

# ~THE SCRIBE~



**Mentor Figure Skating Club  
& Mentor Ice Diamonds**



March 3, 2008

## Letter From The Editor

It has been a while since our last issue, and there's been a lot happening...

We held our winter dress sale. Our Club coordinated another fun-filled and entertaining holiday show in December. Our Mentor Ice Diamonds have begun another successful competitive season. We've hosted two testing sessions since the fall. We are gearing up to host our first-annual Diamond Classis synchronized skating competition. And we are hard at work preparing for the second-annual MFSC/MID Reverse Raffle!

Just want to take a moment to say "Thanks!" to the many families that get involved to make so many wonderful things possible within our Club!

If you are interested in learning more about our Club and/or getting involved with some upcoming events, please contact any of the Board members listed on the following page for more information.

If there is a topic you would like to see addressed in The Scribe or if you have any questions, I would love to hear from you. Please feel free to contact me at [sivillo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sivillo@sbcglobal.net).

~ Tracy Sivillo

## An Update From The MFSC Board

### *Vice President's Report –*

#### Reverse Raffle

Friday, April 11... Planning for this large fundraiser is well underway. This event benefits BOTH the MFSC & the Ice Diamond teams. The proceeds are split 50/50 between these groups. A lot of people are committing to volunteer their time for this event. There are sign up sheets on the Club Room door for listing what you may wish to donate for the various baskets. The MFSC and each of the Ice Diamond teams are donating baskets to make this fund raiser a HUGE success. Please consider a donation if you have not already done so.

Tickets for the Reverse Raffle are available via Lisa Franz, Tracy Sivillo, Angel O'Brien, Sue Clemente, and Arianne Mastandrea.

#### Free Summer Contract Raffle!!!

How would you like to win free ice time for use during the summer contract? Raffle tickets will be on sale very soon -- \$3 per ticket or \$15/book of six tickets. The tickets should be available by March 1st and will be sold through the night of the Reverse Raffle. You can obtain tickets through one of the following people or at the monitors cart at any session: Tracy Sivillo, Sue Clemente, Arianne Mastandrea, Lisa Franz. The winner will be drawn on April 11 at the event. The lucky winner will receive:

**Two FREE weekly on-ice or off-ice sessions of your choice for one child during the 2008 summer ice contract.**

The rules associated with this prize are as follows:

- Good for 2 contracted ice sessions or off ice sessions per week for the 2008 summer contract only.
- Contract **must** be received by the Ice Administrator by May 14 and no changes can be made after the contract deadline.
- Contract must be signed by Skater's coach.
- Contract registration fee (\$25) is not included (although registration fee can be waived if winning family sells a table of reverse raffle tickets).
- Credits and exchanges must follow current exchange policy and will expire at the end of the summer contract.
- Skater must be a MFSC member or associate member for the 2008/2009 season and membership application must be turned in with contract.

This is your chance to win a FREE CONTRACT for this summer! We will soon announce when the tickets are available for sale. As always, we thank you for your support of our Club.

### **GCC Business Plan**

The GCC held a Business Plan meeting Sunday, Feb 24. Six MFSC members attended this informative meeting. A power point presentation summarized a three phase business plan with short and long range goals. After an analysis of data and trends, there is an alarming need to address the way the greater Cleveland area rinks manage and run their clubs or they may run the risk of folding. Clubs may remain autonomous but there is support and need for clubs to centralize competitions and testing. Long range goals include having Directors of Skating and Competitions/Testing. The Board will discuss the plan and identify its impact on the MFSC at future board meetings and plan on presenting the information at the next General Membership meeting in May.

~ Sue Stacho

### **Are you new to the mfsc?**

If you are a new member of the Mentor Figure Skating Club, we would like to warmly welcome you and to make your transition into the Club as smooth as possible. We realize how overwhelming the Club can be to new families. Periodically orientation sessions are held for new members to review Club policies and operations and to answer all of your many questions. However, we do realize that not everyone can attend these sessions.

Please feel free to contact any MFSC Board member at the rink or via the below contact information. We would be happy to answer all of your questions at any time. We welcome your comments, questions, suggestions, or concerns:

Lisa Franz (President) – [franzfour@sbcglobal.net](mailto:franzfour@sbcglobal.net)  
Sue Stacho (Vice President) [stachoki@alltel.net](mailto:stachoki@alltel.net)  
Tracy Sivillo (Secretary) [sivillo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sivillo@sbcglobal.net)  
Michele Racutt (Treasurer) [racutt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:racutt@sbcglobal.net)

Trustees:

Sue Clemente – [sueclemente@acn.net](mailto:sueclemente@acn.net)  
Brian Burkhardt – [burkhardt5@sbcglobal.net](mailto:burkhardt5@sbcglobal.net)  
Deanna DiCola – [dicola8326@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dicola8326@sbcglobal.net)  
Besty Parke – [parkeyates@gmail.com](mailto:parkeyates@gmail.com)  
Dan Folk – [dbf2735@aol.com](mailto:dbf2735@aol.com)  
Dave Bennett – [bugsbenn@aol.com](mailto:bugsbenn@aol.com)  
Arianne Mastandrea – [aad1us@yahoo.com](mailto:aad1us@yahoo.com)



### **The Coaches Corner**

The MFSC Board would like to introduce Rita Lowery. She will have temporary full coaching privileges with the MFSC. Ms. Lowery is a member of U.S. Figure Skating and Professional Skaters Association. She has earned Master Ratings in figures, freestyle, pairs, precision and choreography. Rita was born in Scotland and

has spent 48 years coaching skating and lists a young Scott Hamilton and Jill Watson & Oppegard, whom she coached to two U.S. pair titles (1987-88), a World bronze medal (1987), and an Olympic bronze medal (1988), as her most famous students.

Ms. Lowery will be available to teach in Mentor on Thursday, Friday, and Saturdays at this time, as she is currently still teaching part time in Cincinnati. She will be available full time in Mentor beginning April 2, 2008. Rita and her husband have relocated to Mentor due to their son, Scott, who lives in Willoughby.

The MFSC Pro Committee would also like to take this time to list all members of our coaching staff with contact information. Many of these coaches have additional coaching time available. Please check the Club website for further information about these coaches. If you have questions about adding lesson time with another coach, please discuss with your primary coach or any member of the pro committee (Amy Burkhardt, Sue Clemente, and Michele Racutt):

- Tricia Augustine - 440-891-0620
- Daria Classen - 216-533-2910
- Angela Cunningham – 440-554-7148
- Debi Gamber - 440-974-8743
- Susan Harte - 440-639-1122
- Rita Lowery - 440-290-8089.
- Holly Maher - 440- 974-6054
- Eric and Heather Mumper - 440- 893-0308
- Erin Paglio - 440-974-0954
- Betsy Parke - 440-255-5626
- Chip Rossbach - 440-338-5683
- Mimi Schwensen - 216-671-8059
- Leslie Shackelford-Rinicella - 216-470-6514
- Sally Tasca - 440-639-0285
- Tia Tasca - 440-341-0099
- Colleen Thomas - 440-257-2552
- Baiba Zvejnieks - 440-255-5764

~ Amy Burkhardt

## **The Coaches Corner (CON'T)**

### **Ice Dance**

Some MFSC members and coaches met to discuss the need for more time with dance. Chip was very supportive of this need, but there is a definite shortage. The Pro Committee is researching resources for Dance within our skating community. Sue Clemente is compiling a list of clubs that offer Dance sessions and when as well as a list of possible male dance coaches who are willing to take on additional students and/or are willing travel to Mentor to teach additional Dance lessons.

~ Sue Clemente

### **The Diamond classic**

#### **Diamond Classic Synchronized Skating Competition:**



Saturday, March 8, 2008 will be the 1st annual Diamond Classic Synchronized Skating Competition, hosted by the MFSC. We have 23 teams competing in 6 events: Pre-Juv, Open Juv, Preliminary, Beginner-1, Beginner-2, and the Adult division. The teams are coming from the Chicago, Michigan, Pittsburgh, and Cleveland clubs. This event is being sponsored by the Mentor Figure Skating Club and the Mentor Ice Diamonds. There are still a few areas where we can use some volunteer help. The event will include practice ice for the teams on Friday, March 7, with the competition running from 9am-11:45am on Saturday, March 8, 2008. The event will conclude with an on-ice awards ceremony.

Come down and cheer on the Mentor Ice Diamond Teams on and help out your fellow club members. Admission fee for spectators is \$5/adult, free for children. If you have any questions, contact Sue Clemente at 216-978-5072.

~ Sue Clemente

**Diamonds dish!**  
**Mentor Ice Diamond**  
**Clinics and Auditions**  
**for the Upcoming**  
**2008-2009 Season:**



The Mentor Ice Diamond Organization is interested in fielding three levels of teams for the 2008/2009 season:

1. A Junior/Intermediate team for those interested in a "Junior" team experience to develop advance synchronized skating skills to transition into a collegiate team in future years. Skaters interested in this team must be 12 years or older and have passed Intermediate MIF.
2. The second level team would be a Pre-Juvenile/Juvenile team consisting of skaters ranging in age from 8-14 with a minimum of pre-preliminary MIF. The goal for this team is to work toward moving into the Novice level in the future.
3. The third level is the Beginner level. This team is for non-test skaters developing synchronized skating skills. The goal for the beginner teams will be to transition into Preliminary and Pre-Juvenile teams in the future. All teams will be coached by the Ice Diamond coaches, with an identified head coach for each level. The Mentor Ice Diamond annual clinics for current Beginner skaters and new skaters will be April 19 and April 26, from 8:15-9:00am. The clinics for current Pre-Juv skaters and Junior/Intermediate level skaters will also be held April 19 and April 26 from 9:00-9:45am. Auditions for all levels will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2008. Beginner team try-outs will run from 8:30-9:00am, and Pre-Juv/Juvenile and Junior/Intermediate try-outs will be from 9:00-9:45am. Please contact Debi Gamber at [debi.gamber@mmoh.com](mailto:debi.gamber@mmoh.com), Colleen Thomas at [syncsk\\_8coach@yahoo.com](mailto:syncsk_8coach@yahoo.com), or Sue Clemente at [sueclemente@att.net](mailto:sueclemente@att.net) for more information and to pre-register for clinics and an audition.

~ Sue Clemente

**SECOND ANNUAL REVERSE RAFFLE**

As Sue Stacho stated in the Board update, our Second Annual Reverse Raffle will be held April 11, 2008 at LaMalfa Party Center.

We would first like to thank the many people that have already offered their assistance and who have generously donated items and/or solicited donations from local businesses. We would also like to thank our coaches who are putting together a themed basket for auction. If you have not yet made a donation and would like more information on what you can do, please contact Althea Salomone ([salomonera@aol.com](mailto:salomonera@aol.com)) or Arianne Mastandrea ([aad1us@yahoo.com](mailto:aad1us@yahoo.com)) for more information. There is also a sign-up sheet posted on the Club Room door with the type of items that are needed.

This year we are including advertising in our program. If you have a business or if you know of someone who owns a business and would like to place an ad in the program, please contact Sue Clemente ([sueclemente@att.net](mailto:sueclemente@att.net)). Business card ads are available for just \$25!

We are also in need of volunteers for the night of the event. If you would be interested in volunteering, please contact Tracy Sivillo at [sivillo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sivillo@sbcglobal.net).

If you have not already done so, you'll want to purchase your ticket for the event. Don't miss out on what's sure to be a great evening for a great Club! See you there!

~ Tracy Sivillo

**Ice Administration UPDATE**

**Stay connected with current club news and information!!!**

Want to know what is going on in the club and be aware of important updates? Be a

part of our email distribution list. If you are not currently receiving emails from our Club, please contact Deanna DiCola at [dicola8326@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dicola8326@sbcglobal.net) to add your email address to our distribution list to ensure you stay connected to what's happening with our Club!

Don't forget to go to our club website: [www.mentorpsc.org](http://www.mentorpsc.org)

### **Summer Contract**

The summer and beautiful weather is fast approaching and so is the cool summer contract! We will be skating 10 weeks beginning on Monday, June 9 and ending on Thursday, August 14, 2008. Ice will be available Monday/Wednesday mornings from 7:45-12:45 and Tuesday/Thursday mornings from 7:45 -12:15. Contracts will be available the middle of April and due on May 14, 2008.

### **2009 US FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

January 18-25, 2009 in Cleveland, Ohio

Check out the website for all the latest information: [www.cleveland2009.com](http://www.cleveland2009.com)

All event tickets are on sale now. Volunteer applications are currently being accepted and are available online.

Please note to be a volunteer you must:

- Be at least **18 years of age by November 1, 2008.**
- Be available for 24 hours (four 6-hour shifts) from January 16-26, 2009.
- Attend a mandatory training session in December 2008.
- Submit to a criminal history background check.

Greater Cleveland skaters will have the opportunity to participate as sweepers, awards presenters, or skate in opening ceremonies. Stay tuned for details.

Feel free to contact Amy Burkhardt (Registration), Sue Clemente (Parent/Skater Liaison), Deanna DiCola (Sweepers).

~ Deanna DiCola



### **News You Can Use!**

#### ***Upcoming USFSA Test Dates:*** (all gold panel for moves and free skate)

Friday, May 2  
Friday, July 11 after 3:00pm  
Thursday, Aug 21 (city ice will be available M/T/W of that week, times to be determined)

#### ***Upcoming Competitions:***

- Diamond Classic Synchronized Skating Competition, hosted by MFSC -- March 8, 2008
- CIC's -- March 15-16, 2008, hosted by Kent FSC
- Spring Fling April 19-20, 2008, hosted by Strongsville FSC
- Sunshine -- July 18-20, 2008, hosted by MFSC

#### ***Save The Date!***

- The End-Of-Year Banquet will be held May 8, from 6-8pm. Many thanks to Sue Petit for coordinating this year's event! More info will be coming in the next few weeks. If anyone is interested in assisting, please contact Sue Petit directly. Or, you can ask Lisa Franz or Sue Stacho for more details. The Banquet will incorporate the May general membership meeting and will be a celebration of our skater's accomplishments and tests passed.



### *Testing Results*

Congratulations to the following MFSC skaters who have passed tests since our last issue:

Tori Bennett – Pre Juv MIF  
Elizabeth Brock – Intermediate FS  
Cami Burkhardt – Pre Juv FS  
Jana Burkhardt – Senior MIF, Ten Fox  
Emily Clemente – Preliminary FS  
Alex DiCola – Juvenile MIF  
Christina DiCola – Intermediate MIF  
Alex Gamber – Novice FS  
Heather Karickhoff – Intermediate MIF  
Bridget Langguth – Juvenile MIF  
Carrie Langguth – Novice FS  
Heather Langguth – Novice FS, Junior FS  
Hayley Major – Intermediate MIF  
Staci Miller – Pre Silver Dance, Rocker Foxtrot  
Nicolette Noonan – Pre Juv MIF  
Morgan Oliver – Pre Preliminary MIF  
Katie Pastor – Pre Juv MIF, Juvenile MIF  
Christie Petit – Pre Silver Dance, Rocker Foxtrot  
Kelsey Racutt – Junior MIF, Pre Bronze Dance, Hicory Hoedown  
Maria Salomone – Pre Juv MIF  
Kristen Scott – Preliminary MIF  
Stephanie Scott - Intermediate MIF  
Madeline Shade – Preliminary MIF  
Samantha Smith – Preliminary Dance, Cha Cha, Fiesta Tango  
Rachel Tagliamonte – Junior MIF  
Doralyn Turner – Pre Preliminary FS  
Danielle Wardeiner – Pre Juv MIF  
Ashlee Weaver – Pre Preliminary FS

