



Rink Link

June 2011

2011 U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships ~ Salt Lake City ~ April 12-16

More than 400 adult figure skaters descended on the Salt Lake City Sports Complex April 12-16 for the 2011 U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships. The annual competition, celebrating its 17th season, featured more than 90 open categories, in addition to eight championship events.

Twin City skaters placed in 2 of those eight championship events! Elaine Walin of the St. Paul FSC was the Silver Medalist in the Championship Gold Ladies event. The 28-year-old pediatric physical therapist performed the "program of my career" taking the ice to the *Remember the Titans* soundtrack. Christopher Williams of the FSC of Minneapolis placed 4th in the Championship Master Intermediate/Novice Men event.



Championship Gold Ladies FS

Elaine Walin, St Paul FSC - 2

Championship Master Intermediate/Novice Men

Christopher Williams, FSC of Minneapolis - 4

Gold Ladies I

Elaine Walin, St Paul FSC - 2

Rebecca Johnson, St Paul FSC - 10

Gold Ladies III

Colleen Barber, FSC of Bloomington - 14

Master Ladies Light Entertainment/Comedy/Interpretive I

Elaine Walin, St Paul FSC - 3

Master Ladies Artistic/Dramatic Interpretive I

Rebecca Johnson, St Paul FSC - 13

Master Men Light Entertainment/Comedy/Interpretive I-IV

Christopher Williams, FSC of Minneapolis - 3

Master Intermediate Men I-III FS

Christopher Williams, FSC of Minneapolis - 2

Bronze Ladies IV

Jane Peterson, FSC of Bloomington - 11



RECENT OFFICIALS APPOINTMENTS

Silver Singles/Pairs Test Judge

Jill Johnson, Rochester FSC, Barbara Houts-Swanson, Chaska FSC

Gold Singles/Pairs Test Judge: Jennifer Gillespie, Woodbury FSC

Regional Singles/Pairs Competition Judge: Anne Marie Murphy, St Paul FSC

National Accountant: Gay Ann Louiselle, St Paul FSC

ISU Synchronized Skating Judge: Dann Krueger, Braemar City of Lakes FSC

2011-2012 TEAM USA SELECTIONS

Synchronized Team B: Team Braemar Junior, Braemar City of Lakes FSC

Team C: Kiri Baga, FSC of Bloomington

PSA Honors St. Peter

U.S. Figure Skating President Patricia St. Peter received the Professional Skaters Association's (PSA) Jimmy Disbrow Distinguished Official Award near the conclusion of the Governing Council meeting on Saturday afternoon.

The award is presented to an official who, through the years, has given to the sport of figure skating through dedication, reliability and integrity. This year marked the first time that the award was presented in Disbrow's name. Disbrow, who passed away in 2002, was a longtime contributor to the sport and served as president of U.S. Figure Skating from 1998-2000.

The PSA's Kelly Morris-Adair presented flowers to St. Peter. A formal presentation of the award will be made next month at the PSA's Annual Conference in Dallas.

Morris-Adair shared several fun facts about St. Peter, including her diverse contributions to the sport as a judge, team leader and committee member. She served on the ISU Disciplinary Commission and is a national singles/pairs competition judge and national referee.

At the local level, she served as president of the Twin City Figure Skating Association and is a current member of the Maplewood Figure Skating Club. St. Peter, a partner in the law firm of Zelle, Hofmann Voelbel & Mason LLP, skated in the famous St. Paul Pops Musical Ice Revue in the 1960s and 1970s.

"Rumor has it that some of her costumes were stapled together for her solo performances," Morris-Adair told the audience. "And rumor has it that she went wading in a downtown St. Paul fountain on a hot summer day in between patch and free skate sessions."

St. Peter co-coached the Maplewood Highstepper Precision Team, which was the junior champions at the first-ever U.S. Figure Skating Midwest Precision Skating Championships.

"She truly was a one-of-a-kind professional as her students achieved their high honors in competitions and achieved their skating goals," Morris-Adair said. "Her dedication and endless hours of volunteer work for our sport epitomizes the integrity of this award."

St. Peter thanked the PSA for the honor, which she said holds special meaning because it was the late Jimmy Disbrow who guided her into an active role with U.S. Figure Skating in 1994. "If not for that chance encounter, I likely wouldn't have pursued this path with the organization," she said.



Kelly Morris-Adair and Patricia St. Peter



Synchronized Skating Seminar ~ April 23, 2011

The Twin City Figure Skating Association held a Synchronized skating camp on Saturday, April 23rd for the new and slightly experienced skater. They had 55 skaters in attendance from no test to juvenile test level ages 7-17.

The on ice portion run by Vicki Korn, National, International and World Synchronized coach, was a hit with all four groups. Two of the groups actually were able to put together elements for a short number.

The edges and turns class run by Laurie Cole Benson showed the skaters how to refine basic stroking and edge work to look like the higher level skaters and have more power.

During the off-ice portion, run by Lisa Zamarripa, the skaters were exposed to the importance of off ice training. Lisa had the skaters stretching, bouncing and leaping through the air to dynamic music.

Vicky Korn also held a question and answer session for each group of parents. It was a casual, ask anything time and enjoyed by those parents that were able to attend.

The goal of the clinic was to expose the less experienced skater to the workings of synchronized skating and how skating on a line with a group can be a fun and positive experience.



St. Paul FSC celebrates 75 years as a U. S. Figure Skating Club with the revival of the St Paul Pops Concerts!

When Del Conroy turned 90 last year, he figured it was finally time to hang up his figure skates. Before then, nothing, not the birth of his 10 kids or deployment to Europe during World War II or even the hot Minnesota summers had ever gotten in the way of his ice time. "You have to know when to hold them and when to fold them," cracks Conroy, from his apartment in Little Canada.

Conroy, who served three terms as president of the St. Paul Figure Skating Club in the 1950s, was one of many alumni present for the 75th anniversary celebration April 9 & 10. The festivities included a revival of the storied Pops concert, a popular ice show held weekly during the summer from the late 1930s through the late 1960s, a reception at Pleasant Arena, the current home ice of the Club, and an elegant dinner at the place where the Club skated from the '30s to the 70s - the St Paul Auditorium. Former club members performed an alumni number in the April 9 St. Paul Pops - One More Time at the Richfield Ice Arena to music provided by the Minnesota Youth Symphony.

The figure skating club was formed in 1935 and joined the United States Figure Skating Association a year later. The club launched its first summer Pops concert at the old St. Paul Auditorium in 1937. The events, held three times weekly during the summer, long before Minnesota had televised professional sports teams, soon became one of the most celebrated outings in the state.

By the 1940s, the skaters were joined by a 70-piece orchestra, as well as the city's Civic Opera Association. A news item in the July 18, 1943, edition of the St. Paul Pioneer Press reads: "Nationwide is the fame of the St. Paul Pops Concerts which began as a unique experiment in civic entertainment and which now opens their seventh season with expectation of a total audience of nearly 150,000 persons for the eighteenth show."

The Pops performances drew national and world-class competitors to the ice, as well as behind the scenes doing choreography. Canadian skaters stayed at club members' homes for the summer, eager for a chance to perform with the greats. An ice comedian by the name of Lynn Dwyer joined the show, which was dubbed in 1957 the "St. Paul Pop Musical Ice Revue." "Skating was huge in the Twin Cities," said Kathleen Ridder, who skated in the 1950s Pops shows with her husband, the late Robert Ridder, a former Pioneer Press executive. "St. Paul was one of the first cities in the country that had indoor ice during the summer, and the pros came and skated there."

Past skaters from coast to coast - and many places in between - traveled to St. Paul for the Celebration!



October 14-18, 2011

Hosted by the St. Paul Figure Skating Club
Richfield Ice Arena
636 East 66th Street
Richfield, MN 55423
<http://www.stpaulfsc.org>

Co-Chairs

Lexie Kastner ~ lekastner@aol.com
Carolyn J. Marker ~ cmarker243@aol.com

Chief Referee

Cassy Papajohn ~
<mailto:cpapajohn@efficientforms.com>

DEADLINE FOR ON LINE REGISTRATION AT
usfigureskating.org : September 1, 2011

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www.stpaulfsc.org



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Non Qualifying Events:

Well Balanced

Pre Preliminary, Preliminary, Pre Juvenile, Open Juvenile
Test Track

Juvenile, Intermediate, Novice, Junior, Senior

ENTRIES CLOSE SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

Forms will be available at Skate St Paul
And at <http://www.stpaulfsc.org> in mid July

Sanctioned by:



The Champion For Skating Award

The Champion For Skating Award, created in 1993 to recognize sustained, selfless service to the sport of eligible figure skating in Minnesota, is an inclusive award and has been bestowed on officials, organizers, parents, skating enthusiasts and combinations thereof.

The most important qualification is a demonstrated devotion to service. Anybody meeting the following criteria can be nominated. Everybody can nominate.

- ✦ *Person with eligible status*
- ✦ *Directly or indirectly involved with own club, TCFSA or any other amateur USFSA sanctioned/affiliated activity for a minimum of five years.*
- ✦ *Minnesota resident*
- ✦ *Mixture of "high visibility" and sustained "low profile" involvement in figure skating activities*

Volunteer characteristics to include:

- *Time devoted*
- *Talents contributed*
- *Demonstrated leadership*
- *Spirit of cooperation*

**This is your chance to honor your favorite champion for skating!
Submit a nomination form today.**



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This is your chance to honor your favorite champion for skating! Submit a nomination form today.

Nominee _____

Address _____

City/State Zip _____

Phone _____ **Fax** _____ **Email** _____

Years Involved in Skating _____ **Nominee's TCFSA Club** _____

Past activities connected with figure skating (be specific about positions held):

Present activities (be specific about positions held):

Why I feel this candidate should receive the TCFSA Trophy:

Please use another sheet if more room is needed. Submission deadline - August 1, 2011.

Send to: Arnie & Michelle Schmidt, 3665 84th St E, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076