



## Museum Newsletter

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Director and Curator

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Bi-Monthly  
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### Who We Are

The National Museum of Roller Skating is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization located in Lincoln, Nebraska and the only dedicated roller skating museum in the world. We are committed to the preservation of the history of roller skating. With over 40 display cases, the museum educates the public on all aspects of roller skating, which dates back to the first patented skate from 1819.

### Curator's Corner

#### Visitation

The New Year has started strongly from a visitor standpoint. We were open January 2, a government holiday. On the Monday we had ten visitors, all glad that we were open that day. Today, January 3, the museum has a scheduled visit from the Academic Advantage Daycare of Lincoln, totaling 15 kids. Also, the local chamber of commerce booked a tour for later in the week for its employees.

The museum's mention on the A&E show *Storage Wars* has also increased our visitations. It seems every other visitor has mentioned how they saw the episode in question and were curious to come see our museum in person. We just wanted to thank Dominic Cangelosi again for mentioning our location and the fact that he is a board member.

#### New television

The museum is still working on acquiring a new television for the exhibit gallery. We are hoping to get a better deal with the after Christmas merchandise. The goal is still to buy a smart TV which will allow it to hook up to the internet. This will give the museum the ability to stream live footage during nationals for all its visitors. More information will be shared soon.

#### Why this issue is a day late

Our museum computer has been having difficulties these past couple of days. Now that the software company came and fixed all of our bugs, the museum can now send out its latest addition. Thanks to everyone for your patience.

### Skater Profile: Harry Palmer

Champion Speed Skater from Chicago

*This information is taken from the book found in the museum store entitled Skaters History on Ice and Roller Skating. For more information like this, consider purchasing the book. Thanks.*



Harry Palmer started skating in the Chicago area in 1907. He participated in the first street marathon in Chicago in 1908. Although this was his first major event, Palmer finished in second place to Carl Carlson by just ten seconds in a field of over one hundred skaters. Afterwards, he furthered his experience by skating in many races at the San Souci Rink of Chicago, winning his fair share.

In 1910 the career of Palmer accelerated. That year he teamed with Howarth Beaumont in team races. They were so successful that this forced many of Chicago's best amateurs to turn professional.

In 1911 Palmer continued upon his success. He finished third in the fifteen mile street marathon sponsored by the Opal Athletic Association of Chicago. Afterwards, Palmer turned professional and won two of his next three races at the Madison Gardens in Chicago. He then retired.

After five years of retirement, Palmer returned to the sport of skating in 1916. He was readmitted to amateur status. In his first race, Palmer finished third from

scratch in a ten mile street marathon. He went on to win the five mile amateur championship at Riverview Rink with a world record time of 14:33. Also at these championships, Palmer finished second in the two mile and third in the half mile.

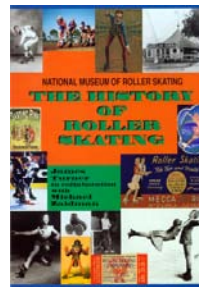
During his career, Palmer was known as a come-back artist, starting slowly but finishing with a punch. He never quit on a race.

*For those wishing to renew their memberships, we included the following form. Thanks in advance!*

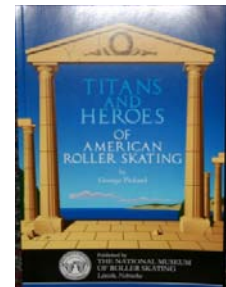
MEMBERSHIP FORM		
Name:	_____	
Address:	_____	
City/State/Zip:	_____	
<b>Membership Level</b>	<b>1 year</b>	<b>2 years</b>
Benefactor	___ \$500	___ \$950
Patron	___ \$250	___ \$475
Assoc Patron	___ \$100	___ \$185
Donor	___ \$50	___ \$90
Individual/Family	___ \$35	___ \$65
Additional Contribution	\$ _____	
Total Enclosed \$	_____	
<b>Method of Payment</b>		
___	Check to National Museum of Roller Skating	
___	___	MasterCard
___	Credit Card Number _____	
___	Exp. _____	
___	Signature _____	
Mail to: National Museum of Roller Skating, 4730 South Street, Lincoln, NE 68506 Fax to: 402-483-1465		

for the production of a new brand of skate. Gibson said his skate provided the public with a simple and inexpensive skate with the capabilities of winter and summer use. To change the runners for the winter to the rollers of the summer, an easy two screw and bolt system for both the toe and heel of the plate was implemented. As in the Plimpton model, the rollers could pivot, allowing the skater to maneuver curves. An extra wheel in the front was raised at the toe, enabling a smooth change in direction. Leather straps at both the heel and toe help attached the foot. The adjacent picture shows the skate on rollers.

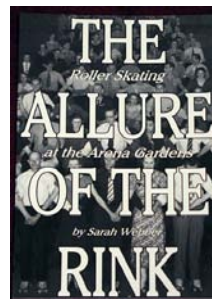
**Book Store**



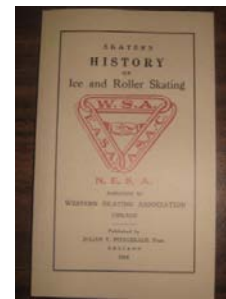
\$15



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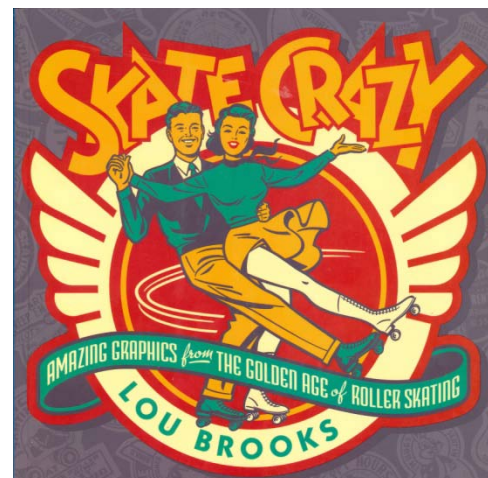
\$15

**Library Feature:  
Skate Crazy**

**Skate of the Week:**



Issued on November 23 of 1869, a patent for the "combined roller and skate" of Mr. A.J. Gibson allowed



This book was published with the assistance of the museum. Author Lou Brooks came to the museum for research and used many of the rink stickers from the museum's collection to illustrate his book. He even sights the museum as a co-conspirator in helping the book achieve its goal, specifically naming the director and vice president as the most helpful. *Skate Crazy* has a copy right date of 2003.

This book discusses the different time periods in American history and how they affected roller skating practices. To go along with this idea, each chapter reflects a category of skating sticker. Examples are rinks, animals, dancing, women, and flying skates.

The great thing about these roller skating stickers is they give the individual rink an opportunity to express itself through visual means. It can showcase or highlight any aspect of its rink in a way comfortable with the owners. It can give a face to the rink not only for its patrons, but also for those who never skated there. This was a simple form of branding and advertising for individual rinks.

*Skate Crazy* features over 400 stickers as well as other photographs and postcards. Many of these also came from the museum's collection. What a great resource for those interested in roller skating stickers!

**Wish List**

The museum is expanding its video archive. We would like a DVD copy if possible, but VHS is fine.

1.) First, the museum wants to complete its roller skating big screen collection. Please contact the museum before sending your donation, in case we receive multiple interests on the same film. We continue to need the following films:

- |                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Rollerball</i>                | <i>Fireball</i>    |
| <i>Kansas City Bomber</i>        | <i>Solarbabies</i> |
| <i>Prayer of the Roller Boys</i> | <i>Derby</i>       |
| <i>Skate Town USA</i>            |                    |

2.) In addition, the museum is interested in any video footage of national competitions prior to 1980. While DVD format is best, the museum will also gladly accept VHS films. Labeling with events is a plus.

3.) Third, we have very little footage of the Skating Vanities. Really, the only good quality shots we have are scenes from the 1944 movie *Pin Up Girl*.

Thanks in advance for your considerations.

**Rink Sticker Collection**

The museum has an extensive collection of roller skating rink stickers. Many skating rinks used to produce stickers as both an advertisement and fun way to for skaters to interact with one another, comparing the different location in which they skated. These were even traded as collectibles both informally and formally, under the Universal Roller Skating Sticker Exchange founded in 1948. Each newsletter, we will feature four different rink stickers. Here are a few examples of the numerous stickers in the collection and on display at the National Museum of Roller Skating.

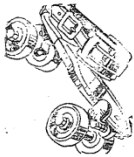


**Thanks to the following renewing members**

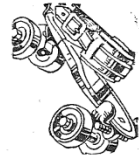
**Holiday Hours Over**

We here at the museum hope everyone had a great holiday season. With the holidays now over, the museum will resume its normal hours of operation.

**Happy New Year!**



# "The Cheep Skate"



THE SKATERS SEMI MONTHLY

Vol. 1 No. 3

FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1939

## Lake Lenape Rink To Stage Big Jamboree

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! A gala Carnival Jamboree to be held at Lake Lenape Park Skating Rink, Mays Landing, Wednesday, July 26.

The skate session which will begin at 8 p. m. and continue until 11:30 will include games, novelties and prizes. A waltz contest will be held with competent judges on hand to select the winners. A prize will also be awarded for the best represented club at the rink and one for the neatest beach costume.

The women and girls will appear in beach costumes, slacks, and shorts. A nominal admission price will be charged which will entitle the skaters to all of the events scheduled for the evening. Don't forget the date, Wednesday, July 26. All clubs and skate fans and their friends are invited and urged to attend this celebration. The biggest thing that has hit this section of the state in recent months. Come out and participate in the doings and see if you or your club cannot take home one or more of the prizes.

The advertisement on another page in this issue tells all about the affair. You won't want to miss this affair.

## Convention Hall Rink Opened For Season

Wildwood's Convention Hall Roller Rink was opened on July 2nd, for the summer season of 1939. This rink offers to the public the finest type of enjoyment. Extending over the beach as it does it is open on all sides to the cool ocean breezes and is the coolest spot in this section for anyone to enjoy themselves.

A seating capacity for 3500 gives ample space for spectators who wish to come in and watch the skaters go through their paces.

Music of the latest type is featured at the rink and plenty of room is available to the skaters. Come out and try this rink and convince yourself that we have one of the finest in the section.

## THIRTY-FIVE ATTEND THE FOLEY RECEPTION

At the Foley wedding reception tendered recently about 35 skaters and friends of the Foley's were present. Toasts were made to the married couple and also for the manager of the rink, assistant manager and floor men. Refreshments were served during the reception with plenty for everyone present. Afterwards all wished the married couple plenty of success.

## RIVERVIEW BEACH ROLLER RINK HAS SKATE EXHIBITION

Last Sunday night the Riverview Roller Rink at Pennsville had as their guests Nellie and Cecilia Cooper, 10 and 11 years respectively, from Charlestown, Md., who gave a skating exhibition.

The two young proteges of the wheels entertained the skaters at Riverview for a while doing the intricate skate steps. Among some of which were the figures 8 and 3 with all the edges, the circle waltz and open waltz, the promenade and other steps that are being taught at most all rinks.

The rink management and skaters were well pleased with the exhibition and wish the two youngsters success on the wheels that they are using to show their skill.

## FUN GALORE AT BUSY SYLVAN LAKE

Burlington's Sylvan Lake Rink one of the finest in South Jersey, is offering a wide variety of programs and features for its patrons and never neglects an opportunity to entertain newcomers and visitors with a welcome fit or a king.

Running one of the busiest schedules in the business, the Sylvan floor is open every evening from eight o'clock to eleven, and then on Saturday and Sunday in the afternoons.

Among the features are the hockey games held regularly every week and the Fun Night sponsored on Friday evenings. As an incentive for the young men to bring escorts, Ladies are admitted to the rink free of charge every Monday night if accompanied by a gentleman.

## KENNEY ELECTED PRESIDENT OF CLUB

The Clementon Roller Club of Clementon Lake Park Rink, held election of officers recently.

The newly formed club elected Horace Kenney to act as president, with Ralph Picot assisting him as vice-president and Grace Daisey, treasurer, while Lillian Webster takes the chair as secretary. Trustees selected to serve the club were: Woody Crevier, chairman; Victor Keel, Bill Keel, Wanda Kenyon, Pearl Webster and Dot Pederson.

The club is having a skating party at the rink tonight and would like to have all within riding distance attend to help make it a success.

## Next Issue

Please note that the next issue will appear on Aug. 4. Copy must be in by July 31.

## Outing For Skaters At Sylvan Promises To Draw Throngs

### DEL-WOOD RINK FEATURES SEASONS CLOSING JULY 29th

Del'Wood Roller Rink at Glassboro will close, Saturday, July 29 after a successful season for five weeks.

One of the finest operated rinks to be found anywhere, skaters who have visited this pavilion plus the regular patronage, have said O. K. with Del'Wood.

Del'Wood will remain closed in August with a grand re-opening set for Saturday, September 9.

The week of July 24, which is grand finale for the season, will have special features on Wednesday and Saturday. On Saturday closing night, of the season skating will be continued until 12 a. m.

The management of the rink, Mr. and Mrs. George Gelinis are expecting a large turnout of skaters from surrounding rinks on the closing night. So come out and help them make this night a big success.

### GARNET ROLLERS DISPLAY NEW OUTFITS

The Garnet Rollers, formerly known as the Knights Skating Club, initiated their new skating outfits at Del'Wood, Saturday night. The girls wore Maroon mess jackets trimmed with grey and grey skirts with maroon trimming, and white blouses with maroon silk ties. The fellows wore grey mess jackets and maroon pants with grey a stripe down the side.

The club would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who aided in making their recent drawing the success that it was.

Trips are being planned by the Garnet Rollers to Lenape Park and Ocean City in the near future.

### DAIRY BAR IS OPENED AT RAINBOW

Everone is invited to dance at the "Dairy Bar", on the ground floor at Rainbow Lake. Dancing is held there each evening after the skating session and all evening on Saturday.

If dancing has not been one of your failings come along to the "Bar" and we'll have a few good instructors there that will be glad to help you in any way that they can.

A good selection of recordings are always at your disposal when you visit the "Dairy Bar" to enjoy an evening there.

A mammoth outing, one of the first ever attempted will draw hundreds of skaters to the Sylvan Lake Park this Sunday.

It will be a grand day for happy, congenial and friendly followers of the sport from all along the eastern seaboard from New York to Washington, D. C.

It has been estimated that at least 3000 would be on hand for the affair, but the number may surpass this figure. They will take part in an extensive program being arranged for the day, including boating, swimming, and contests of all kinds in the rink.

Valuable prizes will be awarded for waltz couples and other prizes will be given for winners in the Jitterbug contest. The committee in charge is also offering cash awards for the best appearing club attending. This alone will draw keen competition from approximately two score clubs expected.

Three hockey games scheduled to climax the days activities will see some of the finest hockey clubs in the east in action. There will be two games for the boys and one game in which the girls will play.

The entire affair sponsored by the Garden Roller Club of Trenton will be unique in every detail. Success of the endeavor, now practically assured, will result in its becoming an annual undertaking.

Facilities for those bringing box lunches will be available in the park. The committee have made arrangements however for the serving of a chicken dinner and those desiring to make reservations should write immediately.

The outing will afford a grand opportunity to make new friends and for the skaters to associate with clubs from eastern rinks. It will be a wonderful opportunity for Jersey's skating "fools" to lend a hand in welcoming lovers of the sport from other states.

### STREET PARTY IN FALL AT GLOUCESTER

When Rollarena closes this fall to undergo a facial treatment on the floor and general surroundings, to prepare for going fibre They are going to have a street skate for all fans who have metal rollers. The Rollarena sound truck is to supply the music for the occasion. Watch for further announcements of this event and prepare to attend.