



# NEWSLETTER

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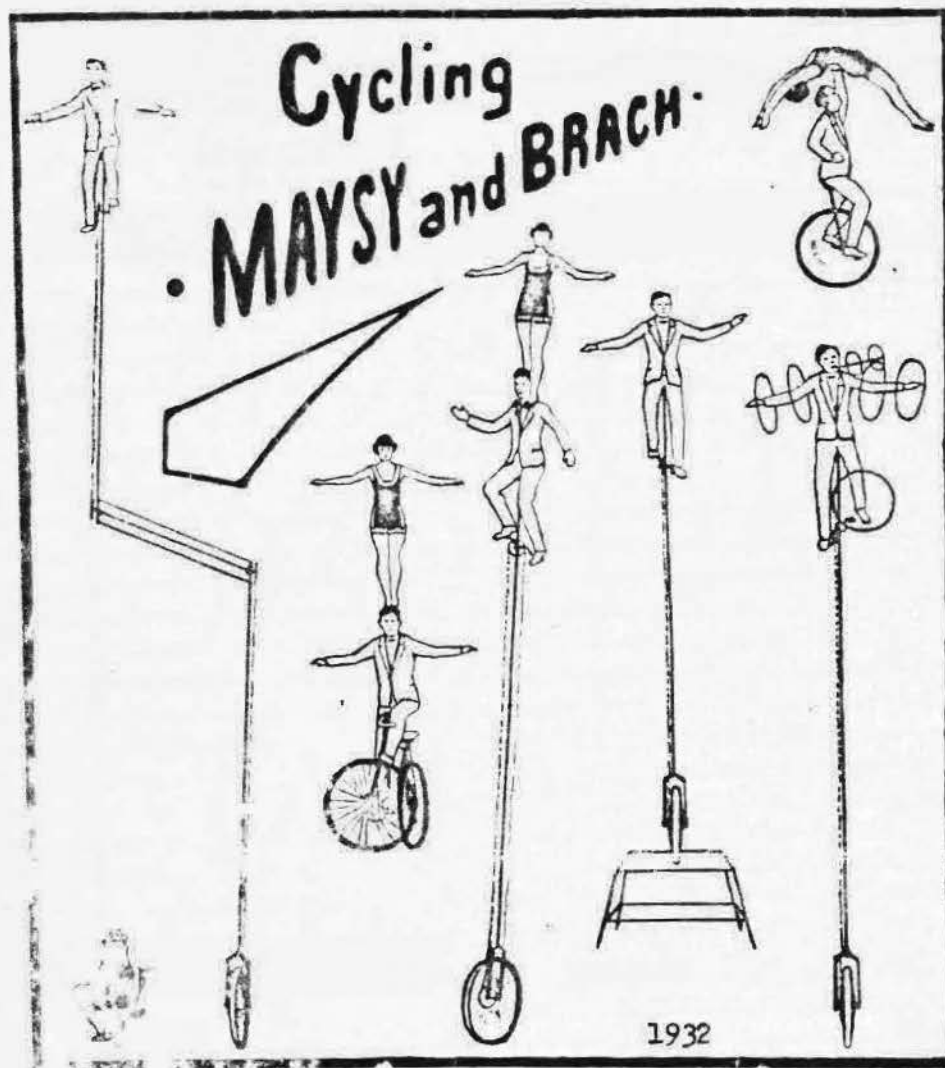
This is the start of our third year and our ninth newsletter. Comments on both our Unicycling Society of America Inc. in general and on our quarterly newsletter have been most gratifying. Our new officers (see write-ups on page 5) are full of enthusiasm and determination that the year 76 is to be the best ever. Plans are well under way for another National Unicycle Meet this time in Marion Ohio, the home of our new President Paul Fox, on August 21,22, 1976. The April and July issues of our newsletter will contain information on the activities planned, a map of the area, and Food & lodging accommodations. As before we hope to have use of a school gym and cafeteria as sleeping quarters for members who wish to bring sleeping bags to minimize lodging expense. The city of Marion, Ohio is quite used to seeing unicyclists, recognizes the advantages of promoting such a sport among its young people, and for many years has given wholehearted backing to The Paul Fox Unicycle Club Inc. which is sponsoring this years Nat'l Meet. It is hoped that we will have the largest turnout ever in 1976 and that the same friendly spirit as was evident at last year's meet in Pontiac will prevail. Most participants seemed to agree that the greatest benefit derived from past meets has been the making of new friends plus the swapping of new ideas on riding and constructing of unicycles and props. For those who have never attended a National Meet we suggest you start thinking and planning now and come join us for the time of your life on August 21, 22, 1976 in Marion, Ohio



1948  
 Chicago  
 Theatre

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THE AMAZING JIM DANDY is the subject of our feature write-up this issue. While JIM DANDY is Jess Monefeldt's current stage name, many of our older readers may be more familiar with the names - MAYSY & BRACH or LEBRAC & BERNICE - They were other hats worn by Jess in past.



Born in Norway of Circus Parents in a circus tent, Monefeldt has been on stage and in the circus ring since age four and during his career has entertained throughout the world. Some of his engagements included Command Performances before the royalty of Europe. He has performed with such personalities as Bob Hope, Jimmy Durante, Danny Thomas, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, Milton Berle, Carmen Miranda, and many other stars on stage and TV.

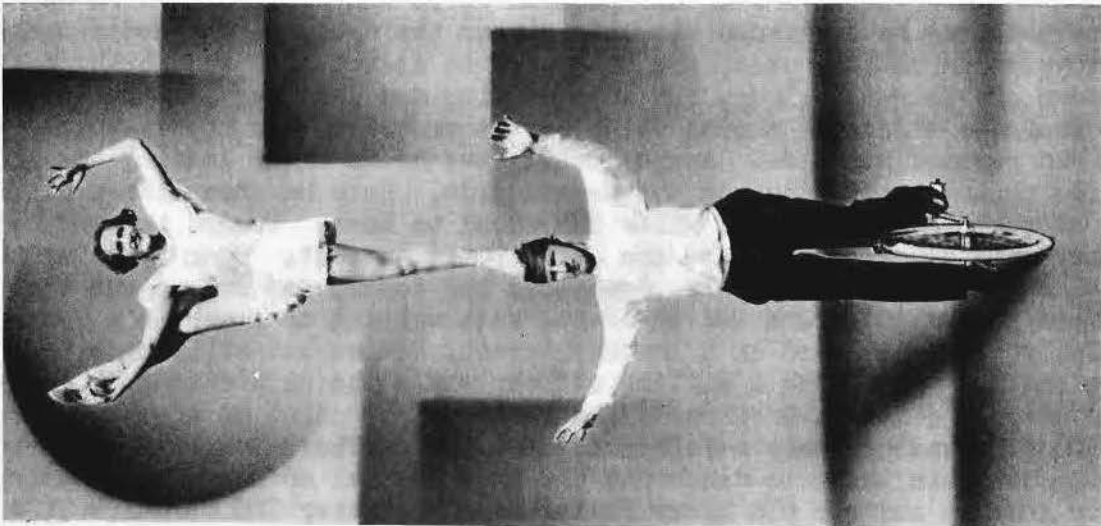
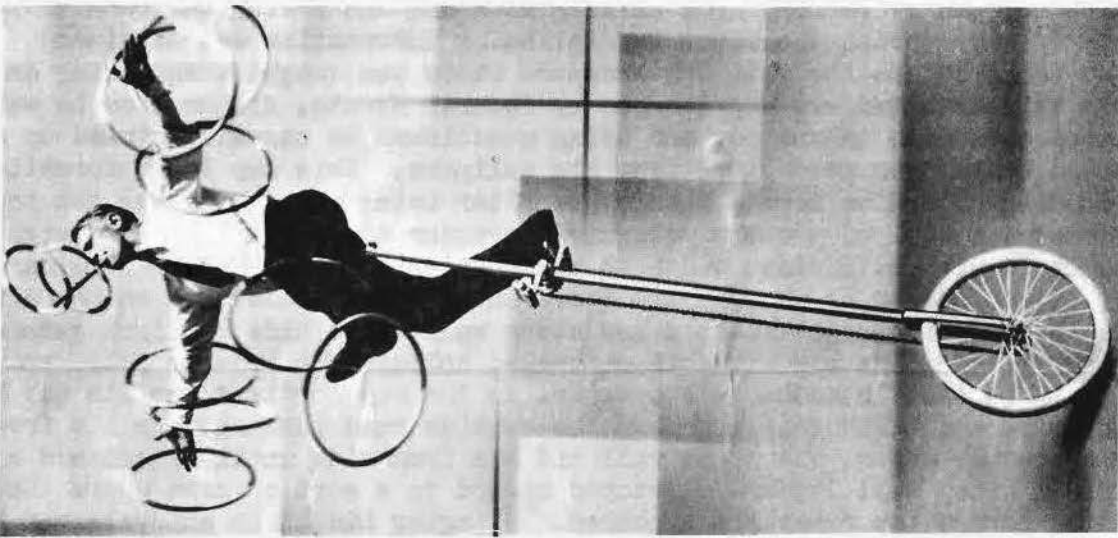
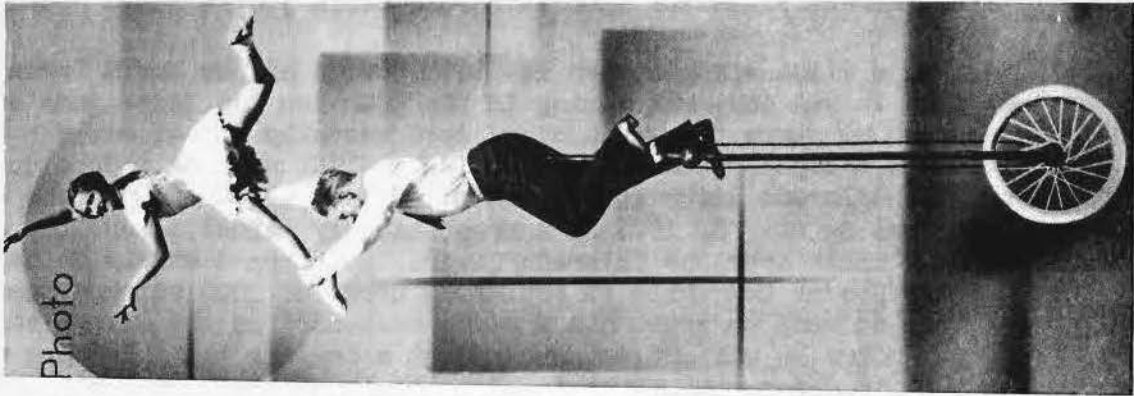
Jess Monefeldt came to U.S.A. in 1937 with the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus. Using the name MAYSY and BRACH, Jess and his wife Maysy had already achieved world renown and appeared in top circuses and theatres. Maysy incidentally was 1926 beauty queen of Copenhagen Denmark. In most European circus books and programs circa 1932-36 you will find them listed as they were famous for adagio poses on the giraffe unicycle, and for Jess' spectacular juggling while unicycling.

In 1945 the name was changed to LEBRAC & BERNICE and the copyrighted title "THE GOLDEN WHEEL" was used. It is claimed to be

the first "Golden Wheel" in show biz. It was 9 ft high, of 22 Karat Gold Plate, and during the adagio act was mounted from the floor by Bernice without a ladder or props. Once up, the duo went thru a flowing series of adagio poses plus balancing one atop the other (see photos next page). Jess also performed a juggling act on the Golden Wheel during which he balanced two rings, one on top of other, on his head while spinning one on leg and juggling five others with hands. Another show-stopper, and world record, was his spinning of 16 hoops in different directions while riding the golden wheel - see photo page 1. (Incidentally this was accomplished after 27 years of practice). In the year 1962 Jess began his JIM DANDY presentation. After many stage, circus and TV performances he is still active and performing such tricks as riding around balancing a 5" spoon or a dollar bill on his nose, or doing a glass trick with 14 trays and 56 drinking glasses. In addition to his unicycling Jess also has a juggling act he does on a ladder - balancing his cane and hat on his head, spinning 2 hoops on his left leg, and juggling four more with his hands. He also still balances and twirls 12 hoops all in different directions. At 69 Jess still has no problems with his balancing skills or juggling and most recently was seen performing with the Kaye Continental Circus in San Jose, Ca. and the Grand Circus Safari thruout the western states.

Jess now lives in Concord, Calif. which, by the way is home of some of our members who belong to The Children's Club of Concord Unicycle Drill Team (See Vol 2 #2 Apr. '75 newsletter Pg 4)

To an outstanding fellow unicyclist who has really been places and done things we would all like to say Best Wishes to JIM DANDY and may his wheel roll for many years to come.



JIM DANDY (Jess Monefeldt) Performing - MAYS & BRACH - Europe 1935

When PHILIPPE PETIT walked a tight wire between the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City in Aug. 1974 it was one more inning in the "Can You Top This" game being played by professional and amateur stuntmen the world over. Just recently one of our own unicyclists, STEVE McPEAK performed what newspapers termed THE ULTIMATE STUNT when he rode a unicycle across a cable stretched over the Colorado River at Hoover Dam. Steve pulled off what he called his own Bicentennial Salute when on Nov. 8, 1975 he surreptitiously gained access to, and rode his unicycle across, a 1500 ft cable over the Colorado River. He stopped midway to hang an American Flag some 700 ft above Hoover Dam while an estimated crowd of 1000 watched breathlessly below. Federal Agents were on hand to greet him when he descended on the Nevada side and take him off to jail. In a few hours he was out on bond and at a hearing the following week was fined \$200 for trespassing on government property. Despite the fact that the news media was caught napping the resulting publicity proved quite favorable for Steve. Steve is a professional stuntman and circus tightwire performer and the week of Dec. 4th he was in New York City taping the escapade for the "To Tell The Truth" TV show which will be aired soon.

Some of our readers may be interested to hear how Steve accomplished his Ultimate Stunt and here briefly are the highlights as gleaned by your ed. (Steve stayed with your ed. while in the N.Y. area for the TV taping. From talking with him and seeing the remarkable color movies taken by friends during the stunt the following information was obtained)

About three weeks before the Nov. 8th escapade Steve was caught trespassing on Govt. property in the same area and was reprimanded by Federal Agents. At the time he was carrying a set of calipers and while in custody and being questioned he casually picked up a ruler from the desk and managed to read  $3\frac{7}{8}$ " from the calipers. This was the information he was after - the diameter of cables across the gorge. After being released Steve got together with Mr. Everett Johnson, a retired pattern maker and inventor and together they designed and built a 20" wheel unicycle with sufficient width to accommodate the cable. After considerable planning Sat. Nov. 8, was chosen as the day and Steve was driven up the road on the Arizona side. Upon reaching a preselected point where a low stone wall would hide him from general view Steve got out the back of the van with his unicycle, collapsible balance pole, and a 3 wheel cart similar to an automobile mechanic's creeper. As the van continued on its way Steve put one knee on the cart and began scooting down the service road pushing with his free foot much like a boy on a coaster wagon. The stone wall hid him from view until he reached a place where on the other side tall ladders stretched upward to a sort of cave where the ends of cables stretching across the river are anchored. Slings his 40 lb unicycle and his 40 lb collapsed balance pole on his back Steve clambered quickly up the tall ladders to the cave. It was not until he had extended his balance poles to 10 ft each side, gotten on his unicycle, and came riding down the big cable that he was first noticed. Friends' cameras picked him up as he rode down the sloping cable, and zoomed in on him when he stopped to let his balance pole, with an American Flag on each end, slide out another 10 ft each side for better balance on the swaying 1500 ft cable high above the river. He continued his ride and upon reaching midpoint unfurled another American Flag and secured it to the cable with wire he had taken along for the purpose. As he continued his ride across the cable he stopped a number of times, secured his unicycle and balance pole, and proceeded to cavort back and forth on the single cable, laying down and feigning sleep, and then hopping and skipping all the way across to the other side where he exchanged shouts with spectators below. He then returned to his unicycle and pole and resumed his ride. Approximately two hours after leaving the Arizona side he began his ride up the steep slope on the Nevada side. Here he encountered difficulty - broken strands of cable that would not allow the wheel to turn. Toward the end he slung his unicycle over his shoulder and completed the last 150 ft on foot. Upon reaching the tower on the Nevada side he collapsed his pole, descended the tower, and walked out the service path to gate where Federal Officers and the Supt. were waiting to arrest him. Papers covering the story the following day termed it a low key arrest. Movies and still pics taken at the time show Steve shaking hands with a smiling officer while the understandably upset Supt. in background gave orders to have him arrested and booked. From point of view of a professional stuntman the \$200 fine was probably a fair price for the publicity received and the satisfaction of having done his thing to celebrate the Bicentennial of our great country. To visitors who now look up and see Old Glory flying over the water 700 ft below it appears incredible that a man on a unicycle put it there.

As promised in the October newsletter here is a list of our new officers for 1976 along with short write-up to acquaint you with each, their families, and their interests.

PRESIDENT: PAUL FOX 983 East Center Street, Marion, Ohio 43302

PAUL FOX, his wife NANCY, and their three girls CATHY, CONNIE & CINDY, are about as avid unicyclists as you could find anywhere and have been unicycling for several years. In 1953 one of Paul's many brothers (Paul comes from a family of 16) bought a unicycle. He had difficulty mastering it so Paul fell heir to the one wheeler and in no time was riding it everywhere. When President Kennedy, in 1962, started talking about hiking 50 miles Paul had visions of unicycling that distance. In 1966 he succeeded in doing just that and became so interested in the sport that he started the Paul Fox Unicycle Club, Inc. of which he is still the Director and prime mover. Through this club Paul, with the help of his energetic wife Nancy, has brought the joy of unicycling to over 900 boys and girls in the vicinity of Marion, Ohio. He and his family have participated in National Unicycle Meets in New York, Ohio, and Michigan and this year the Paul Fox Unicycle Club, Inc. will be sponsoring the 1976 National Unicycle Meet in Marion. Recently the club received recognition from President Ford for their involvement in "Bicentennial 76". Both Paul and Nancy are also founder members of the Unicycling Society of America, Inc. and for the past two years Paul has served as Vice Pres. while Nancy has taken an active part as recording secretary at the Annual Meetings. With someone in the driver's seat as dedicated as Paul we should all feel very fortunate and look forward to a wonderful 1976 for the Unicycling Society of America, Inc.

VICE PRESIDENT: JOHN WHITE 1311 North Curtin Street, State College, Pa. 16801

JOHN is the father of SALLY WHITE, who is the organizer and promoter of the WHIRL WHEELS UNICYCLE CLUB of State College, Pa. Sally's brothers JONATHAN and MARK are also unicycle enthusiasts. PEGGY, Sally's mother, has been a force behind the scenes in the costuming, etc. of Whirl Wheels, which is just 2½ yrs old. JOHN is a Professor of Floriculture at Penn State. He has been active in scouting as a Scoutmaster and Webelos leader and is an avid runner. He placed second in the Masters division 6 mile cross country race sponsored by the U.S. Track and Field Federation this fall. SALLY, who won the 1975 Girls unicycle Trick Riding Championship, is also a 4 yr letterman on her high school track team. She was 7th in the State Meet last spring running the one mile event and also placed 7th this past fall in the State cross country championships. She is also a member of the marching and concert bands. The White family enjoys traveling and are very active skiers (snow) and have a new interest in Juggling.

SECRETARY TREASURER: RICHARD L. HAINES 592 Miami Street, Marion, Ohio 43302

DICK HAINES, his wife ROSE, and three children DAVID, CAROL, & WAYNE, have participated in organized bicycling activities for many years. DICK has organized and led many one day and weekend cycle "Trips For Teens". He founded and was president for two years of THE MARION BICYCLE CLUB, one of the most famous bicycle clubs in the Mid-western United States. He has been Tour Director for "Sesquicentury", a 150 mile bicycle tour at Marion, for the past four years. He has been into bicycle racing and touring and has won several awards. He has finished 100 miles in four hours and forty minutes. For the past seven and one half years he and his family have also been very active in the field of unicycling. They are all riding members of The Paul Fox Unicycle Club Inc. of Marion. This past year Dick was a winner in a 26 mile Unicycle Marathon, and his daughter Carol won six first place awards at the National Unicycle Meet. Both individually and as a family they have won many unicycle awards, with the exception of Rose, who has her share of bicycle trophies.

It is of considerable advantage to have the President and Secretary Treasurer of an organization live in close proximity to each other. Both Dick and Paul live in the city of Marion, Ohio so we can look forward to administrative activities being streamlined and hence the general outlook for the future is bright indeed.



RBBB's Circus will be featuring the outstanding young unicyclist BARRY LAPPY, from England, again this season. The tentative dates for the Red Unit's first quarter are as listed below. If you missed Barry's neat act last year or wish to see some of his latest tricks on unicycles and bicycles this is your chance to see him before he returns to England. Dates of the RBBB Red Unit's performances after April - See Apr. NL.

Feb. 9-11	Venice, Florida	Mar. 12-14	Columbia, So Carolina
Feb. 13-15	Lakeland, Florida	Mar. 16-21	Knoxville, Tennessee
Feb. 18-29	Atlanta, Georgia	Mar. 24-28	Cincinnati, Ohio
March 2-7	Charlotte, No. Carolina	Mar. 31-Apr 4	Charleston, West Va.
March 9-10	Savannah, Georgia	Apr. 6-25	Washington, D.C.

**JULY 16 & 17, and 21-24, 1976 CIRCUS CITY FESTIVAL, PERU, INDIANA**

No vacation in America's Midwest is complete unless you spend a day in the "Circus Capital of the World", Peru, Indiana. Each summer about the middle of July residents of this community present a full youth three-ring circus which is so good that many visitors have to be told that it is not a professional show. Many readers have no doubt seen the hour long TV Documentary "Circus Town U.S.A." filmed by NBC and shown coast to coast. It is very fitting that Peru is the setting for this yearly extravaganza. During the hey-day of the professional circus, Peru was the winter quarters for seven of the world's major circuses. Children and young adults take a part in staging this colorful display -thrilling trapeze acts, aerial artistry, all expertly rendered, whisk the audience back to the late 1880's and the early 1900's. From looking at latest brochure received from LARRY KINDLE-SPARKER, Executive Director of Circus City Festival, your Ed. would recommend you try to schedule it in your summer vacation plans.

**Mid MAY Through Mid SEPTEMBER 1976 CIRCUS WORLD MUSEUM, BARABOO, WISCONSIN**

One of the outstanding acts the youth of Circus World Museum participate in is unicycling. Every day for 18 weeks throughout the summer, a quarter million people watch the LIVE circus acts perform under their Big Top; and periodically throughout the summer, the youth from the Acrobatic School perform with the professionals. In addition to the Big Top show, the 25 acre Circus World Museum offers just about everything a circus buff could ask for - and it all is happening in the very buildings and on the very grounds where Ringling Bros. Circus winterquartered for some 34 years during the hey-day of the outdoor circus. Should any readers find themselves in the State of Wisconsin between May and September, the Circus World Museum is a must. If you are planning a trip to that part of the U.S.A. your Ed. suggests you send for a copy of their beautiful color circular and acquaint yourself with the wonderful world of the circus that the State Historical Society of Wisconsin has made available to the public - and be sure to stop in and say hello to our good friend, the Executive Director, Bill Schultz.

GARBO & BERKY, avid unicyclists, who operate THE CLOWN SHOP in South Paris, Maine, and who ran a most successful WORKSHOP (SCHOOL FOR BUFFOONS) last Aug. and Sept. have announced that once more they will be offering such a workshop. The date is APRIL 26 - MAY 15, 1976. Classes will be held six days a week and aside from the unicycle will include Prop Building, Gymnastics, Improvisation, Make-Up, Juggling, Balloon Tying and Mime. Fee for the three weeks is \$160 which includes use of all facilities - Dormitory, Showers, Kitchen etc. (Food will be the individual's responsibility) Field work will be carried on in nearby towns and cities. Enrollment is limited and as this goes to press they still have about a dozen openings. Unicyclists seriously interested in Clowning here's your chance - for further information write: Garbo & Berky, "The Clown Shop", Celebration Mime Theatre, So. Paris, Me. 04281

Your Ed. has received a number of interesting brochures from professional entertainers whose acts include unicycling. From ENGLAND there's PANDEMONIUM UNLIMITED, a mini-troupe consisting of JUSTIN CASE and KARIN ADIR. Their presentation "CHAOS" is a 1½ hr. spectacle of mime, clowns, masks, music, dance, and unicycles. Their humor is visual, so neither language nor age is a barrier, being suitable for children as well as adults. Technical and space requirements are simple and their fees negotiable. Anyone wishing further information may write to Dikk Richardson, 63 Hillview Road, Hatch End - Pinner, Middx. ENGLAND HA5 4PB.

## THE LOCO-MOTION CIRCUS



Closer to home there's THE LOCO-MOTION CIRCUS, a couple that not only perform at social and educational functions, but is available for teaching in the various circus arts such as juggling, comedy movement, Mime, counter balancing, equilibristic arts including unicycling, and of course the application of clown make-up. Consisting primarily of two energetic and very talented young men BOUNCE & CY, the Loco-Motion Circus presents a performance that inspires others to try some of the skills that are such a joy to them and which they present so well. They often have other circus folk join them which enhances the excitement of their Loco-Motion Circus. Your Ed. had the opportunity to meet and see Bounce and Cy in action at the International Jugglers Convention in Youngstown, Ohio this past summer and was greatly impressed. The Loco-Motion Circus is available from a single performance to a daily or weekly residency and while based in New England has traveled as far as Ohio and Florida. Further information on their performances or workshop programs can be obtained by writing to: The Loco-Motion Circus, P.O.Box 61, Amherst, Mass. 01002 or Tel. (413) 549-0397.



## GARBO and GILLIAN

Two who make a three-ring circus all by themselves; small enough in number to be adaptable, available and affordable; and big enough to carry any audience.

Another outstanding duo your editor met at the International Jugglers Convention last August was GARBO and GILLIAN of the CELEBRATION MIME THEATRE, South Paris, Maine 04281. The exceptional good looks of this young couple is exceeded only by their outstanding ability in the field of Mime, Dance, Magic, Juggling, And Acrobatics. Both are also unicyclists and some of our other U-S-A members who attended the Garbo and Berky WORKSHOP - SCHOOL FOR BUFFOONS last summer (where Garbo and Gillian taught) are loud in their praises for this talented couple. During the International Jugglers Convention it was noted that during the competition when TV people filming the convention saw Garbo do his cigar box act they left their lunch and talked him into doing it all over again in another part of the gym so they could get it on film. Your Ed. was equally impressed that such a young looking couple could be such versatile and seasoned performers. Their warm and friendly personalities also made them many friends at the convention. Interested parties can get in touch with them at the above address or phone (207) 743-9848.

Garbo also reports that THE CLOWN SHOP of Celebration Mime Theatre in S.Paris Me. 04281 will be holding another WORKSHOP (SCHOOL FOR BUFFOONS) April 26 - May 15, 1976. It will be similar to the one that was such a success last Aug. (See July '75 newsletter, Pg. 5)

After RBBB's Red Unit's final circus performance of the season in New Haven, Nov. 30, 1975 BARRY LAPPY and his parents came to spend another week with the Jenacks before returning to the circus winterquarters in Venice, Florida. At the same time STEVE McPEAK arrived from Las Vegas preparatory to taping something in N.Y. City for the "To Tell The Truth" TV show. It was wall to wall bedding again in John Jenack's room and a most exciting week at 67 Lion Lane. RICHARD SIEGEL, a 75 yr old retiree from Germany, who participated in and taught trick bike riding also showed up and brought with him a film of the 1971 International Trick Bike Riding Championships in Switzerland. All were spellbound with the amazing tricks being done on the bikes. Mr. Siegel had brought a few Bauer bikes with him two of which Bill and John Jenack had purchased from him earlier. Barry's Dad bought the remaining two and Barry has been practicing on them in Florida the past month. After seeing the film we lowered the saddle on John Jenack's bike as far as it would go and shortly after midnite, under the streetlight in front of 67 Lion Lane, turned the bike over to Barry and asked him to show us how it was done. The Jenacks now know that anything they can't do on their bikes is not the fault of the bicycle.

Steve's taping for the TV show "To Tell The Truth" went off well even though all four panelists guessed who the real Steve McPeak was. The show was aired in the N.Y. area on Jan. 21, 1976. It was at 9 AM so your Ed. missed it. However John Jenack was home and taped the sound for playback that night. After leaving the Jenacks Steve lost no time in getting to the west coast and on Dec. 16 called to say he had just been intercepted in his attempt to tightrope across one of the cables of the Golden Gate Bridge. However he said he still had something else in the works. The newspapers of Jan. 18, particularly the Denver Post carried some beautiful pictures of Steve walking across a cable of the world's highest bridge, The Royal Gorge Bridge of the Arkansas River about 8 miles west of Canon City, Colorado. The bridge is 1055 ft above the river and the cable support towers another 55 ft so the total was approx. 1110 ft. He made the walk on Friday Jan. 16, 1976 and was fortunate that it was a calm day with no winds to give him trouble. Unlike his stunt across Hoover Dam he was not fined but was given an emphatic no when he requested permission to walk the overhead tramway cable spanning the gorge at an even higher elevation. The Royal Gorge Bridge is the same bridge from which another of our members, DON BOYLES, made a spectacular Skydive on Labor Day Sept 7, 1970 (See Pg 4 of Apr. 1974 newsletter)

KEN NEUHAUSER, a newspaper reporter for the LOUISVILLE TIMES spent Sat. Nov. 29, 1975 with the Jenacks in Westbury, N.Y. and picked up information for an article on unicycling for his newspaper. He turned out to be a magician and juggler as well as a unicyclist so it was a most interesting day for all. The Dec. 29 edition of the Louisville Times carried a half page of pictures and about a half page on the story of unicycling and how to go about learning the art. It was a humorous but factual article and he concluded it with an observation that one of the most famous unicyclists of 1898 Sebastian Neuhausen probably had a typographical error in spelling of his last name. Ken also holds what he thinks may be a Billy Balancer record (A Billy Balancer is the little clown toy that rides a uni on a tightwire). In July 1975 he and a friend set up a wire and ran the Billy Balancer back and forth about sixty yards over a swimming pool in the Lansdowne Apartments Complex in Lexington, Ky. much to the amazement and amusement of spectators below.

KEVIN ERSKINE, of Denver Colorado, who pedaled 3000 miles last summer to better Steve McPeak's distance ride from Chicago to Las Vegas has received considerable publicity in the news media recently. The Feb. 3, 1976 National Enquirer has a good picture and story on him. Your Ed. made contact with Kevin last Oct. and from letters received feels certain we will be hearing more on Kevin in the coming year.

CHERYL DAVIDSON who recently danced for 6 months with the Rockettes at Radio City Music Hall in N.Y.C. became interested in unicycling and practiced along the bar in their rehearsal room. Got to where she could do fairly well holding on to the bar but was afraid to go solo. Came out to visit Jenacks for a few minutes early Sun. Dec. 14, and wound up staying many hours. She also turned out to be an amateur magician and juggler and after straightening out her uni problem spent the rest of the day on juggling and magic with John. Did you know the Rockettes once had a whole chorus line of unicyclists? If any old timers recall seeing this your Ed. would like to hear more about it.





MIKE HOL-U-BAR, whose 3 wheel unicycle was pictured on page 17 of our Oct. '75 issue received close to a full page write-up in the SUNDAY ADVOCATE of Baton Rouge, La. Dec. 14, 1975. The article included three large color photos of Mike on his 3 Wheeler, his 6' Unicycle, and his Penny Farthing bike. Mike, who is a commercial artist and sign painter, is pushing both unicycling and bicycling in his spare time. The Logo at the left is one of the novel designs he made and uses in connection with THE WHEELMEN organization of

which he is an active member. Something of a giant, Mike, who is 30 yrs old is 6 feet 5 in. tall and weighs 265 lbs. Although an accomplished cyclist he is due for some stiff competition for his son Mike Jr. age 8, claims he is going to learn to ride even better than Dad.

The LIONS ALL STAR CIRCUS under the direction of Richard C. Polanki and comprised mainly of high school and college students played a number of dates in the Pennsylvania area at the end of this past season. A featured unicyclist on their program was one of our members STEVE MILLS of Morristown, N.J. Steve is not only a unicyclist but an outstanding juggler as well. At the International Juggler's Convention in Youngstown, Ohio last summer Steve took first place in numbers juggling (5 clubs for 69.6 seconds) and second place in the regular club juggling routine. He also took second in the auxiliary equipment category. Good going Steve.

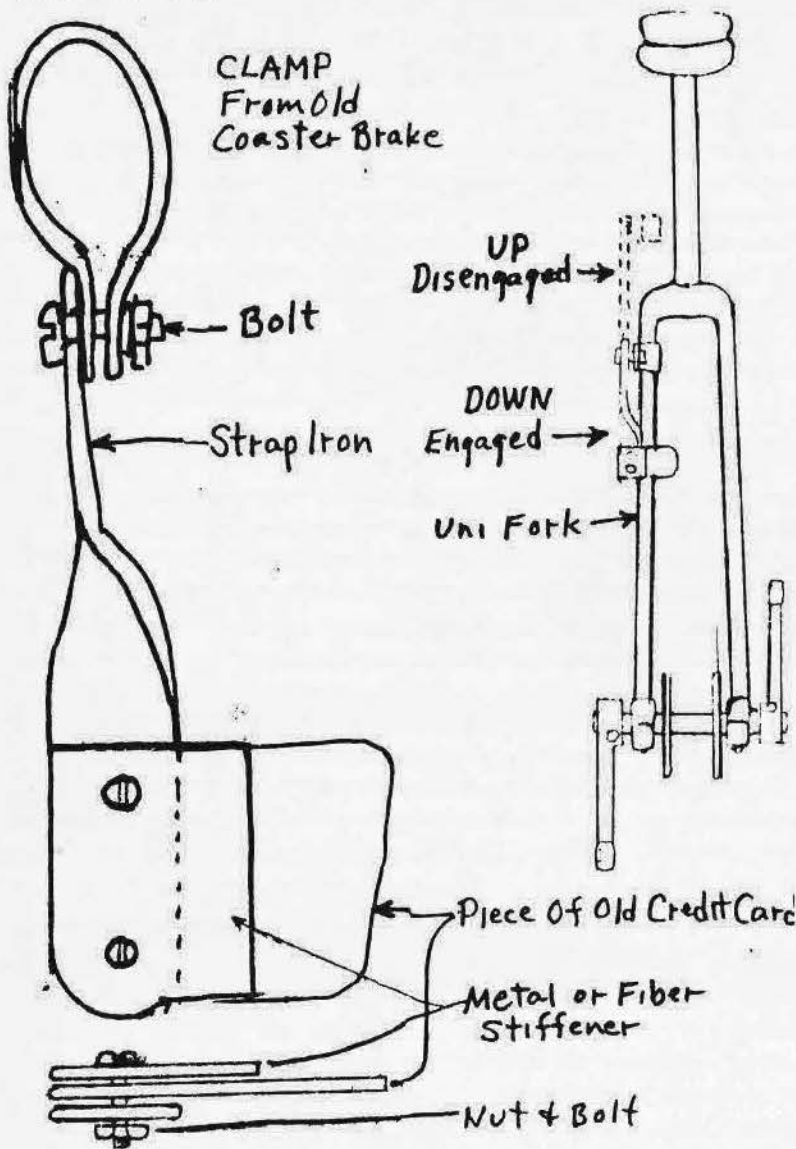
OAK VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL in FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA presented its annual fall physical education show at the Tysons Corner Shopping Center near Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, November 12th. The show, which attracted a large crowd and was part of the recognition of American Education Week, was directed by physical education teachers JIM MOYER and CATHY ORENDORFF. Among the acts presented was a group of unicyclists going through floor patterns, obstacles, and ramps. Other activities included Roman ladders, plate spinning, rope twirling, tumbling, balance beam, German wheel, stilt-walking, and modern dance.

This past summer MAUREEN and EILEEN CURTIN of Potsdam, New York had a beautiful picture of them appear in a Northern New York Newspaper. It showed them zipping around the Clarkson College Campus on their unicycles. Clarkson, an engineering college went co-ed a few years ago and Maureen was the first woman ever to win one of the two Clarkson Awards presented at commencement. Her sister Eileen is now a sophomore at the same college. Both have been unicyclists for about ten years.

From JOHN W. STEGEN JR. of Ogden, Utah comes word that the CYCLING HUIJOS, a unicycle club that has been together for about ten years, is still going strong. The group of six have performed in over 650 free charity shows for churches, Boy Scouts, parades, vets, and Crippled childrens hospitals. Most of the members can also juggle, skip rope and ride two and three high on their unis. John Stegen, their leader, is also a circus buff and collects anything he can on the circus. If any readers have circus programs they are about to throw out why not mail them to John instead and make a fellow unicyclist happy. His address is 10 Yale Drive, Ogden Utah 84403.

One of our more distant members is MIKE LYNN who is stationed on island of Kwajalein. About now Mike should be in for a happy surprise. Try as he would this past year there seemed no way he could get a unicycle and have it delivered to Kwajalein. Having once been in a somewhat similar situation your Ed. decided to do something about it and this past week got a local postoffice to accept a 24" unicycle addressed to an APO number in San Francisco. It is hoped all goes well and there will soon be one very happy unicyclist in Micronesia.

Our hard working and tireless ex president BERNIE CRANDALL of Pontiac, Michigan took sick the first part of December and for the first time in his life had to take penicillin to help overcome a bad pneumonia bug. It really had him down and what bothered him even more was that he could not complete the giraffes he had promised many unicyclists they would have by Christmas. Bernie is scheduled to return to work first week in Feb. and we trust the bug will be completely licked by then. Our best wishes for his speedy return to health.



SOUNDER ACCESSORY FOR UNICYCLES  
 (For Riding Blindfolded)  
 a la John Lizza

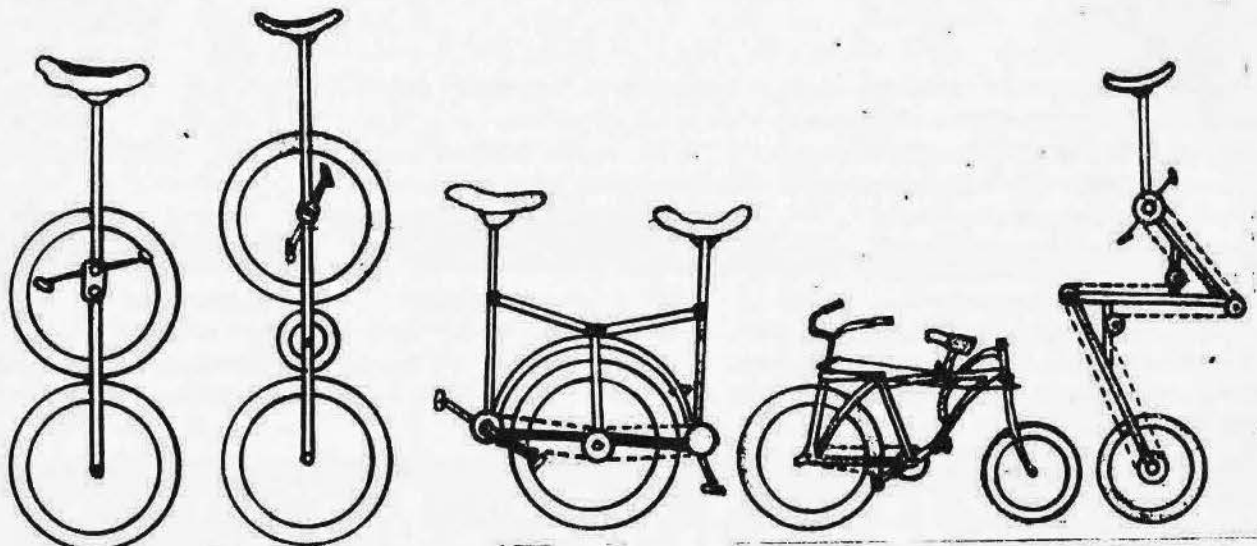
At the National Meet some unicyclists noticed the sounders that John Lizza & John Jenack had on their unicycles and asked your ed. to include a sketch on their construction & installation.

For fun put on a blindfold, have one of your fellow unicyclists ride ahead of you with one of these clicking away in his spokes and see if you can follow the sound as John Lizza does (John is the country's leading blind cyclist). With just his own sounder engaged John can also use the reflected sounds to avoid larger objects in his path such as cars etc. Unless you were born blind this would be extremely difficult to learn - but following another cyclist while blindfolded could be a challenge for some of you unicyclists who are looking for new things to try.

The construction shown at left is a bit more sophisticated than the clothespin and baseball card type with which you may be familiar but note the ease with which this one can be engaged or disengaged. When not in use it is out of the way and does not interfere with normal operation of your unicycle.

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FULL SIZE SKETCH

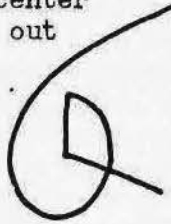
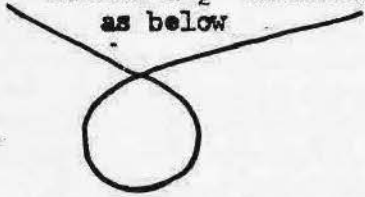


NOVEL UNICYCLE AND BIKE DESIGNS - In Use By THE GREAT Y CIRCUS, Redlands, California  
 Sketched from photos sent to your ed. by Warren Wood, Director, The Great Y Circus  
 (Originally built and used by Rudy Yung and Steve McPeak)

With a pair of sturdy long nose pliers, cutters, and a soldering iron (or epoxy cement) you can make yourself a neat little decorative unicycle from 2 paper clips as follows:

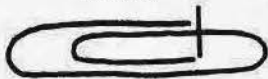
For Wheel:

- 1. Straighten out one paper clip and bend around a 1/2" diameter as below
- 2. Bend one end down to center and out
- 3. Do same with other end
- 4. Finish by bending crank arms and pedals as shown



For Frame:

- 1. Cut one paper clip as shown below
- 2. Use smaller piece for forks and bend loops at ends with tips of pliers. Straighten out other piece and rebend to make seat and stem as shown at rt.



Assembly:  
Place wheel in loops at end of forks and bend loops closed. Solder or epoxy the junction of forks and seat post



Paper clips are stiff and make a durable little cycle. However if you find them too difficult to bend with the tools you have available you may wish to use copper wire instead such as used for installing door chimes. Should you wish to make this into a charm that can be worn on chain about the neck or on a bracelet simply make a little loop in the seatpost wire before bending it around to form saddle - like sketch at rt.

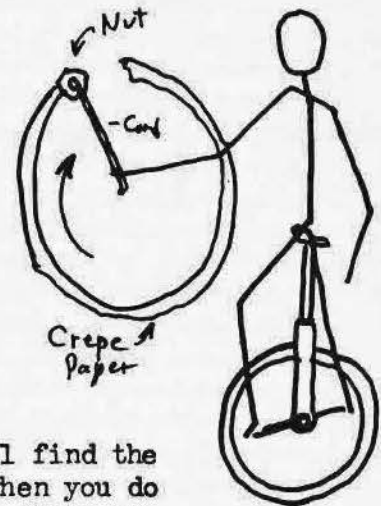


\* \* \* \* \*

A COLORFUL SIMULATED LARIAT

For a colorful indoor act a group or a single unicyclist dressed in western attire can spin dummy lariats made from crepe paper streamers, a nut, and a piece of string. It requires very little skill (if not used in a high wind), and gives the appearance of a real lariat.

To make a simulated lariat take a piece of 1/8" venetian blind cord about three ft long and tie one end of it to a 3/8" hex nut which weighs approx 1/3 oz. Next take a length of crepe paper streamer about 12 ft long and tie one end of it to the same nut by squeezing end of it thru center of nut and tying it on to itself.



Now if you hold the venetian blind cord by the free end you will find the nut will provide enough weight so you can swing it around and when you do the crepe paper will chase its own tail and appear as a lariat. You can adjust the length of the crepe paper and the length of the cord so that it appears as just one complete circle.

If you are twirling it on one side of your body and suddenly let it fly over to the other side it will appear that you jumped through the lariat and is quite impressive. The nut is not very big or heavy but if you will wind some 3/4" masking tape around it and the junction of the paper and cord it will minimize the trauma if you get hit with it inadvertently.

This first quarterly newsletter of 1976 is going to press a few weeks later than usual and the reason is that your Ed. just had a blast for 2½ weeks in California. The story is so incredible that neither Mrs. Jenack and myself or our son John can believe that it really happened.

It all started last summer when KATIE HORTON, a 15 yr old unicyclist in Pasadena wrote and asked if she could come to visit the Jenacks for a weekend. She also asked if she could invite a former schoolmate BETSY LANGAN of Connecticut and if we would help her teach Betsy to ride a unicycle. The rest of the story was told in the Oct '75 newsletter pg 13 with the outcome that Katie came, and Betsy learned to ride. Upon her return to California Katie got the idea that it would be nice if the Jenacks could be flown out for the Tournament of Roses and a big unicycle party at the Hortons and provided with a car with which to visit other unicyclists on the west coast. An intensive letter writing campaign by Katie involving west coast unicyclists, performers, and manufacturers brought the needed funds and, after surviving the initial shock of being told about it, the Jenacks packed up and arrived in Los Angeles Dec. 30, 1975. Katie, her Mom Carol, and her 10 yr old brother Winter met the Jenacks at the airport. Their CENTRE FILMS station wagon whisked them all to the Horton home which is just off Orange Grove Blvd. in the staging area of the Tournament of Roses Parade. No sooner had the Jenacks unpacked and assembled their unicycles than a press photographer arrived and shortly thereafter a reporter. The New Years Day edition of the PASADENA STAR NEWS carried a picture and half page story of the get-together planned for unicyclists at the HORTONS during the holidays. Dec. 31st other unicyclists began arriving and the upstairs at Hortons began to take on the look of a dormitory. Katie's mom CAROL had prepared a large number of delicious casserole dishes ahead of time and for the next couple of days the kitchen and dining room appeared to be a continual chow line. Outside the house unicycles of all descriptions were to be seen. One unicyclist, KIT SUMMERS, of San Diego even arrived with his 1¼ footer and an extension ladder for mounting it. JOHN HELD, a friend who came with Kit, brought along among other things a unicycle with about a 12" balloon tired wheel but no pedals. Didn't bother John any, he just ran his feet on the tire and seemed to have little difficulty making it go just where he wished. John also surprised everyone by riding just the wheel from a standard 24" unicycle without fork or saddle (Ultimate Wheel).

New Year's Eve the unicyclists got together and rode up Orange Grove Blvd to witness the mass of humanity that camps out overnite each year, on the curb strips, prior to start of the Tournament of Roses Parade on New Year's Day. Early New Year's Day the unicyclists were out again riding up and down and inspecting the unbelievably beautiful floats that were being readied for the start of the parade at 8:30 AM. Although the parade is limited to just Floats, Horses, and Marching Bands the unicyclists were allowed to ride up and down the Blvd. until parade time and appeared on TV a number of times prior to actual start of the parade.

After the parade some went to see the football game at the Rose Bowl while others returned to the house to watch it more leisurely on TV. Some of the Horton's guests including the Jenacks alternated their activities in the back yard with rushing in now and then to see how the ball game was going. The Horton's back yard was the scene of constant activity with unicyclists riding and trying out each others unicycles and juggling equipment, bouncing on the Horton's trampoline, tossing diabolos, and visiting with other guests who were constantly arriving. The happy ending of the game (happy for most Californians) with UCLA winning put everyone in a particularly good mood. Some of the unicyclists and friends arriving, whom your editor was most delighted to either meet for first time or renew acquaintance with were: LOYD SMITH of Hollywood (Loyd designed and built the original "Loyd" unicycle - now Schwinn); WARREN WOOD, Director of THE GREAT Y CIRCUS of Redlands (the oldest community circus in the world - 38th yr); FRANCIS "SMITTY" SMITH, A United Airlines Flt Engineer of Seattle, Washington who is a uni bug and who has a beautiful collection of various size chrome unicycles he has made for himself; DR. MILES and CHARLOTTE FOX ROGERS of Cerritos and their sons BRUCE and CRAIG and daughter VALERIE (the Rogers arrived in their van which bears the unique license plate "1 WHEEL"; PAUL AND JUDY MACCREADY of Pasadena and their sons PARKER and TYLER. Parker and Tyler along with Katie and Winter Horton, Susan Hemond, and Tom Blaylock have sort of sparked the unicycle movement in the Pasadena area the past few years. The MacCreadys are also hang gliding enthusiasts and your Ed. regrets he was unable to get to Sylmar with them to see some of the Hang Gliding

experts in action including Parker and Tyler. Because of lack of time and problems in scheduling your Ed. also missed seeing the film WINTER HORTON (Katie's Dad) dug up of Paul MacCready winning the international gliding championship in France some years ago. Your Ed did get a chance to check Paul out on a unicycle however and a chance to talk hang gliding and parachuting with him. Paul's son Tyler has one of the neatest looking giraffes ever. It is but about 5 ft and was made by a bike shop in Montrose. A further check revealed however that the bike shop considers that giraffe to be the only two they will ever build (the first and the last). Although it is one beautiful cycle they apparently realize that the economics of building small quantities of them for sale is not feasible. Katie's 10 yr old brother Winter sure likes that cycle and looks great on it. Everyone got a kick out of his understanding parents Winter and Carol letting him and Katie ride their giraffes around in the kitchen for us. Young Winter by the way is a professional model and is the typical American Boy you see in the TV commercial for sugar rice cereal and is also the boy appearing on the Knox Gelatine box. Like Katie he is real sharp and two highlights of the Jenacks visit at Hortons was seeing him perform on his skateboard on the steep Bradford Street hill and seeing him master the French Diabolux. (before leaving your Ed. repeatedly tossed a diabolo higher than the house and Winter caught it on the string each time) - wouldn't be surprised if we got word he is doing it on his unicycle now.

CENTRE FILMS was very kind in supplying a station wagon and during the week the Jenacks got to visit many of the cyclists and performers who were unable to make the New Year's party at Hortons. An initial sightseeing tour of L.A., Hollywood, and Pasadena area with Carol Horton earlier served to acquaint the Jenacks with the freeway system and no problems were encountered in getting to the various places in southern California.

A trip to Chula Vista meant getting together with DR. JACK WILEY with whom the Jenacks have had voluminous correspondence but had never met in person. After having lunch together a little park was found that had a paved theatre area suitable for riding unicycles. Unis, juggling props and diabolos were unloaded from the car and the afternoon was spent working out and discussing unicycling and circus arts in general. As the afternoon progressed some local residents came to sit in the bleachers and watch the free show. It was a fun afternoon and in the Jenack's book Jack Wiley is a really nice guy.

Another day the Jenacks visited JOE MOLE in Westminster. Joe was the subject of the feature write-up in the January 1975 newsletter and is one of the old time vaudeville greats. At 88 he is still in good health and proved such an interesting personality that in middle of the afternoon the Jenacks let Johnny take off for Knotts Berry Farm while Bill and Mary stayed and spent the afternoon reminiscing with Joe. Guess Joe Mole is the only person the Jenacks know who has two electric cars and actually uses them to drive around town.

A side trip to Redlands one day resulted in the Jenacks being able to meet and work out with the boys and girls of THE GREAT Y CIRCUS. Some of their odd cycles (see pg 10 of this newsletter) were available and the Jenacks had fun riding or trying to ride them. WARREN WOOD, their Director drove us out to CHUCK CRAW'S place where set up in a field adjacent to his home was one of the most beautiful trapeze riggings ever. Couldn't help but think its probably the biggest macrame project the Jenacks have ever seen. A very sizeable donation of rope from TUBBS CORDAGE CORP. and help in the way of know how from BOB YERKES resulted in them weaving their own triple trapeze safety net.

After a little over a week in Southern California the Jenacks reluctantly bid farewell to the Hortons, picked up their own Avis rental car, and started driving north along the coast. Stopped first in Santa Barbara to inquire about availability of the Pivicycle or Swing Bike as noted in the Apr. '75 newsletter Pg 10. Hope to meet with company reps in N.Y. at the International Cycle Show Feb. 15-17 and get more definite news on them. Meanwhile a contact was made with a bike shop in Seattle who had a sample and it was purchased by Jenack Cycles. It arrived in good shape and John Jenack is eagerly awaiting warmer weather so he can get out and practice on it.

On way north a number of other friends and unicyclists were visited or contacted including ROBERT FRENCH and AL SCHEIBEL of Lompoc. An overnite stay was made in San Simeon. Before proceeding the following day an interesting tour was made of the Hearst Castle with all its art treasures.

Upon arrival in Watsonville the BERRYS, CHARLES AND BERNICE, had the red carpet rolled out and the Jenacks had several wonderful days during which scenic attractions as well as unicyclists were visited.

During a visit with WARD PAYN of the CONCORD Unicyclists MRS. L. VALLIS, also of the Concord group stopped in and brought the Jenacks a novel welded up model unicycle. It is an attractive little model and makes an excellent award for club members.

Probably the most outstanding highlight of the Jenacks visit to Northern California was the afternoon spent with JIM DANDY (JESS MONEFELDT) of Concord. After meeting him in person the feature write-up on him in this issue of the newsletter doesn't seem to do him justice. He is truly a remarkable man. Your Ed. must admit the balancing of a ball point pen or dollar bill on the nose sounds like it might involve rubber cement or a gimmick of some sort but in the case of Jim Dandy its real. He actually does balance those objects on his nose and without any gimmicks. For anyone seriously interested in duplicating the feat he passes along the following suggestion. Start with something like a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " dowel about 3 ft long and keep practicing and cutting off an inch at a time until you work it down to the size of a pen. Jess had an accident about the middle of Dec. and despite the fact he was carrying a broken arm in a sling rode his unicycle with the Jenacks and showed some of the amazing balance feats he can still do at age 69. His recent accident occurred when he was riding his unicycle on a dirty stage and hit a spot of grease during just a simple turn. Had nothing to do with the difficult trick he was about to perform but was merely the result of bad luck in running over some grease. He went down so fast there was little he could do to ease the fall and it resulted in a broken arm. The arm is healing rapidly however and he expects to be back to normal in another month.

After the enjoyable afternoon with Jim Dandy the Jenacks made one more stop on their way back to Watsonville. It was to say hello to ART and ANGIE RODRIGUES and family in San Jose. Art and Angie and their seven children are all unicyclists. Two years ago while on an 8000 mile vacation tour across America they stopped to visit the Jenacks on Long Island. Their oldest boy Dave happened to be in Hawaii at the time but this time he was working in the family garage when Jenacks showed up so now they know the whole family and what a beautiful family they are. Incidentally wonder if any other readers saw the wire service photo in the newspapers in early January showing the world's shortest freeway in San Jose. Just outside of San Jose a freeway has been under construction for some time and in one place there is just a high bridge over a road below but no connecting roads to the bridge. To call attention to the bogged down situation someone sneaked up at night with a crane & hoisted a car up onto the bridge. Newspapers carried the picture with the title "The World's Shortest Freeway" and no one could figure how the car got up there.

To wind up their vacation the Jenacks drove to Las Vegas where KEN and JULE BEIN of Kingman, Ariz. met them as they turned in their Avis rental. A visit with John McPeak in Las Vegas (Steve was in Denver about to walk another bridge cable), a look at Hoover Dam and the place where Steve recently rode his unicycle (see pg 4), and two days sightseeing with friends from Kingman wound up a fabulous vacation and the Jenacks flew back from Las Vegas about the middle of January.

It was a dream come true for the Jenacks and all they can say now is "Thanks so much to the Hortons of Pasadena and the west coast unicyclists and friends who made such a trip a reality".

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Although the Rogers Family of Cerritos California have retired their outstanding WONDERWHEELS drill team (see feature write-up in Apr 75 Newsletter) it was a pleasure to note that the interest is still there and that four out of five of them were able to make the party at Hortons on New Years. A couple days later the Jenacks visited the Rogers in Cerritos and had the opportunity to go over their extensive unicycling memorabilia and to see the large collection of costumes they used during the many years they were a performing drill team. In addition their Walter Nilsson papers and Nilsson's 8 foot unicycle proved to be most interesting. With such a wonderful background and collection your Ed. hopes that one or more of the Rogers children, when they complete college and settle down, will start up a new generation of unicyclists.

Attempts by the Jenacks to look up Bob Starbuck in Sacramento were to no avail and if any members happen to know Bob's new address it will be appreciated if you will send it along.

Again we would like to remind readers that this is your newsletter. It is our desire to include things that are of most interest to you and consistent with our aims which are:

To foster social and athletic interest in, and promote the healthy, wholesome sport of unicycling among youth and adults of the country by establishing voluntary standards of performance and sponsoring and overseeing local and national meets.

To disseminate knowledge and information on all phases of the sport to all interested parties throughout the country via a newsletter and information service.

After a membership vote Aug. 17, 1975 annual membership dues were increased to \$5 starting Jan. 1, 1976. While the \$2 increase may seem like a big jump it will hardly cover the current cost of just printing and mailing the newsletter. Membership cards, stationery, copyright fees, photography, and related postal expenses all add to the total cost of running our organization. Sale of books, back issues, and other items thru the newsletter has in the past and we hope will continue in the future to enable us to break even. We have no paid officers or employees in our non profit organization and all monies received are used in the sole interest of members. If your membership is about to expire and you haven't yet sent in your renewal we hope you will make use of the form on the reverse side of this page. If you are in doubt as to when your membership expires take a look at address label on your last newsletter. Just after your name will be an "X" and a date - which is the date of the last issue you will receive. For example a (X 4-76) after your name would indicate last issue you would receive under present subscription would be April 1976.

Check your label and RENEW TODAY

*Bill Jenack*

UNICYCLE PINS AND CHARMS



The neat little unicycle pins and charms that first made their appearance at the 1975 National Unicycle Meet and were then offered for sale in the Oct. '75 newsletter proved very popular. We therefore placed an additional order and are again offering them at \$2 each plus stamped return envelope from your Newsletter Editor whose address appears below. Full size appearance is as shown at left. When ordering be sure to state whether you wish Pin or Charm. Pin has pin on back while charm has loop on top for use with chain.

William Jenack, Newsletter Editor  
 Unicycling Society of America, Inc.  
 67 Lion Lane  
 Westbury, L.I., New York 11590

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Ed: Enclosed find check, or money order for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for which send postpaid:

No. of Copies	NAME OF PUBLICATION		TOTALS
_____	BASIC CIRCUS SKILLS by Jack Wiley	@ 6.95	_____
_____	THE UNICYCLE BOOK by Jack Wiley	@ 7.95	_____
_____	THE JUGGLING BOOK by Carlo	@ 2.95	_____
_____	THE DRAMA REVIEW NYU March '74 issue	@ 3.50	_____
<u>BACK ISSUES OF U-S-A Inc. NEWSLETTERS</u>			
_____	Vol 1 No. 1 Jan. 1974	@ 1.00	_____
_____	No. 2 Apr. 1974	@ 1.00	_____
_____	No. 3 Jul. 1974	@ 1.00	_____
_____	No. 4 Oct. 1974	@ 1.00	_____
_____	SPECIAL - All 4 1974 issues plus Meet Bulletin	@ 3.00	_____
_____	Vol 2 No. 1 Jan. 1975	@ 1.00	_____
_____	No. 2 Apr. 1975	@ 1.00	_____
_____	No. 3 Jul. 1975	@ 1.00	_____
_____	No. 4 Oct. 1975	@ 1.00	_____

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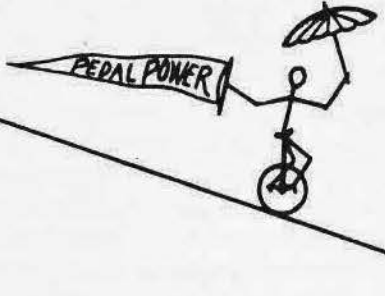
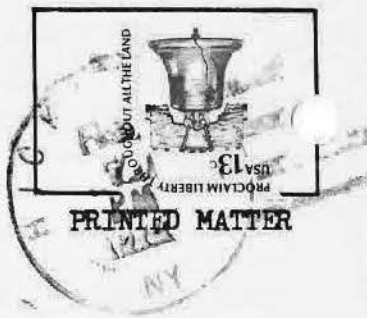
TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE:

If you do not wish to tear out this page simply make up your own list of items desired

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Make Checks Payable to: 1-76  
 UNICYCLING SOCIETY  
 OF AMERICA INC

U-S-A Inc. NEWSLETTER - 1-76



Dave Brichford  
 24460 Lyndon  
 Detroit, Mich. 48239

X 10-76

Dear Members: As a Not-For-Profit Corporation we are not in business to make money. However on the reverse side of this page you will find a number of related items we have for sale which may be of interest to you, and which if ordered thru your newsletter editor will not only be of service to you but will aid our treasury and enable us to award more trophies etc. at future unicycle meets.

If you know of any unicyclist who might be interested in joining our organization please pass along the form below. Your Ed. Bill Jenack

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Check type membership desired and issue with which you wish newsletter subscription to start. Fill in blanks and mail with appropriate amount to the Secretary-Treasurer Mr. Dick Haines, 592 Miami, Marion, Ohio 43302. Make Checks payable to UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

MEMBER, \$5.00 annual dues - includes subscription to quarterly newsletter (with quarterly expiration policy) plus membership card and voting privilege.  
 FOREIGN MEMBERS - same price - newsletter mailed as PRINTED MATTER - same postage

\* FAMILY MEMBER, 50¢ each - for members of the immediate family of a member residing in same household - same benefits as member except no newsletter.

NAME OF APPLICANT (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ (for statistical purposes) Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Field of interest: Amateur \_\_\_\_\_ Professional \_\_\_\_\_

Check issue with which you wish Mbshp & Newsletter to start: Jan. \_\_\_\_\_ Apr. \_\_\_\_\_ Jul. \_\_\_\_\_ Oct. \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please list names and ages of family members joining

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ 1-76

U-S-A Inc. NEWSLETTER 1-76