

# People

## BORN

To Ben T. & Vivian (nee Sommers) Nishi, a daughter, Valerie Midori, on April 9 in Novato, Calif.

To Mr. & Mrs. William A. Schaffer, Atlanta FSC, a son, Samuel Lonsdale, on April 4.

## ENGAGED

Chris Makert to Don Seale, All Year FSC, son of Mr. & Mrs. Les Seale of Playa del Rey, Calif. A November 1 wedding is planned.

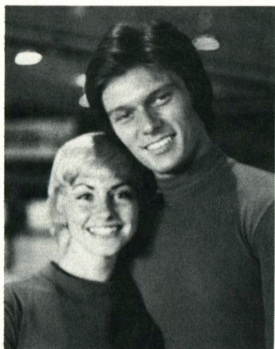
Barbara Anne Munson, Arctic Blades FSC, to Mark W. Hall.

Kris M. Myers, daughter of Katherine Y. Myers of Burlingame, Calif., to Ronald H. Cook. Kris teaches skating at Michigan State University, where her fiance is active in the hockey program.

## MARRIED

Toni Ann Meiss, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Harry W. Meiss, to Donald Scott Scherzer on August 3 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Vicki Peep, former member of Portland ISC, to Douglas Watson on June 21.



Erika Susman, past medalist in National Senior & Junior Pairs, to Colin Taylforth, the British Pairs Champion, in Encino, Calif., on September 16. Like a page from a storybook, their wedding came six months after

Erika responded to an ad placed in SKATING by Colin, who was looking for a new pairs' partner. The young Englishman came to California last June to try skating with Erika, and they soon agreed to form a pair—permanently!

## TURNUED PROFESSIONAL

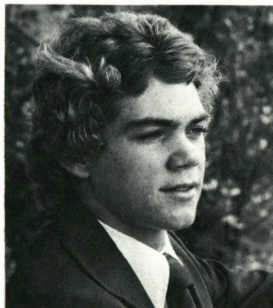
Robert Berry, Arctic Blades FSC, to skate with Ice Capades-East.

Julia Crawford, Arctic Blades FSC, joined Ice Follies in June after her graduation from high school.

Sindy Ellis, Portland ISC, to join Ice Capades-West.

David Guthrie, Colony Square SC, to teach at the Ice Capades Chalet in Atlanta, Ga.

Mrs. Robert R. Larsen, former High Test and Silver Dance Competition Judge and member of the SC of New York.



The end of the 1975 season saw U.S. Men's Champion Gordon R. McKellen, Jr., and U.S. Pair Champions Melissa Militano & Johnny Johns retire from competition and begin promising

careers as professionals in skating. Gordie is busy teaching at Olympic Arena in his hometown, Lake Placid, N.Y. Fortunately, the dynamic free skating that has made Gordie a favorite with audiences around the world will still be part of the skating scene. His scheduled appearances include the "Superskates" Olympic Fund benefit at Madison



Square Garden this month. Melissa & Johnny have accepted starring roles in the Ice Capades-West Company. While working out their new show programs last summer, they taught at the SC of Wilmington, Del. Senior members of the U.S. World Team (Melissa since 1969, Gordie and Johnny since 1971), the three skaters earned many competitive honors. We wish them equal success in their new endeavors.

Debbie Maleski, Washington FSC, to skate with Ice Capades.

Iantha Powrie, former member of Dallas FSC, to skate with the Buddy LaLonde troupe and teach in Dallas.

Sandra Rowe, Silver Blades SC of Cohasset, soon to join Ice Follies International in Mexico.

Linda Smith, South Bay FSC, to skate with Ice Capades-East.

Jeffery Theisen, FSC of Madison, a Midwestern Silver Dance competitor last season, to teach at Medalist Ice Arena, Madison, Wis.

Christine Thibert, Silver Blades SC of Cohasset, to teach on Cape Cod, Mass.

Trina Tieber, Dallas FSC, to join an international ice show in France.

Rose Mary Wilzbacher & Rick Turley of St. Paul FSC, the 1974 Midwestern Junior Pair Champions and 1975 Midwestern Senior Pair bronze medalists, join Ice Follies as understudies to Susan Berens and Richard Dwyer.

## NEWSMAKERS

How can you help the National Ladies' Champion gear up for this all-important 1976 competitive season? A growing number of skaters have found their answer in the **Dorothy Hamill Fan Club**. The fan club was organized, says President **Sue Lorenzo**, to give both Dorothy and figure skating greater public recognition. While the club is not sponsored by the USFSA, it is fully sanctioned by the Association's Amateur Status Committee. Annual dues of \$2.00 per member allow the fan club to provide a bimonthly newsletter, a wallet-sized photograph of Dorothy, a fact sheet on her background and interests and a membership card signed by Dorothy. As Honorary President, Dorothy enthusiastically helped the club get started, and she writes a regular feature in "Hamill's Happenings," the four-page newsletter. Each newsletter focuses mainly on Dorothy's answers to questions sent in by members, anecdotes and other material that does not become outdated, so new members will receive any issues they have missed since the beginning of the club's membership year on June 1. To join, send \$2.00 (check or money order) made payable to Sue Lorenzo, President, Dorothy Hamill Fan Club, 10250 Canterbury Ave., Westchester, Ill. 60153.

SKATING extends congratulations to **David A. Shulman**, President of the Professional Skaters Guild of America, upon his appointment as Judicial Officer (Judge) of the County Court in Olmsted County, Minnesota. Mr. Shulman will hold the appointment for one year, while the County Court Judge takes a leave of absence.

### DIED

Dr. Vera F. Beck, member of Manhattan FSC, on June 9.

Dr. Edgar L. Bessette, Eastern Vice Chairman of the USFSA Membership Committee, on July 4. Dr. Bessette served the Providence FSC as president for three years and board member for over a decade. Always active, he helped Providence FSC grow from a fledgling to one of the largest clubs in New England.

Mrs. Phyllis Crawford, a senior member of All Year FSC.

Walter R. Groll, long-time professional instructor at Glacier Falls Ice Rink in Anaheim, Calif., on April 8.

Vincent Kelley, M.D., father of 1961 World Team member Gregory Kelley and his sister, Nathalie, who lost their lives in the air disaster in Brussels. Dr. Kelley, a surgeon and past member of the SC of Boston and Broadmoor SC, died August 5.

William T. Lemmon, member of Cleveland

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SC and former National and High Test Judge, on February 11.

Alvin Pergament, past president of Brooklyn Juniors (FSC) and father of 1962 National Novice Ladies' Champion Taffy Pergament Holliday, on June 6.

Lee Porter of Encino, Calif., on June 26. Mr. Porter is survived by his wife Margaret and daughter Peggy, Los Angeles FSC members.

Mrs. Elizabeth Sigrist, a National Figure and Dance Judge and National Accountant, on July 29. A National Silver Dance Champion in 1952, Mrs. Sigrist was Secretary of Amherst SC and a home club member of Buffalo SC.

Robert Sisson, former board member of Los Angeles FSC, on July 24. He is survived by his wife Dorothy, a Junior Competition and Silver Dance Judge.

William E. Wardman, president of Pikes Peak FSC (now Broadmoor SC) in 1941-42 and former member of the USFSA Executive Committee, on August 2 in La Jolla, Calif.

### GUSTAVUS F.C. WITT

The international skating community lost a dedicated supporter with the death of Gustavus F.C. Witt of the Netherlands on May 30. Mr. Witt served the ISU as Vice President (Figure Skating) in 1949-53, Secretary of the ISU Council in 1939-51 and Chairman of the Figure Skating Technical Committee in 1947-49. An ISU Referee, Mr. Witt officiated at the Olympic Winter Games in 1948, 1952 and 1956. He was an Honorary Member of the ISU.

### RICHARD L. HAPGOOD

Richard L. Hapgood, who devoted 50 years of service to the USFSA and the SC of Boston, died in Gloucester, Mass., on July 31. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Hapgood, 71, was an International Judge and a National Accountant. He also served as a member of the USFSA Executive Committee for 15 years. He was Secretary of the Association from 1932 to 1940 and Chairman of the Competitions Committee from 1930-32. Dick was the first Chairman of the Sanctions Committee (formed in 1938 as Carnival and Exhibitions Sanctions), an appointment he held until 1942. For the last 25 years he served on the Board of Governors for the SC of Boston. Dick's talents were by no means limited to administrative affairs, however. In 1929 he won the National Junior Pair Championship (with Dorothy Weld) and in 1934, the National Fours Championship (with Suzanne Davis, Theresa Weld Blanchard and Frederick Goodridge).

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The music is mostly orchestral, with a few organ or orchestra-organ combinations. There are no recordings taken from sets; i.e., C.F.S.A., Andy Weiss I.S.U., etc.

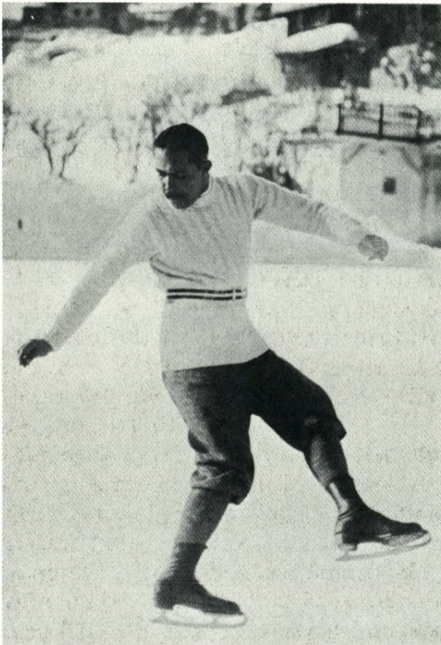
Prices include mailing. For further information or to order, check or money order to:

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P.O. Box 23  
Beaverton, Oregon 97005

## WILLY BOECKL

We record with sorrow the death of Willy R. Boeckl, World Champion 1925-28, in May, 1975, in his native Austria. An engineer by profession, Mr. Boeckl was a World-level competitor for 16 years, having first won the Austrian Championship in 1913. After his fourth World victory, though, Willy left engineering to accept a teaching position with the SC of New York. Thus began the career for which he is fondly remembered here. As the mainstay of the New York club's professional staff for over two decades, the warm-hearted Austrian influenced a generation of skaters. He authored a comprehensive text, *Willy Boeckl on Figure Skating*, published in 1937. He also invented the Boeckl jump, sometimes called the inside Axel Paulsen for its forward inside takeoff. Willy retired to Phoenix several years ago and then, after his wife's death last year, returned to Austria, where a daughter survives him.

*Willy Boeckl*



*The many friends of Laura Cassalia were dismayed and saddened to learn of her death on May 12. At age 16, her fight with leukemia helped us to realize how beautiful a life can be. She will be remembered always by those whose lives she touched. Both at the Old York Road SC and off the ice, Laura never quit.*

*Continuing to skate while in remission, she passed her Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Figure Tests. The Laura Cassalia Memorial Fund has been established at the Old York Road SC in Elkins Park, Pa., in her honor. To the Cassalia family we extend our sincerest sympathy.—Charlotte Tyrula, for the Junior Members of Old York Road Skating Club*

## Official Notes

The 1975 Examination for Referees and Accountants (required by CR 1.42) may be obtained from the USFSA Central Office, Sears Crescent-Suite 500, City Hall Plaza, Boston, Mass. 02108. The exam is mailed to all persons on the approved Lists of USFSA Referees and Accountants.

Souvenir programs from competitions capture a picture of figure skating and its devotees at one moment in time. To preserve and share these moments with all those interested in the sport, the USFSA Museum Committee is building a collection of programs from all qualifying competitions—Regional through Olympic—past and present. Many programs have been gathered and displayed in the USFSA Museum Library, but there still are gaps in the collection. If you have programs for any of the championships listed below, please consider donating them to the Museum. Programs or inquiries may be sent to Theodore G. Clarke, USFSA Museum Committee, c/o the USFSA Central Office.

**Olympic Games**—1972, 1968, 1964, 1948, all prior years

**World Championships**—1956, 1951, 1947, 1938, 1937, 1931-35, 1922-29, 1896-1914

**North Americans**—1947, 1945, 1943, 1939, 1933

**Nationals**—1945, 1944, 1937, 1936, 1933, 1932, 1920-30, 1918, 1914

**Easterns**—1968, 1965, 1954, 1938-49

**Midwesterns**—1952, 1946-49, 1933-43

**Pacific Coasts**—1954, 1950, 1949, 1942-47, 1940, 1939, 1937, 1936

**New Englands**—1968-70, 1964, 1961, 1960, 1943-58

**North Atlantics**—1959-62

**South Atlantics**—1969, 1968, 1960, 1959

**Eastern Great Lakes**—1968

**Southwesterns**—1969, 1968

**Northwest Pacifics**—1969, 1967, 1949-57, 1943-47

**Southwest Pacifics**—1962-64