

Happy New Year and Happy National Skating Month to All!!!

We have some exciting events planned for January and February, but first, we would like to extend our congratulations to home club member Jason Cohn and associate club member Barbie Long for fantastic finishes at the U.S. Junior Championships in December. Jason finished 7th overall in the Juvenile Boys division and Barbie earned the Bronze medal in the Intermediate Ladies division. Way to go Jason, Barbie, their parents and coaches!

St. Louis Skating Club will be kicking off the New Year with an Open House at the Brentwood Ice Arena on Saturday, January 23, 2010, in celebration of National Skating Month. This free event, which is co-sponsored by Go Figure, is open to both Club members and members of the public. Brentwood LTS coaches and Club coaches will be on hand to provide mini-lessons and much more is planned, including exhibitions by some of our members and the Fleur de Lis Senior Youth synchronized skating team. Watch for more information to be posted on our website with the next couple of days and make sure to bring a friend to introduce him or her to the sport of figure skating. Those available and willing to help with the event should contact Anne Marie Schweiss at aschweiss@att.net.

The weekend of February 13-14, 2010, we'll be hosting a Clinic featuring National and International Dance Coach Pierre Panayi and nine time US National competitor Nick Traxler. This clinic is certain to be as popular as our summer clinic featuring Guest Coach Christy Krall and Choreographer Scott Brown. More information about our February Clinic, along with registration forms, will be posted on our website soon.

For those interested in testing, our next test session will be held at the Brentwood Ice Arena on February 15, 2010. Nick Traxler will be our dance partner for the February test session. Since we will not be hosting a test session in January, we expect the February test session to be a busy one so please turn in your forms early.

Club Ice will continue every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at the Brentwood Ice Arena throughout January and February except Saturday, January 23, 2010, and Saturday, February 13, 2010. The February reservation form will be posted on our website later this week. As always, members can enjoy the greatest savings by returning their postmarked reservation forms by the 15th of the preceding month.

Many of our members will be competing at the ISI Missouri Invitational to be held at the Rec-Plex the weekend of January 16, 2010, the ISI Sweetheart Open at South County the weekend of February 6, 2010, and the Show Me State Games at the Webster Groves Ice Arena the weekend of February 27, 2010. Also, many of our members and our own Fleur de Lis Intermediate synchronized skating team will be travelling to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the last week of January for the Midwestern Synchronized Skating Sectionals. We wish all members competing at these events a fun-filled and successful experience.

Our beginner synchronized skating class got off to a great start yesterday with nine skaters anxious to learn about synchronized skating. The class is being offered in two six-week sessions. If you know of anyone who may be interested in joining the class, please have them contact Gina Oesterlei at tohpic@sbcglobal.net or Beth Gartin at gartin@aol.com.

And last but not least, the US Figure Skating National Championships will take place in January followed by the Olympics in February. I'm sure many of you will be spending a few hours by the television cheering for your favorites. Here is a link to a schedule of upcoming televised skating events: <http://heatherw.com/mk/sch.htm>.

**Wishing you a healthy and happy 2010,
Rod Sharp, SLSC President**