



News From The Edge

Newsletter of Skating Club of North Carolina

Issue 20, March/April 2004

From the Prez . . .

Even amid the crazy winter weather we've been experiencing, our Club Members have been busy gearing up and getting ready for the new competitive season. As I've dropped in at the various rinks where our members train, I'm hearing new music, seeing new choreography come to life on the ice, and watching new moves in the field being practiced. It's great to see everyone recharged, invigorated, and focused as we begin this new skating season!

Some of our adult skaters started off their competitive year by attending the 2004 New Year's Invitational Adult Competition. It was held January 31-February 1, 2004 in Ashburn, Virginia. **Michele Alias, Lori Drum, Judy Tseng, Grace Hayes-Ramos, and Kelton Brown** represented SCNC. Some of them competed in both Freestyle and Spins. Each of them did a fine job and we celebrate their accomplishments! Congratulations to all of you! ☺

We had a great turnout for the February 7th Test Session. I believe we had 28 tests that morning! Thanks to Judy Tseng, our Test Chair for all her hard work and organization, Jenny Komes, for managing the test ice schedule, to Sue Gilmore, our Hospitality Chair for providing the goodies, and to Jenny Komes and Jane Bugaeva for playing our music. Our next test session will be on Saturday, May 1, 2004 at the Raleigh Ice Plex.

In my last letter I posed the question to all our Club Members of how can we, as a Club, carry on the spirit of National Figure Skating Week? I believe the BEST way we can carry on that spirit is by every member supporting SCNC. We can do this in many ways. One way is to continue to support Club Ice. Club Ice is time that is purchased by your Club to provide Freestyle ice for Club Members only. It's an ideal setting for training and skating on ice time that is reserved for SCNC. Club Ice is held at the Raleigh Ice Plex on Tuesdays from 4-5:30pm and Thursdays from 4-6pm. Club Ice application forms can be easily downloaded from our Club website: www.skatingclubnc.com, or by contacting Jenny Komes at JKomes@mindspring.com. Recently we've had some new members join SCNC, and we'd love to see you come out and skate with us on Club Ice time! This is good way to meet and greet your fellow Club members!

Another great way to support your Club is by volunteering! Volunteering helps us all get to know one another, and allows you active participation in you (or your child's) skate Club, and most importantly- IT'S FUN!!!! Cathye Banner, our Fundraising Chairperson urgently needs your help. If you signed up as family/club support on your membership form, you can easily fulfill your service hours by volunteering to work at our SCNC beverage cart at the RBC Center in Raleigh. Cathye needs friendly faces and able hands to assist her. ☺ The beverage cart we run at the RBC Center is our Club's biggest fundraiser. SCNC gets a percentage of the sales we make from our cart. Historically, we've been well received by the patrons at the RBC Center because our group has an outstanding reputation of being friendly, fast, and dependable. Plus, folks that purchase drinks from us are always curious and interested in our Figure Skating Club! It's a great chance to promote the Club and the sport! So, if you are 21 years of age, own a black shirt/blouse, and black jeans/pants- WALA!! You're ready to come out and have some cool volunteer fun! Please contact Cathye Banner to tell her you're ready to help out. Cathye can be reached at work: 787-9212, or at home phone: 787-1613, or by her email address: Cathye.b@cardinaltrvl.com. Give her a call and she'll be able to run through the dates and times she can use your assistance. (Cont. on page 3)

OFFICERS

President: Rob Navarro
Vice-President: Phyllis O'Hara
Secretary: Mandy Stuart
Treasurer: Meg Deal

DIRECTORS

Michele Alias
Cathye Banner
Judy Tseng
Meg Deal
Jenny Komes
Margie Merod
Rob Navarro
Phyllis O'Hara
Mary Wehbie

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Test: Judy Tseng
Membership: Margie Merod / Jenny Komes
Fundraising: Cathye Banner
Hospitality: Sue Gilmore
Social: Laura Navarro
Publicity: Ron Seitz
Competition: Beth Vick/ Margie Merod
Sanctions: Phyllis O'Hara
Web Site: Pier Komes
Newsletter: Janice Lautier

Club Jackets: Polly Addison
Email: Pollyszoo@aol.com
Telephone: 919.217.8452

Web Site: www.skatingclubnc.com

Email: SCofNC@aol.com

MISSION STATEMENT: Skating Club of North Carolina, Inc. is a non-profit member club of the United States Figure Skating Association (USFSA) whose mission is to promote participation in the sport of amateur figure skating by providing opportunities to participate in skating events such as, exhibitions and ice shows, and to demonstrate personal skill development through USFSA test and competition structures in an environment of support and good sportsmanship.

Test Dates

May 1, 2004 – Raleigh IcePlex
August 14, 2004 – Raleigh IcePlex

Test applications will be available on the SCNC website.

Tentative Schedule of Events

March 5-6, 2004 South Florida Challenge, Coral Springs, FL

March 12-14, 2004 Magnolia Open, Atlanta, GA

March 31-April 4, 2004 Central Carolina Skating Classic, Hillsborough, NC

April 2 - April 4 19th Annual Florida Open Championships, Maitland, FL

April 14-17, 2004 2004 U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships, Olympic Center, Lake Placid, New York

May 14-16, 2004 May Day Open Competition, Laurel, MD

June 4-6, 2004 Dogwood Open, Raleigh, NC

June 17-20, 2004 Atlanta Open, Atlanta, GA

July 8-11, 2004 Charleston Open, Charleston, SC

October 5-9, 2004 South Atlantic Qualifying Regional Championships, Charleston, SC



"From the Prez. . ." (Cont. from page 1)

Finally, I strongly encourage all of our Club Members to support SCNC by participating in our Club's upcoming competition- THE DOGWOOD OPEN. Flip your calendars ahead and mark them for the Dogwood Open dates of June 4-6th, 2004! Our Competition Chairs, Beth Vick and Margie Merod have been working behind the scenes for months getting things ready for Dogwood. Beth and Margie are actively seeking volunteers now in preparation for The Dogwood Open in June. Please contact either of them if you'd like to help out in any capacity. Beth Vick can be reached at:

DogwoodOpen@bellsouth.net and Margie

Merod can be contacted at:

DogwoodOpen@nc.rr.com. A fantastic way of supporting SCNC is by competing and volunteering! ☺ We can use your time and talent in many different ways to help make Dogwood a success. There will be some *exciting* changes to Dogwood this year, so look for announcements to be coming out soon!

Remember, volunteering can be rewarding and fun. When we all work together, we achieve so much more! We have an extraordinary Club, filled with talented skaters of all ages, remarkable parents, and marvelous coaches. Get involved in our Club, you'll be glad you did! Your efforts will help us fulfill our Mission Statement. If you'd like more information on how you can get involved, please feel free to contact me at SCofNC@aol.com. You can help us continue to grow and make The Skating Club of North Carolina the best it can be! Keep on skating!

Rob Navarro,
SCNC President



Birthdays!!!

March

Sara Komes 3/1
Vance Jones 3/2
Phyllis O'Hara 3/3
Lori Wang 3/4
Kathrine Khvostova 3/5
Rebecca Lautier 3/5
Joseph Gilmore 3/15
Jacqui Stapp 3/17
Michele Alias 3/18
Michael Merod 3/18
Allison Gilmore 3/21
Raquel Field 3/25
Janice Lautier 3/25
Erin Keener 3/29
Michael Rowland 3/29
Tatjana Shapkina 3/29

April

David Tsai 4/1
Lorraine Dumas 4/3
Meighan Carpenter 4/4
Lori Schefke 4/7
Miles Addison 4/9
Erynn Komes 4/9
Alice Webb 4/9
Christy Newport 4/11
Jenny Komes 4/13
Melinda Borden 4/14
Mark Vick 4/15
Charity Mize 4/16
Michael Bergdolt 4/18
Oleg Efimov 4/19
Amelia Irish 4/20
Cynthia Peters 4/22
Paul Draovitch 4/24
Kara Vick 4/28

Skater Spotlight

This month we are pleased to feature three of our skaters. Steven Elefante and Jane Bugaeva represented our club well at the 2004 U.S. Figure Skating Championships. Lori Drum is one of our Adult skaters who was featured in a film project.

My Nationals Experience

By Jane Bugaeva

As soon as I arrive in Atlanta, I'm thinking... Nationals. Woot. Woot Woot.

So, I'm sitting quietly in the dressing room, putting on my skates. Everything's normal, just like any other day at the rink. Well except for the fact that less than 10 feet away from me is Sasha Cohen, and 20 feet to my right is Michelle Kwan, and Angela Nikodinov just walked in, and Amber Corwin is stretching on the ground. That's right, all of them, IN THE FLESH.

I try not to freak out. I calmly look over, pretending I'm interested in the poster on the wall.

"Hmm, Hockey League is accepting new... HOLY COW, that's Sasha Cohen!! Wow, she's short, and do you realize she's been to worlds, to Four Continents... to the OLYMPICS, and I'm in the same building as her, wait in the same room in the same building, hold it, on the same ice in the same room in the same building!!"

I become conscious that I've been staring at her with my mouth open for a good 4 minutes, oops.

Star struck was one of the many feelings going through my head at the time, in conjunction with pure, undiluted, panicky trepidation. Or trepidatiatory panic. Either way, it's the scariest thing I've ever had to do, and I've been on the

2004 U.S. Nationals

By Steven Elefante

The 2004 Nationals in Atlanta was a great experience and I will never forget it. I met a lot of people and learned what it's like to compete under the pressure of nationals.

When I arrived in Atlanta, the first thing that we did was check in to the hotel. I didn't realize how huge the hotel was going to be. It had 72 floors! Once my mom and I were situated in our room, we went downstairs to register for the competition and get our ID badges. Because security was pretty tight, all the athletes, coaches, and chaperones had to get photo ID's to gain access to the arenas.

All of the Novice events were held at the Gwinnett Center in a city just outside of Atlanta. The arena was very nice. My coaches said that it was the nicest Novice venue that they had ever seen. When I had my first practice in the arena, I had to do a little bit of adjusting in my skating. Because there are people that sit at the top of the arena, you have to make sure that your head is always looking up when you present to the judges and the audience or else you will get "lost" on the ice.

My short program did not go as well as I had planned. Even though I drew first to skate in the short, I felt very relaxed when I went out on the ice after they called my name. When it was all over, I had made some huge mistakes on things that I never mess up! After that

Lori Drum: Software Tester, Skater, and now Movie Star

By Judy Tseng

This past November, at the Center for Documentary Studies in Durham, Pollie Barden unveiled her skating documentary film about SCNC member Lori Drum. As a student in the Center's certificate program, Pollie had to create a documentary to complete the program. She chose to focus on Lori's passion for figure skating. Lori's pairs partner David Tremblay and Michele Alias, both members of SCNC, also attended the film showing.

The film, entitled "Pretty," discussed Lori's reasons for skating and showed lots of footage from 2003, including Lori's practice sessions, her meeting with a dressmaker, and competitions. Pollie showed great dedication to her project by following Lori and other adult skaters to the Peach Classic in Atlanta, Georgia. She even filmed some of the skaters getting rowdy at the after-party, one of the many humorous moments in the film.

Lori always wanted to skate as a child, but there were no ice skating rinks nearby when she was growing up in South Carolina in the 1960's and 70's. The closest rink was 80 miles away. Lori devoted herself to ballet instead. Shortly after her 30th birthday, she realized there was no reason she could not be skating; there was a rink nearby, she was done with

Jane (Cont. from p. 4)
Sky Coaster at Emerald Pointe. I enter the arena about to step onto the ice, and I'm dizzy. Before me, the plethora of objects, swim in and out of focus. The cameras (there are about a bazillion), the crazy bright lights, the stands, which are invisible to me because of the amount of people in them, the judges... and ohmygosh there's Dick Button, and Peggy Fleming, and oooooo there's the kiss and cry, and "Look Miss Kathie, I'm on the Jumbo Tron!!"

All in all, it's much better than being at school. I hardly need to clarify. But the best part? You get to wear a badge, or as I like to call it the "you can go anywhere you ever want" VIP pass. Rink side? Dressing rooms? Competitors lounge? Hospitality Room? ABC interview room? Front row seating? All I've got to say is... I'm there!

Hopefully, ill be there again, next year.

Did you know...
Spokane, Washington has been selected to host the 2007 U.S. Figure Skating Championships. Dates are Jan. 21-28, 2007.

Steven (Cont. from p. 4)
disaster of a short program where I placed dead last, I was determined to do a better long program. Once again, I drew first in the long! (I don't know how I keep doing this.) The long program went really well for me. I went out and landed everything that I had planned except for a popped triple-flip. This was the first competition that I attempted a triple-lutz, and I did it. I moved up from 12th place in the short program to 5th place in the long program. There is nothing more relaxing than finishing your long program at nationals because "it's all over." All the stress is gone and you don't have a care in the world because all the hard work is over. Now it's time to have some fun!

Our hotel had a special lounge for just the competitors to hang out in. It was great. There was a foosball table, a pool table, and a ping-pong table along with a very large TV, couches, and tons of FOOD! I met a bunch of people there. Timothy Goebel was in the lounge quite often. He's actually a pretty funny guy. He watched some of the events with my friends and I and told us about some of his experiences at past nationals'. One other guy that I got to hang out with a lot was Ryan Bradley. I thought I was pretty good at ping-pong until I played this guy. He whooped me every time I played him!

Because I had so much fun in Atlanta, I hope I make it to Portland next year for the 2005 U.S. Nationals!

Lori (Cont. from p. 4)
graduate school, and she had the time and money to finally live out her childhood wishes.

She began with skate school classes at the Cary Ice House, and now skates at Raleigh Iceplex. She takes private lessons for both singles and pairs skating. She balances skating with her job as an Information Technology Quality Assurance Analyst at Duke Clinical Research. There, she tests software used in drug trials and ensures compliance with FDA regulations.

Pollie Barden, who works with Lori at Duke, made it easy for Lori to be the star of her documentary. "Other than a few hours of interview, I didn't have to do anything out of the ordinary. I just went about my business while she followed me around with a camera," Lori said.

Lori was pleased with the results of the year-long filming. She did not see the film until the night before Pollie presented it as her final project.

"I think she did a great job with the filming and editing," Lori comments. "I believe [Pollie Barden] has real talent. I know that the footage of us making mistakes and falling and being silly is more interesting to most people, so I think there's a lot of that in the film. If given a choice, I'd have put more footage of us skating well, but that's just a personal pride issue!"

Lori's skating goals for 2004 are to have a "decent" freeskate at Adult Nationals in Lake Placid, improve her spins, and put together an interpretive program.

(Cont. on page 6)

Lori (Cont. from p. 5)

Pollie's colleagues at the Duke Center for Documentary Film Studies found the whole adult competitive skating "subculture" fascinating. Lori remarks, "They had no idea that normal people with jobs and families would spend so much time and money on a hobby just because they love it. Non-skaters seem intrigued by our little world."

Pollie Barden is entering "Pretty" in upcoming film festivals. She plans to have copies of the film available at a later date.

For Sale

SP Teri's size 5 1/2 mounted with Professional blades. One years old and in good condition. **\$250.00** or make offer, paid \$ 550.00 new!

Contact: Karen Macdonald 919-462-1458 or email kmacdonald@mindspring.com



SCNC Baseball caps for sale **\$10.00** each

Contact: Rob Navarro ScofNC@aol.com

Test Results Feb. 7, 2004

Moves in the Field

Pre-Preliminary

Haley Shore
Brittney Gilmore

Preliminary

Shayda Wilson
David Lenz

Pre-Juvenile

Miles Addison

Intermediate

Katya Roze

Senior

Pinal Gurel

Freeskate

Pre-Preliminary

Shar-narne Flowers
Haley Shore
Meghan Owens
Kay Bergdolt
Nicole Brustofski

Preliminary

Kassi Wehbie
Jennifer Stuart

Dance

14-Step

Erynn Komes

Hickory Hoedown

Michele Alias
David Tsai

Paso Doble

Margie Merod, Jr.

Competition Results

2004 New Year's Invitational Ashburn, VA Jan. 31-Feb. 1, 2004

**Bronze Ladies FS –
Class II & III Final**
Michele Alias – 4th

Bronze Spins Final
Michele Alias – 5th

Silver Ladies FS Class II Final
Lori Drum – 1st
Grace Hayes-Ramos – 7th

Silver Ladies FS I Final
Judy Tseng – 2nd

Silver Men FS Class I Final
Kelton Brown – 1st

Silver Spins Class I Final
Judy Tseng – 2nd

Silver Spins Class II, III, & IV Final
Grace Hayes-Ramos – 4th

Congrats to Judy Tseng

Judy is the new figure skating editor for AsianAthlete.com.

Check out her articles on Jason Wong, Dennis Phan, and Princeton Kwong on the website!

Social Scene

Smucker's Stars on Ice!

Tickets are on sale for the Smucker's Stars on Ice show coming to the RBC Center on Friday, March 26, 2004. Ticket prices range from \$55 per seat in Section 121 to \$42 per seat in Section 125. SCNC has a **special** PRE-EVENT Group Question and Answer with show skater/s session prior to the show at 6:00pm. Actual show time is 7:30pm. Scheduled guest skaters for the show are **Kristi Yamaguchi** and **Kurt Browning!** DEADLINE FOR TICKET SALES: 9AM, FRIDAY, MARCH 5TH, 2004. For tickets, see or contact the following Social Committee Volunteers: **Debbie Lang**: dlang@nc.rr.com (Cary & Garner Ice Houses)

Angela Huggins:

Angela_Huggins@prodiqy.net (The Rec Zone)

Marian Bergdolt:

Marian.Bergdolt@highwood.com (The Ice Plex)

Laura Navarro: SCofNC@aol.com (Chairperson ☺)

National Figure Skating Week 2004!

Special thanks to Polly Addison and Judy Kline for helping to organize simple receptions at the Ice Plex and the Garner Ice House during National Figure Skating Week. The skaters enjoyed the snacks! ☺

Our Club Members at the Garner Ice House shared their Skating Week spirit by creating a terrific poster (Kudos to Judy Kline!) that remains on display at the rink. They were each asked the following question: "*What I love most about figure skating is...*" Look at some

of the great responses that our Club members had to say!

I love the variety of footwork, spins, and the beautiful costumes! *CandacePyun*

I love the music. *Deborah Field*

I like when you can stop thinking about skating and just have fun! *Katherine Kline*

I love everything about skating! *Haley Dunne*

I like getting to meet new people! *Joe Navarro*

I like to challenge myself and compete. *Caroline Stephenson*

Double lutz, laybacks, moves in the field, Sasha Cohen and Jane. *Pinar Gurel*

I like to do different jumps. *McKenzie Lang*

I like the edging and the precision of the skaters. *Judy Kline*

I like working hard to look and skate my best. *Dana Kalnins*

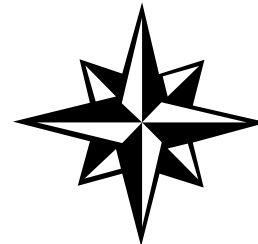
I like the social aspect of the sport! *Jane Bugaeva*

I like watching the kids skate everyday. *Linda Kalnins*

I like spinning on the ice. *Shayda Wilson*
It's fun! *Morgaine Bowers*

I couldn't say it any better!

Laura Navarro,
Social Committee Chairperson



Skating Club of North Carolina
P.O. Box 41324
Raleigh, NC 27629

Gold Medal Recipe

Pepperoni Pinwheel Crescents

By Linda Kalnins

8 oz can refrigerated crescent rolls
2.5 oz pkg sliced pepperoni (32 slices)
2 Oz (1/2 cup) shredded mozzarella cheese
1 cup pizza or spaghetti sauce (if desired)

Separate dough into 4 rectangles, firmly press perforations to seal.
Place 8 pepperoni slices on each triangle. Sprinkle each with 2
tablespoons cheese.

Starting at shortest side tightly roll up each rectangle; pinch to seal.
Slice each roll into 4 equal slices. Pinch dough together on one side of
each slice to seal.

Place sealed side down on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 for 18-20
minutes. Serve with warm pizza sauce, if desired. Makes 16 pinwheels.