



Museum Newsletter

By James Vannurden
Director and Curator

National Museum of Roller Skating
4730 South Street, Lincoln, NE 68506
(402)483-7551 ex. 16
www.rollerskatingmuseum.com

Bi-Monthly
March 1, 2013

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

Visitation

As happens every year guest visitation plummets during the winter months. Maybe people associate roller skating as an outdoor activity done in the summertime and forget about it. Possibly just traveling at all during the winter deflates spirits.

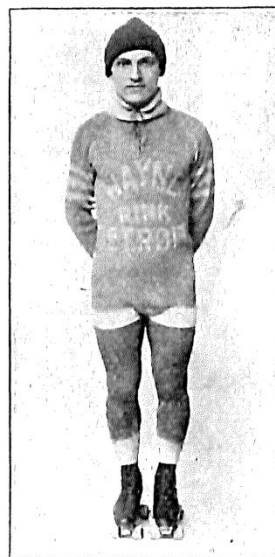
Now with the month of February behind us, visitation numbers should once again increase. To begin this upward spike, the museum recently hosted a group of students on a field trip from an elementary school. These 15+ kids, in addition to shaperones, stayed for a lengthy tour, asked many questions, and conducted their own scavenger hunt.

Donation



This photo depicts the USARSA State Meet at the Arts Roller Rink in Harvey, IL in May of 1960. The competitors Greg Landis and Judy Andreeff skated in the juvenile dance event. Also pictured is former USARSA president George Apdale. This photograph was donated by Judy (Andreeff) Fox recently.

Skater Profile: George Reithmiller Amateur Speed Skater



Having learned to roller skate at the Wayne Rink in Detroit, MI in 1908, George Reithmiller went on to become a champion amateur skater in the area.

Reithmiller traveled the state, entering many racing contests and winning many prizes between 1908 and 1911. By 1912 Reithmiller defeated the best skaters in Detroit, winning the opportunity to represent the city in the World's Amateur Championship, hosted by the Riverview rink in Milwaukee, WI. From March 25 until March 31 Reithmiller skated against the best in the country and placed 6th out of the field of 24 stars.

Although he had much success at the amateur level, Reithmiller liked his job and never turned professional.

Renewing/New Members
Gail Rushing

Featured Photo

Roller Skating Roundabout



Skating in circles while holding on to ropes, these skaters try a new fad in roller skating: the roundabout. The photograph dates to 1909.

Roller Skating Firsts

- First person to “skate around the world” was William Fuller, who accomplished this feat from 1865 through 1870.
- First appearance of roller skating in Australia occurred in 1860 during a tour by Ms. Nellie Jackson

Advertisement

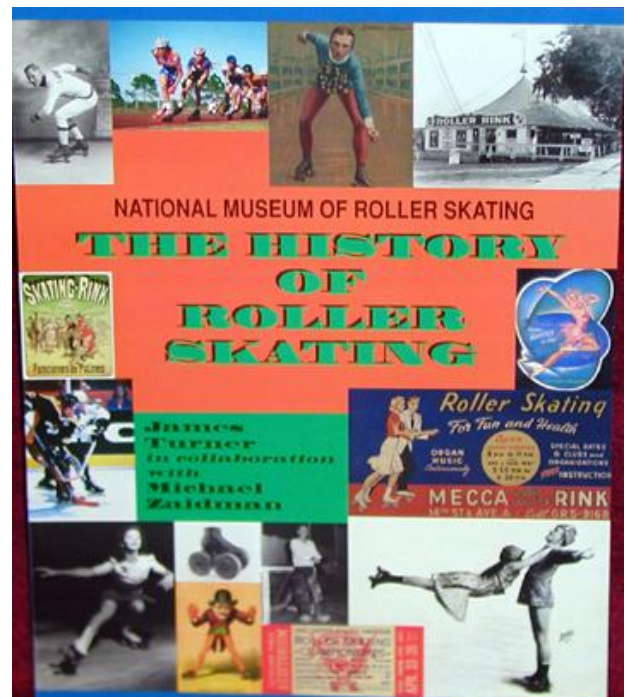
Richardson's Novelty Playing Cards.



Illustrating six of the most prominent Fancy Roller Skaters in America, including:
MISS ADELAIDE D'VORAK, EARL BEEMAN, CLAUDE ANDERSON
CHARLES L. FRANKS, REXO and HECTOR SYLVIA
Fine Quality Linen Finish
Price per pack prepaid 25c Special Price on quantity orders,
Richardson Ball-Bearing Skate Co.
154-160 E. ERIE ST. CHICAGO, ILL.

Library Feature

The History of Roller Skating



This book tells the full story of roller skating, from inception to present day. Written by a founding member of the museum James Turner, *The History of Roller Skating* explains all aspects of skating, from types of competitions to the skates themselves.

Each chapter explores a major area in skating. The book begins with early skating, its pioneers, and the early skates themselves. It then moves onto increased participation in the sport after 1863 and skating organizations. Disciplines of skating are described at length, in addition to schools, skating shows, costumes, and music. More than 150 photos help capture these ideas. For an all encompassing look at the industry of roller skating, this is the book for you! It is available for purchase at the museum store for \$15 plus shipping.

Rink Photo:

Lyceum Skating Rink, Uniontown, PA



Skate of the Week Ritter Road Skate



Produced by the Road Skate Company of London circa 1890, this Ritter Road Skate promises ankle support to those skaters with problems balancing properly.

An advertisement suggests: "our skates are fitted with an automatic brake which enables one to skate up hill, and let splints which entirely take all strain off of the ankles."

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.

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.) **Roller Derby Items:** We are looking to enhance our roller derby collection. Our main focus is to improve our assortment of original derby uniforms. Both older and modern, the museum needs game used jerseys with official team logos. Both male and female please consider. We would also like a referee uniform, provided a derby name is stitched on the back.

Besides uniforms, we are also accepting most any derby items. We hope to collect a logo from each competing team, whether through patches, stickers, buttons, or other items. Please contact the museum with any donation questions. Thanks in advance.

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.



Thanks for supporting the museum!



★ **ROLLER SKATING** ★
Rink Operators Association of the United States
National Council of Roller Skating Clubs

Greetings:

This is to certify that

THE SILVER ROLLER CLUB

COLTSEED RINK

of WASHINGTON

in the State of

D. C.

is a member of this Association for the year ending JANUARY 1, 1942.

"A co-operative association comprised of Roller Skating Rink Operators, Managers and Roller Skating Clubs, to protect and govern all Amateur and Professional competition in Speed, Figure and Fancy Roller Skating, Skate Dancing and Roller Hockey in the United States of America."

UNITED

Fee paid \$ 5.00

Number C - 576

In Witness Whereof we hereunto set our hand and seal
this 21st day of December, 1940, A. D.,

at the National Office, 5795 Woodward Avenue,
Detroit, Michigan, U. S. A.

Fred H. Freeman

President

Lud A. Martin

Secretary and Treasurer



RSROA club certificate for 1941 skating season.