

Rolling Through Time

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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

Hammond Organ Donation



Dominic with Hammond Organ

After almost a year of conflicting schedules and logistics, the museum now houses its pledged donation of a Hammond B-3 Organ. Our wonderful museum board member Dominic Cangelosi generously donated his personal organ to the museum, in addition with a matching Hammond speaker and a Leslie speaker.

In a soon-to-be published flyer accompanying the organ, George Pickard writes about this organ the following:

The **Hammond organ** is an electric organ invented by Laurens Hammond and John M. Hanert and was first manufactured in 1935. Various models were produced, most of which used sliding drawbars to create a variety of sounds. The original production of organs up to 1975 generated the sound by creating an electric current from rotating metal tone-wheels near an electromagnetic pickup, as does the B-3 model on museum exhibition. The organ is commonly used and associated with the Leslie speaker, as in our museum exhibit.



Dominic and his nephew traveled from Glendale, CA by van to donate the Hammond Organ in person. He arrived at the museum on Monday, August 19. After setting up the organ in the museum, Dominic remained all day to share stories and enjoy the museum. At 4PM he entertained a small crowd with a short concert, covered by the local news. Thanks again Dominic!!!



Board members Dominic (L) and George Pickard (R) with friend



Hammond Speaker

Pickard on the significance of the Hammond Speaker: The authorized loudspeaker enclosure to use with a console organ was the Hammond Tone Cabinet, which housed an external amplifier and speaker in a box. The cabinet carried a balanced mono signal along with the necessary mains power directly from the organ, using a six-pin cable. Spinet organs contained a built-in power amplifier and loudspeakers, and so did not require a tone cabinet. The tone cabinet was originally the only method of adding reverb to a Hammond organ; reverb was not fitted to older organs. The Hammond at the National Museum of Roller Skating has both a Tone Cabinet and a Leslie Speaker attached.



Dominic interviewed by local CBS TV station



Leslie Speaker

Pickard on the significance of the Leslie Speaker:
Many players prefer to play the Hammond through a
rotating speaker cabinet, known after several name
changes as a Leslie speaker, after its inventor Donald J.
Leslie. The Leslie system is an integrated
speaker/amplifier combination in which sound is emitted
by a rotating horn over a stationary treble compression
driver, and a rotating baffle beneath a stationary bass
woofer. This creates a characteristic sound because of
the constantly changing pitch shifts that result from the
Doppler effect created by the moving sound sources.

The Leslie was originally designed to mimic the complex tones and constantly shifting sources of sound emanating from a large group of ranks in a pipe organ. The effect varies depending on the speed of the rotors, which can be toggled between fast (tremolo) and slow (chorale) using a console or pedal switch, with the most distinctive effect occurring as the speaker rotation speed changes. The most popular Leslies were the 122, which accepted a balanced signal suitable for console organs, and the 147, which accepted an unbalanced signal and could be used for spinet organs with a suitable adapter.

Leslie initially tried to sell his invention to Hammond, but Laurens Hammond was unimpressed and declined to purchase it. Hammond modified their interface connectors to be "Leslie-proof", but Leslie quickly engineered a workaround. The Leslie company was sold to CBS in 1965 and finally bought by Hammond in 1980. Hammond-Suzuki acquired the rights to Leslie in 1992; the company currently markets a variety of speakers under this name.

Skate of the Week Land Roller: New to museum



*Following information from LandRoller.com

Better Maneuverability

Skaters can navigate with more control. Once you master the subtle technique differences between inline and Land Rollers, you will find that you can turn sharper, quicker, and with greater ease.

Greater Stability

Over cracks, rough surfaces and other roadway obstacles: LandRoller skates were worn by Steve Coogan while he was skating over cobblestone in the Jackie Chan movie, "Around the World in 80 Days." All skaters can benefit from the superior stability of LandRollers.

Smooth Ride

The large wheels provide an incredibly smooth ride – increasing the pleasure and comfort of skating. In turn, this reduction in chatter or vibration reduces fatigue allowing the skater to ride for longer and in more comfort.

Responsive Braking

Braking on LandRoller skates is more effective than with inline because the geometry of the two-wheel design makes it easier to apply force to the heel brake.

Radical Styling

LandRollers are a social phenomenon. They are amazing attention grabbers and conversation starters. Prepare to be noticed while skating! For years, skate companies have tried to capitalize on these advantages by putting larger wheels on skates to improve versatility and achieve a smoother glide.

Only with LandRoller's patented Angled Wheel Technology™ can large wheels be mounted on a skate while maintaining a low profile and a short wheelbase. Skating dynamics are maintained while delivering all of the advantages of large diameter wheels. These advantages include decreased vibration, smoother ride and increased glide time.

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.

International Stickers



Thanks for supporting the museum!

