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Your IWF Idaho News

April 2021

Dear IWF members,

Spring is in the air and I hope that you are celebrating the flowers, sunshine, and energy that surrounds us in this change of season.

I celebrate and applaud the members of IWF Idaho. We are fortunate to be part of a group of women who make a difference each and every day; in our work, for our communities, and for our colleague IWF Idaho members.

I think that we would all agree that our programming this year has been nothing short of

extraordinary. We comprise a collective talent and wisdom that provides us a range of perspectives and opportunities for learning. I am especially gratified by new members who have responded to the Program Committee's invitation to participate! Thank you, Odette Bolano, Suzanne Asha Stone, and Sarah Sentilles for volunteering so rapidly to add to our conversations.

Our Committee Chairs provide leadership and direction for a range of IWF priorities: Membership Development, Governance, Communications, and Programming. We welcome our members to participate! Please join a committee, write a book review, submit a program idea or otherwise help IWF Idaho realize its vision of creating inspiring opportunities for women leaders to *Learn, Mentor, Support, and Connect*.

I look forward to connecting with you in person at our "Trailblazing of Women of Idaho" program and exhibition tour on Saturday, May 22nd at the Idaho State Museum in Boise. Please join First Lady Teresa Little and me as we explore the stories and impact of 104 remarkable women, who remind us that anyone can be a trailblazer.

Thank you, so much,
for all that you do!

Janet L. Gallimore



IWF Idaho Events

I love spring and all the surprises that come with it. Last fall I dug out my tulips bulbs with the intent to plant new ones, but for some reason that did not happen. Three weeks ago, I started to see green shoots pushing up anyway!

IWF Idaho greeted the new season with a Virtual Cocktail Hour on April 2. On March 18, just before spring arrived, new member Odette Bolano, President & CEO of Saint Alphonsus Health System, presented a virtual talk, *The Pandemic and Beyond*, on the unprecedented challenges the global – and local – medical community faced as it began to battle COVID-19 a year ago. For those who missed the live presentation, Odette’s engrossing presentation is archived on our website, as are most of our virtual programs.

Also in March, IWF presented a Virtual International Conference, which is archived on iwforum.org. IWF-Idaho members who attended offered these comments:

Jennifer Wilson: *“No matter what fabulous city IWF gatherings are held, the highpoint for me is always the Dine-Around. Mine for this conference featured a very passionate conversation about whether IWF should take a more active role in assuring that women fill at least 50% of leadership roles, worldwide. Wouldn't that be something?”*

LeeAnne Linderman: *“The Art of Listening discussed how technology has made it easier to instantly connect with people, but asked ‘are we truly connecting?’ Has hyper-connectivity diminished the quality of our listening and our engagements with others? In this conversation, we learned how to inspire active, receptive listening, to ourselves and to others.”*

Peggy Goldwyn: *“Behind the Scenes for me this conference meant exploring the treasures of the library of Trinity University in Dublin. Learning more about the incredible Book of Kells was the highlight of the experience. I always learn something new from these special expert-guided tours.”*

Stay safe, think of the presentation that YOU would like to share, and let your flowers bloom. Be sure to check-out our [online event archives](#) for videos of our previous programs, as well as our [annual calendar of events](#) for news on upcoming events.

Evelyn Self
Chair, Program Committee

Upcoming Virtual Events

IWF Earth Day Special Virtual Presentation**When:** Wednesday, April 21st from 5:45pm to 7:00pm**Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84331843665?pwd=cHBnUklTRXFKYU1XTnVKY3UySEZrdz09>**Meeting ID:** 843 3184 3665**Password:** 9653

Join new member, Suzanne Asha Stone, Founder/Director of the [International Wildlife Coexistence Network](#) and Idaho's [Wood River Wolf Project](#) Co-Founder, in conversation about effective ways to help protect Idaho's magnificent biodiversity and minimize conflicts and our impacts on the Earth.

Please use the Paperless Post Invitation to RSVP to this event.

Not All Barriers Are Walls - Protecting Immigrants' Rights in Blaine County**When:** Tuesday, April 27th from 5:45pm to 7:00pm**Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82520451268?pwd=SmNYZEdHb2RvQVQ5UHJneG9TVUlrdz09>**Meeting ID:** 825 2045 1268**Password:** 497199

Co-Founder of [The Alliance](#), new member Sarah Sentilles, talks with Executive Director, Becky Lopez, about protecting the basic human rights of immigrants through education, outreach and advocacy at local, state and national levels.

Please use the Paperless Post Invitation to RSVP to this event.

Trailblazing Women of Idaho Live Program and Tour**When:** Saturday, May 22nd from 5:45pm to 7:00pm**Where:** Idaho State Museum, Boise**Hosted By:** Janet L. Gallimore

Hosted by Janet Gallimore, Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer, Idaho State Historical Society, with First Lady Teresa Little. Lunch included. Boise

members are asked to host out of town members who wish to stay overnight. If interested, contact Janet. Full details to follow via e-mail.

Please watch for the Paperless Post Invitation to RSVP to this event.

The IWF Idaho Communications Committee Needs Your Help!

Our organization is in need of members for our Communications Committee. Are you good at writing and/or are you computer savvy? We promise that no large commitment is necessary, but we cannot continue to have a one-person committee. Involvement would include curating content for our monthly newsletters and helping to facilitate virtual programming. You might be asked to write a member profile, help with editing material if Committee Chair Kendall Nelson is not available, or to summarize an event you attended. We are in special need of members who know how, or would be willing, to occasionally manage some of our Zoom events if the person speaking is inexperienced. If you are available, please reach out to [Kendall](#).

Thanks in advance,
Kendall Nelson
Communications Committee Chair

Member News

Two IWF Idaho Members Receive Prestigious ICON Award



Idaho Business Review has awarded their 2021 ICON Award to members Janet Gallimore, Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer, Idaho State Historical Society and Odette Bolano, President & CEO, Saint Alphonsus Health System. The award is presented to individuals who have demonstrated a track record of leadership, professional accomplishments, community service and vision. “The Icon Award represents the men and women who over their careers have blazed the trail for others in business while leaving a lasting impression on the communities they serve,” said Idaho Business Review Publisher Cindy Suffa, who led the nomination committee. The 2021 Icons will be celebrated on May 13 during a virtual event. More information can be found at [Icon Awards – Idaho Business Review](#). Congratulations, Janet and Odette!

Sarah Sentilles Presents at the Ketchum Community Library

In a virtual Presentation hosted by The Community Library in Ketchum, Sarah Sentilles launches her latest book, *Stranger Care: A Memoir About Loving What Isn't Ours*, the moving story of what she learned from fostering a newborn – about injustice, making mistakes, how to better love and to protect people beyond our immediate kind.

When: Tuesday, May 4th from 6pm to 7pm

Link to Presentation: <https://livestream.com/lib/stranger-care>



[Pre-order your copy](#) of STRANGER CARE to get exclusive access to a one-hour virtual generative writing workshop on May 25th at 7pm ET. Sarah will lead you through exercises designed to spark your creativity, shake up your habits, and inspire your work. The workshop is open to people of all writing levels and experience. Sarah encourages you to write by hand if you're able, so please have a pen and a notebook with you (or whatever you like to write with and on). A recording of the event will also be .available for those who cannot attend the live streaming event

Rhea Schwartz Featured in the U.S. Figure Skating's Magazine

IWF Idaho member Rhea Schwartz is featured in the April 2021 edition of U.S. Figure Skating's Skating Magazine. Featured in the article, Mike Cruz, U.S. Adult Skating

Committee Vice Chair of Communications, said Rhea has “worked tirelessly for many years to provide the adult skating community with a forum to pursue our dreams, and for that I am eternally grateful.” Congratulations, Rhea!

ADULT CORNER

THE INNOVATORS

Rhea Schwartz, Paula Smart made their mark on U.S. Figure Skating history

BY AVIVA M. CANTOR

From competitions and test sessions to camps and clinics, adult skaters have ample ways to learn, enjoy and participate in the sport they love. However, there was a time when opportunities were not so easy to come by.

Thinking back to the '80s and '90s, Rhea Schwartz remembered it well.

“Some adults were on the ice, but mostly social ice dancing,” Schwartz said. “There was no real freestyle program, no test structure and there were no competitions focused on adults.”

Five years of lobbying paved the way, in 1995, for the start of today’s plentiful opportunities. The first U.S. Adult Figure Skating Championships were held in Wilmington, Delaware, and the Adult Skating Committee was established with Schwartz as the inaugural committee chair.

“U.S. Figure Skating was concerned about low turnout,” Schwartz said. “They hoped for 200 skaters. Instead, 408 skaters competed, and the next year we had 510 skaters. An advisory group was established to develop what we think of now as the Adult Skating Program.”

When the group was reconfigured, Paula Smart was selected to represent the Pacific Coast Section.

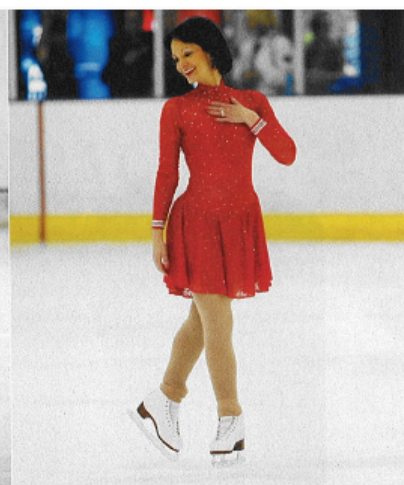
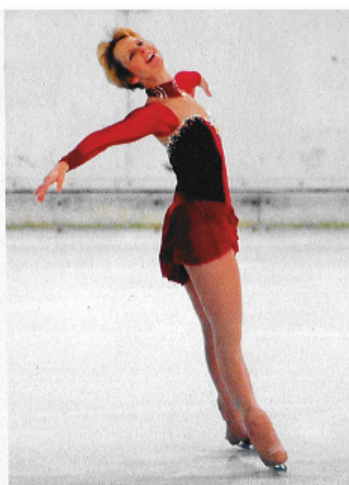
“Over time, we grew close as colleagues and friends,” Schwartz said. “In those days, there were no vice chairs or people in charge of various elements of the program. We had to figure that all out.”

“Paula and I were lucky to have each other. We were a good duo — each bringing different skills to the task. We worked well together because we shared a vision

Paula Smart and Rhea Schwartz.



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Paula Smart and Rhea Schwartz perform at the U.S. Adult Championships.

of building a community and expanding opportunities.”

Capitalizing on the success of the first U.S. Adult Championships, Schwartz and Smart worked to create the annual ISU Adult International Competition held in Oberstdorf, Germany. The growth of adult skating coincided with the growth of the Internet, which “enabled us to become one community,” Schwartz said.

In a 2004 interview, Smart said, “We’re very fortunate to be in a country that allows these things to happen. U.S. Figure Skating can be thanked for opening their doors and opening their eyes and letting us in.”

The second Adult Skating Committee chair, Smart, who passed away suddenly in 2009, is fondly remembered by Lexi Rohner and Mike Cruz, who both credit her for convincing them to compete as adults.

A childhood skater who coached in college, Rohner first crossed paths with Smart in 1992.

“She approached me and told me I was strong and should be competing. She began explaining ‘this new thing in skating for adults’ and introduced me to her coach,” Rohner said. “Next thing I knew, I was prepping for my first adult competition.”

Smart’s guidance and friendship led Rohner to say yes when Maggie Harding, the third Adult Skating Committee chair, offered her a vice chair position. She would later serve as the chair. Now, after 18 years of service, Rohner proudly says, “I am the longest serving member of that committee.”

Joining Rohner on the committee is Cruz, the current vice chair of communications. A childhood skating fan who started lessons in college, Cruz met Smart on a freestyle session.

“She was a very positive, upbeat and energetic person who always tried to exhort others to do their best,” Cruz said. “I miss her greatly, and although she is absent, she is not forgotten.”

Rohner and Cruz helped establish the Paula Smart Trophy in 2009. This perpetual trophy, housed at the World Figure Skating Museum and Hall of Fame, is engraved annually to honor the winner of the Championship Masters Intermediate-Novice Ladies event at the U.S. Adult Championships. It was first awarded in 2010.

“I feel gratified knowing that the efforts Paula gave to adult skating are on display in a permanent commemoration in the museum,” Rohner said.

“It is a fitting tribute to a wonderful person and beautiful skater who was and shall remain an integral part of the history of the adult skating movement,” Cruz added.

Together, Schwartz and Smart are credited as the pioneers of adult skating, both domestically and internationally.

On Schwartz and her legacy, Cruz said, “She worked tirelessly for many years to provide the adult skating community with a forum to pursue our dreams, and for that I am eternally grateful to her.”

While she no longer serves in leadership, Schwartz is still skating. On the significance of adult skating in the overall landscape, Schwartz said, “Adult skating keeps people in the sport, supports the clubs, provides judges, technicians and volunteers, and provides income for many coaches. It is worth the hassle. There were several people at U.S. Figure Skating who were willing to take a gamble on adult skating. Every subsequent chair of the Adult Skating Committee has left his or her mark on the program and moved us forward. Looking back, I think we laid a good foundation.”



Join Our IWF Idaho Book Club

The next book club meeting will be April 28th at 7pm. We're reading "Deacon King Kong," by James McBride. We would love to have more members join us!

When: Wednesday, April 28th at 7:00pm

Zoom Link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82666854689?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82666854689?pwd=RHVyNFdxUmFNaWxuS2VFaWFhdzcxUT09)

[pwd=RHVyNFdxUmFNaWxuS2VFaWFhdzcxUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82666854689?pwd=RHVyNFdxUmFNaWxuS2VFaWFhdzcxUT09)

Meeting ID: 826 6685 4689

Passcode: 181423

Member Spotlight

IWF Book Club Leader, Jennifer Wilson



In 1989 Jennifer Wilson set out to create the first venture fund in the nation to target women entrepreneurs when she realized that women of the Baby Boomer generation had developed mature careers, were realizing the limits of their ambition, and were still not gaining access to investment capital. If she could invest in the ten brightest women in the country she could provide a fabulous return to her investors and catalyze change that

would attract more investment capital to women in general. Her vision was not realized. In 1998 she was appointed a Visiting Scholar at Northeastern University to write a book about that experience, but it didn't find a publisher. In 2012 she premiered a play based upon the book in San Francisco. "And That's What Little Girls Are Made Of" was a hit, and is seeking venues nationwide. What cultivated this decades-long passion? Wilson grew up in a Midwestern political family, escaped to marry a New York actor, and finally got her degree in Advertising, with Honors, at Columbia College, Chicago. Working her way up on the creative side of the business, she earned her MBA in International Marketing from Loyola Chicago at night school. Returning to Iowa to raise her daughter, Wilson joined state government in communications, marketing and venture capital, where the idea struck. In 1993 she married for the second time, to Silicon Valley pioneer Jean Hoerni, who died in 1997.

**Thank you for founding and administering
our wonderful monthly book club, Jennifer!**

Book Recommendations

As well as efforts to keep our IWF Idaho community together via Virtual Events, we share book reviews and book recommendations in our monthly newsletters. Please send your one-paragraph reviews of the books you love or are currently reading to [Kendall](#) to keep this connection going.

A Review of Thomas Perry's Series by Peggy Goldwyn

It's spring and time for some light reading. Jane Whitefield is the heroine in a series of eight books by Edgar-winning novelist Thomas Perry. Jane is a Native American woman in the business of helping desperate people disappear. A member of the Wolf Clan of the Seneca tribe, she can fool trackers, cover trails and provide her clients with new identities. Each book in the series is a fast-paced page-turner. Although the books stand on their own, it is recommended to start with the first, *Vanishing Act*, then, if you want to know more about Jane, continue with *Dance for the Dead*, and watch Jane develop new tricks.

Collecting Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion Resources

The IWF Idaho Board is in the process of developing and collecting resources to discuss and share regarding diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion in our community and chapter. This may include engaging with experiences as well as resources. If you have any ideas to share, please reach out to one of the board members. We would love to hear from you!

Send your news on awards, career changes, board appointments and events to [Kendall Nelson](#) for inclusion in upcoming newsletters. Don't forget to use our IWF Idaho Website at <https://iwfidaho.org> for details on [upcoming events](#), [newsletter archives](#), and [contact information](#) for each of our members.

If you have any questions or trouble accessing the site, contact [Mackenzie](#) for assistance. Thanks!

ABOUT IWF IDAHO

IWF Idaho is the Idaho chapter of the International Women's Forum, an invitation-only, membership organization. In Idaho, we are 65 members strong, and globally, there are more than 7,000 diverse and accomplished women from 33 nations on six continents. IWF is dedicated to building better leadership locally and globally.

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