



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
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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 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

Photograph Donation

Former museum director Michael Zaidman still keeps in touch with our museum and helps out when he can. In May, Michael donated twenty-one old photographs from a lot he purchased. Most of the photographs originated in the Chicago or Detroit area. Here are two examples:



Playground race in 1937



Street skating in 1952

Skater Profile: Daniel Discoll Rink Man



*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.*

Daniel Discoll was a "jack of all trades" in the roller skating industry. Born in 1889 in Chicago, Discoll became involved in roller skating in his early teens. Discoll participated in every aspect in the rink from skate boy all the way up to rink manager. He was considered one of the best all around rink men in the country.

His teaching spanned over two states. In Chicago Discoll taught skating at Robey, Riverview, Sans Souci, and Madison Garden as well as Edgewater, Coliseum, and Forest Park. He also taught in Green Bay, Wisconsin at Bay View Rink.

In 1916 Daniel headed east. He took over management at Luna Park Rink in Charleston, West Virginia. Discoll was such a success at the rink that the owner took his advice and hosted the International Professional Speed Championships at Luna Park in 1916.

Skate of the Week:
Roller Blade



This is the first skate known as a “roller blade.” Manufactured by the Chicago Skate Company in 1966, this skate harkened back to the era of inline skates which were popular in the early 1800s. The attached boot gave the skate the feel of the modern quad skate yet a look more similar to an ice skate.

This Chicago model did not sell well and was relegated to the sidelines. It was not until the 1980s when a pair of brothers from Minnesota saw this skate, bought the rights to it, and manufactured them as a fitness idea when the “roller blade” hit mainstream.

Roller Skating Firsts

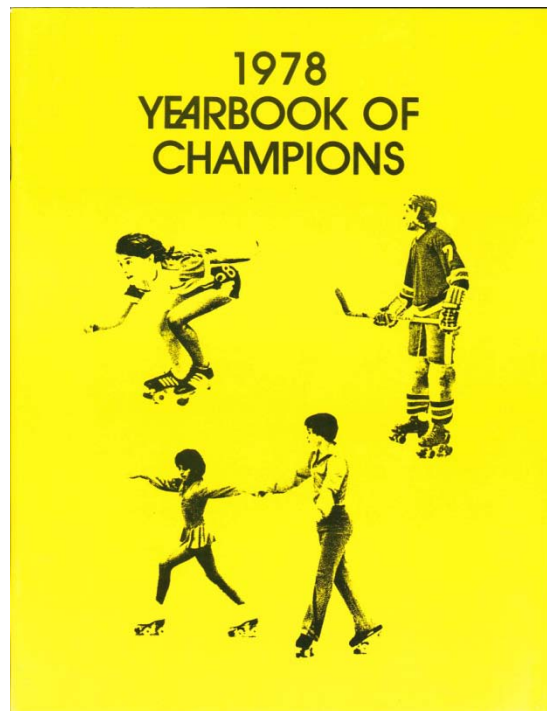
- First public roller rink in America was the Atlantic House in Newport, Rhode Island in 1866.
- First roller skating tests were given in 1894 by the National Skating Association of England.
- First roller skating film was “The Rink,” starring Charlie Chaplin.

Rink Profile:
Oaks Rink: Portland, OR



One of the oldest rinks in the country

Library Feature:
Yearbook of Champions 1978



This week the museum had a request from a visitor to find any photographs or information on her friend, Fleurette Arseneault. After some consideration, the museum turned to its archives of the publication *Yearbook of Champions*.

Knowing that Ms Arseneault won national titles from 1977 through 1979, the search began there. One of the photos of her appears below:

**INTERNATIONAL
SENIOR DANCE**



	Judges				
	7	9	47	14	48
FINALISTS					
1. Dan Littell/Fleurette Arseneault - East Meadow, NY	1	1	1	1	1
2. Larry Chopp/Judy Landau - Livonia, MI	2	2	2	2	2
3. Mark Howard/Cindy Smith - Richmond, VA	4	3	5	4	3

Pictures like these help family and friends identify their loved ones and put a visual representation to his/her accomplishments in the sport. Knowing that the *Yearbook of Champions* showed photos of the winners stand helped our visitors find the information they sought.

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

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. *We recently helped a gentleman find photos from the Bal-A-Roue Rink in Medford, MA from our archives.*

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.

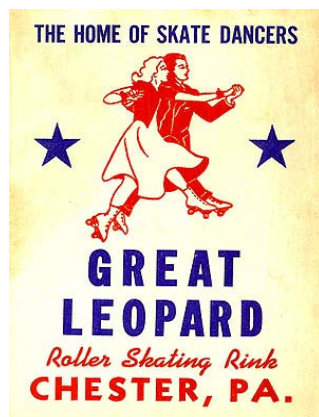
2.) **Regional programs:** We need modern issues of all regional programs. For example, we need Great Lakes regionals from 2002 through the present but also 1992-97. We need Southern regionals from the past five years.

The museum's goal is to have two copies of each issue for its permanent archives. With regionals now over, **please send copies of your regional programs** to the museum. 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!



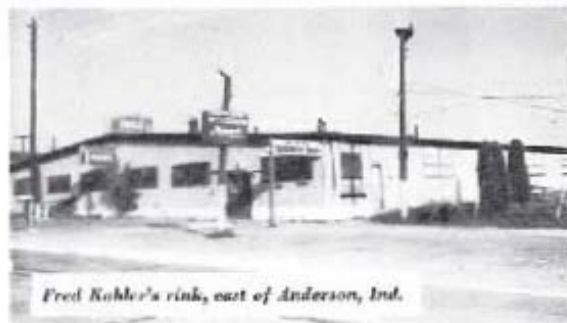
♦♦ GOOD SUMMER SKATING ♦♦



A good place to visit in the summer time — or winter for that matter — is four miles south of Circleville, Ohio, on route 23, known as the Gold Cliff Park Rink, made in log-cabin style with a swimming pool and restaurant.



Cool summer skating at Skateland in Celeron Park, Jamestown, N. Y.



Fred Kohler's rink, east of Anderson, Ind.



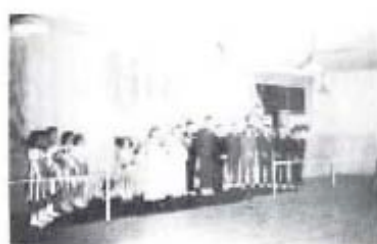
One of the nicest buildings housing a roller rink is the newly opened Willoby Roller-houl, Willoby, Ohio, on the road to Erie, out of Cleveland.



The Anderson Roller Rink is one of the best looking we visited.



Lloyd Fox has opened a new portable at Shakopee, Minn.



Photograph taken at the wedding of Miss Mahri Summers to Douglas Moody, at the Lansing Roller-drome, Lansing, Michigan.

Art Elamier in the center, is one of the most misinformed skaters in California. In a recent letter to SKATING REVIEW, he says: "Why do all eastern championship skaters seem to wear tights? We, in California, fail to find any grace in a man's muscular legs. In California, I think, we have more the theatrical viewpoint than most of the eastern skaters and I believe I speak for the whole Los Angeles vicinity when I say the best International Style skater could not get through one chorus of the 'Skater's Waltz' on Major Rows' program before losing the tinkle of the gang." (Note to Art: Please read our editorial this month on International Style skating and encourage the western skaters to have an open mind on the subject.)

