



Museum Newsletter

By James Vannurden
Director and Curator

National Museum of Roller Skating
4730 South Street, Lincoln, NE 68506
(402)483-7551 ex. 16
www.rollerskatingmuseum.com

Bi-Monthly
November 16, 2012

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

Regional Conference itinerary

As previously stated, Lincoln will host the 2013 Mountain-Plains Museum Association annual conference. Before and have this three day event, local attractions are made available to the visitors. Our museum is now officially on the list.

With a theme of transportation, the National Museum of Roller Skating will partner with the American Museum of Speed and the Larsen Tractor Test Museum to create an afternoon of entertain on the last day of the conference. Those signed up for the transportation tour will have 30 minutes at each destination to absorb everything.

Grant Presentation

On Monday, Nov 19 the museum must give a short presentation to the Visitors Improvement Fund board as we seek a grant for our new display cases. Myself and George Pickard, our local museum board member, will briefly discuss our project with the board so all parties understand how the money will be used and why it will benefit the community at large.

After the presentation, the waiting begins. The Visitors Improvement Fund will decide which organizations are given the grant by the middle of December. Our hope is to receive this grant for \$8,500 so we can properly fund our expansion. If our claim is rejected, we must find other sources of income.

USARS/Museum hosted reception

Prior to the fall meeting of the board of trustees of USA Roller Sports, USARS hosted a small reception. Included with dinner were tours of the museum. With over 40 attendees, most enjoyed a walk-through of the museum after their meal.

Derby Donation



This year USA Roller Sports created a national tournament for its participants of roller derby. Set to be held in Fresno in December, this is the first USARS sponsored roller derby championship.

Upon completion of its new logo shown above, USARS has donated some items from its inaugural year. So far the museum received a t-shirt, stickers, and buttons. The donation will grow once the championship tournament is complete. We expect programs and advertisements as well.

In addition and with much excitement, the museum will house the official USARS roller derby national championship trophy. It will be on permanent display.

Research Student

This week the museum hosted an international student. Marie-Christen Wedel is a doctoral candidate in Germany and she came to the museum to research her project on the social interactions of roller skating and how skating can create its own unique atmosphere.

Renewing Members

Dominic Cangelosi
Edwina & Roger Hansen

New Members

Joline Zepcevski
Marie-Christin Wedel

Rink Photo:
Arcadia: Detroit, MI

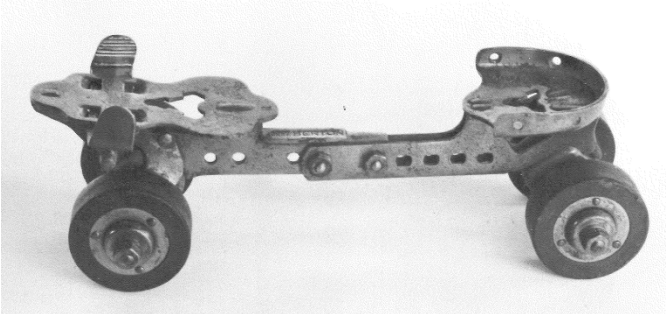


The Arcadia was one of the two prominent rinks in Detroit, along with the Arena Gardens. The Arcadia hosted many great events over the years, including its first six-day roller race from May 28-June 2 in 1936. It also held carnivals which included kissing booths, a cake sale, penny pitch, and a balloon-dart throw.

Roller Skating Firsts

- First building specifically for roller skating was the Plimpton Building, erected by James Plimpton in New York City during 1863.
- First American public roller rink, the Atlantic House in Newport, Rhode Island; it was operated by Plimpton starting in 1866.

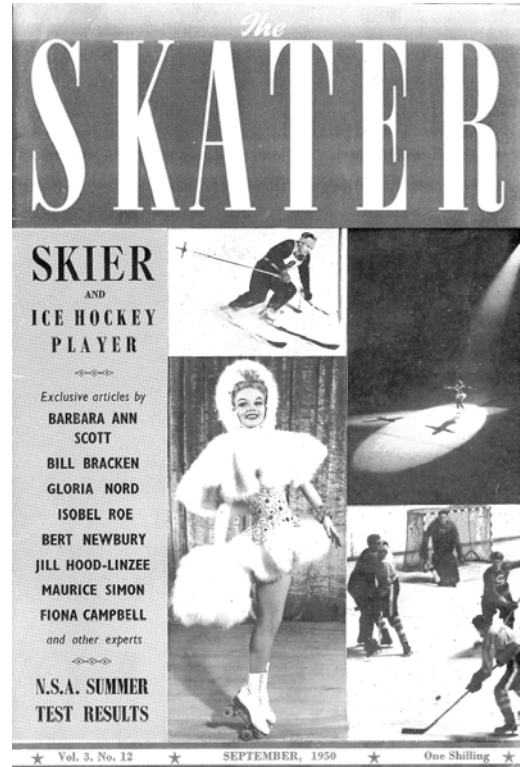
Skate of the Week *Gazelle*



The collection of the museum contains many international as well as domestic roller skates. The skate above hails from Europe.

Manufactured by the Dautbert-Bertoni company of Italy, this adjustable quad skate was patented in 1900. A gift of Richard & Marge McLauchlen, this "Gazelle" clamp-on model has rubber wheels upon a metal frame, with separate toe and heel plates. "Bertoni" is engraved on the frame.

Library Feature:
The Skater, Skier, and Ice Hockey Player
September 1950



This issue of *The Skater, Skier, and Ice Hockey Player* from 1950 explored aspects of winter sports. Published in London, the monthly one shilling magazine shared photographs, sport specific articles, and skater profiles.

One article discusses England's different roller speed skating clubs. London had two, named Broadway and the Palace. Rochester United of southern England usually placed just behind both London clubs during national tournaments; the Herne Bay Club always tried to remain relevant. The only formidable team in the north was Batley's Rink.

A second article described the 1950 edition of the Skating Vanities as they finished their tour in London. Mentioned were headliner Gloria Nord and her partner Douglas Breniser, Peggy Wallace as the "Sun God Worshipper", and Eileen McDonnell as the partner to Frank Foster in "Symphony in Pink." Tony Mirelli and Rose Piccola performed daring acrobatic duets while Count le Roy thrilled with his roller tap-dancing.

A final literary piece introduces the sport of roller hockey to the reader. While explaining all of the rules and its popularity in Great Britain during that time, the author a nice opening statement on the sport: "*roller hockey has often been called the Cinderella of sports, not perhaps unjustly, for whilst the game itself is fast and fascinating, the facilities for presenting it to the public in a worthy manner have only been achieved on rare occasions...*"

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

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

Wish List

1.) **Rink Files:** The museum seeks to expand its roller rink files. In the archives, the museum houses files upon files of individual roller rinks from across the country. These files are used for research purposes. *We recently helped a gentleman find photos from the Bal-A-Roue Rink in Medford, MA from our archives.*

The more rinks we have on file, the greater chance we have to help those searching for information. We are looking for photos, programs, ticket stubs, newspaper articles, and any other primary information about roller rinks.

2.) **Regional programs:** We need modern issues of all regional programs. For example, we need Northeast programs from '93-'00 and '04-present, Southeast '88-'97 and '05-present, and Eastern '86-'97 and '04-present..

The museum's goal is to have two copies of each issue for its permanent archives. With regionals now over, **please send copies of your regional programs** to the museum. Thanks in advance.

3.) The museum needs items from **jam skating**. DVDs, skates, programs, t-shirts, magazines, and anything associated with the sport are needed for the museum. Please contact us to see what you can donate.

Rink Sticker Collection

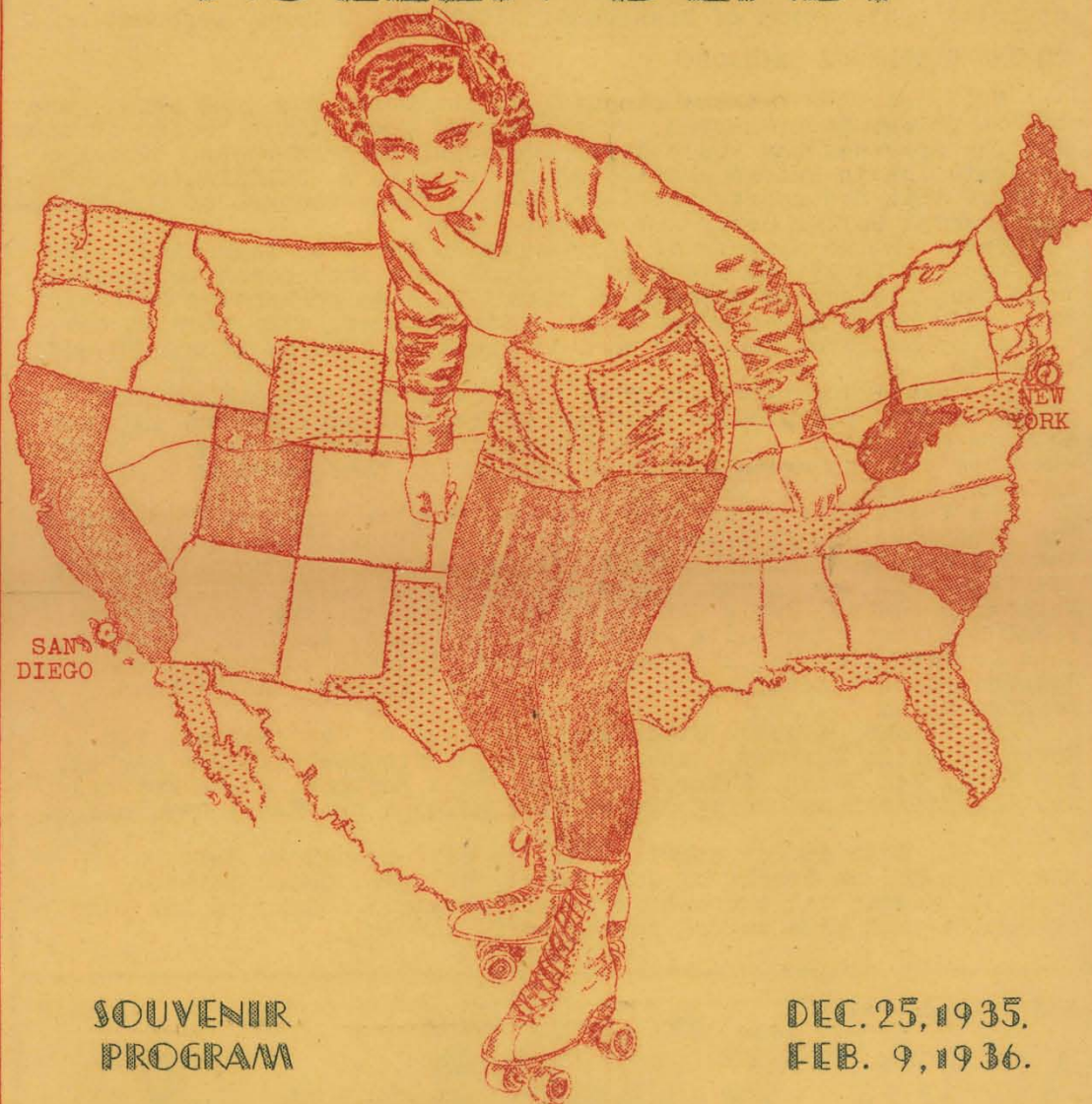
The museum has an extensive collection of roller skating rink stickers. Many skating rinks used to produce stickers as both an advertisement and fun way to for skaters to interact with one another, comparing the different location in which they skated. These were even traded as collectibles both informally 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 for supporting the museum!



A TRANSCONTINENTAL ROLLER DERBY



SOUVENIR
PROGRAM

DEC. 25, 1935.
FEB. 9, 1936.

THE COLISEUM CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Original derby program: 1935, inaugural season