



World Figure Skating
Museum & Hall of Fame

Reflections on Ice

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Join the Museum in its New Beginnings

As the year comes to a close, the Museum is

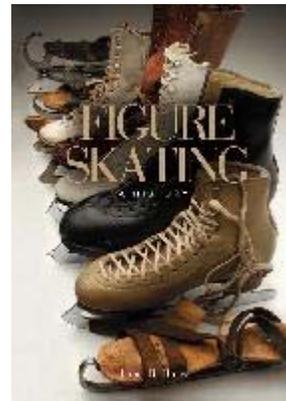


launching its *Museum Board of Trustees members at the recent board second meeting September 14 at the Annual Sofitel Hotel, Chicago, Illinois. Appeal.*

This year's theme, *New Beginnings*, recognizes the Museum's commitment to becoming a world-class institution that promotes knowledge and enjoyment of figure skating to diverse audiences throughout the world. Among other accomplishments during the past year the Museum has recruited an outstanding board of trustees, developed a strategic plan, co-published a popular history of figure skating, revamped the exhibit galleries, and launched this bi-monthly newsletter.

During the upcoming year, with your

Enrich your historical knowledge about the sport you love



This easy-to-read, soft-cover, book is the first historical survey of figure skating in over 40 years.

When you have a passion for something, it can motivate you to accomplish a seemingly insurmountable task. Just as World and Olympic skaters devoted years of training to perfect their talents, author James R. Hines in his new book, *Figure Skating: A History*, spent over six years of research pursuing his passion of writing the only complete history of figure skating in more than forty

help, the Museum will launch a film preservation initiative, develop a traveling exhibition on the history of figure skating, produce a school outreach kit, identify and actively acquire significant skating collections, create a finding guide for archive researchers, and introduce an Adopt-a-Costume program to conserve its costume collection.

The Annual Appeal is critical to the Museum's operation and its ability to move forward with these plans. Your gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500 or more will help get us there. . . . each gift is important. Donors who contribute gifts of \$100 or more will receive a special gift --- the first in our series of mugs based on the Museum's collections. This year's mug features the colorful abstract painting created by ice dancers Michael Seibert and Judy Blumberg using their skates as artist's brushes.

Look for our Annual Appeal mailing soon, and become a partner in the Museum's *New Beginnings*. Help the Museum become the premier institution dedicated to preserving and sharing the legacy of figure skating!

A Special Gift for Donors over \$100

Donors who contribute gifts of \$100 or more will receive this special mug based on the Museum's collections.



Donors who contribute gifts of \$100 or more will receive

years. The nearly 500-page, soft-cover volume is a comprehensive historical survey of the sport and is co-published by the World Figure Skating Museum & Hall of Fame and the University of Illinois Press. [All orders placed through November 30](#) will receive 15% off the retail price of \$29.95.

"It was a mammoth project that involved six solid years of research," commented Hines, who became interested in the project following the attack on Nancy Kerrigan at the U.S. Championships in 1994. "A historian must approach everything critically and strive for accuracy," said the professor of musicology at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Virginia. As a former ice dance roller skater and a participant in the performing arts for more than 40 years, Hines fully understands the passion that drives skaters, many of whom he interviewed and researched for this book.

"My purpose in writing this book was to put into one volume information that readers - young beginners, skating moms, coaches, skating fans, and competitive skaters - can enjoy and at the same time learn something about the sport they love," Hines commented. He elaborated, "Has it ever occurred to you

this mug based on the Museum's collections.

[Support the Museum>>](#)

Museum receives Foundation Awards

In moving the Museum toward one of its long-term strategic goals



The Museum's 1920 - 1948 Olympic films are part of the comprehensive collection of over 3,500.

of making resources of the Museum accessible to diverse audiences throughout the world, Executive Director Brian Alexander is pleased to announce two recent awards.

The Museum received \$1,500 from The Bank at Broadmoor in Colorado Springs, Colorado, to develop a curriculum-specific traveling trunk focusing on the science and history of figure skating. It will be targeted to upper-level elementary students.

The Kerr Foundation in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, awarded the Museum \$5,000 to assist in the Museum's Skating Film Preservation Initiative. This grant will help preserve the 1920 - 1948 Olympic films which are part of the Museum's overall collection of over 3,500 videos and films. Sonja Henie's 1928 Olympic performance and early childhood footage are a part of this valuable collection. In addition, competition performances for national, international, and Olympic events are available from 1924 to the present. Many of these earlier films

that backward skating didn't always exist?" The author explains in his book that it was not until the 1830's that Henry Boswell, an outstanding skater from Oxford, England, significantly altered the basic skate design that backward skating really took off.

[Click here for full article>>](#)

A Military Battle on Ice



This sterling-silver figurine in early Dutch military dress is part of the Museum's Grafstrom collection.

This sterling-silver figurine in early Dutch military dress from the Museum's Grafstrom collection is believed to represent a battle fought in [1572 between the Dutch and the Spanish](#).

In the winter of 1572, a small fleet of armed ships belonging to the Dutch had been frozen in the ice near Amsterdam. Spanish troops were dispatched over the ice to attack the imprisoned vessels. The ships' crews, however, had fortified themselves by digging a

are the only known copies. Approximately 80% of these films were transferred to video in the mid 1980's; however, 35mm masters were not always created.

As the Museum regularly receives film requests from journalists, scholars, and the media, this grant will help fund the costs of creating masters to preserve this valuable footage and continue to make it readily available.

The Museum gratefully acknowledges these institutions for their support. For more information on grant or sponsorship opportunities, please contact the Museum at (719) 635 - 5200.

[Click here to learn about the importance of film preservation>>](#)

A Successful Career Outside of Skating

In our inaugural issue, we asked our readers for suggestions for future issues.

Tamara Moskvina, Advisory Council member,



Dr. Tenley Albright

suggested featuring a former world-class figure skater who has achieved recognition outside the figure skating world. We liked the idea and chose Tenley Albright, since it soon will be the 50th anniversary of her gold medal performance at the 1956 Olympics in Italy.

After having received a silver medal

wide trench around the entire fleet, which became an almost impregnable fortress.

The well-armed Dutch troops, wearing ice skates, advanced out of this frozen stronghold. A quick battle ensued. The Dutch, who were accustomed to skating, easily defeated the Spanish. Several hundred Spanish troops lay dead on the ice. Within the next twenty-four hours a rapid thaw released the ships and the Dutch escaped. A sudden temperature drop froze the ice once again making pursuit by the Spanish impossible. Astonished at these maneuvers on the ice, the Spanish quickly ordered seven thousand pairs of skates, and their soldiers soon learned to perform military maneuvers on skates.

Meet our Poster Winners

In our inaugural issue, we ran a contest to identify a canvas painting currently on exhibit in the Museum. We asked readers to correctly identify the painting in which two former U.S. National and World ice dance medalists used their skate blades as artist brushes. We had an overwhelming response with many informed readers correctly identifying the artists as Judy Blumberg and Michael Seibert.

Our two winners were Ann Greenthal, a current

at the 1952 games, Albright in 1956 became the first American woman to win Olympic Gold. Despite having been diagnosed at an early age with polio, Albright pursued skating and along with her Olympic medals won two gold and two silver medals for ladies singles at the World Championships from 1953 - 1956.

While training for the Olympics, Albright studied at Radcliffe College in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Albright later received her M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School. Dr. Albright is currently a faculty member and lecturer in the Program of Surgery at Harvard Medical School. In addition, Albright holds eight honorary degrees.

Dr. Tenley Albright's medical accomplishments are as impressive as her successful skating career. She currently consults with or is on the Boards of Directors for several medical or research facilities. She was appointed In 1989 by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and President George H. W. Bush as a delegate to the World Health Assembly. In 1999, Dr. Albright received the Research America Advocacy Award for her work advancing medical and health research.

Great Christmas Ideas from the Museum Store

*Order a new
skating DVD
or VHS
Cassette*

Enjoy some
of figure

international judge, and Amy Stetson, a researcher at ABC Sports. Both women have figure skated and live in New York City.

Thank you to everyone who participated. Look for more contests in the future issues.

A special thanks to our State Game of America Supporters

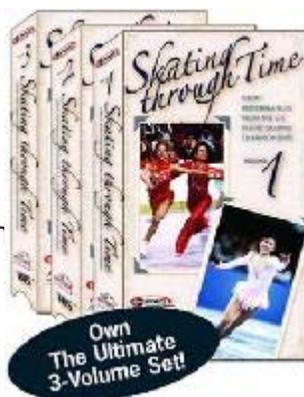
The city of Colorado Springs was host to the 2005 State Games of America July 28 - 31. As many as 9,000 athletes from all over the USA competed in 24 different events showcasing their individual and team talents. Of these participants, approximately 800 figure skaters competed in all the major skating disciplines.

The Museum staff greeted several thousand visitors eager to enrich their knowledge about figure skating. Many visitors also supported the Museum by purchasing special gifts to take home.

The Museum also had a display booth in the main ice hall at the World Arena - the venue for all figure skating events.

We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing many of you again in 2007 when this special event will take place once again in Colorado Springs.

skating's greatest moments with the new three-pack DVD or VHS cassette "Skating through time - Great Performances from the U.S. Figure Skating Championships."



Own the ultimate set for \$39.95 today.

The three-volume set covers over three decades (1968 - 2005) of skating history with unforgettable performances by the world's most accomplished figure skaters. Save almost \$20 by ordering the complete set for \$39.95, or order individually at \$19.95.

Wear a Piece of Skating History

How would you like to wear a piece of jewelry based on an original 1924 pencil drawing by Olympic Champion Gillis Grafstrom (Olympic Champion 1920, 1924, 1928)?

Why is this drawing from the Museum collection so meaningful? During the 18th century, skaters discovered that the tracings made by their skates could be used to create designs on the ice. The simple figure eight formed the basis of school figures until 1990. The more complex and intricate designs of the skater's own creation were known as Special Figures. These figures comprised a separate competitive event for the 1908 Olympics.

The jewelry is handcrafted from gold and sterling silver and available in a variety of styles and prices. Keep checking our website for new

Museum creates U.S. Olympic figure skating wall



The Museum created this U.S. Olympic figure skating wall for the new Greeley Ice Haus.

Downtown Greeley, Colorado, has a new facility and look with the opening of the Greeley Ice Haus, September 24, 2005. Staff from the Museum and U.S. Figure Skating participated in the grand opening ceremonies with an informational booth, free promotional items, and prize drawings throughout the day. Several thousand families and skating fans attended the opening-day ceremonies. This impressive new brick facility currently houses one sheet of ice in a town that previously did not have its own ice rink.

The photo montage represents all U.S. ladies and men's Olympic champions since the 1908 Olympic Winter Games. Hopefully, we'll be able to expand the wall after the 2006 Olympic Games in Torino, Italy!

offerings!

Please call Donna Brown, museum store manager, at (719) 228-3467 or order anytime online.

[Click here to view our jewelry selections>>](#)

We would like to thank our readers for their positive response to our inaugural newsletter. We welcome all comments. Please respond by clicking the "Reply to the Sender" link at the very top of the newsletter.

Stirring the Imagination, Lifting the Spirit

World Figure Skating Museum & Hall of Fame