



# Sun Valley Figure Skating Club

## SUN VALLEY WINTER GAMES

The Sun Valley Winter Games will be held on Saturday, February 12, 2011.

**Online Entry Only**  
**Late entries accepted**

### Events

- Basic Skills to Senior
- Compulsory, Free Skate, Artistic, and Showcase

**Test Session: Sunday, February 13, 2011**

**Volunteers needed for:**

**Registration Desk**  
**Awards**  
**Food/Meals for Judges**

## Thank You Joan Curtis!

For making all the arrangements for the Junior Skaters Holiday Party

Bowling, Food, Goody Bags, Fun, and Friends

**It was a fabulous evening!**

## Sun Valley FSC Friday Skate with Us Classes

Each Friday, January 14 – March 18<sup>th</sup>  
4:10 p.m.

**\$150 PER SESSION**

Includes lessons, skate rental, and ice on Fridays & one additional day each week!\*

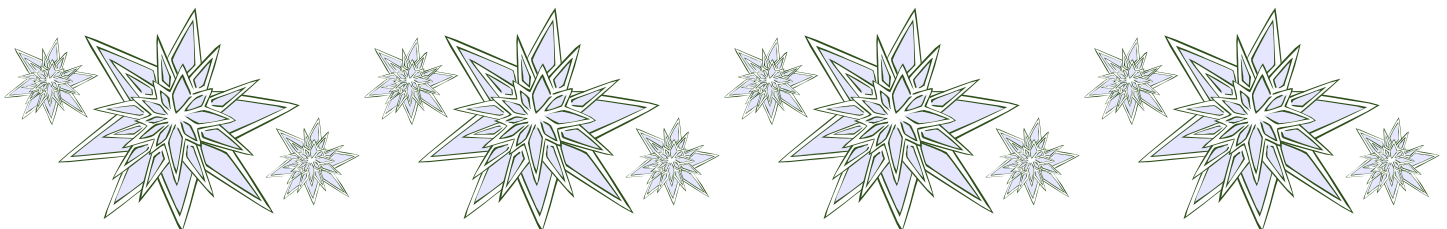
\$20 Annual USFSA membership required

\*Current full members can upgrade to an additional indoor session each week when registering for Freestyle 1-6 classes

Register online at [www.sunvallyfsc.com](http://www.sunvallyfsc.com)

## New SVFSC Officers

Joan Lamb - President  
Barbara Richardson - Vice President  
Tim Semones - Secretary/ Treasurer





# Congratulations!

**Test Results**  
At a test session in Salt Lake City in December, club members Katie Peters and Blair Baker both passed USFS Pre-preliminary Free Skate and Pre-Juvenile Moves in the Field tests. Great job, girls!



## **Junior National Results**

The team of Chloe Lewis and Logan Bye were 4<sup>th</sup> out of 15 teams in Intermediate Dance and 6<sup>th</sup> overall after Free Dance at Junior Nationals, held in Salt Lake City last month. Chloe and Logan began training together only a few months ago. Their hard work, natural partnership, and friendship allowed them to have a good first season together!

The couple is coached by Judy Blumberg of Sun Valley and Patti Gottwein & Trina Prat of Colorado Springs.



## **A New Feature: "Ask Scott"**

By Karen Hoffman



Scott Irvine  
Ice Rink Manager  
Ice Show Director

Like many at our rink, Scott Irvine's love of skating began in a Learn to Skate program. Scott was 12 years old when he stepped on the ice at the rink in his hometown of Bountiful, Utah. Before long he was training with coach, Stewart Sturgeon, and working toward his goal of doing a back flip on the ice. Little did he know that the back flip would be one of many stunts he would eventually perform in front of thousands!

Scott's first visit to Sun Valley was in 1989 when he competed at a SVFSC Competition. Over the years, he trained hard, qualified as an alternate for Nationals at the age of 16, and enjoyed success as a Pairs skater with partner, Kahrin Sharp.



At 17, following a month-long vacation to Sun Valley with the Sturgeon family, Scott began working summers for Sun Valley Company as a rink employee. He drove the Zamboni and even manned the spot lights for ice shows. It wasn't long before Scott was **performing** in the summer ice shows!

In 1996, Scott joined the cast of Disney on Ice. For 12 years he traveled the world performing as a principal skater. He entertained audiences with his skating and stunts in roles such as 'Genie' in Aladdin, 'Geppetto' in Pinocchio, and 'Gaston' in Beauty and the Beast. When asked what country he would most like to return to, he replied without hesitation, "Thailand, especially for the scuba diving!"

As Scott was considering ending his run with Disney, the opportunity to manage the rink in Sun Valley came available. Scott was ready to stay in one place. Finally there would be time for camping, playing the bass, riding his motorcycle and "everything fun!" He was tired of living out of a suitcase. Scott and his wife, Natalia, settled in Sun Valley almost 2 years ago. Natalia continues skating and traveling with Disney, coming home during breaks.

As Ice Rink Manager and Ice Show Director, Scott and his staff ensure everything runs smooth. It's a 24/7 job. What's important to Scott is making sure "this place is fun and magical." He wants everyone to have the same great experiences he had as a kid at his home rink. Scott loves what he does. One of the coolest things is "the people that keep coming back." We literally "skate with the stars here," said Scott. At last month's Christmas Eve performance of the Nutcracker on Ice, Evan Lysacek so graciously offered to perform in the show. Scott kept the plan under wraps because he knew it would be a great surprise for the kids. Evan thrilled the audience as well as the performers. "Our skaters got the opportunity to skate in a show with Evan Lysacek! It was a magical moment for me to see the kids glowing backstage."

Communication between Scott, the public, parents, and skaters is important to him. Despite a job that keeps him busy, Scott emphasizes that he will always make time for questions and concerns. He has an open-door policy.

An "Ask Scott" section will appear in upcoming newsletters. Let's work with Scott and get answers to your questions. Please submit questions to Karen Hoffman: roadschoolers@gmail.com

## ***RISE***

**Don't miss the Feb 17<sup>th</sup> showing in Hailey at 6:00p.m. Tickets are 15.00**

----- *RISE* celebrates American figure skating while commemorating the 50th Anniversary and legacy of the 1961 U.S. World Team tragedy. An inspirational story about the power of the human spirit, *RISE* will take audiences on a journey that honors a group of individuals who, through their loss, inspired the hopes, dreams, and successes of some of the most iconic names in Olympic sports history.

Serving as storytellers in *RISE* are Peggy Fleming, Dorothy Hamill, Scott Hamilton, Brian Boitano and Michelle Kwan. Throughout the feature, these skating luminaries will interweave the stories behind some of the biggest names and moments in the history of the sport with those of the 1961 U.S. World Team members who lost their lives in the crash of Sabena Airlines Flight 548 en route to the World Championships in Prague, Czechoslovakia.

## Coming Soon!

### Sun Valley Figure Skating Club's Spring Show Announcement

"Dancing with our Stars"

Saturday April 23, 2011.

Producer: Michelle Gentling



## Jackson Hole Invitational

March 10-13, 2011

JHI is one of the more well-attended competitions in the Northwest Pacific figure skating region. Many of their competitive groupings come close in size to our own Sun Valley Summer Championships events. (Bragging segue: The Sun Valley Summer Championships is the largest Competition in the Northwest Pacific Region.) JHI is one of the most entertaining competitions out there. In addition to ordinary competitive events, it offers a 'you-have-to-see-it-to-believe-it' Gong Showcase event. (Don't worry. No feelings get hurt. It is designed for pure entertainment. People of all ages do it, even some pros, and they try to get gonged!) JHI also throws a competitor's party complete with Karaoke. For the parents, they cut a great deal with the Snow King Resort Hotel adjacent to the rink: \$65 rooms and complimentary skiing the day of arrival. For more information, visit: <http://www.jhfsc.org/JH%20INV%202011%20Announcement%20Final.pdf>

## Common Q's and A's about SVFSC Press Releases

by  
Andrea Nelson, Publicity Chair

The Club press policy is now posted under General Information on the SVFSC website. <http://sunvalleyfsc.com/generalinfo.html> OK, maybe it's long and boring, but, hey, I'm proud of it! I think it does a good job balancing the need to give due credit for high level skating achievements with the desire to promote fun at all levels of figure skating. Of course, it is not possible to anticipate everything, but, over the past few years, I have applied this press policy consistently to nearly every situation, so I am confident that the press releases SVFSC submits to the outside media are fair to all skaters and coaches and appropriate from a sports reporting standpoint. It has taken me some time to understand the USFS terminology and rules that apply to this complicated sport, but I think I finally have a pretty good grasp of it, so please feel welcome to contact me if you have any questions about press releases or articles. Remember, while it violates Club policy for skaters, coaches, and parents to report directly to the press, your ideas are always welcome. Please submit proposed news

either to the club office or to me at [acn@cox.net](mailto:acn@cox.net). Every press release goes through a review process before submission to make sure it is fair to everyone and consistent for every achievement.

Here are the “short” answers to three common questions:

**1) When does SVFSC submit individual skater photos to the newspapers, and when are individual skaters featured or emphasized in press releases?** A feature story and individual skater photo is submitted for every skater who: 1) medals at a qualifying level at a qualifying competition (ex. the Regional Championships or Sectional Championships), 2) passes a senior level USFS test, completing all tests in Free Skate, Dance, Pairs, or Moves in the Field to become a USFS Gold Medalist, or 3) medals at any special competition requiring qualification, such as National Showcase. In addition, when a skater wins a special competition award, like “Most Outstanding Showcase” or “Best Artistic,” a photo of the skater holding her award is submitted to the newspaper along with the competition group photo, and special emphasis is placed on the skater in the article. If more than one skater qualifies for a feature article in the same event, the stories will be combined in a single press release. Non qualifying competition results and other test results may be also included.

**2) When does SVFSC submit group photos to the newspapers?**

Whenever possible, a group photo will be submitted: 1) with every competition press release, so long as the majority of skaters are able to join the photo, someone is able to take it, and appropriate notice has been given, 2) with the “SVFSC Regionals Competitions Team” press release, combining the skaters participating in the Regional Championships and those participating in the Non Qualifying Competition at Regionals. Ice Dancers attending Sectionals or Nationals may either be included in the Regionals press release or pictured in a separate article. 3) A group photo may also be deemed appropriate for special events. Event publicity photos are not covered by these rules.

**3) Why aren't test results reported the same way competition results are?**

Every year, many skaters pass many tests at many different test sessions. We would quickly wear out our welcome with the Mountain Express if we submitted separate press releases for all tests passed. There are 37 Free Skate, Ice Dancing, and Moves in the Field tests, not including Pairs and Adult tests. Competitive free skaters and ice dancers are ranked for competition by their Free Skate or Ice Dancing test level, but they also take Moves in the Field tests. Some skaters test in all three categories. That is a *lot* of testing, so, rather than do a separate press release for every test session, testers are rewarded with a feature article when they complete a class of tests by passing the final, senior level “Gold” test in that class and become a USFS Gold Medalist. Other test results are generally held and appended to future press releases. They are also reported in the monthly club newsletter, and a “Congratulations” sign is posted on the Club bulletin board. If an unusually large group of skaters travels to a test session, we occasionally submit a separate press release without a photo, but group photos are never submitted for test sessions. Not only would that be “press release overkill,” it would not be fair to the skaters who pass their tests at smaller tested sessions.

**Here are the three things I would most like to share with skaters and parents:**

1) I will do my best to follow the press policy when drafting press releases, but I cannot control what ultimately gets published. Occasionally, the Mountain Express edits a press release inaccurately or decides not to run a photo we submit with the article. Sometimes they send their own photographers

to cover local events and simply print the photos that turn out the best. SVFSC appreciates the wonderful coverage the ME generally gives us, and we need to accept that these things happen, particularly with local events like the summer competition.

2) If something you read in the paper seems unfair or inconsistent, please don't hesitate to ask me about it. If an article doesn't conform to the press policy, it is probably due to outside editing choices. If it does, I will be happy to explain the reasoning behind the policy. I plan to submit all future press releases to the SVFSC newsletter so members can read the original version. All press releases go through a review process before submission.

3) SVFSC does not submit any photos or press releases for Sun Valley Company events, including the Christmas Show.

Happy New Year!

## Upcoming Events and Calendar Notes

- Sun Valley Winter Games Competition February 12, 2011 - Test Session Sunday, Feb 13<sup>th</sup>
- RISE in theaters for *One Night Only!* Hailey, February 17, 2011 at 6:00p.m.
- Indoor Rink Closure: March 9-20, 2011 (due to a convention)
- Boise Figure Skating Club Test Session: Sunday, March 27, 2011
- McCall Figure Skating Club Test Session, Friday April 15<sup>th</sup>
- McCall FSC's 'Skate by the Lake' Competition: Saturday and Sunday, April 16-17
- SVFSC's Spring Show: 'Dancing with our Stars.' Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Boise Figure Skating Club Test Session: Friday, June 17, 2011
- Boise Ice Classic, Saturday and Sunday, June 18-19, 2011
- 2011 U.S. Collegiate Championships
- Tentative dates for The 2011 Sun Valley Summer Championship: July 21-24<sup>th</sup>
- 2012 Northwest Championships will be held in Spokane, Washington September 30-October 5, 2011
- 2012 Pacific Coast Sectionals will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah November 15-19, 2011

### Club Member Information

Information and updates regarding competitions, tests, past newsletters, membership and more can be found on the SVFSC website at: <http://sunvalleyfsc.com>

- Questions about the club can be emailed to: [info@sunvalleyfsc.com](mailto:info@sunvalleyfsc.com).
- Newsletter submissions are due the last week of the month. Suggestions are greatly appreciated!
- Please send comments and submissions to Karen Hoffman at [roadschoolers@gmail.com](mailto:roadschoolers@gmail.com).