



Rolling Through Time

By James Vannurden

Director and Curator

Official Newsletter of:

National Museum of Roller Skating

4730 South Street, Lincoln, NE 68506

(402) 483-7551 ex. 16

 @rollersk8museum

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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

Museum Raffle

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ROLLER SKATING
2015 RAFFLE

Please print or type
Purchaser _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone # (____) _____
Email _____
Ticket Seller _____

Ticket Number B-001

PRESERVING OUR PAST FOR THE FUTURE
Price \$50. Three prizes will be awarded based on total amount sold.
First ticket drawn receives 5% of total ticket sales.
Second ticket drawn receives 10% of total ticket sales.
The third and final ticket drawn receives 35% of the total sales.
Total prizes are 50% of ticket sales.



Drawing to take place, Wednesday, May 13, 2015,
at the RSA International Convention, South Point
Hotel, Casino & Spa, Las Vegas, Nevada during the
President's Dinner.
Ticket holders need not be present to win. All
proceeds benefit the museum.

The National Museum of Roller Skating is a publicly supported,
charitable organization.

It's that time again! Every year the museum hosts a raffle as the prime fundraiser for the year. This year, as a sales incentive, the raffle will be conducted on a 50/50 split of the proceeds. Three winners will be drawn at random and awarded a split of the total sales. The third place winner receives 5% of the total sales, second place receives 10%, and the grand prize winner receives 35%. **The grand prize winner should easily receive north of \$5,000.**

As usual, the raffle will be held during the Roller Skating Association's annual Convention and Trade Show. The drawing takes place on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 in Las Vegas, NV at the RSA President's Dinner.

YOU NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN CASH PRIZES

The museum will send you an acknowledgement of your purchase and your ticket stub(s).

Receiving no city, state or federal funding to sustain operating costs, the real challenge always facing the museum is how it may sustain the valued exhibits and historic archives.

To request your ticket, fill out the lines below and send payment to the museum at
4730 South St., Lincoln, NE 68506
with your payment of \$50 per ticket

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

We are reaching out to members of the roller skating community. It is important to everyone in our industry that the history of our great sport be preserved and showcased for the next generation. With everyone's help the National Museum of Roller Skating can continue as the only roller skating museum in the world.

Please consider purchasing a raffle ticket. The grand prize winner could be you. Thank you for your consideration.

New and Renewing Members

LR Brown
Katie Znamenacek
Cort Wahlig
William Schneider
Gloria Manning

Featured Story The First Roller Hockey National Championships



The RSROA American Roller Hockey Championships were held at the 1961 American Amateur Roller Skating Championships in Ft Worth, TX. Two teams from each RSROA region won their eligibility from a previous playoff in their respective region.

In the March 1985 issue of the museum newsletter, curator Michael Brooslin highlighted the introduction of roller hockey into the amateur roller skating championships. Below is his writing:

Shortly after the formation of the RSROA, a draft set of roller hockey rules were published in 1940 to stimulate the growth of the sport. However, it was not until the late 1950s that roller hockey (both ball and puck) competition became serious.

In 1959, the RSROA authorized the formation of the American Roller Hockey Association, with Joe Spillman of San Antonio, Texas as commissioner. Unlike today, the hockey registration cards could be used by both amateurs and professionals, as the new hockey program was not governed by USFARS amateur rules.

1960 marked the debut of roller hockey at the National Championships, with several teams performing exhibition matches. It was the following year that saw rink hockey come of age at the first United States National Championships.



1961 Rolling Ghosts of Lubbock, TX

At the 1961 National Championships, roller hockey got off to a thrilling start with the Rolling Ghosts of Lubbock, Texas, defeating the Capitol Comets of Austin, TX, 4-3 in overtime during the final match. The championship game was held during the opening night of the nationals.

The two Texas teams had survived the elimination games held during the day, and earned the right to compete for the first U.S. National Title. The Comets jumped off to a 3-0 lead in the first half off of the two goals by Robert Gay and a single tally by Eddie Tieman. Johnny "Preacher" Black, Dickey Sisson, and Lyndol Hall each scored one goal for the Rolling Ghosts in the second half to knot the score at 3-3, and force the game into a sudden-death overtime. A few minutes into the overtime period, Dickey Sisson put the ball into the net, giving the Lubbock team the first of many National titles.

The original members of this remarkable team were Henry Black, JG Black, USARS Hall of Famer Johnny "Preacher" Black, Dickey Sisson, Bill Sisson, Edwin Sisson, and Lyndol Hall.

Along with the Ghosts and the second place Comets, the Franklin Challengers (Franklin, California), the VFW Rebels (Tampa, Florida), and the Longview Rol-O-Way Hockey Club (Longview, Washington), thrilled the crowds and made the first National Ball Hockey Championships a success.



In the above photo, roller hockey commissioner Joe Spillman congratulated members of the Rolling Ghosts team of Lubbock. Team members shown are Henry Black, JG Black, Johnny Black, and Dickey Sisson.

Many items of roller hockey's past remain protected and displayed by the museum. Brothers Dickey and Bill Sisson contributed greatly to our 1960s roller hockey collection. Awards and equipment in our collection such as this 1966 United States World Team uniform below worn by Bill colorize this great era in roller hockey.



Happy President's Day Skating in the White House

Over the years, many presidents have endorsed the activity of roller skating. It was a way to have fun as well as exercise. There were four specific presidents who allowed their children to roller skate INSIDE the White House. These presidents included: James Garfield, Theodore Roosevelt, Gerald Ford, and Jimmy Carter. The East Room housed the main roller skating activity.



East Room, 1904

The East Room became a popular place to skate for the Roosevelt children, especially little Ethel. The tall windows and chandeliers illuminated the room for great skating conditions. The children were even known to bicycle and walk on stilts across the room.

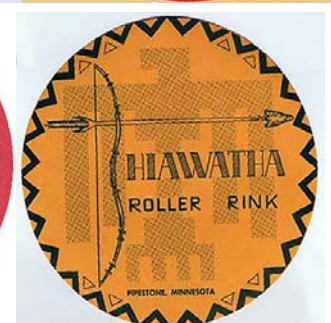
Susan Ford and friend Kimberly Nardi once roller-skated through the Oval Office while President Ford met with Henry Kissinger.

During the Carter Administration, daughter Amy used this room to practice her roller skating as well. The marks she made while skating remained unfixed until some thirty years later.



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
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RC Sports	Lenexa	KS
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