



Museum Newsletter

By James Vannurden
Director and Curator

National Museum of Roller Skating
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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

Display Cabinets Near Completion

Last week two board members and I journeyed to the wood working facility to see how the production of our new display cabinets was progressing.

The process continues to move at quite a pace. Six cabinets are complete, stained and varnished. The next step is for the glass company to fit and insert the glass doors. The seventh cabinet, which is considerably larger than the others, is the final cabinet under construction. It will be placed in the entrance vestibule of the building, opposite the current cabinet.

While no official date exists for completion, we hope to have the seven cabinets installed in the museum sometime in January.

New Display Under Construction

With seven new display cases to fill, coming up with ideas brings an exciting opportunity. One of the new displays will feature an exhibit on rinks in Nebraska. Since 50% of museum visitors each year come from within the state, more emphasis should go into areas relateable to this faction.

Dozens of rinks have opened and closed over the years in Nebraska, and we want to showcase as many as possible. With our "Skate Lincoln" permanent display we showcase the local rinks; now adding the Nebraska aspect we can expand upon this idea of local, midwest roller skating.

I am currently undertaking the duty of visiting every roller rink on this side of the state to gain information and photographs so to provide the best and updated display possible.

Donations



Under the guidance of the South Central Region of USA Roller Sports and the family of Scott Wilson, the museum recently accepted a donation from the career of Scott Wilson.

Competing as an artistic skater, Scott Wilson participated in competitive roller skating for years. His career culminated with victory at the national competitions. With Scott's recent passing, his family wanted him remembered through the museum.

The museum accepted two items from the Wilson collection. First, the above plaque honors Scott as the 2012 national champion. Second, the museum received that very costume worn in the photograph. Thanks again to the family for trusting us with this collection.

Renewing Members (Thanks for the support!)

Judy Graves
Jeannie Devonshire
George & Michelle Vannurden

Mary Hayes
Bud & Mary Ekern

Holiday Hours

To celebrate the Christmas holiday, the museum will close for a week. From Saturday, December 22 through Tuesday, January 1 the museum will be closed. Normal hours resume January 2. We hope everyone has a very, Merry Christmas!

Rink Photo:
Wonderland: Fresno, CA

Special Recognition
Joe Nazzaro



Wonderland Roller Arena of Fresno hosted the 1955 California State and Southwest Pacific Coast Regional Championships while under the ownership of Bill Torcaso.

Roller Skating Firsts

- First world roller skating championships were organized by the Federation Internationale de Patinage a Toulettes in 1936.
- First national roller skating championships held in Europe were hosted in Belgium in 1941.
- First appearance of roller skating in the Pan American Games was in Puerto Rico in 1979.

Skate of the Week *Spalding Inline Skate*



This skate shows that while mainstream skates had progressed to the new quad design, there were still companies manufacturing the original design of inline skates. This is an 1876 model of an A.G. Spalding & Brothers athletic goods company skate that features large, rubber wheels.

Wish Merry Christmas to Joseph Nazzaro Sr. of Atherton, California

Joe is a significant long term patron of the National Museum and a person who has for over 75 years contributed to the success of RSROA (RSA) and USARS roller sports programs. In recognition of his personal and organization accomplishments, Nazzaro has collected Life Memberships in RSROA, RSM, SRSTA and USARS; and Hall of Fame in both RSROA and USARS.

Joe began his long roller sports journey in the mid 1930's in the Boston area, covering every aspect of roller skating: a competitive skater, successful championship teacher, multiple rink owner and operator, skate equipment supplier, manufacturer, skating event impresario, rink chapter organizer, and much more. In recognition of all this, Joe Nazzaro was named "TITAN" in the Museum's recently published book "Titans and Heroes of American Roller Skating". He added significantly to his museum gifts by his recent shipment of some very unique skating memorabilia dating from 1938, many never before seen at the museum. (By George Pickard)

Happy New Year Joe! Continued Long Life at Age 93 and Counting.

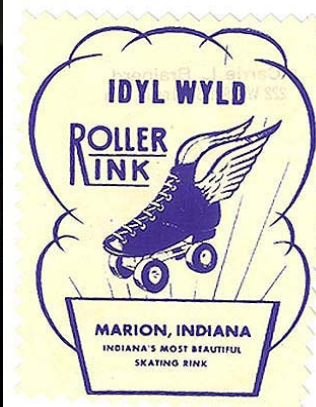
For those wishing to renew their memberships, we included the following form. Thanks in advance!

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	
___	___	MasterCard
Credit Card	Number _____	
Exp.	_____	
Signature	_____	
Mail to: National Museum of Roller Skating, 4730 South Street, Lincoln, NE 68506 Fax to: 402-483-1465		

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.



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.

Thanks for supporting the museum!



Christmas Life



"PLEASE, O SANTA CLAUS, DON'T FORGET THE ROLLER SKATES, AMEN."

Merry Christmas!