

Harry & Artis Price Pioneers:

Harry and Artis Price are pioneers in documenting water skiing since 1959 through productions for the American Water Ski Association and the American Water Ski Educational Foundation starting with 8mm. Super 8, VHS and now digital. The documentation started with Ralph Samuelson and goes through Lucky Lowe and Lynn Novakofski. This covers interviews with 58 Hall of Famers and 88 Award of Distinction inductees. We are probably the only sport to have the original skis and a video history of most of the important people who were present at the time our history was created. This covers a span of 50 years and 56 major productions. Harry is president and producer and Artis is vice president and editor of Diamond Productions, They are also pioneers in show ski competition. In 1960 they founded, directed, and skied in The Lambs Show Ski Tournament which became part of the Midwest Triple Crown of Show Skiing. Artis won the high point award for her ballet baton twirling act with the Diamond Lake Ski Club. They continued to sponsor the shows every year for 31 years. The money raised from these competitions went to support the mentally challenged young adults in the Lamb's Program, Skiing:

As of 2009 Harry and Artis have attended a combined 102 Nationals - 52 for Harry and 49 for Artis. They have competed in a total of 97 Nationals - 49 for Harry, which is the most skied for men and 48 for Artis which is the most skied for women. They were pioneers in engineering and digging one of the first competition lakes in 1970.

At this time they have together won over 100 first place gold medals in Tricks, Slalom, Jump and Overall at the Nationals and 6 gold in Senior World competition. They were members of the first Senior World Team. They have held many Regional and National records. They currently hold the National trick records in their divisions.

Harry won the National Correct Craft Overall High Point Trophy in 1998 with 7,451 overall points and in 1999 with 5795 overall points.

Artis won the National Cypress Gardens Ramp Master award for jumping in 1987 and in 1990. This trophy was awarded to the skier who jumped the farthest in comparison to the National record in their divisions. She won the Midwest Correct Craft Award for the most overall points in 1989.

Harry was invited twice to the Masters tournament at Callaway Gardens and had multiple wins plus overall in the Senior division.

Artis was the first Senior Woman to be invited to ski in the elite group at the Master's. The only other Senior Woman to be invited was Barbara Cleveland,

Harry was a regular judge for 51 years starting when the Water Ski Association was run by The Outboard Boating Association of America. Jim Lauzon and Harry were two of the first judges issued credentials by the president of the Boating Association.

Artis was a trick judge, and they both worked at the Nationals video taping trick runs and replaying them for judging records.

Honors:

In 1965 Harry and Artis were both honored by Governor Keraer as the outstanding athletes of Illinois.

They helped write and publish the book "Water Skiing with Champions" in 1969. It was sold at Cypress Gardens and distributed nationally.

They promoted skiing while appearing on many network television shows. Some of them were "To Tell the Truth", "The Today Show", and "Outdoor Sportsman". The Olympic champion Bruce Jenner invited the Price family to ski on his television show "America Alive" to promote skiing. Bruce was a former boy's slalom champion. Harry did color commentary while Bruce skied. The family was interviewed on another segment Harry and Artis have given over two hundred water ski clinics at the Chicago and Midwest Boat Shows. They did a full water ski show indoors in a tank pumping 1,000 gallons per minute.

They are still giving presentations and clinics for school programs, boy scouts, girl scouts, Rotary and Lions Clubs.

Harry and Artis were technical directors and skied in the Award Winning "Find a Float". produced for the National Safety Council of America, They have done several network commercials featuring water skiing. The most recent one is with Roger Teeter, the founder of EP Skis and Teeter Hang-ups.

In 196? Artis was chosen one of the "Outstanding Young Women of America" by an advisory board headed by first lady Mrs. Lyndon Johnson. She was honored for her personal achievement in water skiing as well as her service to the community with water ski clinics.

Harry and Artis were both chosen to have their individual biographies published in "Who's Who of America" for their outstanding community service and water skiing awards.

They have both appeared in "Sports Illustrated" in "Faces in the Crowd".

They have both received "The Award of Distinction".

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Harry and Artis are Benefactor members of the Water Ski Hall of Fame and in 2008 they celebrated over 50 years of competitive skiing and their 50th wedding anniversary.

They plan to continue competing and documenting water skiing for USA Water Ski and the Water Ski Hall of Fame.