



Rolling Through Time

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Director and Curator

Official Newsletter of:

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 50 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

New Display



We recently expanded our display on early skate manufacturers. Previously seven companies were discussed and represented in one display. They are now broken down in two displays to better qualify their contributions to the field and demonstrate more skate examples from each company. Above showcases the Richardson Company with four specific skate models.

October Fundraiser

Our October fundraiser was promoted via email and through multiple mentions from both USARS and RSA. The museum received many needed donations both online and off. In total, the fundraiser produced \$1,455 for museum operational expenses. Special thanks to Dominic Cangelosi and Judy Graves for their generous donations of \$500 each. Thanks to all who contributed.

Museum Memberships

Supporters of the museum realize the importance of our mission as the only facility to protect and display the history of our great sport. Once again we want to say a big THANK YOU to those members who year after year maintain support to our cause. It is through people like you that help us remain the top educational center for roller skating.

We look to grow that base of support through new museum memberships. Anyone can join the museum to help support roller skating history. Please consider sharing this newsletter with someone you know who may have an interest in helping us preserve this great history and educating the public.

Individual Sections of the RSA have begun supporting the museum through Associate Patron memberships. Currently Sections 1, 2, and 10 have joined the museum at this level. We want to challenge the remaining RSA sections to follow suite and join the museum until every Section is represented. Thank you all for your support of the museum.

Membership includes:

Bi-monthly museum e-newsletter

A 30th anniversary pin,

Access to PDFs of all national championship programs since 1937 and *Skate/USARS* magazines since 1940, one year subscription to *USA Roller Sports* magazine, and a 10% discount on store purchases.

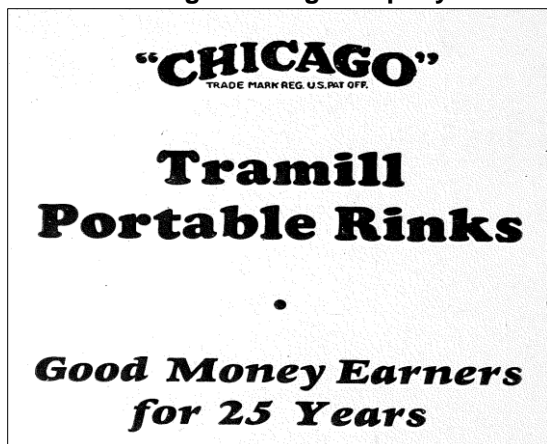
Membership Level	1 year	2 years
Benefactor	___ \$500	___ \$950
Patron	___ \$250	___ \$475
Associate Patron	___ \$100	___ \$185
Donor	___ \$50	___ \$90
Individual/Family	___ \$35	___ \$65

New and Renewing Members

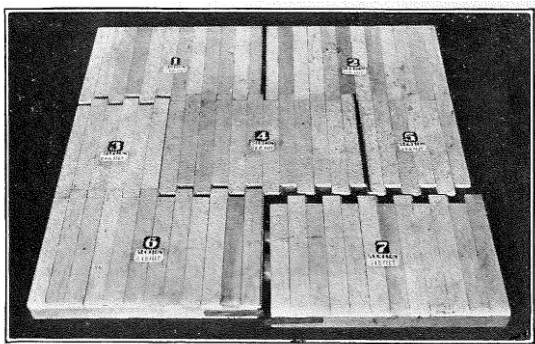
Buggy Allmond
Marie Walker
RSA Section 1
RSA Section 2
RSA Section 10
Marion Cherubini
Crazy Skates
Floyd Terry

How to Open a Tent Rink

Chicago Skating Company



Chicago produced a small pamphlet detailing the highlights and advantages of obtaining a portable rink.



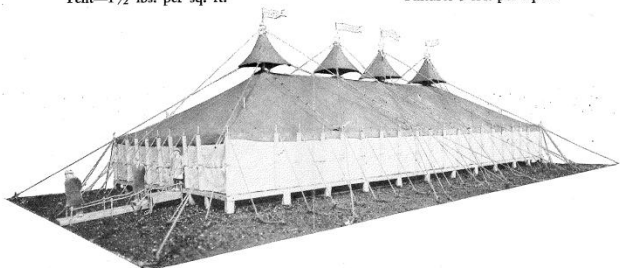
Chicago advertised the finest smooth floor with no ridges. These new interlocking hard "rock maple" floors were supported on locking girders. Special patent tightening features were easy to set up with no bolts or cables required. Sizes 40x90 to 48x120 were available with prices determined upon request.

Rain Proof Tents

Triple stitched seams, 12 oz. double twist U. S. Army duck. Three thicknesses at poles. Special laps over lacing seams. Hoods over poles. Now the GREATEST tent built.

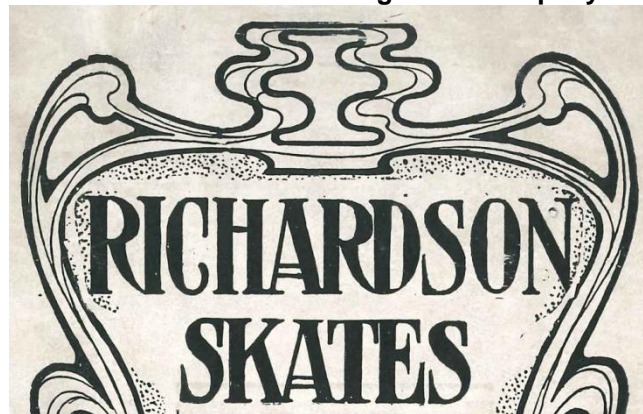
Weights
Floor—7½ lbs. per sq. ft.
Tent—1½ lbs. per sq. ft.

Complete Unit with
Fixtures 9 lbs. per sq. ft.

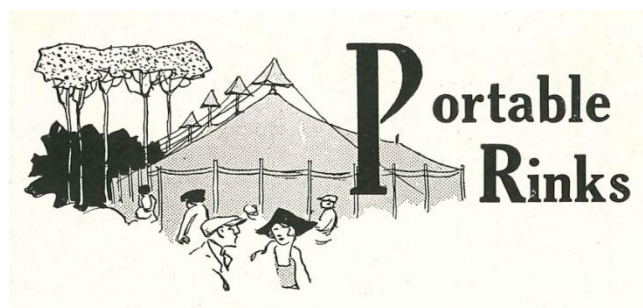


The tents used poles with steel joints and four foot hardened steel stakes. The finest un-oiled Manila rope stood alongside galvanized steel cables, unaffected by weather. Wall curtains rolled up to allowed plenty of light and fresh air. With skate and clothes racks, rails, and all fixtures, this complete unit quickly set up and knocked down without the use of a nail.

Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Company



Our tents are constructed from double filling water-proofed Khaki duck, 12 oz. for top and 8 oz. for walls. The canvas is treated so it will not only turn water, but will not mildew. Our tents are square hip-roof style, with three to five center poles, according to size of tent and are made push-pull style, with a hood sewed onto the top of the center pole spike, thus assuring a water-proof cover over the pole. The top is made in three to four pieces and each lace with a double lap over the lacing so as to make it water-proof. The sidewalls are made 7 ft. 6 in. high with pull-up ropes at every pole hole. The side poles are 8 ft. high and spaced 7 ft. apart, which raises the side-wall off the ground 6 in. to allow for circulation of air at the bottom. The stakes are made of hickory, and have extra heavy iron bands at the top. The inside of tent is trimmed in red, and thoroughly reinforced under the ridge and at all pole holes. The top is roped with the best grade Manila rope, and all roping is put on by hand. The weight of 40x90 ft. tent complete is about 2,000 pounds.



The skating surface of our 40x90 ft. portable rink floor contains forty-five 6.6x13 ft. sections. These floors are laid and fastening manipulated entirely from the top side, and on level ground the only underpinning needed is that necessary to keep the plate out of the dirt. On uneven ground only such underpinning is required as is necessary to level the floor frame.

This floor loads into a car almost as compactly as new lumber and 40x90 ft. floors and larger can be loaded into a 36 ft. car, leaving plenty of room for all other paraphernalia necessary to complete portable rink outfit. 40x90 ft. floor weights approximately 15,000 lbs. This is one of the lightest practical portable rink floors built. Prices upon application.

Arena Gardens Skate Shop



Citizens of Detroit could skate at The Arena Gardens knowing they could enjoy skating in a safe and well-managed environment. Among the positive achievements the rink attained, one of the most important became the success of its Skate Shop.

In this skate shop, customers could rent skates to use for the day. Prior to 1941, the Arena Gardens rented clamp-on skates for a price of ten cents. Afterwards the rink began using boot skates. During operation the Arena Gardens always made sure to have 1,500 pairs of skates maintained and ready for immediate use.

One of the first United States rinks to have a store, the skate shop of the Arena Gardens began as a small room off of the main entrance with a window facing Woodward Avenue. Inventory of the store included boots, accessories, skate cases, men's and women's clothing, and skates. In 1940 the store began selling skating attire; women's dresses had an average price of ten dollars but also could exceed sixty dollars.

By 1945 the store started selling skates. Skates for men, women, and children were in stock. There existed a fitting room for purchasing skates. This way, skaters could have their skates fitted properly to their feet instead of the alternative of mail order and hopes of the skates fitting right. The price of skates dropped to around fifteen dollars a pair by 1944 which drastically increased sales. Almost half of the skaters in the Arena Garden purchased their own pair of skates. The skate shop then grew in popularity and profitability. Store orders averaged about 3,000 skate sales each year. Brothers of Fred Martin managed the skate shop and offered a great service: skate maintenance. Thousands of customers relied on this service to keep their skates in good working condition.

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 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!



Benefactor Museum Members

Roller Skating Association	Indianapolis	IN
USA Roller Sports	Lincoln	NE
RC Sports	Lenexa	KS
Dominic Cangelosi	Glendale	CA
Judy T. Graves	Friedheim	MO
Trace & Shannon Hansen	Warsaw	IN
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Connie Wahlig	Hockessin	DE

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Chester Fried	South River	NJ
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Crazy Skates	San Diego	CA

Associate Patron

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Hansen Eastlake	Warsaw	IN
Hansen Holiday	Warsaw	IN
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George Kolibaba	Milwaukie	OR
Nellie & Rob Lillie	New York	NY
Nadine Meis	Sun City	AZ
Beth Wahlig Nolan	Newark	DE
Glenn Ramsey	Roanoke	VA
Sin City Skates	San Diego	CA
William Sahley	St. Louis Park	MN
Cort Wahlig	Hockessin	DE
Leland Wells	Wichita	KS
George & Suzanne Pickard	Lincoln	NE
Todd Rendfrey	Edgewater Park	NJ
Patricia Hanaway	St. Louis	MO
Marie Walker	Wellsville	KS
RSA Section 2	Bakersfield	CA
RSA Section1	Centralia	WA
RSA Section 10	Fairhaven	MA

Donor

Buggy Allmond	Harrisonburg	VA
Irene Ballard	Knoxville	TN
Ella Hansen	Warsaw	IN
Jordan Hansen	Warsaw	IN
Jim Hafner	Brenham	TX
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William & Dorothy McDonald	Independence	MO
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Donna Rhodes	Newton	NC
William Schneider	Johnstown	PA
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Dennis Pickard	Liberty	MO
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FlemingFamily	Northridge	CA
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Gloria Manning	Miami	FL
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Joline Zepcevski	Minneapolis	MN
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Cynthia Gates	Newmarket	NH
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