



Rolling Through Time

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Director and Curator

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National Museum of Roller Skating
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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

Photograph Reorganization Project: Part 2



As previously mentioned, the museum is in the middle of a grand reorganization of its photograph collection. Orchestrated and executed by museum trustee George Pickard, this grand adventure nears a conclusion. With all of the pictures now newly categorized and in the correct places, part two begins.

Part Two of the photograph reorganization includes double checking each photograph's listing in the database. In the past when searching for information on a certain photograph, we realized not all images were properly labeled with pertinent information. Part two attempts to alleviate this predicament.

Quick searches now become manageable. First by choosing a category then reading the brief labels accompanying each photo, a researcher can more readily find the sought information in an efficient manner. More information about the photo can then be found via the updated database.

Hammond Organ display update



If donating a newly refurbished Hammond B3 organ were not enough, museum trustee Dominic Cangelosi came through again.

The museum requested a photograph of Cangelosi so we could enlarge and frame it above the organ. Not only did Cangelosi furnish such a photograph, but he had the photograph enlarged, framed, and shipped to the museum at no cost to our organization. The framed print now hangs proudly above the Hammond. Special thanks to Dominic for all of his efforts and generosity.

Brown Bag Lecture Series

Every third Thursday of the month the Nebraska State Historical Society sponsors a talk by a state organization. This Brown Bag Lecture Series discusses topics relevant to Nebraska citizens. Some previous topics included: The 1913 Omaha tornado, Military air crashes in Nebraska, and Haunted Lincoln.

On October 17 our museum was invited to speak at this event. Broadcasted by the local government access channel, we discussed the history of roller skating and the importance of the museum for its survival. To view this lecture, you can visit the link below and find the museum's video. It will be available very soon.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/NebraskaHistorical>

Celebrating Halloween on Skates

Arena Gardens



Robert Martin (far right) poses with a crowd of children from the Children's Safety Skating Club in front of the Arena Gardens in Detroit, Michigan. The children are waiting to enter the rink for the Halloween party in 1938.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Roll-Land



Halloween skating session at Roll-Land in Norwood, Massachusetts, 1960s.



Unknown rink



Children at Halloween, 1910s.

Arena Gardens



Fred Martin presents the costume winner a prize during Halloween 1944 at the Arena Gardens in Detroit.

Rink Photo

Boulevard Arena in Bayonne, NJ



Renewing Museum Members

Ralph Marinelli
Tim Laskey

Wish List

Rink photos

Our goal is to one day have a photograph of every roller rink that was or is in existence throughout the United States. We know this goal seems impossible right now but each new photograph we receive from you gets us one step closer.

If you have a photograph of some small-town rink in your possession, please consider sending the museum a copy for our records. Print and digital copies are both accepted. The best pictures will include a shot of the building from the outside, including the rink's name out front. Images of the skating floor in use are also acceptable and encouraged. Whatever image you feel best captures the atmosphere of your beloved rink will be added to our museum's photograph archive. Thanks in advance!

International Skates

A majority of the skates in our collection were manufactured domestically. We want to grow the number of skates in our collection made outside of the United States. Some of the countries we do have represented in our collection include European nations such as England, France, Austria, Germany, and Italy. In addition, we have on hand pairs from both Israel and Japan,

The museum is currently in the process of creating an international skates' display. Any help you may provide would greatly enhance our efforts to portray multiple foreign skates.

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!

