

Historical Roller Skating OVERVIEW

National Museum of Roller Skating
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Issue No. 41



Sydney, Australia, Skating Club in the 1880s.

CURATOR'S CORNER

Greetings from the museum!

As I write this, the 58th U.S. Artistic & Indoor Speed Championships are getting underway in Lincoln's Pershing Auditorium. The museum has already brought in a host of visitors and I'm looking forward to the many more who will be stopping by in the next two weeks. Congratulations to all of the winners and participants at nationals!

In tribute to the athletes who have taken part in this annual celebration of the best of roller skating, I am including two full pages of results from the 1944 National Championships held in Detroit, originally published in the June 1944 issue of *Skating Review*. Fifty years ago a number of individuals made their mark in roller skating history. How many of these names do you recognize?

In the future I plan on continuing to run articles originally published in magazines such as *Skating News* and *Skate* to give us all a chance to appreciate the more recent history of roller skating. It will also provide an opportunity to appreciate the contributions of individuals who are still around to be appreciated.

Recently I came across a book in the archives published in 1915 in Australia entitled, *The Australian Handbook on Roller and Ice Skating*. This "Overview" features some of the interesting tidbits from that book along with a few other items in the collection from Australia.

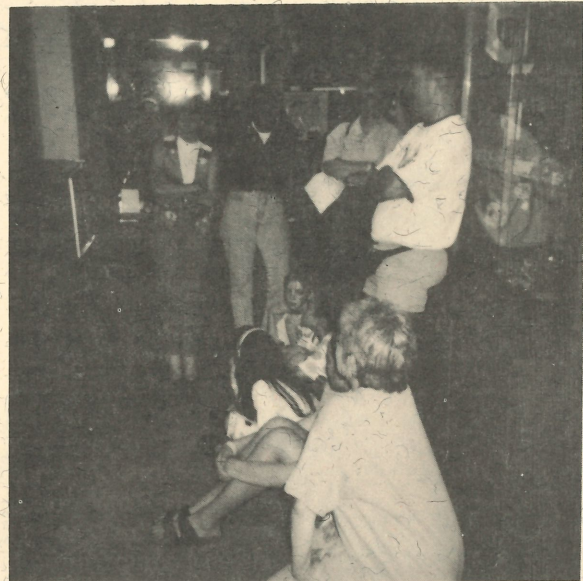
Enjoy the rest of summer!

Scott Wilhite
Director & Curator

DID YOU KNOW?

In 1907 and 1908 the Bondi Roller Skating Football Team from New South Wales, Australia, was undefeated. One of the team members, a Mr. Charles Terry, was noted for his exceptional drop-kicking and dodging skills.

The fastest time for a mile in Australia is 2 minutes 45 seconds, done by W. Griffen, in July, 1889.



Visitors of the National Museum of Roller Skating enjoying viewing old video footage of past competitions.

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Historical Roller Skating Overview is the newsletter of the National Museum of Roller Skating. It is available only through honorary membership in the museum. Minimum annual contribution is \$15.00. All inquiries, comments should be sent to the Museum Director, 4730 South St., P.O. Box 6579, Lincoln, NE 68506.

ROLLER SKATING DOWN UNDER IN 1915

From the Australian Handbook on Roller and Ice Skating. Written by A. Smith and published in 1915.

Roller Skating was all the rage throughout Australia some twenty odd years ago. Nearly every suburb and country town had its small rink. In most cases dancing and music halls were turned into rinks, Roller Skating quite taking the place of dancing. Of course the floors were not of the best, the same may be said of the skates, although at the present time, with few exceptions, strange to say neither of these two most important items have made much headway towards improvement as far as this State is concerned, and it is a wonder that Roller Skating under the circumstances, has run as long as it has. It is more than 40 years ago since first Roller Skating was introduced into Australia; that was at the School of Arts, in Pitt-street, Sydney, during the Governorship of Sir Hercules Robinson, in the year 1872. I am informed, however, that there was Roller Skating at "Saywell's," Lady Robinson Beach, as far back as the early sixties.

But it never was very popular in those days owing to a great extent to the inability to master the real art of Roller Skating. It was not until the famous American Rink Proprietor and Manager, Mr. K. A. Skinner, arrived that Roller Skating became so popular. His first venture was the opening of "The Elite" Rink, situated in Elizabeth Street, Redfern. Under his tactful management, combined with a perfect floor, and good skates, Roller Skating was firmly established. Many representatives of the most prominent families throughout Australia now enjoy the sport, thus giving it dignity and standing. The support from the better element, combined with tactful management, gives little doubt of the future continued success of Roller Skating.

The "Imperator," the new giant steamer of the Hamburg -- America's new fleet - greater than the "Titanic" -- has two roller skating rinks on board. The "Imperator" is 50,000 tons, and 900 feet in length (50 feet longer than the "Titanic"). She has 11 decks and besides the skating rinks, there are swimming baths and tennis courts. This vessel can accommodate 5,000 persons.

Professor F. A. Wyman was at one time the Champion Trick Skater of the world; in August, 1889, he skated around the Sydney Exhibition Rink on his head.

Mr. J. Lewis, of the Royal Roller Rink, is the Champion Chair and High Jumper on Roller Skates in Australia. His feat includes the jumping of 14 chairs and three hurdles at one time, the hurdles being 3 ft. 9 in. high. In negotiating the last hurdle Lewis turns in the air, landing on the backward roll - a very fine performance!

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To Rink Proprietors and Managers.

I am the Town Buyer and Representative of all the leading country Rinks in New South Wales and Queensland.

RINKS EQUIPPED THROUGHOUT.

Skating Floors which are worn out made perfect at a small cost.

Admission, Skates, and Floorage Tickets — any price marked thereon you desire.

Skates, any Quantity and any Make, Steel or Fibre Wheels, from 7/6 per pair, Ladies or Gentlemen's. Also Skate parts.

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I will purchase your skates and tell you how to open and conduct a Roller Skating Rink.

ADDRESS:

A. SMITH, Manager,
Vice-Regal Rink, Rushcutter's Bay, Sydney

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Official Results RSROA 1944 National

JUNIOR GIRL'S FIGURE SKATING

1st—Patricia Carroll, New York, N. Y.
(Winner of the Cleveland Skating Club Challenge Trophy)

2nd—Nancy Lee Parker, Detroit, Mich. 3rd—Eileen McDonnell, New York, N. Y. 4th—Kunnie Williams, Detroit, Mich. 5th—Francine Morgan, Seattle, Wash. 6th—Carol Smola, New York, N. Y. 7th—Mary Lou Orr, Washington, D. C. 8th—Virginia Werner, Newark, N. J. 9th—Julia Boone, Ventnor, N. J. 10th—Bettie Jennings, Seattle, Wash. 11th—Lorraine Mazzucca, Chicago, Ill. 12th—Fay Johnson, Boston, Mass. 13th—Jo Ann McLaughlin, Washington, D. C. 14th—Audrey Rogers, Seattle, Washington. 15th—Ruth James, Pittsburgh, Pa. 16th—Darlene Downing, Salt Lake City, Utah. 17th—Alice Duffy, Washington, D. C. 18th—Mary Jane Massey, Springfield, Mo. 19th—Georgia Mason, St. Louis, Mo. 20th—Mary Markley, Detroit, Mich. 21st—Carol Vollero, Pittsburgh, Pa. 22nd—Maureen Hulse, Hartford, Conn. 23rd—Zella Archibald, Ogden, Utah.

NOVICE LADIES' FIGURE SKATING

1st—Marian Fortunato, Cincinnati, Ohio.
(Winner of the Cleveland Skating Club Challenge Trophy)

2nd—Dolores Molla, Detroit, Michigan. 3rd—Marilyn Haney, Dayton, Ohio. 4th—Dolores Miller, Cincinnati, Ohio. 5th—Ruth Hengelbrok, Fort Thomas, Kentucky. 6th—Margaret Wallace, Brooklyn, N. Y. 7th—Ellen Fronrath, Detroit, Michigan. 8th—Lorraine Burdick, New York, N. Y. 9th—Joanne Grabhorn, Indianapolis, Indiana. 10th—Dolores Mitchell, Pittsburgh, Pa. 11th—Frances Manning, Oakland, California. 12th—Marie Otter, Oakland, California. 13th—Caroline Werner, Newark, N. J. 14th—Caroline Buchanan, Chicago, Illinois. 15th—Shirley Moulding, Ogden, Utah. 16th—Jackie Miller, Washington, D. C. 17th—Dorothy Glinkenkamp, New York, N. Y. 18th—Ruth Crouse, Philadelphia, Pa. 19th—Ruth Lang, Salt Lake City, Utah. 20th—Geraldine Specht, Pittsburgh, Pa. 21st—Marion Windedal, Boston, Mass. 22nd—Helen Boydston, Lincoln, Nebraska. 23rd—Marie Steinmeyer, St. Louis, Missouri. 24th—Jeanne Pritchard, Portland, Oregon. 25th—Margaret Schmidt, St. Louis, Missouri. 26th—Clara Duke, Washington, D. C. 27th—Muriel Stewart, Springfield, Missouri. 28th—Evelyn Verespy, New Haven, Connecticut. 29th—Irene Crawford, Paterson, N. J. 30th—Josephine Fiducia, Hartford, Connecticut. 31st—Eugenie Abramson, Washington, D. C.

SENIOR LADIES' FIGURE SKATING

1st—Dorothy Law, Detroit, Mich.
(Winner of the M. H. Hinchcliffe Challenge Trophy)

2nd—Margaret Williams, Detroit, Mich. 3rd—Shirley Snyder, Dayton, Ohio. 4th—Louise Moore, Detroit, Mich. 5th—Carol Bodden, Brooklyn, N. Y. 6th—Lois Steiner, Pittsburgh, Pa. 7th—Betty Jane Yarrington, Chicago, Ill. 8th—Julia Woolley, Salt Lake City, Utah. 9th—Helen Sokolowski, Brooklyn, N. Y. 10th—June Hutchinson, Washington, D. C. 11th—Phyllis McQuin, Boston, Mass. 12th—Katherine Adams, Dayton, Ohio.

JUNIOR SKATE DANCING

1st—Patsy Fifield and Edwin Hodder, Medford, Mass.

(Winners of the Fred H. Freeman Challenge Trophy)

2nd—Joan LaBriola and Robert LaBriola, Brooklyn, N. Y. 3rd—Lorraine Mazzucca and Ted Rosdahl, Chicago, Illinois. 4th—Patricia Shively and Johnny Williams, Columbus, Ohio. 5th—Mary Jane Massey and Paul Best, Springfield, Missouri. 6th—Bettie Jennings and Clifford Schattanker, Seattle, Washington. 7th—Elsie Magill and Andrew Peet, Newark, New Jersey. 8th—Sally McClung and Stanley Cartwright, Indianapolis, Ind. 9th—Margaret Lynch and Martin White, Brooklyn, N. Y. 10th—Ruth Schulte and John Haddad, Paterson, N. J. 11th—Beverly Zdan and Donald Workman, Omaha, Nebraska. 12th—Carol Sue



President William Brown and Fred Martin presenting the Milton H. Hinchcliffe Trophy to 1944 RSROA National Senior Lady Champion, Dorothy Law of Detroit.

Massey and Carl Denny, Springfield, Missouri. 13th—Barbara Thayer and Thomas Adinolfi, Brooklyn, N. Y. 14th—Claire Landry and Richard Stewart, Springfield, Mass. 15th—Kay Cleland and Boyd Clark, Portland, Oregon. 16th—Barbara Shively and Roger Fuerst, Dayton, Ohio. 17th—Martha Latta and Buddy Karnes, Indianapolis, Ind. 18th—Phyllis Copeland and Alan Robertson, Indianapolis, Ind. 19th—Ella Hopman and Kenneth Geer, Philadelphia, Pa.

NOVICE MEN'S FIGURE SKATING

1st—Douglas Breniser, Detroit, Michigan.
(Winner of the R. L. Hudson Challenge Trophy)

2nd—Thomas Lane, Brooklyn, N. Y. 3rd—Walter Tynan, Indianapolis, Indiana. 4th—Norman Latin, New York, N. Y. 5th—J. W. Norcross, Jr., Greeley, Colorado. 6th—Earl King, Brooklyn, N. Y. 7th—Bob Allar, Cleveland, Ohio. 8th—Robert Cmok, Cleveland, Ohio. 9th—Leonard Baggaley, Paterson, N. J. 10th—Bob Beaudoin, Tacoma, Washington. 11th—Frank Hodgson, Salt Lake City, Utah. 12th—James Alex, Dayton, Ohio. 13th—Charles Little, Pittsburgh, Pa. 14th—Ronald Boydston, Lincoln, Nebraska. 15th—Homer McMahon, Washington, D. C. 16th—Robert Chase, Boston, Mass. 17th—Donald Daily, Philadelphia, Pa. 18th—George Scwczyn, Newark, N. J. 19th—Clayton Briggs, Oakland, California. 20th—Irwin Meehan, Springfield, Mass. 21st—Ned Norworth, Springfield, Mass. 22nd—Douglas McClain, Lincoln, Nebraska. 23rd—Chas. Dancy, Chicago, Illinois. 24th—Walter

Eggert, Chester, Penna. 25th—Ellis Brown, Indianapolis, Ind. 26th—Robert Gormley, Maywood, Illinois. 27th—Jack Mayes, Maywood, Illinois. 28th—Cletus Siebert, St. Louis, Missouri. 29th—Edward Dutko, Newark, N. J. 30th—William Maxwell, New Haven, Connecticut. 31st—Raymond Schmidt, Hartford, Connecticut. 32nd—Willard Losinger, Detroit, Michigan. 33rd—Robert Greene, Portland, Oregon. 34th—Robert Mickelson, Portland, Oregon. 35th—Robert Gay, Salt Lake City, Utah. 36th—Robert Malec, Washington, D. C.

SENIOR MEN'S FIGURE SKATING

1st—Arthur Russell, Oakland, California.
(Winner of the Fred A. Martin Challenge Trophy)

2nd—Wm. Van Wagner, New York, N. Y. 3rd—Howard Sheldon, Newark, N. J. 4th—Elbert Patten, Oakland, Cal. 5th—Edwin Campbell, Newark, N. J. 6th—James Noyes, Dayton, Ohio. 7th—Ralph Vawters, Washington, D. C. 8th—Dominic DeCicco, Chicago, Ill.

JUNIOR BOY'S FIGURE SKATING

1st—Ted Rosdahl, Chicago, Ill.
(Winner of the Joseph P. Seifert Challenge Trophy)

2nd—Johnny Williams, Columbus, Ohio. 3rd—Jack Agnew, Pittsburgh, Pa. 4th—Glen Gangwer, Dayton, Ohio. 5th—Wm. Sutterlin, New York, N. Y. 6th—John Haddad, Paterson, N. J. 7th—Ted Shufflebarger, Salt Lake City, Utah. 8th—Gilbert White, Newark, N. J. 9th—Eugene Slattery, New York, N. Y. 10th—Sherwood Presho, Seattle, Washington.

Championship in Detroit



President William Brown presenting the Fred A. Martin Trophy to 1944 RSROA National Senior Man Champion, Arthur Russell of Oakland.

NOVICE SKATE DANCING

1st—Dolores Devlin and Robert Bartlett, Columbus, Ohio.

(Winners of the Alfred B. Dexter Challenge Trophy)

2nd—Claire Dion and Loring Brinton, Medford, Mass. 3rd—La Moine Karst and Otto Lund, Columbus, Ohio. 4th—Dolores Mitchell and Ralph Bevilacqua, Pittsburgh, Pa. 5th—Betty French and Gabriel Signore, Pittsburgh, Pa. 6th—Nola Hrenchir and Benjamin Muse, Washington, D. C. 7th—Dorothy Tamaccio and Gene Bostock, Seattle, Washington. 8th—Marjorie Shute—Jack Foster, Indianapolis, Indiana. 9th—Ella Rumper and Francis Russell, Newark, N. J. 10th—Helen Grantier and Lee Buchanan, Seattle, Washington. 11th—Dolores Rade and Bernard Vogel, St. Louis, Missouri. 12th—Eleanor Donovan and Willard Donovan, Dayton, Ohio. 13th—Gloria Claessen and Charles Keicher, New York, N. Y. 14th—Annetta Clark and Clarence Herbert, Indianapolis, Indiana. 15th—Joanne Bowles and Nickie Nolte, Richmond, Virginia. 16th—Marguerite Arienta and Harold Hermann, Paterson, N. J. 17th—Norma Jean Butts and Charles Ellis, Indianapolis, Indiana. 18th—Phyllis Danner and Warren Danner, Baltimore, Maryland. 19th—Evelyn Verespy and George Miller, New Haven, Connecticut. 20th—Betty Lou Barra and Richard Houser, St. Louis, Missouri. 21st—Dolly Kunz and Robert Gardner, Boston, Mass. 22nd—Virginia Andrews and Robert McLean, Detroit, Michigan. 23rd—Marlene Horn and Clifford Check, Berwyn, Illinois. 24th—Shirley Warner and Hugo Puglisi, New

Haven, Connecticut. 25th—Ardis Fox and Eugene Gray, Omaha, Nebraska. 26th—Joy Brush and Duane Cunningham, Albany, N. Y. 27th—Beatrice Michaels and John Van Den Heurk, Washington, D. C. 28th—Betty Guenther and Robert Johnston, St. Louis, Missouri. 29th—Bertha Banek and Kenneth Davis, Greeley, Colorado. 30th—Dorothy Law and Patrick Hogan, Detroit, Michigan. 31st—Helen Boydston and James Gleason, Lincoln, Nebraska. 32nd—Vera Ashworth and Matthew Soloman, Chicago, Illinois. 33rd—Audrey Fox and Patrick Rooney, Omaha, Nebraska. 34th—Dolores Curry and Bryant Clarke, Richmond, Virginia. 35th—Genevieve Berg and Emery Webb, Portland, Oregon. 36th—Dorothy Williams and John De Lawter, Washington, D. C. 37th—Shirley Leppo and Edward Heine, Baltimore, Maryland. 38th—Helen Tierney and Lawrence Wood, Detroit, Michigan. 39th—Julia Noble and William Gregory, Richmond, Virginia. 40th—Alice Binn and Robert Comella, Portland, Oregon. 41st—Shirley Newell and William Whitcomb, Portland, Oregon. 42nd—Betty Altop and William Gatherum, Salt Lake City, Utah.

SENIOR SKATE DANCING

1st—Ruth Crouse and James Costigan, Philadelphia, Pa.

(Winners of the Perry B. Rawson Challenge Trophy)

2nd—Gloria Kirsh and Charles Sprague, Elmont, N. Y. 3rd—Louise Moore and Douglas Breniser, Detroit, Mich. 4th—Helen Sokolowski

and Michael Paznik, Brooklyn, N. Y. 5th—Betty MacGraham and George Dearborn, Medford, Mass. 6th—Ada McCann and Leslie McQueen, Detroit, Michigan. 7th—Edna Haber Davis and Leo Lawhead, Washington, D. C. 8th—Katherine Adams and Thomas Brandt, Dayton, Ohio. 9th—Violet Farina and Edward May, New York, N. Y. 10th—Julia Brunk and John Prendergast, Detroit, Michigan. 11th—Rachel Gomes and Ray Sparks, Cincinnati, Ohio. 12th—Martha Cruea and James Noyes, Dayton, Ohio. 13th—Rose Sheldon and Howard Sheldon, Newark, N. J. 14th—Francine Morgan and Roy Brown, Seattle, Washington. 15th—Marie Otter and Elbert Patten, Oakland, Cal. 16th—Audrey Curran and Wm. Madsen, Denver, Colo. 17th—Beatrice Shirey and Walter Eggert, Chester, Pa. 18th—Ann Lawrence and Richard Rosenberg, Newark, N. J. 19th—Nancy Ralston and Robert Carter, Denver, Colo. 20th—Joanne Grabhorn and Joseph Coleman, Indianapolis, Ind. 21st—Betty Eckart and Ralph Vawters, Washington, D. C. 22nd—Mary Keating and Stanley Morgan, Boston, Mass. 23rd—Donalee White and Ellis Brown, Indianapolis, Ind. 24th—Dorothy Shores and Sam Tiessen, Seattle, Washington. 25th—Paula Holmes and James Hines, Ogden, Utah.

JUNIOR PAIR SKATING

1st—Ruth Schulte and John Haddad, Paterson, N. J.

(Winners of the Violet L. Kelly Challenge Trophy)

2nd—Audrey Rogers and Sherwood Presho, Seattle, Washington. 3rd—Claire Landry and Richard Stewart, Springfield, Mass.

NOVICE PAIR SKATING

1st—Patricia Carrol and Norman Latin, New York, N. Y.

(Winners of the Lois Reynolds Challenge Trophy)

2nd—Cynthia Ranlett and Irwin Meehan, Springfield, Mass. 3rd—Dorothy Law and Pat Hogan, Detroit, Mich. 4th—Ada McCann and Leslie McQueen, Detroit, Mich. 5th—Dorothy Glinkenkamp and George Metz, New York, N. Y. 6th—Beatrice Shirey and Walter Eggert, Chester, Pa. 7th—Evelyn Bidermann and George Joseph, New York, N. Y. 8th—Shirley Moulding and Robert Shewell, Ogden, Utah. 9th—Marie Otter and Elbert Patten, Oakland, Cal. 10th—Lois Steiner and Charles Little, Pittsburgh, Pa. 11th—Dorothy Walls and Walter Tynan, Indianapolis, Ind. 12th—Gretna Thomas and Norman Miller, Indianapolis, Ind. 13th—Ruth Lange and Frank Hodgson, Salt Lake City. 14th—LaVerne McWeeny and Robert Hayduk, Cleveland, Ohio. 15th—Ann Disbennett and Bob Allar, Cleveland, Ohio. 16th—Marion Haynes and Eugene Lohrey, Cleveland, Ohio. 17th—Irene Crawford and Jacob DenBlyker, Paterson, N. J. 18th—Paula Holmes and Jas. Hines, Ogden, Utah.

SENIOR PAIR SKATING

1st—Carol Bodden and Thomas Lane, Brooklyn, N. Y.

(Winners of the Victor J. Brown Challenge Trophy)

2nd—Marie Reed and Clarence Rader, Cleveland, Ohio. 3rd—Margaret Williams and Wm. Martin, Detroit. 4th—Doris Geberth and Eugene Borges, New York, N. Y. 5th—Emma Nutile and Leonard Baggaley, Paterson, N. J.

FOURS

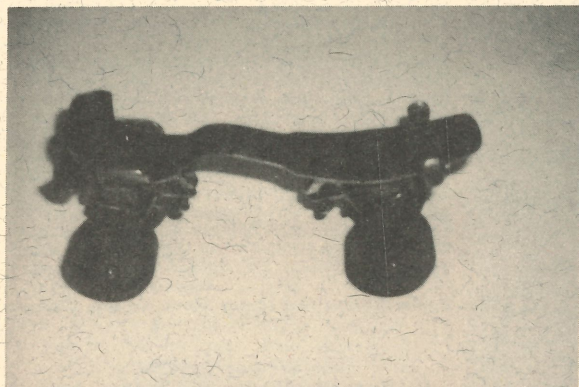
1st—Carol Bodden, Frank Gallagher, Thomas Lane and Helen Sokolowski, Brooklyn, N. Y.

(Winners of the Cleveland Skating Club Challenge Trophy)

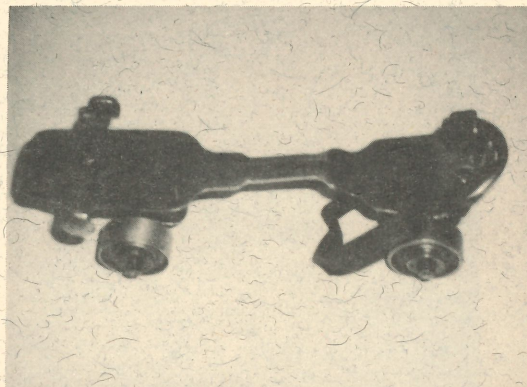
2nd—Evelyn Biderman, Dorothy Glinkenkamp, George Joseph and George Metz, New York, N. Y. 3rd—Patricia Carrol, Norman Latin, Carol Smola and Wm. Van Wagner, New York, N. Y. 4th—Frank Hodgson, Ruth Lange, Dean Meacham and Beverly Meakin, Salt Lake City, Utah. 5th—Jas. Hines, Paula Holmes, Shirley Moulding and Robt. Shewell, Ogden, Utah.

MUSEUM NOTES

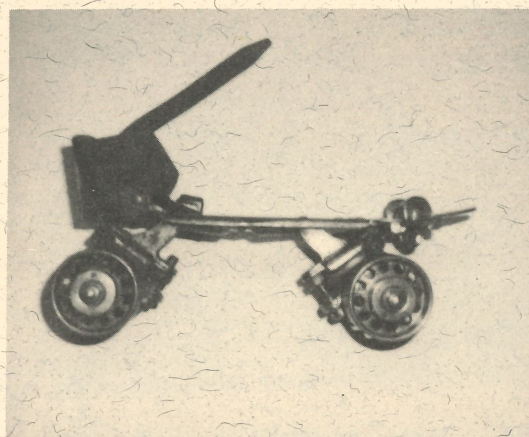
B. Rees Jones donated a number of old skates including several from the late 1800s such as a Union Hardware, Winslow, Henley, and Richardson. All the skates pictured below were donated by B. Rees Jones.



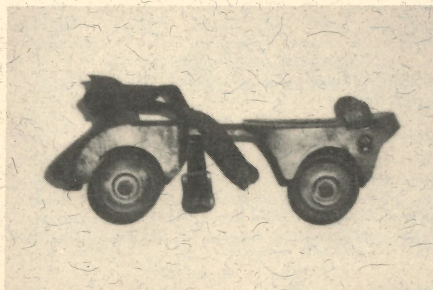
A Henley from the 1880s.



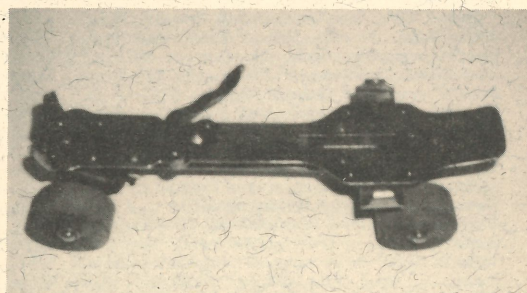
A Richardson skate with aluminum wheels.



A Winslow roller skate.



An unusual skate with a metal skirt.



A Union Hardware skate with an unusual clamping mechanism.

Other donations were made by Marguerite Grein, Catherine Jacobson, Marguerite Levenson, Fern Arant, Hilda Wisneski, Jenner & Dolores Vincent, and Brian McKee.

Rose Martin made donations in memory of Ray Barger and Ellen Fronrath Chiavarini Dittmer.

PATRON MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Remember that the Patron Memorial Plaque still has spaces available for individuals who have made contributions to roller skating history. This could include everyone from rink owners to athletes. A one-time fee of \$250 will place a person's name on the memorial which is permanently displayed at the National Museum of Roller Skating. For details contact the director.

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Be a Part of History

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Contributors of \$15 or more become Honorary Members of the Museum and receive a Museum membership pin, official identification card, the newsletter, and free admission whenever they visit the Museum.

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