



Rolling Through Time

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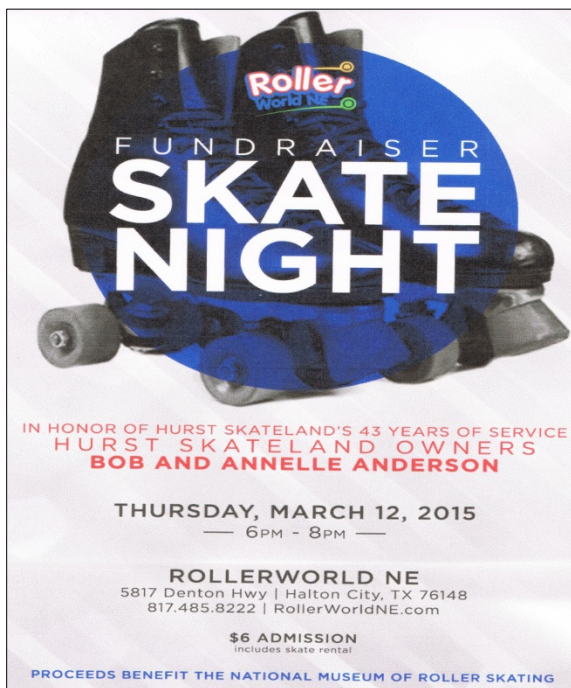
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Who We Are

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 Fundraiser



The owner of Skating Enterprises Inc and Rollerworld Northeast James Austin Jr. wanted to honor friends and fellow rink owners Bob and Annelle Anderson for their four decades of service to the roller skating industry in Fort Worth, Texas.

Upon recommendation from the Andersons, Austin decided to host a fundraiser skate night to benefit our museum. This evening generated over \$200 that was then presented to the museum. We want to recognize this great effort on behalf of our museum. Thank you to James Austin Jr., rink manager Courtney McCracken, and all involved in this charitable event.

New Exhibit

Mentioned in previous newsletters, the donation of Bob Hoskin of his brake system process for the Coyote Rollerblade has become a new exhibition.

His prototype inline skates, hardware, and braking system components from the 1990s development effort can now be seen as a step by step process. Complete with images, technical reports, and his patent, Hoskin wanted his information and work not only preserved but also showcased to demonstrate the effort needed to create, patent, and produce a new idea.

The beginning of the process started in Feb of 1994. For the next two years the braking system was invented, Hoskin met with Rollerblade research and development, and he rigged concept and heat dissipation tests.

Generation 1 followed and during the next year; Aeroblade prototypes were constructed with braking systems on the rear wheel and test trial began. Generation 2 then began with braking on the center wheels. Skating tests and trials, logging data, and a concept production skate "Tiger" followed.



By July 1996 the new focus became off-road skating with the initial prototype of Coyote appearing, shown above. The Coyote Rollerblade was released in 1997 with the new ABT Xtreme braking system.

New and Renewing Members

Bill Sahly
Carey Elder

Featured Story 1965 RSROA Convention

This year represents the fiftieth anniversary of the 1965 Roller Skating Rink Operators Association convention and trade show. Rink owners from across the country met in Chicago for their annual meeting and trade show. Led by then RSROA President Gordon "Budd" Van Roekel, the convention allowed members to share ideas and network with vendors.



RSROA President Budd Van Roekel

Attendance figures continued to increase yearly. Over 400 rink operators attended this three-day event. Trade show chairman Dick Kelley, assistant secretary-treasurer of the RSROA, confirmed more than thirty suppliers, manufacturers, and distributors to attend the convention.

The festivities began in early May. Operators registered at the La Salle Hotel on Sunday, May 2. The trade show opened at 6:00 PM later that evening. The opening general assembly began at 1:00 PM Monday, May 3.

The individual work shops were a massive hit in Chicago. Many topics were discussed including:

- Snack bars and soda fountains
- Lighting in ladies rooms for a "rose glow"
- Skate key clubs
- St. Patrick's Day party giveaways



Culminating the President's Banquet, the RSROA handed out their annual awards. Woman of the Year went to the Girl Scouts of America, represented by a Mrs. Webster. Receiving the award for Man of the Year was Stan Musial for his work as chairman of the President's National Youth Fitness Program.

Finally the big award of the night as Operator of the Year went to Joe W. Nazzaro of Redwood Roller Rink in Redwood City, California.

Many conference attendees wrote to the national office after the convention to share their thoughts and experiences. John and Ramona Muse of Ames, Iowa stated:

We would like to take this opportunity to tell you how wonderful we thought the Chicago Convention was and that we came home with high spirits to tackle summer. Many ideas we have already put to use- we bought a cotton candy machine and popcorn popper the day we returned home and can't seem to work fast enough to try out all we absorbed in those three short days. Thank you.

Joe Shevelson, a representative from the Chicago Skate Company, wrote:

I think you did an excellent job and the show went off very smoothly. I felt it was quite worthwhile from the exhibitor's viewpoint and the other manufacturers with whom I talked, agreed.



Trade show floor

The 1965 RSROA convention and trade show was a great success. Each of the operators, suppliers, manufacturers, and distributors contributed to the overall positive experience shared by all.

The continuation of this success helped develop our modern conventions. The next convention and trade show from the Roller Skating Association takes place this May in Las Vegas.

Rink Organs



Electrical organs were a common sight in roller rinks beginning in the 1920s. This example is from the Richardson Company as advertised in the company catalog from the early 1930s.

Museum Raffle

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 to win. All
 proceeds benefit the museum.

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



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% of the total sales. **The grand prize winner should easily receive over \$5,000.**

To purchase a raffle ticket, please contact the museum. All proceeds go to preserving the museum.

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!

