

# The ICEBurgh

Newsletter of the Pittsburgh Figure Skating Club, Inc.

<http://www.pittsburghfsc.com>

January / February 2012

## IMPORTANT CLUB NEWS & INFORMATION

### SAVE THE DATE!

The club's annual year-end party will be held Friday, June 1, 2012. It will be in the Hat Trick Club at RMU Island Sports Center, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. If you can help out, please contact Teresa Cunningham at [tacesq@zoominternet.net](mailto:tacesq@zoominternet.net) or Mary Abercrombie at [maryabercrombie@comcast.net](mailto:maryabercrombie@comcast.net).

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### BOARD POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Thinking about joining the Board of Directors of the Pittsburgh Figure Skating Club? Three positions will be opening up on July 1. Please consider running for a board position and get involved with the club.

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### THANK YOU DENISE!



The Board wishes to thank Denise Wolf for all her help and time in being our Volunteer Coordinator. Denise resigned effective December 31, 2011, as her daughter Alecia is pursuing other interests which include the Children's Festival Chorus. We will miss her, and wish her and Alecia the best of luck.

In the meantime, Kim Borzilleri will be handling any volunteer issues/requests until the position is filled. Her contact information is: 724-601-9709 or [PNDS@comcast.net](mailto:PNDS@comcast.net).

### Board of Directors

Charles Wolenter – *President*  
David Garber – *Vice President*  
Kim Borzilleri – *Secretary*  
Ruth Lestina – *Treasurer*

Chris Belloma  
Marta Binotto  
Lisa Davidson  
Kathy McKain  
Elissa Uram

### Committee Chairmen

*Coach Liaison:* Crystal Mekonis  
*Membership:* Patti Kuzma  
*Newsletter:* Patti Kuzma  
*Parent Liaison:* Vacant  
*Skate Pittsburgh!:* Wendy Burdan  
*Skate With U.S.:* Elissa Uram  
*Test Chair:* Beth Sutton  
*Volunteer Coordinator:* Vacant  
*Website:* Patti Kuzma

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January is National Skating Month



UPCOMING EVENTS / COMPETITIONS

<p><b>Test Session</b>                  Wednesday, February 1, 2012                  9:00 a.m. – 3:50 p.m.                  Tests offered will be through Gold – Freestyle, Field Moves and Dance.                   Applications are available on the club’s website and are <b>due by Wednesday, January 18, 2012.</b></p>	<p><b>PA Figure Skating Championships</b>                  February 3-5, 2012                  York, Pennsylvania  <a href="http://www.whiterosefsc.org">www.whiterosefsc.org</a>                   This is a qualifying event for the 2013 State Games of America being held in the Greater Hershey/Harrisburg, PA area.</p>
<p><b>Skate With US Basic Skills Program</b>                  Schenley Park Ice Rink                  Dec. 10, 2011 to Feb. 25, 2012 (no class Dec. 24, 2011)                  February 25: Party and Show                  For information: <a href="mailto:vgwolf@comcast.net">vgwolf@comcast.net</a> or                  Elissa Uram at: <a href="mailto:PFSCCLTS@aol.com">PFSCCLTS@aol.com</a></p>	<p><b>Tri State Memorial Free Skating Championships</b>                  Fraser Figure Skating Club                  Fraser, Michigan                  April 13 &amp; 14, 2012  <a href="http://www.Fraserfsc.com">www.Fraserfsc.com</a></p>
<p><b>Cleveland Invitational Championships</b>                  Pavilion Skating Club                  March 16-18, 2012  <a href="http://www.pavilionfsc.com">www.pavilionfsc.com</a></p>	



2011-12 CLUB SESSIONS

The 2011-2012 Club Sessions are held at the RMU Island Sports Center. All sessions are from 3:00 p.m. to 4:50 p.m. on Sundays and are on the Olympic Rink.

<p><b><u>JANUARY 2012</u></b>                  Jan. 8                  Jan. 22                  Jan. 29</p>	<p><b><u>FEBRUARY 2012</u></b>                  Feb. 12                  Feb. 19                  Feb. 26</p>
<p><b><u>MARCH 2012</u></b>                  March 4                  March 11                  March 18 (<b>NOTE: this date subject to change</b>)                  March 25</p>	<p><b><u>APRIL 2012</u></b>                  April 1                  April 15                  April 22</p>

**VOLUNTEER HOURS**

Reminder: Six hours of volunteer time needs to be completed. Many opportunities are available at the club’s Learn-to-Skate program at Schenley Park Ice Rink. We desperately need help with hospitality (selling coffee & donuts) on Saturday mornings.

The club has four ice monitor slots open. Two hours of volunteer credit are given for each session worked. Please check the sign-up sheet by the club’s bulletin board at the rink for dates available. The primary job for an ice monitor is to keep track (and prioritize when necessary) of the skaters on the ice. A yellow folder labeled “Club Ice Monitor” has been left in the PFSC mailbox at the front desk. It contains the rules and checklist that you will need to complete this task. There is also a binder which includes emergency contact information for PFSC members.

Members not fulfilling the 6 hours must pay \$25.00.

PITTSBURGH FSC PAIRS SKATERS

Ben McLemore, age 11, and Ana Lestina, age 9, have been friends since Montessori preschool. They have paired up and take pairs lessons from Elena Valova and Taylor Toth, and singles from Crystal Mekonis and Igor Novodran. They enjoy skating together and plan to compete in pairs this summer at the Mentor Invitational.



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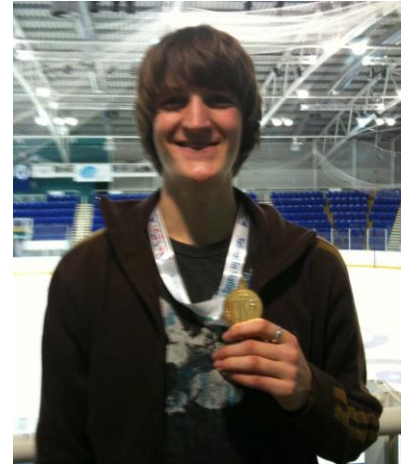
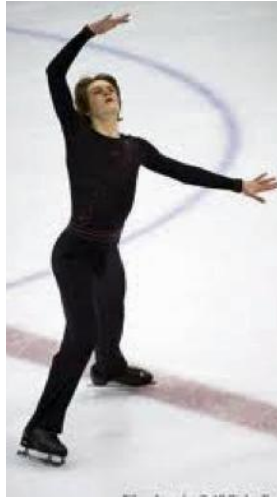
BASIC SKILLS PROGRAM

The club's basic skills program has begun and we can still use you as a volunteer. You can volunteer at registration, the donut/coffee table, or most importantly, as instructor. Pictures below are from the January 7, 2012 session. Please consider coming to the Schenley Park Ice Rink and helping out. It's fun and there's a great satisfaction in helping young children learn to skate.



**BRITISH SKATER TRAINS AT RMU ISLAND SPORTS CENTER**

If you are at RMU Island Sports Center, then you might have a chance to see Harry Mattick skate. He is here from Great Britain, and trains at RMU ISC, being coached by Igor Novodran. He recently competed at the Great Britain Junior Nationals and Warsaw Cup and placed 1<sup>st</sup> in both competitions. The Pittsburgh FSC congratulates Harry on his gold medal winnings and wishes him the best of luck at the World Junior Figure Skating Championships.



**THEATER ON ICE**



Theater on Ice is starting its spring session. There are now 22 skaters on the team. TOI will be having several performances, which tentatively include the Schenley Park Skating Show (2/25), North Park Skating Show (3/5), and possibly an exhibition at Shamrock Skate (3/17). New members are welcome at all ages and skating levels (but must have your own skates). Practices are on Sundays from 7-8 p.m. If interested, contact: Crystal Mekonis: 412-720-7217, [tallytiger@verizon.net](mailto:tallytiger@verizon.net) or Teresa Cunningham: 412-580-0320, [tacesq@zoominternet.net](mailto:tacesq@zoominternet.net).



<b>2011 HOLIDAY SEASON COMPETITION</b> <b>Columbus Figure Skating Club</b> <b>Columbus, Ohio</b> <b>December 17, 2011</b>				
<b>Elspeth Cuningham</b> Preliminary A Ladies CM-Group A* Preliminary Ladies B FS*	2 <sup>nd</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Benjamin McLemore</b> Beginner Test Track FS* Limited Beginner CM*	1 <sup>st</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Lily Cunningham</b> Limited Beginner Test Track FS* Limited Beginner CM*	1 <sup>st</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>		<b>Claire Nincke</b> Pre Preliminary Test Track FS* Limited Beginner CM*	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Anastasia Lestina</b> Beginner Ladies FS* Beginner Ladies CM*	2 <sup>nd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Emma Ross</b> Preliminary A Ladies CM-Group B* Pre Preliminary Ladies B FS*	2 <sup>nd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Jenya Lestina</b> Pre Preliminary Ladies A FS-Group C* Pre Preliminary Ladies CM-Group B*	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>		<b>Natalie Sobel</b> Beginner Ladies FS* Beginner Ladies CM*	1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Dana Loomis</b> Limited Beginner CM* Beginner Test Track FS*	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>			

Photos from the 2011 Holiday Season Competition:



L to R: Claire Nincke, Beth Sutton and Natalie Sobel



Elspeth Cuningham



Vivian Kohler



Lily Cunningham

<p align="center"><b>2011 RISING STARS</b>  <b>Garfield Heights Figure Skating Club</b>  <b>Garfield Heights, Ohio</b>  <b>November 12-13, 2011</b></p>				
<p><b><u>Lisa Borzilleri</u></b>                      Preliminary Jumps                      Pre Preliminary Spins                      Pre Preliminary FS</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup>                      1<sup>st</sup>                      1<sup>st</sup></p>		<p><b><u>Elsbeth Cunningham</u></b>                      Preliminary CM                      Preliminary Spins                      Preliminary Jumps                      Preliminary FS</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup>                      1<sup>st</sup>                      2<sup>nd</sup>                      2<sup>nd</sup></p>
<p><b><u>Marisa Busquets</u></b>                      Limited Beginner Test Track FS</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup></p>		<p><b><u>Lily Cunningham</u></b>                      Limited Beginner Test Track FS                      Limited Beginner CM</p>	<p>2<sup>nd</sup>                      4<sup>th</sup></p>
<p><b><u>Talia Busquets</u></b>                      Pre Preliminary CM                      Pre Preliminary FS</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup>                      5<sup>th</sup></p>		<p><b><u>Megan Harkins</u></b>                      Beginner Jumps                      Beginner Spins</p>	<p>3<sup>rd</sup>                      6<sup>th</sup></p>
<p><b><u>Marissa Christenson</u></b>                      No Test FS</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup></p>		<p><b><u>Alexis Ky</u></b>                      Limited Beginner CM                      Beginner Jumps                      No Test FS</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup>                      2<sup>nd</sup>                      7<sup>th</sup></p>

Photos from the Rising Stars Competition:



Marisa Busquets



Talia Busquets



Elsbeth Cunningham



Lisa Borzilleri



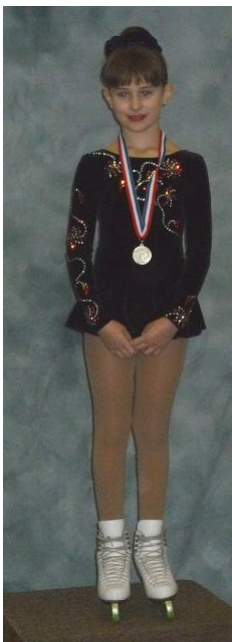
Lily Cunningham



Alexis Ky

<b>2011 RISING STARS</b> <b>Garfield Heights Figure Skating Club</b> <b>Garfield Heights, Ohio</b> <b>November 12-13, 2011</b>			
<b>Anastasia Lestina</b> Limited Beginner CM No Test FS	1 <sup>st</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>		<b>Hannah Sharrer</b> Intermediate Test Track FS 4 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Jenya Lestina</b> No Test Beginner CM Pre Preliminary Jumps No Test FS Pre Preliminary Spins	1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>		<b>Loren Suttmiller</b> Preliminary Test Track FS 3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Dana Loomis</b> Beginner Test Track FS	5 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Shauna Talbot</b> Juvenile Test Track FS 4 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Benjamin McLemore</b> Beginner Test Track FS Limited Beginner CM	2 <sup>nd</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Anna Volk</b> Beginner Spins Beginner Jumps No Test Free Skate 3 <sup>rd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Claire Nincke</b> Pre Preliminary Test Track FS	4 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Sarah Volk</b> Beginner Jumps Beginner Spins No Test FS 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup>

Photos from Rising Stars Competition:



Anastasia Lestina  
-2011 Rising Stars



Jenya Lestina  
-2011 Rising Stars



Benjamin McLemore  
-2011 Rising Stars



**TESTS PASSED**

Congratulations to the following skaters who passed the following tests held on November 9, 2011.

	MOVES IN THE FIELD	FREESTYLE	DANCE
Libby McGrosky		Preliminary	



### **The Helen M. McLoraine Figure Skating Scholarship Program**

The Pioneer Fund has established a scholarship program to assist eligible current and former amateur and professional ice skaters who dedicated their lives to skating and now wish to pursue a college education. Scholarships are offered each year for full-time undergraduate study at an accredited institution of the student's choice. Eligible individuals are skaters who have competed at least once in a U.S. Figure Skating qualifying competition at the novice level or higher in singles, pairs or ice dancing.

The Pioneer Fund is a foundation of the late Helen M. McLoraine. She established The Pioneer Fund, a private family foundation, in the 1960s, to continue her lifelong tradition of support to the types of projects and organizations to which she had contributed throughout her lifetime and now through her estate. McLoraine, deeply influenced by her mother's dedication to philanthropy, became a generous benefactor to others with a focus on figure skating, higher education assistance and medical research.

Although McLoraine continued to run her own private successful investment business throughout her lifetime, her most cherished pastime was supporting the sport of figure skating. She attended many competitions, events and ice shows annually.

The door to McLoraine's apartment, which originally opened inward the way that most doors do, was changed to open out to the world to indicate the way she embraced life and invited others to do the same. McLoraine passed away in January 2003 doing one of the many things she enjoyed in life, watching young kids in figure skating rinks, working to achieve their dreams.

#### **For more information and to apply for a scholarship:**

This scholarship program is administered by Scholarship Management Services, a division of Scholarship America. Awards are granted without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, age, gender, disability or national origin. Information and application can be found on <http://sms.scholarshipamerica.org/pioneerfund> after December 14, 2011. This year, a total of \$200,000 in scholarships will be awarded ranging from \$3,000 to \$7,000 per recipient

**Scholarship Application postmark deadline: February 18, 2012**

## Club Photo Gallery

Jenny Shulkin – 2011 Mt. Lebanon Competition:



Steel City Blades  
November 19, 2011