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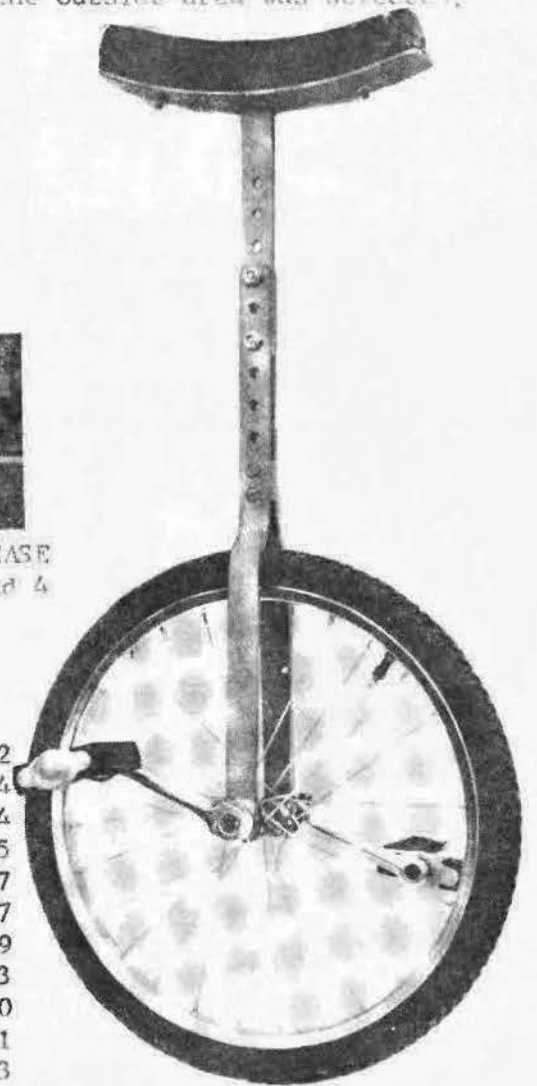
NEWSLETTER

Official Organ UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA Inc. ©1978 All Rts Res.
Yearly Membership \$5 Includes Newsletter (4) ID Card - See Blank Pg. 16

With the National Unicycle Meet, 1978, just around the corner (the dates are July 22 and 23) it is hoped that many U.S.A., Inc. members will be planning the trip to Minneapolis to ride and share ideas and experiences with other unicyclists from all over the country. One change has occurred since your editor took the pages on the "M.U.M." to the printer. If the sun shines throughout the weekend, the entire meet will be held outside in the parking lot at the Apache Plaza. Only in case of rain will the inside mall area be used. The original plan was to use the mall for Sunday's activities. But since many clubs felt that the size was inadequate for group performances, the outside area was selected.



WILL THE REAL KOKOMO ROAD RUNNERS PLEASE STAND UP? see pages 2 and 4



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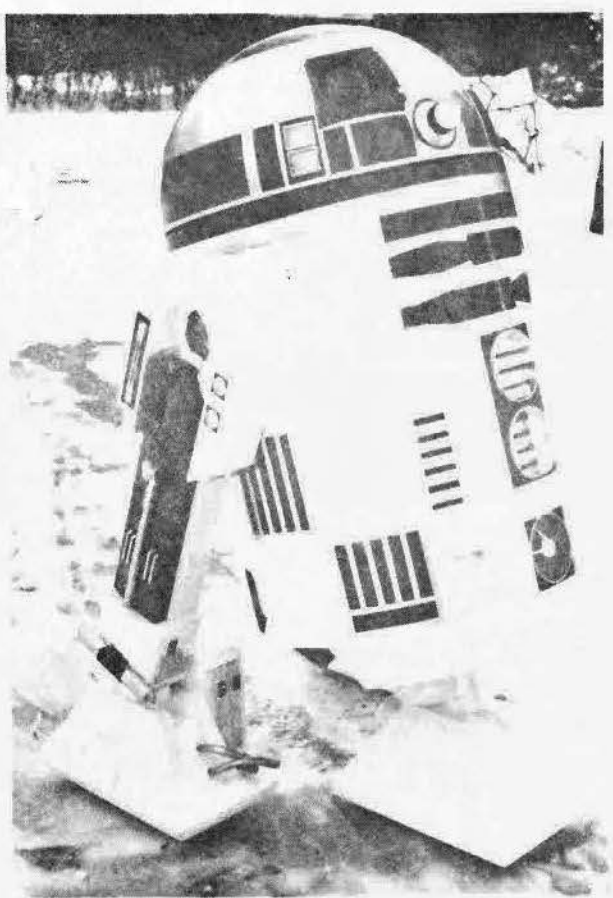
ENGLAND'S ONLY MASS-PRODUCED UNI
see pages 12 and 13



1.

2.

3.



4.

5.

Would it be of interest to U.S.A., Inc. members to have a list of all the known, active unicycle clubs across the country printed in a future edition? Such a list will be printed IF clubs respond by sending the following information:

- Club name
- Complete address
- Name of person who serves as the contact for the club

The UNICYCLING FEDERATION OF EARTH, 1118 Scholl Road, Ames, Iowa 50010, has written to say that they are planning a convention on April 21, 1979. They will be sending more information which will be printed in future Newsletters. David Hadwiger is the contact person for this unicycle group.

STEVE DORFMAN, whose new address is: 10-05 45th Street Brooklyn, New York 11219 would very much like to get a unicycle club started with those riders in the New York City area. Any U.S.A., Inc. members who are interested are invited to call Steve (212-724-7400).

INDEX TO PICTURES ON PAGE 2

- 1) BRIAN MATTHEWS, Toronto, Canada, and his R2 D2 robot he recently constructed. See more information on Brian on page 7.
- 2) MARK BRICHFORD riding his Penny Farthing. Mark made the large front wheel out of two 26" rims.
- 3) JOHN and BILL JENACK riding the big wheels mentioned in the article on page 13.
- 4) TOM MILLER astride a statue he and several other Kokomo Road Runners discovered when on a trip to Indianapolis. The picture on page 1 was taken at the same place.
- 5) R2 D2 himself. Brian reports that he is attempting to teach his robot how to ride (or at least sit on) a unicycle.

THE RESULTS: SMILING FACES 4-H UNICYCLE MEET

Over 130 unicyclists from 11 different clubs met on April 29 at the Hancock Recreational Center in Findlay, Ohio, for an exciting, well-run indoor unicycle meet. Much credit must be given to Jan Layne and her committee for a job very well done.

The facilities at the center were adequate for even the one mile race. And when the individual trick acts and couples were run alternately on different areas of the floor, much time was saved and the audience was treated to a continuous show.

Offering 5 different age categories in the races for both boys and girls permitted many youngsters the opportunity for success.

The point system to select winners in each category encouraged participation. Each participant received 5 points for every first place that he took, 4 for second, etc. The club that that participant represented also received the same number of points.

The trophy winners (those accumulating the most points in their age category) were:

BOYS

0-8	Andy Layne	Smiling Faces	15 pts.
9&10	Brian Hassan	Smiling Faces	11 "
11&12	Dennis DeWitt	Redford	15 "
13&14	Steve Hilty	Smiling Faces	15 "
15&up	Floyd Crandall	Pontiac	27 "

GIRLS

0-8	Stacey White	Redford	15 pts.
9&10	Nancy Brichford	Redford	18 "
11&12	Deborah Jones	Redford	22 "
13&14	Teresa Hemminger	Redford	22 "
15&up	Carol Haines	Fox	35 "

The club winning the most points was the Smiling Faces with 182. Redford Township Unicycle Club was second with 164 and the Paul Fox Unicycle Club earned 100.

The Redford Township Unicycle Club, Inc. is currently working on its major fund raiser, its second annual garage sale. Last year over \$300 was raised at this two-day event. This money was used to cover the cost of liability insurance, equipment, etc. In addition to donating items, many members sell expensive treasures and then donate a minimum of 10% of the selling price to the club. This "sell on consignment" technique generated considerable income last year.

(Your editor would like to feature a different unicycle club with each issue. So club members, if you would like to see pictures and a story about YOUR group, send some material to your Newsletter ed. The following is a story submitted by CAROL MORAN, secretary of the Road Runners.)

The KOKOMO ROAD RUNNERS got started at the end of August in 1975. The first members were Ted Wade, Mike Lawman, John Huse and Bill Guerre.

In the last week of May, 1976, Tom Miller joined the club and introduced the giraffe unicycles. By that summer there were about 12 members. The club entered every parade possible around the Kokomo area. To go to the 1976 N.U.M. we had a carwash and raised about \$45.

In the fall of 1977 we had election of officers. The officers were: Chairman of the Board, Jack Quillen; President, Ted Wade; Vice-President, Mike Lane; Secretary, Carol Moran; Treasurer, Cary Kirkmeyer; and first instructor, Tom Miller. Appointed offices include: 2nd instructor, Greg McEwlain; Historian, Steve Quinn; and Public Relations, Carol Moran.

The club's dues are \$5 a year for an active membership and \$1 a year for an honorary membership. It is the Treasurer's job to collect the dues and take care of the money.

The 1st instructor's job is to get routines organized, teach kids new tricks and get shows organized.

The 2nd instructor assists the 1st instructor and takes charge if he is not at a meeting.

The chairman of the board keeps everyone from arguing. We must have an adult at our meetings and that's where Jack comes in.

The club has 26 members as of now. We are closing the membership at 30 members.

The club has grown rapidly and it's a big change for everyone. There's arguments all the time, but everyone is really super nice.

The club has the largest big wheel squad that we know of. Beside the "Road Runner" unicycle that was at the N.U.M. last year, we now have the "Black Bird" which is owned by Sunny Saylor, a new girl in the club.

How did the club get its name? Carol says she really doesn't know.

THANKS!!! to the many fine people who made such excellent contributions to this issue.

(ed. note: For new members who may not know too much about WALLY WATTS, the former mechanic and car inspector for Canadian National Railway rode his 42" wheel 4550 miles across Canada in 1973. On April 19, 1976, Wally embarked on an around-the-world trip which has been chronicled in each Newsletter since July, 1976. For this trip Wally is using a hard-tire 43" wheel.)

When last reported Wally was pedaling across Australia anticipating one of the easier parts of his journey. What he did not expect was illness which side-tracked him for a number of days and the only road deteriorating to gravel, which was unridable. He had received considerable publicity through newspapers, t.v. and magazine and found warm Australian hospitality when he was ill. A lumber truck (timber) carried him over the unpaved section of road and he reports that, of the 1150 miles from Brisbane to Melbourne, he rode 1050 of them. Another unexpected problem that Wally encountered was the rains. Being "down under" alters the climate considerably. While we in northern U.S. were shivering Wally was surfing. Now Wally was experiencing Australia's winter. And it slowed him down.

Shortly before reaching Bainsdale, Wally discovered a serious crack across the rim that needed welding. This he was able to have fixed at a service (petrol) station. Back on the road Wally discovered that there were many more staring motorists than he had been accustomed to. When one stopped to chat, Wally learned that his adventure and his route were well publicized and persons were eager to catch a glimpse of this one-wheeled traveler.

Wally flew from Melbourne, Australia, to Christchurch, New Zealand, on June 1. He planned to arrive in Auckland around July.

This anecdote reported by Robert C. Morgan is perhaps typical of the reactions of persons around the world to seeing Wally on his wheel for the first time. When pedaling down the road to Glasgow, he was pulled over by a Scottish policeman. Confounded by this new situation the policeman retorted, "Ye must be doing something illegal, laddie!"

NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET
SATURDAY, JULY 22 AND SUNDAY, JULY 23, 1978

Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____

Address _____ Phone _____

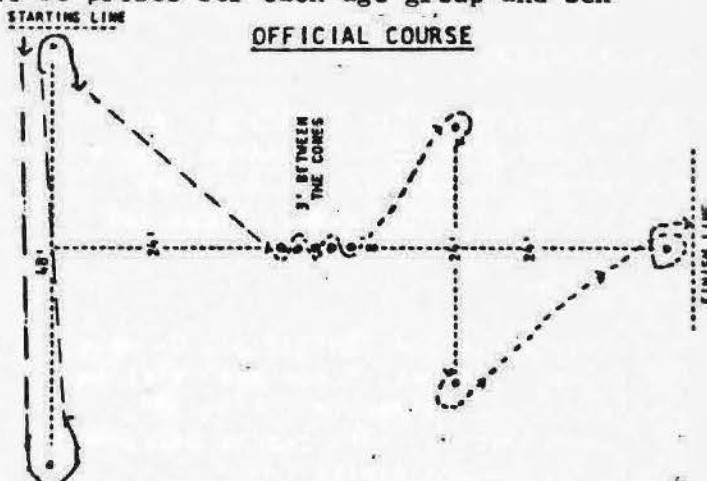
Club Affiliation _____

In signing this release for myself or the above-named person (if under 18) I understand and agree to absolve all of the sponsors and organizations of all blame for any injury, misadventure, loss, or inconvenience suffered as a result of participating in the NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET or any activity associated with it. I also permit emergency treatment in the event of injury or illness. I shall abide by local and traffic laws and practice courtesy and safety in cycling.

Signed _____ Date _____

Please make a check after each distance of race you want to be in. We will figure out your class from the information above. There will be prizes for each age group and sex listed.

- () Boys and Girls 0-7 50 yds
- * () Boys, Girls, 8-11, 12-14, 15-up 100 yds 20"
- * () Boys, Girls, 8-11, 12-14, 15-up 100 yds 24"
- () Boys, Girls, 8-11, 12-14, 15-up 220 yds
- () Boys, Girls, 8-11, 12-14, 15-up 880 yds
- f () Boys, Girls, 8-11, 12-14, 15-up 1 Mile
- () Men and Women 30-up 1 Mile
- () Big Wheel (over 28") any age 1 Mile
- () One foot 50 yds
- () Backwards 50 yds
- () Slow Race 0-11, 12-up 50 yds
- () Boys, Girls, 8-13, 14-up Relay 440 yds
- () Boys, Girls, 0-11, 12-up Obstacle Course



Fastest six from each 880 class qualify for mile. Big Wheel racers must wear helmet and gloves. One team per class per club allowed in relay. Fastest four per class per club allowed in obstacle course. *Choose only one 100 yd. race.

- () Boys, Girls, 0-11, 12-14, 15-up Individual Trick Riding - one small uni, no props, no music allowed, no costumes allowed.
- () Boys, Girls, 0-11, 12-14, 15-up Individual Chain-Driven Trick Riding - one chain-driven uni, music and costume optional, no props.
- () Boys, Girls, 0-11, 12-14, 15-up Individual Open Class Trick Riding - anything goes, any unicycles, any props, must have music and costume.

Select one only in the Individual classification

- () Boys and Girls 0-11, 12-14, 15-up Couples Trick Riding - any two people

Age is determined by the older of the participants
Partner's name _____ Age _____

- () Group Trick Riding - Must have at least five people.
Name of group _____

In the races, if you fall off or get off, you will be disqualified - with the exception of the 880, Relay and Mile races.

Please note that although we have eliminated some 20" versus 24" classes, there are still more classes and opportunities to win than in past years.

NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET INFORMATION:

Miscellaneous Facts:

For members' convenience we have included another registration form. Please note the following changes:

*There will be no parade competition this year.

1) Participants may enter only one of the 100 yd. races. (20" or 24" wheel)

*Since the N.U.M. starts on the same weekend as the Aquatennial, advance reservations for accommodations is advised. (See Apr., 1978 Newsletter for suggestions.) Trailers may park at Apache Plaza.

2) The Obstacle Course is divided as follows: Boys, Girls, 0-11 and 12-up

*A sound system will be available so participants are asked to bring whatever tapes they need for background music.

3) The overall length of the obstacle course is not 48' as printed in April, 1978 Newsletter. Correct course appears on Registration Form in this issue.

*The mall area ceiling peaks at 28'. The overall height is 16'.

**EACH PARTICIPANT SHOULD SEND IN THIS REGISTRATION FORM ALONG WITH \$1.00 PRIOR TO THE MEET.

*An elevator-type device will be available for mounting tall uni's within the Mall.

CLARIFICATION:

*Volunteers are still needed for judges (Contact Brett before the Meet). A judging sheet will be provided each judge and a discussion of judging techniques will precede the events.

*In the Individual Trick Riding - no props means NOTHING. The rider enters the two-minute competition with one unicycle and nothing else. Props are permitted in the three-minute open class only.

*Joyce Jones, our Secretary-Treasurer, will bring a limited number of publications and books sold through U.S.A., INC. These she will make available before and after all events.

*Available space for Individual, Couples, and Group: The Mall floor area will be limited to approximately 20' by 50'. Make sure that all acts can be performed within that space limitation.

*Any unicyclists remaining through Wednesday are invited to participate in the Nationally televised Aquatennial Parade Wed. evening.

*Awards for Saturday's races will be presented at the picnic at Brett Shockley's home. Awards for Sunday's events will be presented at the conclusion of the competition on Sunday.

*Valleyfair Park, a large amusement park, has invited all unicyclists to participate in two parades through the park on Monday. All parade participants and a limited number of chaperones will be permitted to enjoy the park facilities throughout the day. (The normal daily entry fee per person is approximately \$6.00.)

*Each club's candidate for King and Queen should be submitted prior to the Meet by filling in the form below and sending to Brett Shockley, 2605 C. Rd, H, Mpls., Mn.

*So that the U.S.A., INC. business meeting will not exceed the allotted time, an agenda appears on the next page.

KING AND QUEEN REGISTRATION FORM

Group or Club name _____

Leader's name _____

Nomination for King _____

Nomination for Queen _____

- 1) Cost of membership. Is an increase adviseable?
U.S.A., INC. patches. There have been requests. If we desire to order a supply we need a good source and agreement on logo.
- 3) Election of officers and two directors. (See below for information on directors.)
- 4) More effective means of advertising the U.S.A., INC. (See letter on page "Letters from our Members.")
- 5) Agreement on the length of time that non-renewing members are retained or dropped from the membership list.
- 6) Presentation of the annual report.
- 7) Discussion of the location of the 1979 National Unicycle Meet.



BRIAN MATTHEWS and MATTHEW BRIGDON (see "Members in Action"-- page 2) have organized the Unicycle Association of Ontario. BILL JENACK was very flattered when they sent him membership card No. 1. Brian and Matthew report that things are going quite

well with their new unicycling organization. These multi-talented young men are certainly unicycling advocates for Matthew signed a recent letter "Unicycling IS THE GREATEST."

DIRECTIONS FOR BUILDING: TEETER BOARD

This is a tentative and not necessarily complete agenda. It would be helpful if anyone wishing to discuss other items would contact Brett Shockley prior to the General Meeting.

U.S.A., INC. DIRECTORS - From the organization's inception BERNARD CRANDALL, PAUL FOX, and BILL JENACK have served as directors. With the death of Bernard Crandall and the "semi-retirement" from U.S.A., Inc. of Bill Jenack, it will be necessary to elect two directors at the general business meeting on July 23, 1978. To aid the persons considering this position, primarily the duties are to keep track of the transactions of the officers and to verify, approve and sign the annual directors' report (which is submitted by the secretary-treasurer). This report is then read at the annual business meeting and filed along with the minutes.

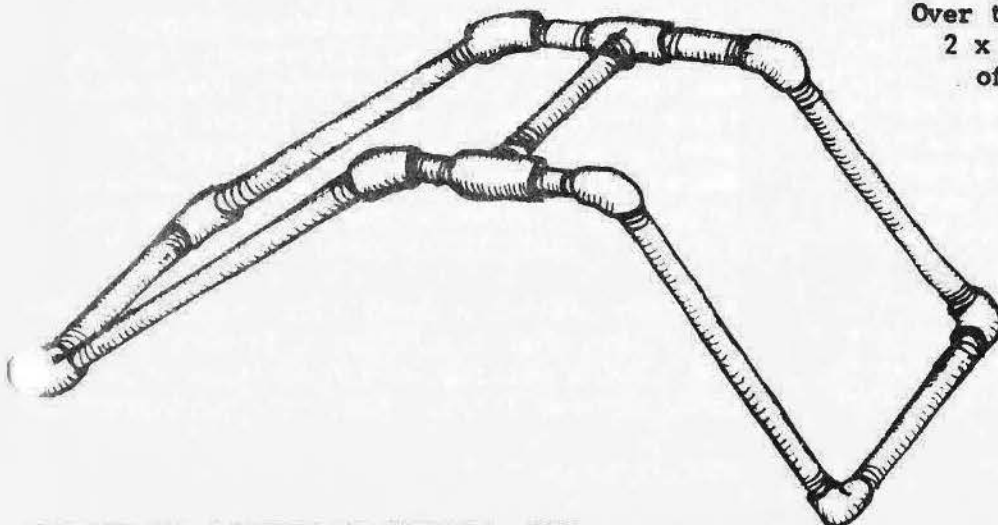
Below is a sketch of the base of the teeter board built recently by KEN KRAKAT. It is built of three-quarter inch pipe and requires the following materials:

- 4 90° elbows
- 4 45° elbows
- 2 Tee's
- 4 nipples
- 4 pcs. pipe 14" long
- 1 pc. pipe 12" long
- 2 pcs. smaller diameter pipe 12" long
- 4 nuts and bolts

Directions:

Thread the various pieces together as shown in the sketch leaving the legs spread apart sufficiently to permit lower bars to be inserted in the bottom corner elbows. After lower bars are inserted, twist legs so that they are parallel. Drill holes through the bottom corner elbows and lower bars. Insert bolt. Fasten in place with nut.

Over this framework Ken put a 2 x 10 seven feet long. The ends of this board are angled to permit easier access. In the center of the under side of this board are two pieces of wood which fit on either side of the top crossbar of the metal framework. This prevents the board from sliding. Ken has covered the top surface of the 2 x 10 with a non-slip material he purchased (by the yard) at a lumber yard.



LETTERS FROM OUR MEMBERS:

*In addition to commenting on the excellent job Joyce Jones, our Secretary-Treasurer, is doing, JOSEPH W. STEGEN, JR., "Josco" the Clown, wrote the following:

"My hobby is collecting cards of the many organizations I belong to which all tie in with unicycling. I belong to THE CIRCUS MODEL BUILDERS OF AMERICA, CIRCUS FANS ASSOCIATION, CIRCUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, CLOWNS OF AMERICA, UTAH CLOWN ALLEY #26, UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INTERNATIONAL JUGGLERS ASSOCIATION, CIRCUS WINDJAMMERS UNLIMITED and PAUL EAGLES CIRCUS LUNCHEONEN CLUB just to mention a few of them. In plain words, I am a CIRCUS NUT. I did not learn to juggle or ride the unicycle until I was knocking on the door of fifty and have been doing these things now for 11 years."

*A new member, ROBBIE JANKE wrote that he and two friends rode 27 miles in a Bike-a-thon for Multiple Sclerosis on May 7, 1978. This was held in Robbie's home town of St. Paul, Minnesota.

*LORNA B. NIGHMAN of Painesville, Ohio, wrote that she has had a story on unicycling printed in the local newspaper. Perhaps we will be able to reprint the story in a future edition.

*LARRY FORSBERG, 12 Howard Avenue, New Haven, Conn., sent the article on David Berman that appears with the "Unicyclists in the News" in this issue. He also wrote the following:

"On the New Haven Green on July 8 & 9 and 15 & 16 there will be the 'Circus Smirkus' and the 'Renaissance Fair.' These will be all-day happenings with fun and festivities galore. I'm interested in seeing a 'unicycle rodeo' occur. I'm trying to get the word out to as many folks as possible to come down and participate in the merriment." (editor's note: If you have participated in such a rodeo or have any suggestions, Larry would undoubtedly enjoy hearing from you.)

*KEN KRAKAT, whose directions for building a teeter board appear elsewhere in this issue, joined U.S.A., Inc. because of a letter that

appeared recently in the INTERNATIONAL JUGGLERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER. He writes the following:

"I have been unicycling for several years and recently discovered U.S.A., Inc. The Redford Township Unicycle Club is a convenient ten-minute drive from where I live.

My current unicycle activities include building a seesaw and trying to ride the eccentric wheel.

I'm vice-president of a clown alley which meets in Dearborn. Anyone interested in joining a good clown club should contact me.

Some of my related interests are juggling, magic, stencil printing shirts & costumes, logos and circus lettering. I enjoy swapping ideas with people."

Ken's address is: 5992 Waverly
Dearborn Hgts, MI 48127

*KIT SUMMERS, who has been mentioned in previous Newsletters, has recently formed "The Amazing Rainbow Circus" with BARRETT FELKER. While Kit is planning a trip to Europe following the Jugglers Convention in July, his letter (below) was written shortly after arriving in Hawaii in late winter:

"...We're starting to get jobs around Oahu already, nobody juggles or rides unicycles over here. In our act we do 3-7 balls, 3-5 clubs, magic club stealing and passing, wheel walk and jump rope on unicycle, high unicycles, machetes, torches, and torch passing. It combines a lot of comedy with technical juggling..."

...JON HELD started practicing ultimate wheel again and he can ride really far; he can turn most of the time too. Wheel walking he's working on staying in one place, walking one foot and turning tightly. Before I left (for Hawaii) we were working on passing 7 clubs on the 7' unicycles and passing 6 with throws under the legs..."

A letter written a month later says, "Barrett and I have been practicing 4-8 hours every day. We're getting sore from it, but we're going to keep it up. Yes, it's paying off..."

*A very determined young lady, SHELLY GAEKE, 1612 Dutchess Ave. Kettering, Ohio 45420, wrote how she had finally succeeded in, first, purchasing a unicycle; and second, learning to ride it. She wrote: "...Everyone thought I wasted my money because I would probably never be able to ride that thing! I kept practicing, and practicing, and practicing each day..."

Shelly did learn to ride and her letter continues: "...A couple days ago I went to the library to get some information and learn some tricks about unicycles. I looked under bikes - nothing, under cycling - nothing, under bicycling - nothing, circuses - information I already knew. But I did look under additional information in one book and found you! (BILL JENACK) I saw your address and your name. It said: for unicycle enthusiasts (which I thought I was). It also said I would get a topical newsletter. This is why I am writing to you... I'm glad I saw you in that book!"

(Ed's note: Not all unicyclists are as persevering as Shelly. Your officers would appreciate your suggestions on how information on the U.S.A., Inc. could be made more readily available through bike shops, libraries, etc.)

*While DICK LARSON, whose current address is 2609 Columbus Ave., Minneapolis, Minn., was in California he visited Elaine Burnett who runs California Clowns and wrote the following:

"...Mrs. Burnett has a younger woman and a man working with her. The lady is learning to unicycle. I greatly enjoyed showing her a few tricks and talking about Mel Hall."

(Bob Konikow of the California Clowns teaches beginning, intermediate and professional unicycle classes.)

A new book by Jack Wiley will soon be available through U.S.A., Inc. Entitled THE TUMBLING BOOK, it is not very big; but, like THE UNICYCLE BOOK, it is quite complete and would be most useful to anyone in the sport. It is printed on high-quality paper and is full of excellent sketches that are more than mere stick figures.

UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

MISCELLANEOUS:

It is with sadness that we report the death of RICHARD SIEGEL which occurred on June 15 after an extended illness following a gall bladder operation. It was through the efforts of Richard, an ardent cyclist and proponent of Kunstradfahren (Artistic Bicycling Riding) that the fabulous trick bicycling films shown at our past National Meets were obtained. A competition cyclist in Germany years ago, Richard was the son of a prominent banker whose hobby, likewise, was Artistic Bicycling and who also won many trophies for his expertise in the sport. Richard first visited U.S.A. in 1925; he returned in 1929 at which time he met and married his charming wife Hilda. They returned to Germany where their four children, two boys and two girls, were born. Later the entire family came back to U.S.A. to take up permanent residence in Huntington, New York. After having a number of Bauer Bicycles shipped here from Germany, Richard devoted much time and effort to furthering the sport of Artistic Cycling in this country. Some of our members who have obtained Bauer Bikes and much help from Richard in the way of learning about and mastering difficult feats on them are: Bill and John Jenack of Westbury, N.Y., Steven Smock of Indianapolis, Indiana, and young Barry Lappy of Hastings, England, who, as the top star of the State Circus in Romania, is currently thrilling audiences there with his incredible unicycle and bicycle act. Our entire organization would like to extend its deepest sympathy to Mrs. Siegel and their four children.

*To update information on the McPEAKS, JOHN is currently on a world tour as a juggler with the Harlem Globe Trotters. STEVE is living in John's mobile home in Las Vegas while designing and building stage props.

*A former Globe Trotter performer, Lilly Yokoi, was recently seen on t.v. with Sweden's Royal Command Circus. She did a number of tricks on her golden bicycle including some that were done after she removed the front wheel from the bike. Lilly has been performing for a number of years and was originally part of a group that included her father and two sisters.

UNICYCLISTS IN THE NEWS:

- *The twelve women acrobats from the Chinese Acrobatic Theater from Liaoning in the Peoples' Republic of China (They are listed in the Guinness Book of World Records for Post on One Cycle.) were recently pictured in THE DETROIT NEWS. They were appearing at the Royal Albert Hall in London. This is their first appearance outside of China. Following the six shows in London, the group will go on world tour.
- *Those watching "America's Junior Miss Pageant 1978" on t.v. May 8 may have noticed a candid shot of the contestant from Alabama riding a unicycle.
- *On June 2, 1978, David Berman of Hamden, Conn. started out on a cross-country unicycle trip that he hopes will end in Los Angeles, Calif. Wearing a leather top hat and carrying all of his needs in a backpack, 22-year-old David plans to cover between 50 and 80 miles per day. Going at that rate the 3300 miles between Hamden and Los Angeles should take approximately 2 months.
- *While not yet an official news item, BRETT SHOCKLEY reported that he has been riding the world's smallest wheeled vehicle in his seven-minute act. The vehicle contains a one and three-eighths inch wheel. (The previous record was two and one-eighth inch.) TOM MILLER of the Kokomo Roadrunners also owns one of these "mini's." Brett, who just recently returned from a tour with the Holiday Hippodrome Stage Circus, also rode a unicycle, walked on the wheel with a handlebar unit, rode the ultimate wheel, six-foot unicycle and circus bike.
- *On Monday, June 26, THE DETROIT NEWS reported that Tore Naeland of Norway had completed a 6,000 mile bicycle trip from Anchorage to Miami. What made this particularly newsworthy was the fact that Tore is blind. He made the trip by picking up riders on his tandem. His passengers then served as his eyes. The completion of his trip coincided with the opening of the First International Conference on Physical Fitness: Focus on the Handicapped.
- *Happy Birthday! Jo Pendi II, one of the world's greatest performing chimpanzees, is celebrating his 38th birthday at the Detroit zoo. Jo is one of the few chimps who have been able to master the unicycle.

KATHY BRADY (picture below) has been riding the unicycle since 1976. She and her neighbor, U.S.A., Inc. member DAVID McDONALD, are the only two unicyclists that she knows of in San Juan Capistrano, a town of 15,000. Kathy and David did a demonstration on unicycling for her English class and Kathy recently received an A+ on a written report on unicycling and the U.S.A., Inc.



Pooch pouch

With puppy Peanuts packed in her pouch, Kathy Brady, 13 of San Juan Capistrano pedals the pavement on her own unicycle. The poodle likes to ride with Kathy on her errands, she says.

reprinted with permission CAPISTRANO VALLEY NEWS

MEET U.S.A.'s MUSIC MAN - DON SHAFFER

In addition to writing the music and lyrics to the march that appeared in Jan. 1978 Newsletter and the waltz that appears in this issue, Don has made a number of other contributions to various Newsletters. His picture appeared on page 2 of Apr. 1978. Since Don's contributions are always liberally laced with humor which, unfortunately, has not been included in previous articles, the following is his unedited reply to your editor's request for an autobiographical sketch:

"ABOUT THE AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH. BOY, I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING DULLER. WHEN YOU HAVE PEOPLE IN THE CLUB WHO ARE RIDING AROUND THE WORLD, CROSSING CABLES ABOVE DAMS, SKY-DIVING INTO ACTIVE VOLCANOS OR RIDING THE RAPIDS OF THE COLORADO RIVER IN A SHOPPING CART, JUST FOR A HOBBY!! BUT IF YOU WANT SOMETHING I SUPPOSE I CAN WRITE (DREDGE) UP ENOUGH TO UNDERWHELM THE READERS. YOU KNOW THE LAST TIME I DID THIS WAS IN THE FOURTH GRADE FOR MRS. COWICSTUSKI AND IT WAS CALLED "WHAT I DID ON MY SUMMER VACATION." AND I GOT A "D" ON IT SO DON'T EXPECT MUCH.

(WAS BORN AT AN EARLY AGE TO MIXED PARENTS (ONE MALE, ONE FEMALE). MY ONLY REGRET IN LIFE IS THAT I'M NOT SOMEONE ELSE, AND I DON'T MIND DYING-I JUST DON'T WANT TO BE THERE WHEN IT HAPPENS.

NOW THAT'S THE 1040 OR SHORT FORM AS WE SAY IN THE AUTOBIO BIZ.

NO, I GUESS I HAD BETTER RAMBLE AND YOU CAN PICK OUT ANYTHING YOU WANT TO USE.

I WRITE A LOT OF SONGS, NOT THAT I'M TRYING TO WRITE HITS, BUT IT'S THERAPY FOR ME. IT'S LIKE CROSSWORD PUZZLES AND I ONLY LIKE THE SONGS UNTIL I'M FINISHED WITH THEM, THEN I CAN'T STAND THEM ANY MORE. LIKE MAKING MODEL AIRPLANES, I GUESS. MAYBE I JUST CAN'T STAND ME PERFORMING THE SONGS. MAYBE I'LL GET SINATRA TO SING THEM AND SEE IF I LIKE THEM BETTER (BENNY SINATRA, MY BUTCHER, GREAT VOICE.)

AS FOR THE MUSIC PART, I'VE BEEN PLAYING SINCE ABOUT SIXTH GRADE. STARTED ON TRUMPET, LATER MOVED TO BARITONE HORN, AND WORKED ON FLUTE, (ADDED SAX, CLARINET AND PICCOLO LATER. IN THE SHOW BAND I'M PLAYING IN NOW I TAKE EIGHT HORNS WITH ME. (BY THE WAY BILL JENACK AND I

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HAVE EXCHANGED TAPES OF THE BANDS WE WERE IN. BILL HAD A BAND IN THE LATE '40's CALLED PECOS BILL AND THE SAN ANTOINE TRIO. DID YOU KNOW BILL WAS A MUSICIAN?)

THE UNICYCLING STARTED ON A BET WITH A FRIEND WHEN WE WERE CLEANING UP HIS CELLAR. HE BET ME I COULDN'T RIDE IT, SO WE PUT A TIME LIMIT ON IT AND I ACTUALLY WON THE UNICYCLE BY COMING BACK A MONTH LATER AND RIDING IT FOR HIM. I'M REALLY NOT THAT GOOD YET. I CAN RIDE IT BACKWARD NOW, THAT'S MY NEW TRICK I LEARNED IN THE WINTER AND I GOT A GIRAFFE FROM BILL JENACK BUT CANNOT MOUNT IT IN THE OPEN YET.

I DO A LOT OF BIKING - ABOUT 4000 MILES A YEAR AND HAVE TWO CENTURY PATCHES (100 MILES IN A DAY) AND FOUR HALF-CENTURY PATCHES. MOST I DID WAS 220 MILES ON A WEEKEND TO CANADA. NOW I USE THE UNICYCLE IN LIEU OF JOGGING. JOGGING IS TOO BOUNCEY; IT GIVES ME HEADACHES, MY GLASSES KEEP SLIDING OFF AND EVERY FIFTH STEP ALL MY INTERNAL ORGANS PLAY MUSICAL CHAIRS INSIDE MY BODY. TWO MILES AND I'M SCRAMBLED. UNICYCLING IS MUCH SMOOTHER. I'VE GONE ON A FEW BIKE-A-THONS THAT RAISE MONEY FOR CHARITIES. BUT THAT'S THE EXTENT OF MY UNICYCLING FOR ANY PURPOSE.

THAT'S ABOUT IT. I WORK AT A MUSIC STORE, I DELIVER ORGANS AND PIANOS. I HAVE THE INSTRUMENTAL REPAIR SHOP. I HAVE ABOUT 30 OR SO STUDENTS A WEEK AND PLAY AT LEAST TWICE A WEEK STEADY.

AND WHEN I RETIRE I'D LIKE TO GO TO A LITTLE ISLAND WITH JUST MY UNICYCLE, MY RECORD COLLECTION, MY NOBEL PRIZES AND MY MEMORIES.....AND MAYBE CHARLEY'S ANGELS.

I HAVE TO GIVE UP. MY CAT IS LYING ON THE TYPEWRITER AND I'VE TYPED HIS TAIL TWICE NOW. BY THE WAY I LIVE IN A HOUSE RUN BY THREE CATS AND WHEN I WAS LEARNING THE UNICYCLE IN THE BASEMENT, THE CATS WOULD LINE UP IN THE THREE TOP STAIRS AND SNICKER AT ME WHENEVER I GOT INTO TROUBLE AND FELL. WELL, IT LOOKED LIKE THEY WERE SNICKERING. AND AS I GOT BETTER AND DIDN'T FALL, THEY GOT BORED AND WENT AWAY. BUT I FOUND I COULD KEEP IN SHAPE FOR BIKING BY RIDING IN THE CELLAR. YOU CAN DO A LOT OF THINGS IN A SMALL SPACE ON A WHEEL..."

First European International
Jugglers Association
Mini-convention -
April 15-16, 1978
(reported through
UPI - Unicycling Press
International)



BRIGHTON, ENGLAND, April 15-16 --
Every member of the Internation Jugglers
Association (8) in Britain except one
(probably touring the continent) made his
way to Brighton for the first-ever European
IJA Mini-convention; and Hermann Sagemuller,
an historian of the art, even flew in from
Bavaria to record the event.

There had been no outside advertising, and
numbers were kept small on purpose to test
the possibilities for such a gathering. It
worked and there will be more.

Saturday people met, talked, swapped moves
and sniffed around each others' props. Sat.
night we took over the bar of a seafront
hotel to talk some more and examine a small
part of Hermann's huge collection of photos
of jugglers, many on unicycles.

Sunday was the public show, with a sell-
out, stand-up crowd filling up one hall of
Brighton's Resource Centre. We had been
worried about a show of virtually all
juggling, but the diversity of styles in
our small group allowed us to get away
with it:

Lindsay Leslie, who drove all the way
down from Dundee in central Scotland, did
a dish washing juggling act. Lynn Thomas,
the Brighton sailor who hosted the conven-
tion, threw knives about. Stuart Fell, an
English stunt man who just finished work
on a film version of Superman, did back flips
on a hard floor while juggling bean-bags and
fire. Toby Philpott of London wrestled a
chair and dropped "cannonballs" on his head.
Bobby Menary, over from Northern Ireland,
kept three tennis racquets going while
balancing balls and poles on his forehead.
Mark Robertson, 15, (whose father Don is
European yo-yo champion) laid on some excel-
lent moves with that object. (Mark also
handles two yo-yo's while idling on a uni-
cycle, making them alternate moving in and
out in horizontal bursts, but didn't do it
in the show.). Lloyd Timberlake announced
the event, throwing sight gags - juggling
chicken, turnip and kitchen fork, etc - in
between acts, as well as juggling on stan-
dard and giraffe unicycles. Mike Gelb,

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a New Jersey-ite studying in London, con-
cluded with small ball juggling and messy
apple eating.

All this, plus a local jug band and a
250-pound amateur escapologist, elicited
rave reviews, in the form of prolonged
stomping and cheering from the audience,
and the after-the-show comment from one
elderly man: "I haven't seen such spirit
at a show in Brighton since Music Hall died."

DORSET, ENGLAND -- David Mariner, Britain's
foremost unicycle manufacturer, sometimes
wonders if he is Britain's only unicycle
manufacturer.

"We keep hearing rumours that there are
others out there, but we never can find them
somehow," Dave told me.

There are, of course, a few shop and shed
made-to-order uni makers about over here,
but Dave is the only man in these Isles to
run a factory in which unicycles are built.

"It's about the smallest industrial unit
you can buy these days, only about a thousand
square feet," said Dave. The work force at
DM Engineering is two people, Dave and his
wife Lynn, who do it all. The plant is in
Ferndown, in Dorset, the scenic county on
England's south coast where Thomas Hardy's
novels are set.

Some 10 years ago Dave, 33, make a uni-
cycle for himself and two years later set
up to "mass produce" them. Slowly, output
and sales have risen, until now he turns out
300 per year. Buyers find him largely by
word of mouth and through the occasional ad
in a snail weekly tabloid devoted mostly to
second-hand items.

The product is sound, sturdy, and, to my
limited experience, unique in design. The
standard size uni has a flat, rather than
tubular seat post, with holes drilled at
intervals. Two other flat pieces come up
from each side of the wheel (see photo on
page 1) and two nuts and bolts join the
pieces. This means the cycle can be broken
down into small pieces, weighs very little -
and you don't have to remove the wheel to
change the tire. It comes in 20" wheels
only, chrome-plated or enameled (about \$50
and \$40 respectively).

The DM giraffe (5'6" is a more conven-
tional tube-in-tube affair, and these are
usually made to order (\$80 - \$100)

DM Engineering also turns out a few go-
karts and a line of motorcycle parts. Dave

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(Cont'd pg. 13)

says the motorcycle time-trialists are snatching up his unicycles.

"They can't always find a place to ride their motors but they can always find a place to practice on the uni," he said. They take them with them to meets and use them to develop balance and reflexes. Dave is beginning to export a few bikes to Scandanavia and has even had some feelers from the Middle East, though he is not sure who out there is interested in unicycles and what for, the query having come through an agent.

Dave doesn't perform, though he does give demonstrations of his cycles. He and Lynn have been too busy making them to take time to organize clubs, drum up interest and generally prepare the groundwork for a unicycling craze in Britain.

"I've got a feeling it's going to happen anyhow," he said confidently.

For anyone wishing to contact Dave, the company's address is:

DM Engineering, 7 Telford Road
Ferndown Industrial Estate
Wimbourne, Dorset, BH21 7QW, England

SALLY WHITE of the Whirl Wheels and Penn State Unicycle Club writes that she and her family are spending the summer in Colorado. They're "fishing, hiking, building a cabin, working on our farm and enjoying the great weather, mountain wildflowers and snow in the high mountains." She goes on to say, "I'm street performing in the Durango Mall (unicycling, juggling, and balloon sculpturing) and really love it. There are a couple unicyclists here I get together with every once in a while but, unfortunately, will probably not make it to the National Meet."

Sally says that ballooning is fun and goes over great with the kids. She suggests the Costume Bazaar, 294 State Street, New Haven, Connecticut, as an excellent source for pencil, apple, birds & bees and other balloon types. The cost is about \$2.75 for a box of 200.

She has an excellent book on balloon sculpturing and would be happy to send some of the directions to anyone interested. Her summer address is:

7922 County Road 203
Durango, Colorado 81301

JOHN PALMSTROM, who rides with the Uni-wheelers in Stow, Ohio, spent several weeks

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with BILL JENACK and his family in May. He and a number of other jugglers got together regularly and "really kept things flying." He and Bill went for rides on big wheels - he on Wally Watts' 42"er and Bill on his wooden 46" wheel. DICK CHAMBERLAIN made a big wheel for the Uni-wheelers from an old Penny Farthing. He is also working on one now made from two bicycle rims (which is the way Wally made his).

While the words alone do not do justice to DON SHAFFER's unicycle songs, it is the best we can offer. So below are the words to the waltz mentioned on page 11.

UNICYCLE WALTZ

See the people stare
What's he doing there?
Sailing right down the street with such ease
Floating above one wheel, if you please,
Spinning left and right,
Such a marvelous sight
Watching his perfect style
I couldn't help but smile
It made me happy to see,
And I wish that young man were me...

Surely this must be
Impossibility.
I'm not believing the things my eyes see,
Hasn't he heard about gravity?
What the heck, says I,
Why not give it a try?
It took me a little while,
Now I'm riding with a smile.
That's just how good I feel,
When I'm riding on my wheel.

BARRY LAPPY, who is now the Number One act in Rumania, recently experienced a critical shortage of tires for his circus bike. Hans Born came to the rescue and shipped him half a dozen after being contacted by Bill Jenack. One month later the tires arrived at a Bucharest post office. The Lappys had to try five different post offices before finally locating the correct one. A passport had to be shown before the package was brought out. The inspector then sawed it open with a knife (the tires did survive!) and each tire had to be weighed, etc. The duty was \$25 with \$7.50 additional post office charges.

THE CITY OF KEEGO HARBOR WOULD LIKE TO PAY TRIBUTE TO A WONDERFUL MAN, BERNARD E. CRANDALL, WHO WAS HEAD OF THE PONTIAC UNICYCLISTS.

SIX MONTHS AGO OUR CITY PLANNED A PARADE FOR MAY 13. WE CONTACTED MR. CRANDALL TO HAVE THE PONTIAC UNICYCLISTS PARTICIPATE IN THE EVENT. EVEN THOUGH HE WAS GRAVELY ILL, THIS WARM AND GENTLE MAN WAS VERY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THIS GROUP PERFORMING IN THE PARADE.

ON MAY 11 MR CRANDALL PASSED AWAY. ON MAY 13 MR. CRANDALL'S WIFE, PAULINE, PUT HER SORROW SECOND TO KEEGO HARBOR AND BROUGHT THE UNICYCLISTS INTO OUR CITY TO HONOR HER HUSBAND'S COMMITMENT.

KEEGO HARBOR WISHES TO CONVEY ITS SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO MRS. CRANDALL AND THE PONTIAC UNICYCLISTS FOR THEIR LOSS AND ALSO EXPRESS HEARTFELT APPRECIATION FOR YOUR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

THE OLD ADAGE THAT "THE SHOW MUST GO ON" IS NOW A PROVEN FACT.



IN CLOWN COSTUME WITH JAY UPHAM



BERNARD CRANDALL RECEIVING THE FRIENDSHIP MEDALLION FROM MR. BODNER IN ST. JOHANNES, AUSTRIA, 1974

The article above, written by Donna J. VanAlstine for the city of Keego Harbor expresses so beautifully the feelings we all have for the entire Crandall family. May Ms. VanAlstine's words and these few pictures from a very dedicated and inspiring life serve as a tribute to a man who made the lives of all who knew him considerably richer.



THANKSGIVING DAY, 1977, WITH JEFF, STEFFEN AND JULIE HEUSER

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.

Joyce Jones, Secretary-Treasurer
 UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
 20509 Negaunee
 Redford, Michigan 48240

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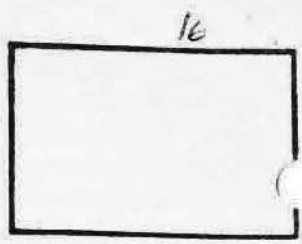
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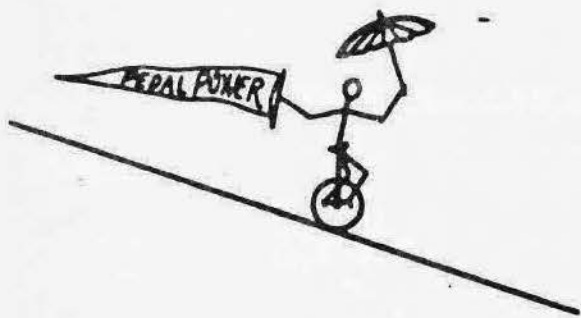
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Dear Members: As a Not-For-Profit Corp. we are not in business to make money. However on the reverse side of this page you will find a number of related items we have for sale which may be of interest to you and which, if ordered through your organization, will not only be of service to you but will aid the treasury and enable us to award more trophies etc. at meets. Please pass along the membership application below. Your Editor Carol Brichford

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.



Fill in and mail to:
Joyce Jones, Secretary Treasurer
UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
20509 Negaunee
Redford, Michigan 48240

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