



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, 2012

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 40 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

Sign Meeting

On February 16, I met with the Historic Preservation Commission. Here the museum presented its idea for a sign design to be located outside of the building. If anyone forgot the proposed sign, here it is again:



After viewing the image, the commission unanimously voted to accept our design.

Secondly, the commission granted our request to remove a tree in order to put the sign in a prominent place. The tree annually loses large branches that land very close to the building and would eventually hit it. As a compromise, the museum and USARS volunteered to plant two trees to counteract the removal of one. This was greatly appreciated by the commission.

Production on the sign can then begin once our city site plan is changed to showcase our new sign location. Much work has gone into this project. Originally chosen for a sign grant in the summer of 2011, our goal is to have the sign up and functional by the end of spring 2012.

Skater Profile: William Carpenter Scientific Skater

*This information can be found in the book from the museum store entitled Skaters **History on Ice and Roller Skating**. For more information like this, consider purchasing the book. Thanks.*



Born in Lowell, Massachusetts in 1891, Billy Carpenter became one of the premier fancy, figure, and scientific skaters of his time. He began his rise to the top on ice skates until the age of twelve, when he switched to rollers.

He began on rollers as a skate boy and caught the attention of a Canadian coach named H.T. Frennette for his skating. In 1907 Carpenter began touring the East with great success, and the following year this same tour route was booked solid. In 1909 he joined forces with Providence skater Jack Reilly, and the duo was known as "the Yankee Clowns." By 1910 they had introduced other aspects to their act, like comedy and acrobatics and even played vaudeville circuits. Reilly then ended the partnership in 1911.

For the next few years, Carpenter managed rinks. These were located in New Bedford (MA), Augusta (ME), Farmington (ME), and Springfield (MA). He also performed in a 20 week tour with the Helen Carlos Trio.

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."

ROAD SKATING

THE
New and Fashionable Pastime.



ROAD SKATING offers so many advantages as an exercise, sport, pastime, and means of locomotion that its merits are quickly being recognised.

The New Ritter Road Skate is the result of four years' experiments and experience. During this period we have tried all forms of skates and positions and sizes of wheels, as well as Pneumatic tyres. Our experience proves that the form we have adopted is the only practical one, and that Pneumatic tyres are for various reasons of no use for Road Skates.

Our Skates are fitted with an Automatic Brake which enables one to skate up any hill; and leg splints which entirely take all strain off of the ankle.

After very little practice anyone on these skates can maintain over ordinary roads three times the speed of walking with the same amount of exertion.

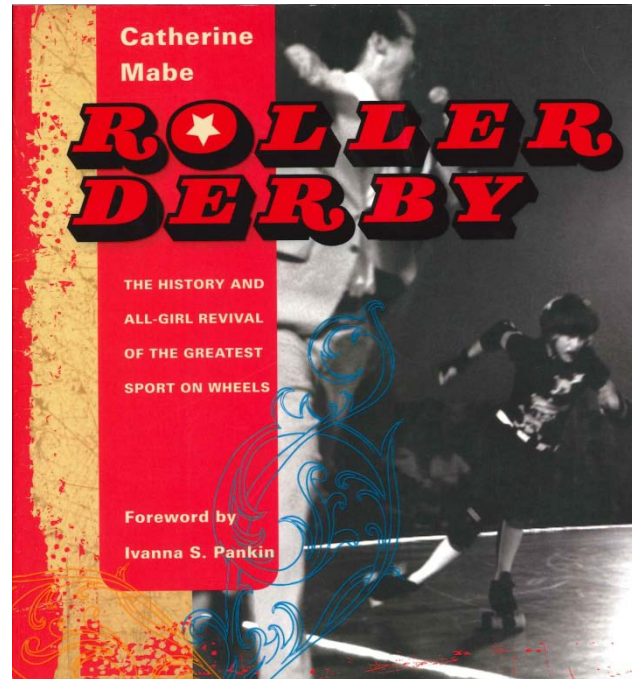
The Skates can be obtained through any sporting goods dealer or cycle agent, or direct from us. Trial and instruction free.

Separate salon for ladies with lady attendant.

Call or send for Illustrated Price List.

The ROAD SKATE COMPANY,
271, Oxford Street, London, W.

Library Feature:
Roller Derby
By Catherine Mabe



Author Catherine Mabe is a founding member of her local roller derby team: the Rocky Mountain Rollergirls. Also known as Jayne Manslaughter, Mabe showcases her love for the sport of derby by writing this book in 2007. Our museum is even credited in assisting, with multiple photographs showcased throughout.

She devotes different chapters to the explanation of the sport. The book begins with the back story on how derby began in the United States. Mabe describes how derby began as an endurance race before transforming into a high-contact, team sport. She mentions some of the great derby participants such as Joan Weston and Ann Calvello. Derby even made a comeback with the televised sport of *Roller Jam* in the late 1990s.

The book then shifts towards the individual. Mabe brings to light why women join derby. She highlights how an ordinary librarian or lawyer can have a quiet life off the track, but once she straps on the skates, she can become quite a different person.

The book then focuses on the names of skaters. It takes into account all the planning and brainstorming needed to come up with the perfect derby name. Mabe gives many examples such as Roxy Balboa, Juanna Rumbel, Sharon Needles, and Dinah-Mite.

The story then ends with how real derby is and its rules. Mabe tells stories and shows pictures of bruises, brakes, and scrapes. The rules of the games are broken down, as well as terminology.

For those wishing to renew their memberships, we included the following form. Thanks in advance!

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Membership Level	1 year	2 years
Benefactor	____ \$500	____ \$950
Patron	____ \$250	____ \$475
Assoc Patron	____ \$100	____ \$185
Donor	____ \$50	____ \$90
Individual/Family	____ \$35	____ \$65
Additional Contribution	\$ _____	
Total Enclosed \$	_____	

Method of Payment

____ Check to National Museum of Roller Skating

____ Visa _____ MasterCard

Credit Card Number _____

Exp. _____

Signature _____

Mail to: National Museum of Roller Skating,
4730 South Street, Lincoln, NE 68506
Fax to: 402-483-1465

multiple interests on the same film. We continue to need the following film: *Skate Town USA*

2.) In addition, the museum is interested in any video footage of national competitions prior to 1980. While DVD format is best, the museum will also gladly accept VHS films. Labeling with events is a plus.

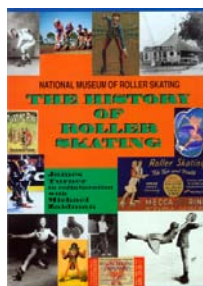
3.) Third, we have very little footage of the Skating Vanities. Really, the only good quality shots we have are scenes from the 1944 movie *Pin Up Girl*.

Thanks in advance for your considerations.

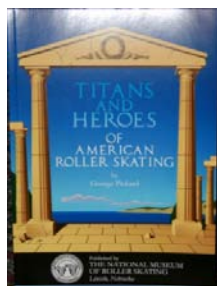
Rink Sticker Collection

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

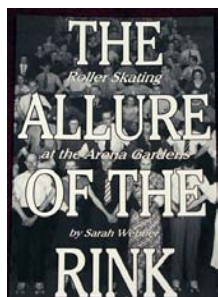
Book Store



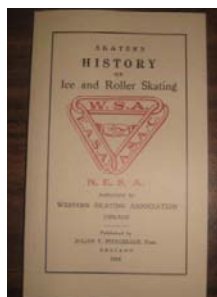
\$15



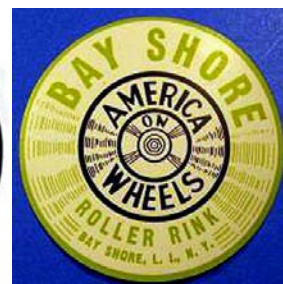
\$20



\$7



\$15



Thanks for supporting the museum!

Wish List

The museum is expanding its video archive. We would like a DVD copy if possible, but VHS is fine.

1.) First, the museum wants to complete its roller skating big screen collection. Please contact the museum before sending your donation, in case we receive



ROLLER SKATING Christmas Cards



Assortment of 10
different cards
postpaid \$1.25

A 4-cent stamp will bring
you new FALL catalogue
with skating stationery
handkerchiefs, ties, scarves
and emblems

SANDER S **STUDIOS**
NEW HAVEN
(11)
CONN. 52 COLONY
ROAD



Forms a non-slip surface that
protects basic floor from scratches
and wear. Eliminates repeated
sandings and dusting (no rosin
necessary).

Amaspro Rink Grip is **THE** well-
known, tried and proved, plastic
coating for wood, concrete or
masonite rink floors. Write the
manufacturer—

THE AMERICAN ASBESTOS PRODUCTS
West 80th and Nickel Plate R. R.
Cleveland 2, Ohio

WEDDING ON SKATES

The Tacoma Roller Bowl, Tacoma, Washington, was the scene of the recent wedding of Jeannette Fincher McLean and Jack E. Bernstein. The entire bridal party as well as the Rev. George Martin were on skates for the graceful and beautiful wedding. The new Mrs. Bernstein is a professional at the Roller Bowl.



The bridal party in their formal attire and skates following the ceremony at the Roller Bowl which was especially decorated for the occasion. The groom met his bride while taking lessons at the rink.