

Children "Break In" Rink Here

Richmond Pal-Item

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Opening Day at the Creitz Park Skating Rink, 1948. Rink benefactors Carl Work and Al Fellingner are second and third from the left, respectively. Copy of the original photo was provided by David Worl (the original photo cannot be found at the present time).

Liniment and bandages have been used in extra quantities, here the past few days as local children "break in" the new skating rink at Creitz park.

Parents report many skinned legs and arms, but nothing more than minor injuries have been suffered by the youthful skaters. Fun is being had by all and the sale of roller

skates in the community is booming.

Yes, the community skating rink in the park has been completed, at least to the point where those who know how to strut their wares and those who do not can attempt to stay on their feet.

The concrete rink 60 X 150 feet and is made so that it may be flooded in winter for ice skating.

There is no admission charge, but skaters must provide their own skates.

The building of the rink was the idea of and financed by three local fathers, Ed and Al Feliinger and Carl Worl. The three asked for and got "all the help they needed to construct the rink" they said Tuesday.

More Skating Rink Memories

Western Wayne News
Time Pieces by Jill King
November 30, 2011

Carl Worl was one of the founders of the Creitz Park skating rink. Worl was the owner of Worl's Liquor store and also ran an excavating, business, a taxi service, and farmed. He was the father of current Western Wayne residents David and Ward Worl. Ward Worl enjoyed skating at the rink, and remembers its Grand Opening, but says his best memories of the rink were of the summer of 1958 - the summer he got out of high school: "I was 18 years old and had a new 1957 Chevy - bright red - and I'd pull up to the skating rink in the evening, and it wasn't long until there were several girls who wanted a ride in it."

David Worl didn't skate too much, but his wife, Pam, was a rink regular. Pam Worl shared her memories of the skating rink: "My sister and I used to go to the skating rink every night, because my mother worked at the concession stand. When it opened up I was three years old. But my mother was in that sorority [*Psi Iota Xi is a charitable organization*

supporting communities in the fields of speech and hearing, art, music, and literature.] - a charter member - and they were required to .do things. So she told them she'd put all her time in at the skating rink, because her girls liked to skate. I had these screw-on skates for such a long time until I was embarrassed to wear them. I finally got shoe skates.

"I still have my skates and I will not get rid of them. I never will because there are so many memories and we had so much fun. My sister, Penny Ginn Durm, is four years older than I am. I don't know when we started going over to the skating rink. But we probably went to the skating rink every single night and a lot of times our mother would either work at the concession stand or, if she wasn't working at the concession stand, she would park and watch us skate. If we didn't get to go, we thought that was the end of the world. I have always skated and loved it and as I got older and got my shoe skates, I was really proud of those

things. As I lift them up now, they are so heavy. We must have had strong legs. If you wore down the rubber on the front of the skates or needed new wheels, you went to see Mr. Phillips, who had the Phillips Shoe Store and did shoe repair, and he would fix them. They had wooden wheels, and they always wore down on one side. It seems to me I skated to nearly every song that was played. There is one song that brings back memories to me - Rock Around the Clock. If they played it once a night, I bet it played a hundred times.

"My sister was a tomboy and she always liked to wear jeans or whatever. And we wore jeans to skate. When I was fairly young, I wanted to get dressed up to go to the skating rink. I wanted to look good. My mom made most of our clothes and she made me a skirt of a purple crinkly material with some pink in it. She also made me a blouse which was pink and matched the pink in the skirt. We wore can-cans under our skirts. Back then, the more cans-cans you could wear, the better.

Well, that night I fell down - pretty hard - right in front of the concession stand. And I just laid there. My mother told my sister to help me up. My sister came to pick me up, but just stood over me and laughed. My mother, said all she could see was the can-cans. I had wanted to look good though."

"As I got older and started liking boys, there was one guy I skated with because he was such a good skater and his name was Bill Hicks. He skated so well, and he still dances well. He kept time with the music. I could skate backwards, but you had to be careful if you skated backwards, because you didn't know who might have fallen down in front of you. The old coke machine sat in the middle of the concession stand. It was one of those with the cold water. There was a lid, and you lifted it up and you reached in and got the Coke. There were other kinds of pop too - orange and others. They also popped popcorn and had ice cream (bars) and penny candy and candy bars and all that. If popcorn was left over when it was time to close, they would sack it up and give it away."

"Early on, when I was married, I worked at the concession stand for a

while. Recently we took our grandson to skate. I wanted to try it again. I had just stepped out there, and they told me to be careful, and this kid came around and knocked me down. And it hurt - a lot. So that was it. I thought - this is silly at my age. Yes, that was my last time."

"Where were the restrooms? They were outhouses. The ladies' outhouse was over the seats past the cars, and it was close to 'Poop Creek' - the spot where you used to be able to drive through the creek and now there's a gate- but it was 'near the creek' in the grass. Being younger, my mother always had my sister go with me. There were older girls that I was afraid of. They would go over there and smoke and talk tough. They wouldn't hurt anybody, but they were the tough girls. We had so much fun."