are on the website www.sqsaparade.com. For questions, please contact Page Lipe at plipe@sqsaparade.com.

The 4th annual *SQSA Summer Skate Camp* will be held July 16 - 20, 2012, at the Breck Anderson Ice Arena. It is offered to skaters from age 4 - 18 of any level. Information and forms are on the web site under the "Summer Skating" tab. For questions, contact Raleigh Weld at rweld@sqsaparade.com.