



Lake Placid (Skate America) Plus Trip Notes November 18-28, 2017

Headlines

- Lake Placid New York location is not conducive to air travel so sister Beverly flew into Newark from St Louis.
- Touring – so we may as well be NJ and NYC tourists. Took in an Opera at The Met.
- It was about a six hour drive to Lake Placid, plus stops, and a scenic drive at that.
- NJ day included a big deal brunch at the historic riverside Molly Pitcher Hotel, a walk around Red Bank, and drinks at riverside Oyster Point.
- Pre-Thanksgiving dinner of turkey and fixings cooked by Boston Market.
- Thanksgiving with the skaters!
- Post-Thanksgiving dinner of crab cakes cooked by Tom.
- One morning at Brunch with the Skaters. (See t-shirt logo they gifted us.)
- Tom loaned us his Lexus. I bet he never expected that it would snow on it.
- Lake George stop on the way home.



Skate Headlines

If you want to see the ice rink, local area, and the best American lady skater of the event, here's an excellent video. Thanks Bev who has the Olympic Channel plus Ice Network. She is serious, and a great help for me. Bradie Tennell FS Skate America Grand Prix | LIVE 11-26-17:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c4BPzpjpeYw&feature=share>

We were saddened that some of the Americans just couldn't stay upright and one had an injury and had to pull out. At times we wondered if the quality of the ice was a problem as there were so many falls.



Are we always on our phones? We rightly got razzed for being seen on television always on our phones. I had to explain that the results, bios, histories, etc. were all supplied to us basically on IceNetwork. Best of all, we could plug into hearing the judging results as the skaters were performing.

Pictures. I give up. My prior method of adding them to notes just didn't fly. It was frustrating, I've no idea why pictures quit sending, so I fumed a bit then gave up.

Daily Trip Notes

Some sent, some were held up, until I sort of learned the new Apple Methods.

Lake Placid Plus - November 22

Beverly and I are going to Lake Placid for six nights in honor of skate America. She arrived a few days early on Saturday so we could see some of our local town called Red Bank and so we could go into New York City.

Her arrival was just following on the heels of Tom's cataract surgery up north on Friday and follow up in Woodbridge on Saturday morning. All is well there.

Sunday Brunch in Red Bank at historical waterfront. I'll add some pictures of this lovely waterfront and also the unusually good brunch buffet.

<http://themollypitcher.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Molly-Pitcher-Sunday-Brunch.pdf>

Monday took us to New York City, with a walk past a lot of Christmas decorations, by Central Park, by the Plaza Hotel and the famous holiday windows at Bergdorf Goodman. Columbus Circle was in full holiday cheer.

We eventually made our way to one of our goals, the Metropolitan Museum of modern Art commonly known as MOMA. I hadn't been there since their renovation a few years ago. We just made it for a nice hot lunch and then the docent tour of their fashion show. We stayed until closing and mostly hit all the main sites.

Our next goal was the Metropolitan opera with a production of Madame Butterfly. Beverly had booked box seats and I do believe I enjoyed the fashion show in the audience about as much as the production which was dramatically beautiful. Beverly was ordered however to never take me to another production that made me cry. She said they all would. That's what opera is.

As we didn't arrive home until well after midnight which put me into bed at 2:45 AM so I set my clock for seven hours in bed before getting up for departure to Lake Placid. The 6 hour anticipated drive took us about 6:45 hours. We couldn't complain about the drive because Tom has loaned us his big luxurious Lexus.

We have a cute little corner room in an oldie style hotel which has been renovated and is on main street. There was a little bit of snow cover on the ground when we arrived and snow showers are expected but no big accumulation.

The skating forum is expected to be about a five minute walk from our hotel. I was here in 2009 (for a marathon) so I knew that there were a number of tourist activities.

Pictures (should) include:

One of my holiday decorations at home includes beanie babies to a Koi LaLique.

The views of the Navesink River from first the Molly pitcher hotel and later from oyster point hotel for drinks.

Under separate cover I will add pictures from inside the Metropolitan Museum of modern Art and our walk back to Lincoln Center.

Lake Placid Skate America - November 23 plus

The 2017 Skate America will be the 6th event of six in the 2017–18 ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating, a senior-level international invitational competition series. It will be held in Lake Placid, New York on November 24-26. Medals will be awarded in the disciplines of men's singles, ladies' singles, pair skating, and ice dancing. Skaters will earn points toward qualifying for the 2017–18 Grand Prix Final.

Thanksgiving Day gave us a chance to be spectators for the practice sessions. It was a long day of sitting on our butts. But Beverly got out in the evening to walk. I didn't. The weather went down last night into the low teens.

Pictures (should) include:

One of my favorite skaters from the very beginning has been Ashley Wagner. I will add a picture of her from practice but if you want to see her in the nude, check out this link. It's probably acceptable because it is artsy!). Ashley Wagner for ESPN Body Issue 2017. .
<http://youtu.be/Je6PNi4wOgw>

I like classy costumes and the couple in black and silver suited me well. And surely it made their performance better. Dance this year is Latin and Rhumba so some costumes lean towards tacky.

Itinerary

Sat Nov 18 - Beverly

10:54am Depart St Louis STL via UA#3592
2:20pm Arrive Newark EWR

Plan to pick up Boston Market selection

Sun Nov 19 - All

1:30pm Brunch at Molly Pitcher Inn, Red Bank, historical hotel and restaurant
Navesink River.

<http://themollypitcher.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Molly-Pitcher-Sunday-Brunch.pdf>

Open ideas include doing nothing, driving to shore, eating brunch then walking Red Bank long enough to need a drink at Oyster Point, or Pier Village Oceanfront and Shops in Long Branch.

Mon Nov 20 – Diana and Beverly

Late am Depart home via car to NYC, park in Lincoln Center at about 63rd Street

Uber or walk to Metropolitan Museum of Art on other side of park at about 82nd Street
Hours until 5:30pm. Check for docent tours.

7:30pm Metropolitan Opera at Lincoln Center at about 63rd Street for Madame Butterfly
Beverly has tickets for dress circle near Parterre side, Box 8, Seats 3 and 5.

Tue Nov 21

Drive to Lake Placid, about 6 hours. If we depart early, stops along the way could be Kingston, Hudson, Saratoga Springs or Lake George.

Hotel Hotel North Woods, an Ascend Hotel Collection/Choice Privileges
2520 Main Street, Lake Placid, NY 12946 Tele 518 523 1818
<https://www.hotelnorthwoods.com/> - breakfast not included
Suite with 2 double beds, sofa, corner room, 1 bedroom suite,
living room, city view, microwave and refrigerator, coffee maker, free WiFi,
565 SF, and free to \$5 day parking

The Hotel North Woods is the fourth generation of hotels occupying this enviable location on Lake Placid's Main Street. The original Northwoods Inn was built in 1897, the Hotel Marcy, constructed in 1927 eventually became the Northwoods Inn again, and now with this unprecedented renovation, the Great Granddaughter, the Hotel North Woods. The Hotel North Woods enjoys the preeminent location in the village of Lake Placid. With 92 newly refurbished guest suites you have your choice of lake view suites with stunning views of Mirror Lake, Whiteface Mountain, and the High Peaks, their attendant sunrises, sunsets, and the magic and vibrancy of Lake Placid. Hillside Suites have private balconies. As the home of the now legendary Delta Blue, and The Cabin Grill, and with a compliment of over 6,000 sq. ft. of versatile function space, the Hotel North Woods can provide full ala carte meal service, or host receptions and dinners in excess of one hundred people. With the Olympic Arena and the Lake Placid Convention Center only a four minute walk away, with the Mirror Lake Beach only a five minute walk, and with the abundance of shopping and dining attractions outside the front door, we can assure that you will have all of Lake Placid at your fingertips when you stay at the Hotel North Woods. Limited complimentary onsite parking is available, and in high demand periods, additional parking is available in the Lake Placid Municipal Parking Lot, just one block away at a come and go rate of \$5.00 per day.

Wed Nov 22

Open for tourist. Ideas: Soldier's Mountain, Saranac Lake, Olympic Museum, Olympic Jumping Complex, Gondola Ride, High Falls Gorge with walk

Thu Nov 23

www.2017SkateAmerica.com – at Olympic Center about 5 minute walk from hotel
Beverly has tickets for Section 17, Row C, Seats 1 and 2.

Note: Richard and Ginna arrive later on Thursday. Seating in Section 8, Row 1, Seats 5 and 6.
Staying at Arrow Woods Hotel.

2017 Bridgestone Skate America is the last event in the 2017 ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series. The event will feature 58 athletes representing 12 nations competing over three days in ladies, men's, pairs and ice dance. The competition, hosted at the 1980 Herb Brooks Arena, will mark the fifth time that Lake Placid has hosted a major international figure skating event. Other stops on the 2017 Grand Prix Series include Skate Canada International, Rostelecom Cup, Trophée de France, Cup of China and NHK Trophy.

Grand Prix events: <http://www.isu.org/news/125-grand-prix-news/11522-gp-assignments-announcement?templateParam=15>

Official Practices – schedule in file

Website has list of restaurants open for Thanksgiving – very limited; hotel has microwave and refrigerator so consider grocery store.

Fri Nov 24

6:15pm Session 1 – Pairs Short Program and Men's Short Program

Sat Nov 25

2:00pm Session 2 – Pair's Free Skate and Men;s Free Skate

7:30pm Session 3 – Short Dance and Ladies Short Program

Sun Nov 26

2:00pm Session 4 – Free Dance and Ladies Free Skate

7:30pm Session 5 – Smucker's Skating Spectacular

Mon Nov 27

Depart Lake Placid to NJ via car – about 6 hours

Tue Nov 28 – Beverly

3:50pm Depart Newark EWR via UA#3622

5:49pm Arrive St Louis STL