

ATTIC TREASURES... by Rob Reid

As the skating season draws to an end here is an interesting group of related items. Many of us remember learning to skate on bob skates. These were skates with two parallel blades that offered some stability for the weak at ankle and thick of head.

The pair shown on the left were made by W.H. Dunne Skate Co. of Toronto. A thumb screw on the back is used to adjust their size to fit the boot and would have had leather straps with buckles that go over the top of the boot for stability. This type of skate was fairly common and in fact is still used today to teach and instill

confidence in new skaters. These typically sell for \$20 to \$25 today.

The pair of skates on the right are of a different nature. These are adult sized skates intended for a serious skater. They have a tempered steel blade which can be sharpened. The skates can be adjusted to fit both the toe width and length of the boot and they have a spring type sole for greater flexibility.

As with bob skates they had leather straps and buckles to firmly attach them to the boot. The brand name is 'Halifax Pattern Club Skate' and they would have been relatively expensive when

new. Today a pair like this would sell for \$60 to \$80.

With a good pair of skates and enough practice, per-

haps you might end up like the couple in the photo.

This is a photo of Miss Alden Godwin and Mr. A. Gordon McLennan, the 1922 Pair Skating Champions of Canada! Sports memorabilia is a very popular area for collectors. This piece is interesting on several levels, not the least of which is a little bit of Canadian history.

It appears to be in an original frame and both skaters autographed the photo, which always has an impact on value. This couple belonged to the Minto Skating Club of Ottawa and 2004 happens to be the Club's 100th Anniversary

year. All of these things put together turn a nice \$50 to \$75 photo into a great piece that should sell for \$250 to \$300

I welcome inquiries about any objects that you may have and look forward to seeing and perhaps writing about them. Please forward a photo and a description to me through *Stouffville this Month*, drop it off at Reid's Antiques, 6397 Main St. Stouffville during regular business hours or via e-mail at robert.reid5@sympatico.ca

Rob Reid is the owner of Reid's Antiques and Consignment on Stouffville's Main St.



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