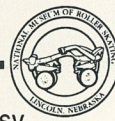


April/May 1998  
Issue No. 63

# HRSO

Historical Roller  
Skating Overview





Dear Members,

Welcome to spring! The museum is gearing up for another busy visitor season with a variety of events to keep everyone busy. Beginning with the first week in May, the Roller Skating Association International will host their annual convention and trade show in Orlando, Florida. The annual museum Board meeting will also be held at the convention. The museum will be exhibiting in booth #607 and will be selling tickets for our annual raffle fund raiser, May 6. Tickets may still be purchased by calling the museum, visiting our web or America Online sites, or by filling out the form on page nine. All proceeds benefit the museum's operating support--and where else can you win \$10,000 in cash prizes!

On Saturday, May 30 at 8:00 am in Lincoln, the museum will co-sponsor the Hyland Hundred family fun cycling/roller skating race in Lincoln to benefit the bike/skate trails. The fifth annual Hyland Hundred will be split between four trail projects with more than 400 bicyclists and roller skaters of all ages expected to participate in the event. The Hyland Hundred originated in 1994 as an event for families to celebrate the Hyland Bros. Lumber Company's 100th anniversary. Since then, the fun, noncompetitive annual event added roller skating last year to benefit skaters too. Other sponsors include Lawlor's Sporting Goods, Ameritas Life, and Bike Pedalers. Each participant will receive a T-shirt, water bottle, and a chance to win free prizes. To register, call the museum!

The end of May marks the end of the exhibit, "A Medley of Skates and Memorabilia" at the San Francisco International Airport in Lobby B of the South Terminal. The exhibit has been up for six months and has had over 10,000,000 viewers! There are two photographs of the exhibit on the back page.

With the overwhelming success of the San Francisco exhibit, the museum has teamed up with a traveling exhibitions firm to create, "Rolling into the 21st Century." This traveling exhibit will have fifty photographs, twenty-five roller skates, and various memorabilia designed to fit into a limited access gallery with 250-300 running feet of wall space. If you are interested in seeing this new exhibit at your local historical society, library, or roller rink, please contact Stephanie Abraham, 816/756-3777 at Smith Kramer.

In June, the museum will have extended visitor hours during USA Roller Skating's North Central Regional Championships. For a complete listing of hours, see page eleven. The museum will also have new exhibits on display including The Skating Vanities; Vaudeville Roller Skaters (1900-1930); Rinking (1870s-1890s); and Roller Skate Manufacturers (1865-1905).

Over the past few months, we have lost several roller skating alumni including Ruth Chrien, Caroline Dalton, Lewis Quintin, and Arlis Snyder. The museum sends its condolences to the families of each. If you would like to make a donation in memory of any of the above, please refer to page seven.

The featured article this month is about roller rinks in the United States. Assistant Curator, Sarah Webber takes a look back at roller rinks in the country.

Thanks again for your support and please visit the museum this summer to see some of the exciting new exhibits now on display.

Enjoy the new expanded newsletter!

Michael Zaidman  
Director & Curator



**Arlis Snyder, coached from 1940 through the 1970s. He pioneered strong competitive clubs in underdeveloped areas and was known for his insightful literary contributions as a critic, teacher, and analyst. He was inducted into the USARS Coaches Hall of Fame in 1992 (96.14.10).**

**Cover: Biloxi Skating Rink, Biloxi, Mississippi (80.7.26).**

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**National Museum of Roller Skating**

4730 South Street, PO Box 6579  
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Phone: 402/483-7551  
FAX: 402/483-1465

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**Museum Hours**

9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Closed holidays and weekends, open by appointment. Extended hours, see page 11.

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## 1900-1997: A Century of Rinking Across The United States by Assistant Curator, Sarah Webber

During the last two decades of the nineteenth century, Americans learned to roller skate. Skate companies opened roller rinks to promote and sell their skates, and thousands of Americans took to the rinks. As roller skating grew in popularity, rink operators and managers advertised the sport as healthy and as a safe social experience for youth.

While roller skating's popularity first peaked in the United States in the 1880s, the sport soon hit upon less lucrative times. Due largely to poor management by a few rink owners, many roller rinks suffered from a shoddy image by the early twentieth century. The "bad, short-sighted management" by some rink owners of "indifferent ability and ideals" gave the whole business, according to a rink management brochure published by the Richardson Skate Company in 1926, a "black eye." With only an estimated one hundred and fifty rinks open in 1910, many rink owners and managers began working on creating a more upscale, uniform image of roller rinks. Their efforts culminated in 1937 with the formation of the Roller Skating Rink Operators Association, an organization that promoted and streamlined the roller rink business. The efforts of the RSROA quickly paid off; by 1952, the United States possessed more than 2,000 roller rinks and the work of the association finally destroyed the former poor image. Nearly fifty years later, about the same number of roller rinks exist in the United States, with the efforts of a by-then sixty year old association of roller rink operators still maintaining the strong, wholesome image of roller rinks.

Before the creation of the RSROA, however, many rink managers struggled to establish and maintain their rinks as respectable, fun places to take one's children or date. Rink managers, working against those who allowed their rinks to be overrun with the "cheaper elements of a community," established rules for patrons to abide while roller skating. Many roller rink rules included no smoking except in the designated smoking room or area, as well as no loud talking or other rude or noisy demonstrations. Spitting tobacco, or any other substance, on the rink floor were also grounds for the



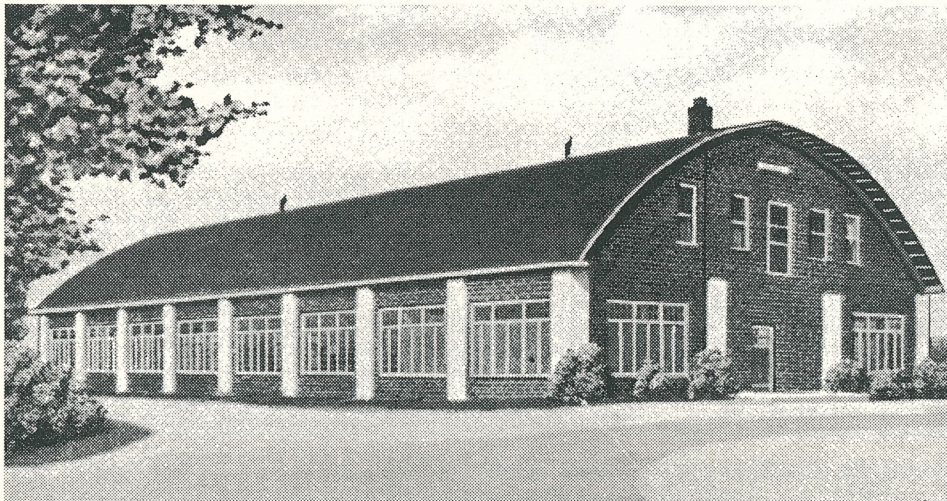
**Star Lite Rollercade, Dallas, Texas (pop. 434,462 in 1955) Located at 11527 Harry Hines Boulevard, the Star Lite Rollercade advertised its refrigerated air to encourage patrons. Lester & Geraldine Young, Owners, c. 1955 (97.0.689)**

rink manager to ask a patron to leave. Rink managers further forbade pushing, racing and taking hold of others' garments, all in an effort to make the rink a safe, enjoyable place.

To further ensure their rink's success, rink managers empowered their ticket seller to "size up those wanting in to make sure they were the 'right type'" of patron. Ticket sellers refused admittance if the prospective roller skater lacked proper attire. For men, this meant a tie and collar, and no vest unless worn with a jacket. Many rink managers put up warning signs by the entrance, stating that the rink solicited "the patronage of those who are disposed to comply with the rules and regulations of this rink, and reserve the right to refuse admission or use of skates to objectionable people." Rink managers believed such restrictions increased the popularity of a rink among the "better sort." According to the Richardson Skate Company 1926 brochure on rink management, "every admittance fee you turn down for this reason is a valuable advertisement of the quality of your enterprise." The patrons, the brochure continued, that a rink really desired "will appreciate such action on your part and will be quick to spread the word among their friends."

By the late 1920s, many rink managers believed that the day was over "when the roller rink bore a doubtful name as the meeting-place of the cheaper elements in a community." Instead, rinks "regained" their original good standing "as a place where decent people can enjoy a healthy, exhilarating form of recreation." The RSROA, organized in 1937, furthered this break from the past association with undesirable clientele by establishing guidelines for member rinks.

Members of the Roller Skating Rink Operators Association created dress guidelines for both patrons and employees. Women, RSROA



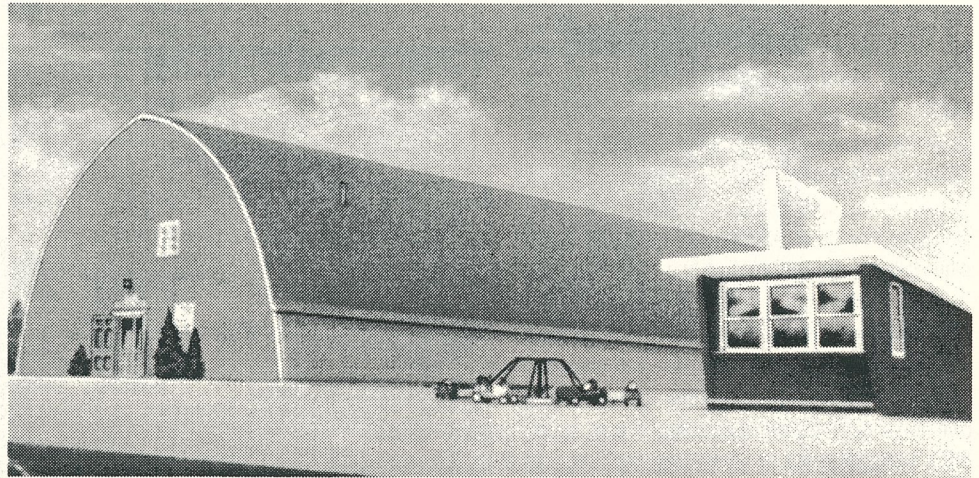
**Pastime Roller Rink, Delavan Lake, Wisconsin (pop. 4,007 in 1955) — Owned by R. G. Keister, c. 1955. Gift of Tony Kissing (88.29.9)**



members believed, should wear dresses reaching their knees, never pants or jeans. Appropriate attire for men included a tie, worn with a jacket if the shirt was unacceptable. Men were prohibited from wearing sweaters or suspenders, as well as all uniforms except those of the United States military. The RSROA, however, did suggest that rink employees wear uniforms, such as blue and white coats and pants for men, skirts for women, to make them more easily identifiable to patrons needing assistance. Rink managers also believed that employees should call each other and the patrons either 'Mr.' or 'Miss.' The association further suggested guidelines for appropriate roller skating behavior, including never allowing a gentleman patron to speak to a lady or ask her to skate without a formal introduction, given at the request of the lady. While not binding, the RSROA suggested the guidelines as a means to achieve a successfully run rink.

Due to the efforts of many foresighted rink managers and owners, more roller skating rinks opened in the United States beginning in the late 1920s. With the efforts of the members of the RSROA, Americans returned to the roller rink. By the 1940s, roller skating became one of America's favorite sports, with at least one poll ranking it second in popularity only to bowling. Though less than ten per cent of all rink operators became members of the RSROA before 1948, their work at promoting roller rinks as clean, wholesome recreational facilities enabled the whole business to prosper.

As rink roller skating once again became respectable, rink construction boomed across the country. By mid-century, over 1800 rinks opened in America, and only about 6%, or 300 rinks, closed before 1948. With a total national population of over one hundred million people, there existed one rink in the United States for every 80,000 people in 1948. New rinks opened across the country, with the number of rinks reaching



**Moulton's Rollerdrome, Rush City, Minnesota (pop. 1,175 in 1955) — Located on Highway 61, the Rollerdrome in Rush City advertised itself as "The Rink of a Million Crystals" in the 1950s. Warren A. Moulton, Manager, c. 1955. Gift of Paul J. Gilbert (80.7.28)**

over 2,000 by 1952. Possessing such creative names as the Haunted Mill Roller Rink in Reackell, Oregon, or slightly-less original like the Berea Roller Bowl in Berea, Ohio, the roller rink business thrived.

While roller skating and the roller rink business grew in the 1940s and 1950s, the location of rinks remained fairly concentrated. States with large populations as well as larger cities possessed the majority of rinks. The growth in roller skating rinks particularly blossomed in the upper mid-west, in the Great Lakes area, and on the west coast. Few rinks existed outside of these areas, with New England, the south and the west having rinks in only a handful of cities.

By in large, rinks opened in great areas of population. Large cities, such as New York and Chicago, boasted numerous rinks, as did the heavily populated states of Pennsylvania and California. Some states, located particularly in the midwest, with moderate population sizes like Iowa and Minnesota, saw many rinks open and thrive in small towns with populations under ten and even two thousand. While the moderately sized populations of Iowa and Nebraska supported roller skating rinks, the vast land and scattered populations of western states were unable to do so. Not-so densely populated states like Wyoming and Montana had few rinks by the middle of the twentieth century, when the number of rinks in the United States reached a high.

By 1948, California had ninety-five rinks, twenty-one more than Montana, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, Texas, Colorado and Wyoming combined. While Michigan, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania all had more rinks than California, Pennsylvania possessed the most rinks in the United State in 1948 with 182 roller skating rinks open. The average number of roller skating rinks for a state



**Crosstown Roller Rink, Omaha, Nebraska (pop. 251,117 in 1955) — Located at 812 S. 24th Street in Omaha, the Crosstown Roller Rink advertised itself as "Nebraska's Largest Roller Rink." Skaters in Omaha could roller skate every night except Mondays, and during matinees on Saturdays and Sundays. Ralph Fox, Manager, c. 1955. Gift of Tony Kissing (88.29.8)**



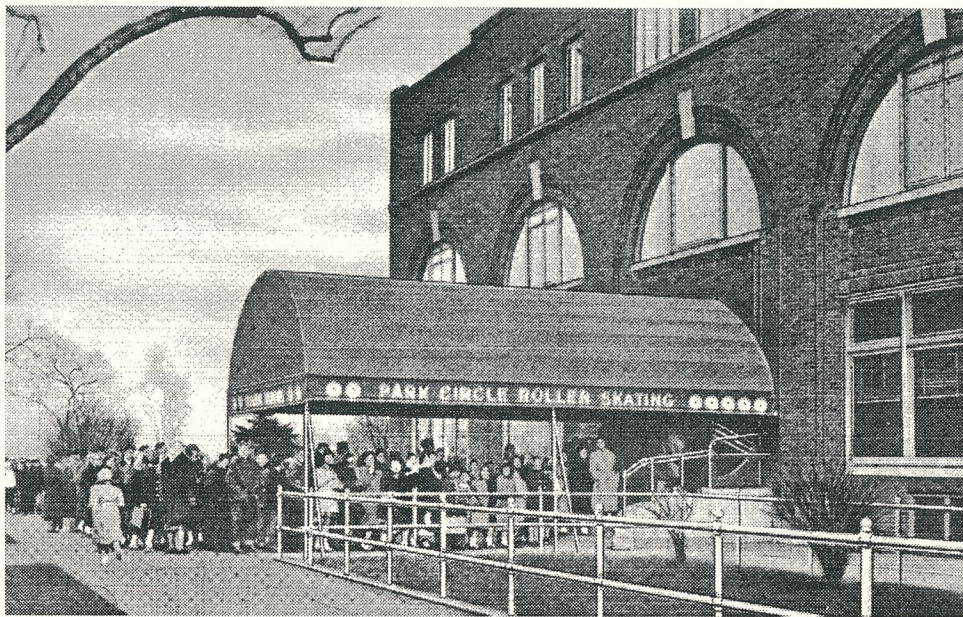
was about thirty-two, with the low end being just two, as was the case in Nevada, New Mexico, Wyoming, and Vermont.

Southern states also saw few rinks constructed in their town and cities by 1948. Tennessee possessed about eleven rinks, Louisiana, Alabama, Kentucky, and North Carolina all had ten or fewer rinks, while Arkansas, Mississippi, Georgia, and South Carolina had fewer than five. With the exception of Florida, which possessed about twenty five, Southerners who wished to roller skate had two options: drive to the nearest town with a rink or wait for a traveling roller rink to come to their town.

From about 1910 through the early 1940s, two types of rinks existed, the 'stationary' and the 'portable.' Designed to operate in a community for a limited time, portable roller rinks proved the most profitable in towns with populations between one to ten thousand. Depending on the size of the town and the popularity of the visit, a portable rink manager kept his rink in an area for as long as three months. Owned by companies such as the American Roller Portable Rink, or by families like the Lowes, portable rinks offered towns without stationary rinks the chance to roller skate while the owners earned a good profit. Though usable in either a northern or a southern climate during all seasons, portable rinks were most typically found in the south. C. W. Lowe dominated the traveling roller rink arena, and though his rinks toured the nation, he largely concentrated in the south, a possible reason why few permanent roller rinks opened there in the 1930s and 1940s.

After 1950, rink construction truly boomed in the United States, with an increase in over 500 rinks nation-wide, growing from around 1,500 in 1948 to over 2,100 in 1952. Some states, like Iowa and Texas, more than doubled the number of rinks existing in four years. Though rink construction multiplied, the spread in rink locations remained concentrated in the midwest, California and the west coast, and in the Pennsylvania/New York/Ohio area, with few in the south or in the west.

Nearly fifty years later, the number of rinks remains about the same,



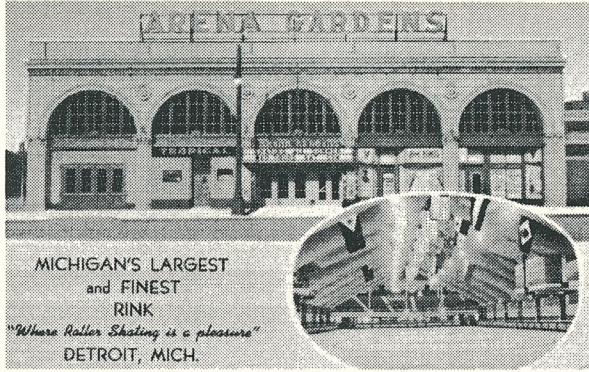
**Park Circle Roller Skating Rink, Brooklyn, New York (pop. 2,738,175 in 1955) — Located at 11 Ocean Parkway in Brooklyn, the Park Circle Roller Skating Rink stayed open every evening beginning at 8 except Tuesdays, September through June. The rink also opened for weekend and holiday matinees from 2 until 5 p.m. Advertised as the "most palatial roller rink," the Park Circle also featured free dance and figure skating classes for adults and beginners, with Roland and Margaret Cioni as well as Johnny James and Edna Bauer employed as professionals. Both Louise Roesch & Charles Litt were organists in the 1940s and 1950s. Vincent Padula, Manager, c. 1955. Gift of Chester Fried (81.6.36)**

with nearly 2,000 in 1997. States averaged thirty-eight rinks, and the great spread in number of rinks between states greatly diminished. Many states still possessed few rinks, Wyoming, Utah and Vermont having only three and Hawaii only one. Whereas in 1952 Pennsylvania possessed the greatest number of rinks with nearly 250 while Alaska and Hawaii had none, in 1997 every state possessed at least one rink and the highest number was Texas with one hundred and fifty-six. Though the numbers had evened out to some degree, the geographical spread still largely remained, with two exceptions. While the New York/Pennsylvania/Ohio region, along

with California and the midwest, remained a strong area of rink concentration, the number of rinks in Oregon and Washington dropped in the same amounts as rinks in the southeast grew. With around forty-five rinks each in 1952, Washington and Oregon dropped to around ten in 1997. Meanwhile, the southeast grew immensely; Alabama doubled the number of rinks between 1952 and 1997, while Georgia increased six-times and the number in Florida grew about seventeen times. Moreover, Texas, not Pennsylvania, now possessed the most number of rinks with over 150. The efforts of rink managers, which began around the turn of the century, to promote the high quality of rink roller skating and thus increase rink business, continues to be a decisive force in the success of the roller rink business.

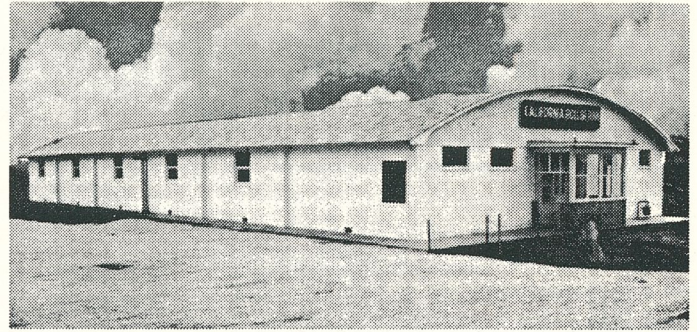


**Wonderland Roller Arena, Fresno, California (pop. 91,669 in 1955) — Located on Shaw & Blackstone Avenues in Fresno, the Wonderland Roller Arena advertised as the "Newest & Second Largest in California" in the 1950s. Owned & Operated by Bill Torcaso, c. 1955. Gift of Paul J. Gilbert (80.7.7)**



MICHIGAN'S LARGEST  
and FINEST  
RINK  
"Where Roller Skating is a pleasure"  
DETROIT, MICH.

**Arena Gardens, Detroit, Michigan** (pop. 1,849,568 in 1955) — Located at 5795 Woodward Avenue in Detroit, the Arena Gardens advertised itself as "Michigan's Largest & Finest Rink." The Arena possessed a refreshment counter, one of the first skate shops in the United States, a practice room, club locker rooms, and employed a good many professionals to instruct on roller skating technique. The Arena Gardens was torn down in 1953 to make room for an interstate. Fred A. Martin, Manager, c. 1950.



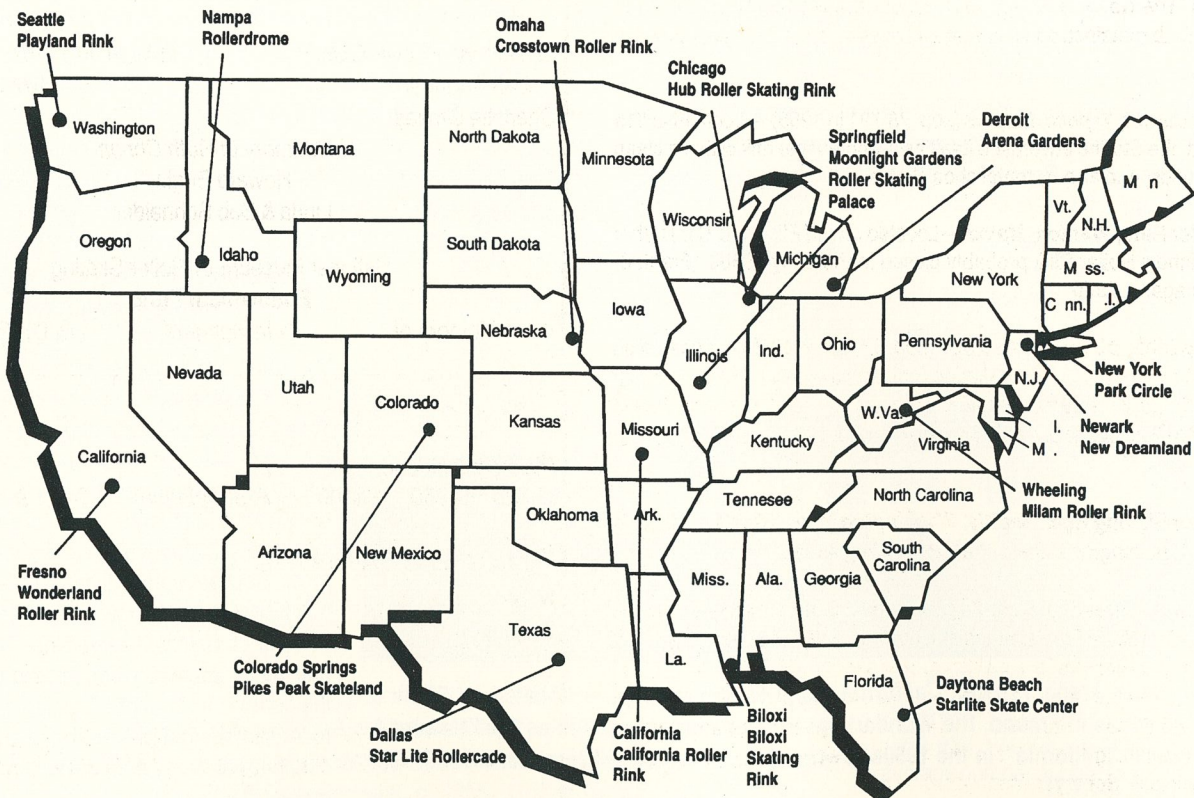
**California Roller Rink, California, Missouri** — Located in the middle of the state, the California Roller Rink featured a rock ample floor and Hi-Fi sound for roller skaters. Gift of Carole Spears (82.69)

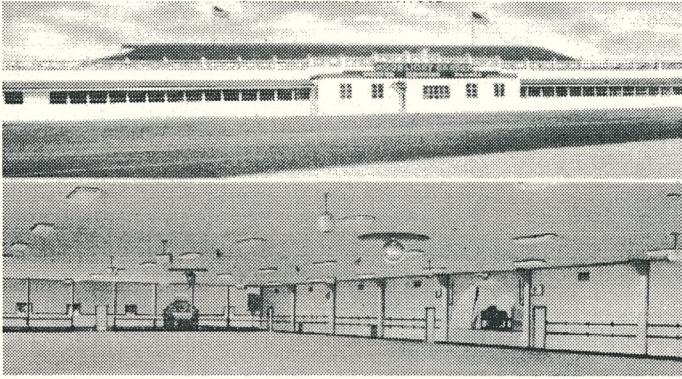
**Pikes Peak Skateland, Colorado Springs, Colorado** (pop. 45,472 in 1955) — Located at 118 W. Colorado Avenues, Miss Lee White, the organist in the 1950s, played a Hammond Electric Organ. J.C. Penkhus, Manager, c. 1955

**Starlite Skate Center, Daytona Beach, Florida** (pop. 30,187 in 1955) — Located at 1790 South Nova Road, this roller rink boasted a large, seamless, plastic skating floor as well as a snack patio and a stereophonic sound system. The rink also advertised its air conditioning, a definite plus for a roller rink.

**Rollerdrome, Nampa, Idaho** (pop. 16,185 in 1955) — Located at 15 10th Avenue South, the Rollerdrome in Nampa, Idaho featured a Hammond Electric Organ and a skating floor measuring over 18,000 square feet. The rink also boasted a beginner's skating area of 10 by 150 feet while the main skating area measured 78 by 150 feet. Nampa residents could skate at the Rollerdrome in the 1950s on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Weekends in the air conditioned rink. Owned & Operated by Mr. & Mrs. Mervin Tiegs, c. 1955

## RINKS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES





**Moonlight Gardens Roller Skating Palace, Springfield, Illinois** (pop. 81,628 in 1955) — Located at 1765 Wabash Avenue and advertised as the “Largest & Most Beautiful in the Middle West,” the Moonlight Gardens Roller Skating Palace was open all year for roller skating every night from 7:30 until 10:30. Skaters could also dance to the music of Ward Johnson on the Hammond organ during matinees on Saturdays and Sundays from 2:30 until 4:30. For beginners and for roller skaters desiring to touch up on their skating skills, the rink employed a professional instructor. Roy C. Dexheimer, Sr., Manager, c. 1955. Gift of Bert Anselmi (96.76.1a)

**Hub Roller Skating Rink, Chicago, Illinois** (pop. 3,620,962 in 1955) — Located at 4510 North Harlem Avenue, Chicago residents could take public transportation directly to the Hub’s door. Open year round, roller skaters skated at the Hub nightly from 7:30 until 11 and on weekend afternoons during matinees from 1:30 until 5 to the music of the mighty Wurlitzer Pipe Organ. The rink also possessed ample parking space for those who wished to drive and sold shoe skates on budget plans for those who wanted to own their own roller skates. Mrs. Benson, Manager, c. 1955

**Rainbo Roller Club & Drive-In Restaurant, Noblesville, Indiana** — Advertised as “The Nation’s Finest” and “Where the Nice People Meet,” the Rainbo Roller Club remained open all year and possessed 18,000 square feet of skating floor.

**Starlite Skate Center, Topeka, Kansas** (pop. 78,791 in 1955) — Located at 815 Fairlawn Road, the Starlite advertised itself as a wholesome rink within a clean building & grounds, and all new rental shoe skates.

**Rainbow Roller Rink, Trenton, Maine** — Located on the Ellsworth-Bar Harbor Road, the Rainbow Roller Rink probably closed in the early 1950s. Frank B. Allen, Sr., Manager c. 1950

**Biloxi Skating Rink, Biloxi, Mississippi** (pop. 37,425 in 1955) — Located on 125 West Central Beach, the Biloxi Skating Rink was the only roller skating rink in Biloxi in 1955, and featured Mrs. Edith Hunter at the Hammond Electric Organ. Ira John Clark, Manager, c. 1955. Gift of Paul J. Gilbert (80.7.26) (Cover photo)

**Playland Roller Skating Rink, Seattle, Washington** (pop. 467,591 in 1955) — Advertised as “Washington’s finest & largest skating surface.”

**Milam Roller Rink, Wheeling, West Virginia** (pop. 58,891 in 1955) — Located in the West Virginia State Fair Grounds and built in 1932, the Milan Roller Rink featured two large reflectors for moonlight roller skating. Roller skaters could dance to the music of the Hammond Electric Organ nightly and during matinees on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. The rink also possessed a beginners practice room measuring 15 x 180 feet while the main skating floor measured 60 x 300 feet. William B. Schreyer, Manager, c. 1950.



**New Dreamland Arena, Newark, New Jersey** (pop. 438,776 in 1955) — Located at 985 Frelinghuysen Avenue in Newark, the New Dreamland Arena became known as the “World’s Largest Unobstructed Roller Skating Rink.” Newark residents could take the Newark-Elizabeth Line right to the rink. Features of the rink included: a floating rotunda floor a beginner’s rink, spacious guest rooms, a refreshment counter, and club rooms. Ray Boughmar played the Mystery Console. The New Dreamland Arena also employed four professionals, including Betty Lytle and Bob Ringwald, and ten instructors, who taught roller dance classes as well as giving private instructions. Skaters could come roller skate at the rink throughout the year every evening from 7:30 until 11, and on Holidays and weekends from 2 until 5 in the afternoon. Victor J. Brown, Manager, c. 1950. Gift of Richard Young (84.38)

The Patron Memorial Plaque was created to honor those individuals who have contributed to the growth of roller skating as a sport, recreation, or business. A plaque may be purchased for a minimum contribution of \$250. Please fill out the information below if you are interested. All other donations are used for the endowment fund.

*In Memory of Lewis Quintin*                      *In Memory of Buzz McClelland*  
Robert Bollinger                                      Robert Bollinger  
Charlotte Groves

*In Memory of Ruth Chrien*  
Howard Engle  
Linda & Bob Schneider

National Museum of Roller Skating  
**Endowment Fund**

In Memory of                       In Honor of                       On Occasion of  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Event of Occasion \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:  
 \$25     \$50     \$100     \$250 (plaque)     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This contribution was made by:  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

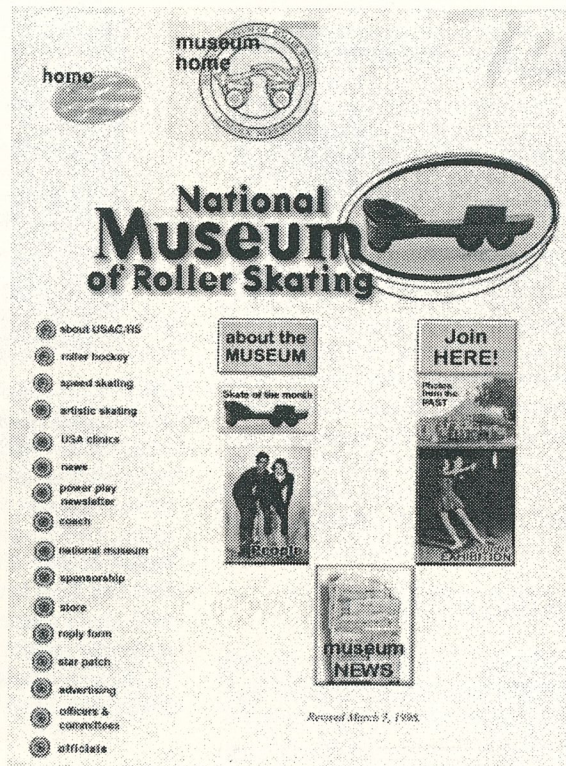
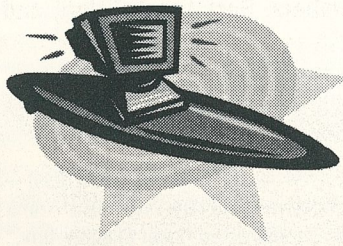
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: NMRS. All gifts to this fund are tax-deductible. Mail this form and payment to the museum.

Memorials



<http://www.usacrs.com/museum.htm>  
The museum's homepage looks like this:



In an upcoming issue, I hope to expand upon the Skating Vanities article I wrote in the Feb/Mar. issue of this year to include memories of former Skating Vanities skaters shared with me. Since the beginning of the year, I have collected over a dozen reminiscences about performances with the Skating Vanities with the assistance of Caroline Mirelli. People shared their experiences with the Skating Vanities while touring America and abroad, their favorite act in the show, their feelings of camaraderie while touring, how they came to be part of the Skating Vanities and why they left as well as what they are doing now. If anyone else has any memories of either touring or seeing the Skating Vanities, I'd enjoy hearing from you! If you were never a part or attended the Skating Vanities, but recall roller skating when you were a child in the 1930s or as an adult in the 1970s, please share your memories with the museum. What you remember can help expand the knowledge on the history of roller skating. Though a picture says a thousand words, we still need descriptive captions!

Questions? Feel free to contact me. I am available Monday through Wednesday, 9 - 4 pm.

Sarah Webber  
Assistant Curator

### Memories of the Skating Vanities

#### Joined because...

"A great enticement to someone who was living a rather nondescript life in the midwest." --Joan Skinner Boone

"An opportunity to travel extensively and still get paid." --Grace Kwiett

"After eight years of competition I was well ready for a change."--Douglas Breniser

#### Traveling...

"We were treated like royalty."--Louise McDougall Lockwood

"Cultural shock...we all found it different when the audience would stamp their feet loudly if they liked what they saw instead of clapping their hands in Switzerland." --Douglas Breniser

"Touring with the Vanities was like being with a family, everyone looked out for each other."--Caroline Mirelli

"Met many people and saw many things that I would have never been able to see by myself."--Grace Kwiett

Web Site

Sarah Speaks





### Your 1998 Raffle Ticket is here!

Cash prizes will consist of:

- 15 winners of \$100 each = \$1500
- 3 winners of \$500 each = \$1500
- 1 Grand Prize winner of \$5000
- 4 winners of \$250 each = \$1000
- 1 winner of \$1000
- Total Cash Prizes = \$10,000*

cut or photocopy and mail with payment to the museum

### NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ROLLER SKATING 1998 Raffle Ticket

Please print or type

Purchaser \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Ticket Seller *Historical Roller Skating Overview*

**PRESERVING OUR PAST  
FOR THE FUTURE**

**Donation \$50. Total of \$10,000 in cash prizes. Grand prize \$5,000! Drawing to take place, May 6, 1998, at the RSA International convention during the President's Dinner. Ticket holders need not be present to win. All proceeds benefit the museum.**

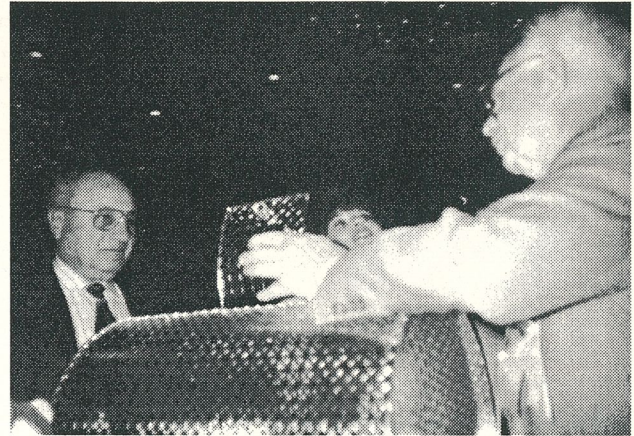


The National Museum of Roller Skating is a publicly supported, charitable organization.

### Grand Prize Raffle Winners the last four years:

- 1994 Stan Cantor
- 1995 Nellie Anderson
- 1996 Omar Dunn
- 1997 Frank Cernik
- 1998 Who will it be?

Museum Board members, Bert Anselmi (left) and Robert Bollinger (right) watch as a raffle ticket is pulled at the 1996 convention in Reno, Nevada (96.17.61).

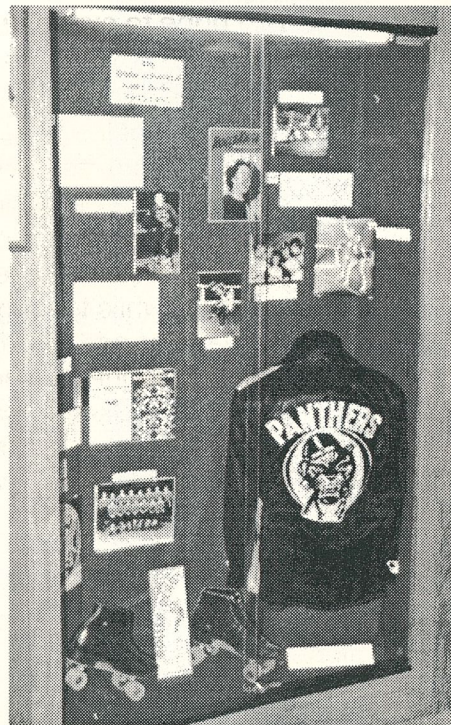


1998 Raffle



### The Skating Vanities Exhibit

Artifacts in the exhibit were donated by: Beth Davis (94.11.10, .16), Rose Martin (82.46.146), Gloria Nord (82.12.7, .8), and Peggy Wallace Boucher (97.68.1, .4, .17, .19).

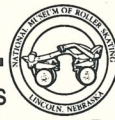


### The Transcontinental Roller Derby, 1935-55

Artifacts in the exhibit were donated by: Richard & Marge McLaughlen (81.33.420), Rose Martin (88.22.3-.4), and Joe Weinmeier (96.59.2-.3, .29, .45, .68, .84, and .93).

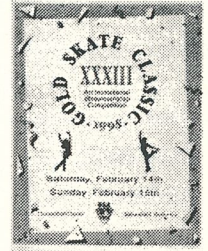
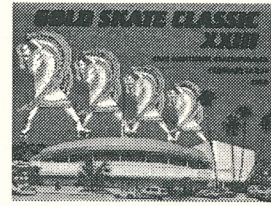
Exhibits

# Donations

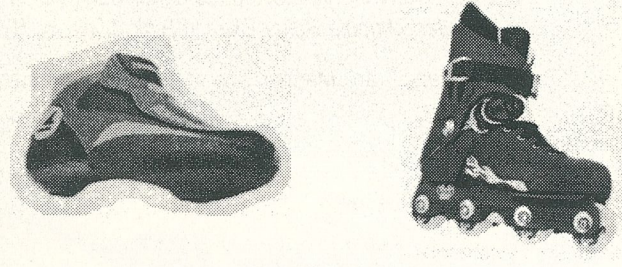


The NMRS's collection has grown each year because of donors such as the following who have contributed to the growth of the museum. If you have an artifact that you would like to donate, please contact the museum before donating. Thank you for your support. The following donors have contributed since November: **ABLAZE** Wheels, Bert Anselmi for the Armand Champa Collection, Bill Benson, Black Biscuit, Jack & Jill Farrell, George & Tilly Fay, Chester Fried, Jim Greene, Charlotte Groves, Margot Hager, Randall Harbuck, Frances Hrastar, Bettie Jennings, Kryptonics, CW Lowe, Rose Martin, George Pickard, Eileen Poole, Rollerblade, Inc., Jay Sorensen, Peggy Wallace Boucher and Dan & Terry Yovanovich.

Bettie Jennings donated several Gold Skate Classic programs and pins from 1965 to the most recent in 1998. The Gold Skate Classic is annual event featuring artistic skating in the state of California (98.24).



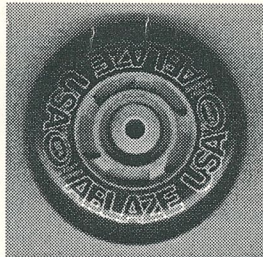
Rollerblade's donation includes Equipe speed boots and Chris Edwards' Aggressive boots (98.19).



Peggy Wallace Boucher donated her scrapbook filled with photographs of her days with the Skating Vanities including this image of her as an Indian princess in 1950 (98.22).



ABLAZE Wheels donated a wheel that lights up when spun (98.20).

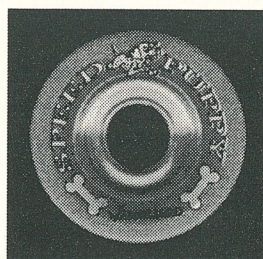


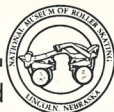
Margot Hager donated a variety of photographs and memorabilia including this image of her mother, Hazel Wysong Allred. The photo was taken in 1910 when Hazel won a prize for best costume at the local roller rink (98.21).

Kryptonics donated a variety of skate wheels including these aggressive and quad wheel styles (98.17).



Randall Harbuck donated several photo albums from the 1970s filled with a variety of images. Mr. Harbuck has been the official photographer for a variety of events including the National Championships for many years (98.7).





The NMRS would like to thank these members who have either renewed or *joined* the museum since our last issue. Your support is appreciated!

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**Patron (\$250)**  
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**Extended Hours in June!**  
**Monday-Friday,**  
**June 15-19, 22-26**  
**9 am to 6 pm**  
**Saturdays, June 20 & 27**  
**12 pm to 4 pm**  
**Sundays, June 21 & 28**  
**1 pm to 5 pm**



Do You Know?

### Did You Know?

#### MEMBERSHIP QUIZ RESULTS

1939 was the first US National Amateur Artistic Championship.  
What rink hosted the dance competition?  
*Answer: Mineola Roller Skating Rink, Mineola, NY.*  
*Winners: Frank Magrino and Florence Schuneman*

### Do You Know?

#### NEXT MEMBERSHIP QUIZ

The 1991 Primary Girls roller skating champion recently won an Olympic Gold in ice skating. Can you name her?  
The first two correct answers will win a museum pin from the museum store. Please mail your answers to the museum.

#### Join Here!

- New                       Renew
- Check one:
- Benefactor                      \$500
- Patron                              \$250
- Associate Patron                \$100
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- Individual/Family                \$35
- Additional Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Gift Membership \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Payment Method

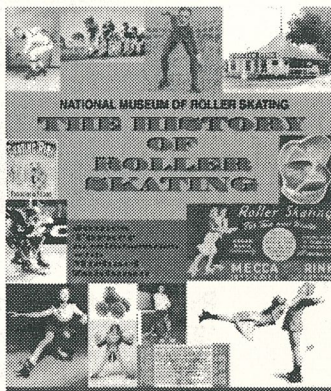
- Check Payable to NMRS
- VISA     MasterCard

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signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip and return to:

National Museum of Roller Skating  
4730 South Street, PO Box 6579  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68506 USA

Questions, or to order by phone, call 402/483-7551. Benefits extend one year from join date. Please allow three weeks for processing. Membership includes a subscription to the member's newsletter, *Historical Roller Skating Overview*, 10% off museum store items, a membership card, and a copy of *The History of Roller Skating*, ISBN 0-9658192-0-5.



#### Member Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Thank you for joining!  
Gift Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Memberships make great gifts!

The National Museum of Roller Skating is pleased to recognize contributors for their interest and philanthropy. The museum is recognized as a charitable institution. All donations are tax-deductible up to the amount permitted by law. Names of donors are listed in all publications unless otherwise notified.

First Friday Tours, free 30 minute tours of the museum the first Friday of every month at 12:15 pm by the Curator!

Membership Matters

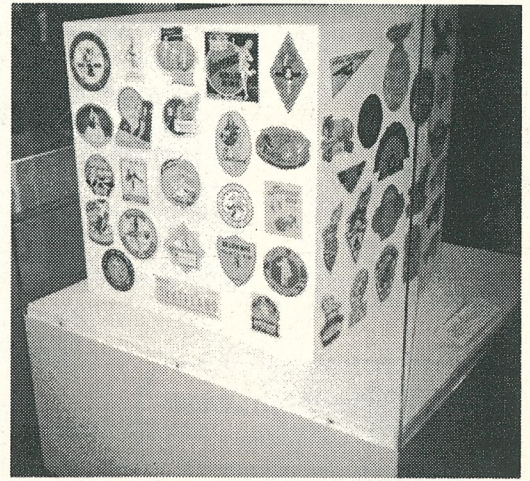
# Another Artifact



A Medley of Skates & Memorabilia is on display in the South Terminal Lobby B at the San Francisco International Airport until the end of May.



Main label shown with several exhibits



Roller skating stickers

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