



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

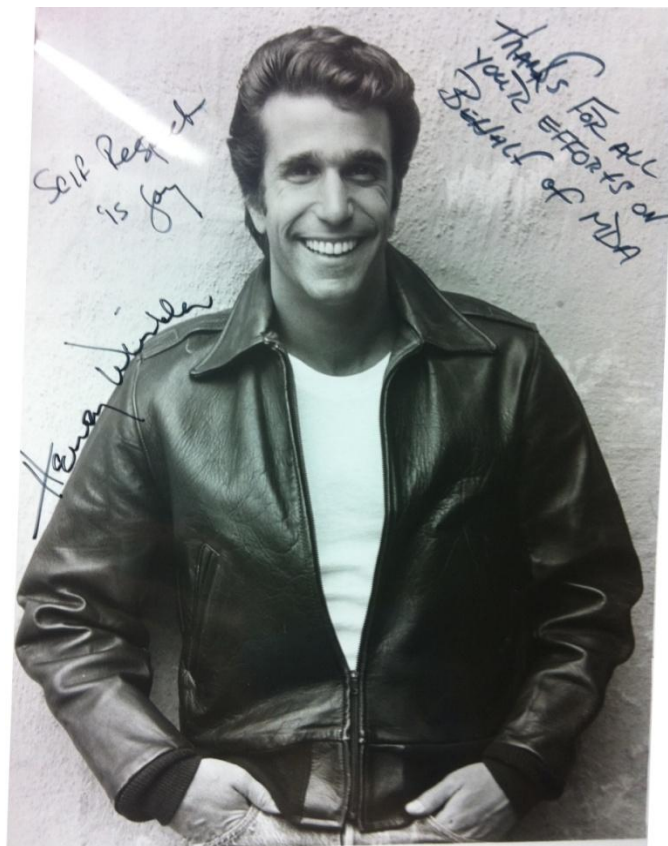
Photograph Reorganization Project

Beginning in mid September, the museum undertook a large-scale project. During countless research throughout our photographs in past years, museum trustee George Pickard and I noticed many pictures in our collection had little value to the history of our great sport. In addition, no real organizational system existed beyond when each photo entered the collection.

So our project became twofold. First, George and I made sure each photograph in the collection contributed to a greater understanding of the sports and its storied history. Second, we organized the photographs into categories.

Some photographs simply did not meet the high standard of inclusion into the archives. One of several reasons could eliminate a picture from our collection. For example, blurry photos or those too far away became expendable. Duplicates or obstructed views were also considered less important.

This was a difficult process. While some went easier than others, the act of deeming a skating photograph less than essential proved difficult. We erred on the side of caution and kept pictures "on the fence".



Henry Winkler



Savoy Rink, Chicago

For the majority of the photos which were saved, George created different categories for a better reference frame. Over 30 categories of photographs now exist in our archives. With the creation of these categories, myself as well as other researchers can skim through an area of interest and possibly come across some pictures that were not the original focus but that also may work for that specific topic.

Some examples include: VIP's, rinks, skating shows, Vaudeville skating, professional speed skaters, national champions, trade shows, session skating, roller derby, rink and inline hockey, and animals on skates.



Larry and Doris, Vaudeville era performers

With our photographs now properly organized, I will continue the process by making sure each photo is properly logged into our database system. Also, each needs proper identification for easier searching. This is an ongoing process.



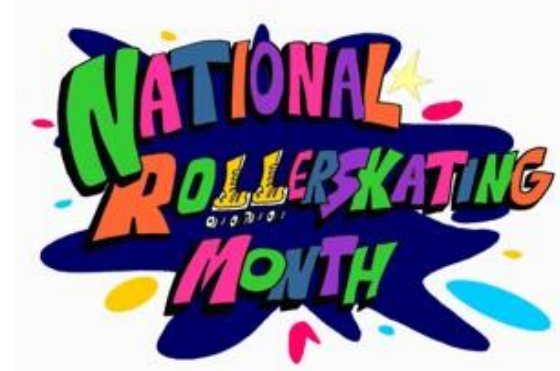
Fred Noa, Roller Derby

USARS Board of Directors Reception

Last week USA Roller Sports (USARS) conducted their semiannual board meeting in Lincoln. Prior to the official meetings, USARS hosted an opening reception for its board members within its headquarters. Our museum is located within those headquarters as well.

To liven up the festivities of food and drink, the museum provided a music show with its newly acquired Hammond B3 organ. A local organist named Jerry Pawlak graciously agreed to play as entertainment.

October is National Roller Skating Month



The museum is currently promoting national roller skating month by emphasizing the importance of skating as a way to maintain physical fitness. We achieve this with our current display, "For Health's Sake, Roller Skate!"

Rink Photo

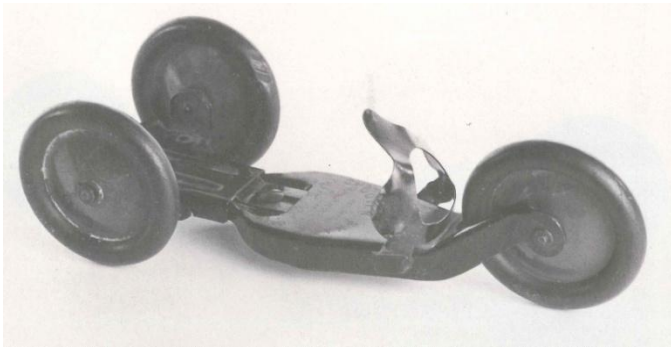
Bricelyn Roller Rink, Minnesota



Renewing Museum Members

Bob & Irene LaBriola
Robert & Jacqueline Kane
Laura Johnson
Sue Filo

Skate of the Week Brinkman "Skooter Skate"



This three-wheeler "Skooter Skate" was manufactured by the Brinkman Engineering Company of Dayton, Ohio around 1930.

Wish List

Unusual skates: for example this convertible skate or the Chariot Skate



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!

