



20509 Negaunee
Redford, MI 48240

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dy Rubel
Dr. Claude Shannon
Jim Smith
Dr. Jack Wiley

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Carol Brickford
24460 Lyndon
Detroit, MI 48239

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

BILL Jenack

NEWSLETTER

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Yearly Membership \$5 Includes Newsletter (4) ID Card - See Blank Pg. 17

EDITOR'S "THANK YOU"

Your editor, a recent unicycling enthusiast, possesses no huge cupboard filled with fascinating facts about the art of unicycling and the unicyclists themselves. Therefore, everything printed in each issue of the NEWSLETTER must come from enthusiastic readers. Fortunately many have taken the time to drop into the mail a suggestion, newspaper article, or item of interest. So with this final issue of the 1978 year, your editor would like to say "THANK YOU" to every one of you who made a contribution to one of the NEWSLETTERS!!! Special thanks to those unicycle club members who wrote the "Featured Club" articles in each issue; to our foreign correspondents, Lloyd Timberlake in England, and Jack Halpern in Japan; to Don Shaffer who has generously contributed to each issue; to the International Jugglers Association former NEWSLETTER editor, Dave Walden; to the backbone of our Society, Bill Jenack; and to each of you who took the time from busy schedules to send an item of interest. Each issue would not have been possible without you!!!

Sincerely,
Carol Brickford

JACK HALPERN during his ride across Tokyo. See pages 15 and 16.



SPECIALTY CYCLES UNICYCLISTS in parade.
See page 2.



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(Ed.'s note: Specialty Cycles Unicyclists, a very new group, hosted the 1978 N.U.M. The Director, Brett Shockley, is the current President of U.S.A., Inc. The following article was submitted by the Secretary, Eve Brown.)

In the spring of 1976 Brett Shockley and a few friends started performing in parades under the name SPECIALTY CYCLES UNICYCLISTS. For the St. Paul Winter Carnival parade in February, 1977, burgundy jumpsuits with silver trim were chosen as the group's permanent performing uniform. In addition to the Winter Carnival and the Minneapolis Aquatennial parade every summer, the group has performed at Southdale Center for three days in July, 1977, and Valley Fair Amusement Park in Shakopee. Their summer schedule includes numerous local parades throughout the Twin Cities Metro Area and Wisconsin. Specialty Cycles Unicyclists have also demonstrated the art of unicycling for elementary and junior high school students.

The group attended their first N.U.M. in Marion, Ohio, in August of 1977. In July, 1978, the group was host to the N.U.M. in Minneapolis. With information gained from the other clubs attending the meet, the group held an organization meeting of riders and their parents on August 9, 1978. Adult officers appointed were: BRETT SHOCKLEY, Director; GAIL FOSTER, Parade Contact Chairman; EVE BROWN, Secretary; PAT REISDORPH, Treasurer; MEREDITH ANDERSON, Uniforms. Riders were elected to the following positions: BILL STEELE, DAVE KIRWIN, and DALE REISDORPH, Co-Coaches (The Coaches are in charge of practices, checking out prospective riders and calling out routines at parades); DARLA RESNER and DEBBIE TOUGHILL are in charge of parade calls and taking attendance. Penalties are administered for missing parades and practices.

Performance funds earned by the group are put into a savings account with each rider being credited a percentage for each parade or performance. These funds are to be used for travel to the N.U.M. each year. When the group wins a parade trophy, each rider is given a ribbon for his participation.

At present there are 25 members. They ride 9" zig zags, chain driven 9", 8" and 6" unicycles as well as the standard uni.

The picture on page 1 shows (l-r) CHRIS BROWN, PATTI KOSKOVITCH, JIM FOSTER, DARLA RESNER, KRIS SHOCKLEY, ROB KIRWIN, NICK BROWN, BILL STEEL riding in the Excelsior, Minn., parade in July, 1978. Specialty Cycles won the "Best all-around unit trophy" for their performance there.

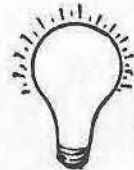
UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

REDFORD TOWNSHIP UNICYCLE CLUB'S Second Annual Mini-Meet was held September 30, 1978, under skies reminiscent of both days of the N.U.M. in Minneapolis. But the 89 participating unicyclists knew how to handle the situation by staging a sing-a-long and juggling exhibition to fill the rainy hour. Details of the Mini-Meet will be included in January's NEWSLETTER. However, the Redford group would like to say that they hope any club wishing to host a regional meet will be as fortunate as they in finding a location as cooperative as the Wonderland Shopping Center of Livonia, Mich., and their Wynne Zurek who did everything possible to insure the meet's success.

The request for information that would lead to a list of all known unicycle clubs with address and contact person that was mentioned in the July, 1978, issue has received only one reply. (Thank you JIM MOYER). If such a list is to be included in a future issue, your editor needs your help. Club members, please see that someone sends the above information to the NSLR. Ed. as soon as possible. Her address is on page 1.

FATHER JAMES MORAN, retired (but not inactive) Director of the St. HELEN'S UNICYCLE DRILL TEAM (most recently mentioned in the April, 1978, NSLR) sent a copy of a press release mentioning many of the group's activities. Included in this impressive list were appearances in the Tangerine, Cotton and Orange Bowl Parades; two-time performers at the Orange Bowl half-time; the Indy 500 and Macy's Christmas Parades and two Presidential Inaugural Parades. Their performances have been seen at many professional pre-game and half-time events.

Father Moran's final paragraph says: "The children work hard at practice 12 months out of the year to achieve the success that they have tasted. Their rewards are hearing the cheers and applause of audiences all over the United States, and the feeling of putting a smile on faces, and leaving memorable impressions in the minds and hearts of people wherever they go."



GOOD
IDEA

An inexpensive uniform shirt can be quickly made with a plain white tee shirt, tag board stencil, and cans of acrylic spray paint. The stencil is tightly secured to the shirt with pins or double-face tape and spray paint is applied. Colors will remain through many washings.

NEWSLETTER 10-78

*The Grandmother of two Redford unicyclists, DENISE and CHERYL DURRER, was surprised to pass by DAVID BERMAN while vacationing this summer. David is the cross-country unicyclist mentioned in July's NSLR. His trip began on June 2 and when seen, he was near Las Vegas sunburned and looking very muscular. An article in the Las Vegas SUN reported that David wore the sign "Water Please" on his back when pedaling through our arid western states. His goal is Los Angeles. Hopefully any of our Calif. members reading of the conclusion of his trip will send the information or copy of the article to your editor. (If you include the name and address of a newspaper article or picture, it is then possible to ask the paper for permission to reproduce the item in the U.S.A., Inc. NEWSLETTER.)

*Another cross-country unicyclist pictured recently in the papers is 18-year-old BOB McINTYRE. Bob began his trip in Portland and is carrying the message "Bread for the World" to Washington, D.C. When pictured on October 11, he was in Chicago and was averaging 40 miles a day. Unlike David, who is riding a 24" Schwinn, Bob is making his trip on a giraffe.

*In spite of a shortage of Broadway theaters, "Spokesong," for which JOHN JENACK is the cycle coach, will be opening at the Circle in the Square on December 14. THE DETROIT NEWS states, "'Spokesong,' a drama from Ireland about bicycling, scored big last season at the Long Wharf Theater in New Haven, Conn."

*Music Man DON SHAFFER sent the July, 1978, issue of AMERICAN WHEELMEN in which there was a page devoted to Mark McGahan and his unusual exploits each year in the Davis, California, Double Century bicycle event. The D.C. began modestly but now attracts 600-900 participants each year. Since 1972, when Mark first entered at the age of 14, he has been the center attraction of the event with his unusual vehicles. In a field of the fastest and lightest of 10-speed bikes, Mark has ridden a Schwinn Varsity, a balloon-tired paper-boy bicycle, a Schwinn Sting-Ray, a tandem, a high-wheeler, and in 1978 a 38-inch unicycle. Up until this year his times have not fallen too far short of the record 10 hours. However, to complete the course in the saddle of his uni, he and the unicycle did not part company for a total of 37 hours. A headwind and 90° temperature dropped one-third

of the entrants, but Mark remained in the saddle to become the first rider to ever complete the Davis Double Century, or perhaps any other, on a unicycle.

*TED McGUIRE, Director of the Hamilton Mini Circus, graduate assistant in the Department of Health and Physical Education at Miami Univ. in Oxford, Ohio, and assistant gymnastic coach for both men and women teams at Miami, has an article published in the June, 1978, JOURNAL OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION. In it the Hamilton Mini Circus is called "one of only a few amateur youth circuses in the U.S. and is nationally known for unbelievable feats on unicycles, which range from 3' to 34', and a variety of other circus activities performed by children from ages 6 to 18." The article was about the 2-hour physical education class in circus arts which was first offered at Miami Univ. in the spring of 1977. It is one of only a couple such classes offered in the United States and is taught by WILLIS JAY KNIGHT, assisted by Ted McGuire. The course includes the teaching of many circus arts, including the unicycle, the equipment necessary, and the personal benefits derived by the students. In a letter accompanying the article, Ted says that the Mini Circus is still "going and growing" and in July was putting up another "Circus Land."

A BACKWARD GLANCE - FORWARD

*Dr. PAUL MacCREADY's Gossamer Condor (See pg. 5, Jan. '78 NSLR) is once again in the news. The Condor has been replaced by the "Gossamer Albatross" and once again bike racer Bryan Allen is practicing for a history-making flight - this time across the English Channel - pedaling, in air, all the way.

*For those still wondering who - and which - were the KOKOMO ROADRUNNERS pictured on pg. 1 of July '78 NSLR., the figure doing a handstand above the clown is a part of the statue. MIKE LANE, TOM MILLER, TED WADE and GREG McEWLAIN (L-R) are the four Roadrunners surrounding the statue.

BOOK REVIEW

*CLOWNS, by John Townsend, recently available through the U.S.A., Inc., is briefly reviewed on the order blank page of this issue.

BOYS 8-11 100 yds. 20"

1st Andrew Layne - Smiling Faces

GIRLS 8-11 100 yds 20"

1st Cara Bibler - Smiling Faces

2nd Jill Gibbs - Smiling Faces

3rd Kris Shockley - Specialty Cycles

BOYS 12-14 100 yds 20"

none

GIRLS 12-14 100 yds 20"

1st Kendra Hill - Pontiac

BOYS 15-up 100 yds. 20"

1st Ralph Stock - Paul Fox

2nd Frank Birdsall - Chicago

GIRLS 15-up 100 yds. 20"

none

BOYS 8-11 100 yds. 24"

1st Paul Donovan - Pontiac

2nd Bruce Lyons - Kokomo

3rd Rob Kirwin - Specialty Cycles

GIRLS 8-11 100 yds. 24"

none

BOYS 12-14 100 yds. 24"

1st Wayne Haines - Paul Fox (H.F.C.)

2nd Bill Brichford - Redford

3rd Kent Lyons - Kokomo

GIRLS 12-14 100 yds. 24"

1st Kelly Gibbs - Smiling Faces

2nd Susan Rucker - Smiling Faces

3rd Dawn Baker - Pontiac

BOYS 15-up 100 yds. 24"

1st Jim Kruse - Pontiac

2nd (tie) Floyd & Clyde Crandall - P.

3rd Ted Wade - Kokomo

GIRLS 15-up 100 yds 24"

1st Carol Haines - Paul Fox (H.F.C.)

2nd Robin Dean - Pontiac

3rd Lindy White - Redford

*THE FOLLOWING RACES WERE NOT DIVIDED
BY WHEEL SIZE

BOYS 8-11 220 yds.

1st Paul Donovan - Pontiac

2nd Rodney Richards - Smiling Faces

GIRLS 8-11 220 yds.

1st Cara Bibler - Smiling faces

2nd Nancy Brichford - Redford

BOYS 12-14 220 yds.

1st Wayne Haines - Paul Fox (H.F.C.)

2nd Bobby Johnson - Redford

3rd Tim DeFrench - Smiling Faces

GIRLS 12-14 220 yds.

1st Susan Rucker - Smiling Faces

2nd Teresa Hemminger - Redford

3rd Laura Donovan - Pontiac

BOYS 15-up 220 yds.

1st Floyd Crandall - Pontiac

2nd Clyde Crandall - Pontiac

3rd (tie) Ted Wade - Kokomo

Dave Kirwin - Spec. Cycles

GIRLS 15-up 220 yds.

1st Carol Haines - Paul Fox (H.F.C.)

2nd Sue Donovan - Pontiac

3rd Kathy Skinner - Pontiac

BOYS 8-11 880 yds.

1st Paul Donovan - Pontiac

2nd Bruce Lyons - Kokomo

GIRLS 8-11 880 yds.

1st Debbie Jones - Redford

2nd Cara Bibler - Smiling Faces

3rd Tara DeGeer - Specialty Cycles

BOYS 12-14 880 yds.

1st Jeff Harding - Pontiac

2nd Wayne Haines - Paul Fox (H.F.C.)

3rd Chris Brown - Specialty Cycles

GIRLS 12-14 880 yds.

1st Susan Rucker - Smiling Faces

2nd Tracy Wilson - Redford

BOYS 15-up 880 yds.

1st Floyd Crandall - Pontiac

2nd Mike Wilson - Redford

3rd Mike Lane - Kokomo

GIRLS 15-up 880 yds.

1st Carol Haines - Paul Fox (H.F.C.)

2nd Kathy Skinner - Pontiac

3rd Robin Dean - Pontiac

BOYS 8-11 MILE

1st Bruce Lyons - Kokomo

2nd Paul Donovan - Pontiac

3rd Rodney Richards - Smiling Faces

GIRLS 8-11 MILE

1st Debbie Jones - Redford

2nd Cara Bibler - Smiling Faces

3rd Kris Shockley - Specialty Cycles

BOYS 12-14 MILE

1st Wayne Haines - Paul Fox (H.F.C.)

2nd Chris Brown - Specialty Cycles

3rd Jeff Harding - Pontiac

GIRLS 12-14 MILE

1st Michele Layne - Smiling Faces

2nd Tracy Wilson - Redford

3rd Teresa Hemminger - Redford

BOYS 15-up MILE

1st Mike Lane - Kokomo

2nd Mike Wilson - Redford

3rd Dave Kirwin - Specialty Cycles

GIRLS 15-up MILE

1st Carol Haines - Paul Fox (H.F.C.)

2nd Kathy Skinner - Pontiac

3rd Lindy White - Redford

MEN & WOMEN 30-UP MILE

1st Dr. Orland Reynolds - Marquette

2nd John Risinger - Chicago

3rd Dick Haines - Marion (H.F.C.)

BIG WHEEL MILE

1st Floyd Crandall - Pontiac

2nd Ted Wade - Kokomo

3rd Clyde Crandall - Pontiac

BACKWARDS RACE

- 1st Floyd Crandall - Pontiac
- 2nd Mike Wilson - Redford
- 3rd Scott Benedict - Kokomo

ONE-FOOTED RACE

- 1st Ted Wade - Kokomo
- 2nd Jim Kruse - Pontiac
- 3rd Floyd Crandall - Pontiac

SLOW RACE 0-11

- 1st Jeff Dean - Pontiac
- 2nd Debbie Jones - Redford
- 3rd Rob Kirwin - Specialty Cycles

SLOW RACE 12-up

- 1st Carol Haines - Paul Fox (H.F.C.)
- 2nd Floyd Crandall - Pontiac
- 3rd Ted Wade - Kokomo

MIXED 440 yd. RELAY 8-13

- 1st Smiling Faces: Rodney Richards
Chris Kelly
Andrew Layne
Robbie Richards
- 2nd Smiling Faces: Kelly Gibbs
Dan Miller
Michelle Layne
Susan Rucker

- 3rd Kokomo: Jeff Clark
Bruce Lyons
Max Finn
Kent Lyons

MIXED 440 yd. RELAY 14-up

- 1st Pontiac: Jim Kruse
Clyde Crandall
John Kruse
Floyd Crandall
- 2nd Kokomo: Mike Lane
Cary Kirkmeyer
Steve Quinn
Ted Wade

- 3rd Paul Fox: Wayne Haines
David Haines
Carol Haines
Ralph Stock

OBSTACLE COURSE - GIRLS 0-11

- 1st Kris Shockley - Specialty Cycles
- 2nd Nancy Brichford - Redford

OBSTACLE COURSE - BOYS 0-11

- 1st Paul Donovan - Pontiac
- 2nd Jeff Dean - Pontiac
- 3rd Andrew Layne - Smiling Faces

OBSTACLE COURSE - GIRLS 12-UP

- 1st Kathy Skinner - Pontiac
- 2nd Lindy White - Redford
- 3rd Carol Haines - Paul Fox (H.F.C.)

OBSTACLE COURSE - BOYS 12-UP

- 1st Floyd Crandall - Pontiac
- 2nd Clyde Crandall - Pontiac
- 3rd Mike Wilson - Redford

UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

INDIVIDUAL TRICK RIDING - BOYS 0-11

- 1st Mark Toughill - Specialty Cycles

INDIVIDUAL TRICK RIDING - GIRLS 0-11

- 1st Tara DeGeer - Specialty Cycles

INDIVIDUAL TRICK RIDING - BOYS 12-14

- 1st Tim DeFrench - Smiling Faces
- 2nd Brad Ipema - Chicago
- 3rd Jeff Harding - Pontiac

INDIVIDUAL TRICK RIDING - GIRLS 12-14

- 1st Darla Resner - Specialty Cycles

INDIVIDUAL TRICK RIDING - BOYS 15-up

- 1st Donald Downing - Paul Fox
- 2nd Frank Birdsall - Chicago

INDIVIDUAL TRICK RIDING - GIRLS 15-up

none

INDIVIDUAL CHAIN-DRIVEN TRICK - BOYS 0-11

- 1st Rob Kirwin - Specialty Cycles

INDIVIDUAL CHAIN-DRIVEN TRICK - GIRLS 0-11

- 1st Nancy Brichford - Redford

INDIVIDUAL CHAIN-DRIVEN TRICK - BOYS 12-14

- 1st Nick Brown - Specialty Cycles
- 2nd Bobby Johnson - Redford
- 3rd Steve Toughill - Specialty Cycles

INDIVIDUAL CHAIN-DRIVEN TRICK - GIRLS 12-14

none

INDIVIDUAL CHAIN-DRIVEN TRICK - BOYS 15-up

- 1st Ralph Stock - Paul Fox
- 2nd Dave Kirwin - Specialty Cycles

INDIVIDUAL CHAIN-DRIVEN TRICK - GIRLS 15-up

none

INDIVIDUAL OPEN CLASS TRICK - BOYS 0-11

- 1st Mike Finn - Kokomo
- 2nd Rodney Richards - Smiling Faces
- 3rd Andrew Layne - Smiling Faces

INDIVIDUAL OPEN CLASS TRICK - GIRLS 0-11

- 1st Debbie Jones - Redford
- 2nd Kris Shockley - Specialty Cycles

INDIVIDUAL OPEN CLASS TRICK - BOYS 12-14

- 1st Steve Hilty - Smiling Faces
- 2nd Chris Brown - Specialty Cycles
- 3rd Dale Reisdorf - Specialty Cycles

INDIVIDUAL OPEN CLASS TRICK - GIRLS 12-14

- 1st Teresa Hemminger - Redford
- 2nd Julie Marquart - Smiling Faces

INDIVIDUAL OPEN CLASS TRICK - BOYS 15-up

- 1st Mike Wilson - Redford
- 2nd Floyd Crandall - Pontiac
- 3rd Dr. Orland Reynolds - Marquette

INDIVIDUAL OPEN CLASS TRICK - GIRLS 15-up

- 1st Carol Haines - Paul Fox (H.F.C.)
- 2nd Lindy White - Redford
- 3rd Robin Dean - Pontiac

COUPLES TRICK RIDING 0-11

none

COUPLES TRICK RIDING 12-14

- 1st D. Jones & T. Hemminger - Redford
- 2nd Andy & Shelly Layne - Smiling Faces
- 3rd K. Gibbs & J. Marquart - Smiling Faces

NEWSLETTER 10-78

COUPLES TRICK RIDING 15-up

- 1st C. Fox & D. Downing - Paul Fox
- 2nd K. Skinner & C. Crandall - Pontiac
- 3rd Nan and Jeff Layne - Smiling Faces

GROUP TRICK RIDING

- 1st Redford Township Unicycle Club
- 2nd Smiling Faces 4-H Unicycle Club
- 3rd Kokomo Roadrunners

BEST OVERALL CLUB

- 1st Pontiac Unicycle Club
- 2nd Smiling Faces 4-H Unicycle Club
- 3rd Redford Township Unicycle Club

KING of the 1978 NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET

Clyde Crandall - Pontiac

QUEEN of the 1978 NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET

Robin Dean - Pontiac

INDEX TO NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET PHOTOS

- 1) Saturday's races begin - in the rain
- 2) A serious Nick Brown (Specialty Cycles) waits for the starter's gun
- 3) Sue Donovan (Pontiac), Carol Haines (Paul Fox & Haines Family Circus), Kathy Skinner (Pontiac) and Lindy White (Redford)
- 4) Paul Fox, Dick Haines, John Risinger, and Dr. Reynolds are all eager to cross the finish line first. (Note the shadows - The sun found Minneapolis on Sunday.)
- 5) Paul Donovan showing the style that won him first place in the obstacle course
- 6) Tracy Wilson (Redford), whose Dad supplied a number of these pictures, gets an assist at the starting post from Mr. Shockley
- 7) The big wheels line up with protective helmets and gloves
- 8) Roberto Tschudin-Lucheme - just before the big fall
- 9) Mike Wilson (Redford) as he begins his jump rope routine on the ultimate wheel
- 10) Floyd Crandall (Pontiac) in flight
- 11) Don Downing and Cathy Fox (Paul Fox) Cathy proved "the show must go on" when she performed in the couples in spite of a knee full of stitches from Sat.'s race
- 12) Lindy White (Redford) prepares for her jump mount
- 13) Debbie Jones (Redford) resplendent in tux
- 14) Debbie Jones and Teresa Hemminger (Redford) in their patriotic "Stars & Stripes Forever"
- 15) And here comes the Pink Panther - Teresa Hemminger (Redford)
- 16) Dr. Reynolds in his powerful maneuvering of the ultimate wheel
- 17) Clyde Crandall and Kathy Skinner (Pontiac) following a tremendous couples performance

- 18) Saturday's Pot Luck at Emerald Park with the inviting wading pond in the foreground
- 19) King Clyde Crandall and Queen Robin Dean pose with Chris Brown (Specialty Cycle) after Chris received his trophy for ind. trick riding. (Chris's parents also supplied several of these pictures.)

PICTURES OF SOME OF THE GROUP RIDING:

- 20) Specialty Cycles with their zig zags
- 21) The Smiling Faces in red, white & blue and
- 22) more Smiling Faces on 6' uni's dressed in brilliant orange jumpsuits
- 23) The Pontiac Unicyclists salute Clyde (16') and Floyd (20') Crandall
- 24) The Redford riders forming their unicycle at the conclusion of their act
- 25) Exhaustion following a hotly contested race
- 26) Juggling was often seen in the trick riding competition as illustrated by David Haines
- 27) Costumes - Costumes - Costumes Kathy Skinner as a lovable clown
- 28) Clyde Crandall also takes to the air
- 29) Little Aaron gets a ride on Dad's back (Dad is John Risinger of Hillside, Ill.)
- 30) Don Joyner (Pontiac) demonstrates some balloon sculpture
- 31) Redford's Ken Krakat matches height with Kokomo's Uncle Sam
- 32) All was not work as Paul Cunningham and Bill Brichford (both from Redford) rest
- 33) Smiling Face Jeff Layne awaits his next race
- 34) Mike Wilson (Redford) chats with Kathy Skinner, Sue Donovan and Robin Dean (all from Pontiac)

THE 1978 NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET IN RETROSPECT

For your editor 1978's N.U.M. will be remembered by the costuming and music accompanying Sunday's events, the delightful picnic prepared by SPECIALTY CYCLE's parents, the feeling of goodwill that permeated those assembled for the awards Sunday evening, and some incidents such as:

--ROBERTO TSCHUDIN-LUCHEME pedaling a bicycle beside the racers with his photographer seated on the baggage carrier taking pictures all the way

--MIKE LANE of the Kokomo Roadrunners hamming it up in the couples competition as a Keystone Cop

(More IN RETROSPECT on page 11)



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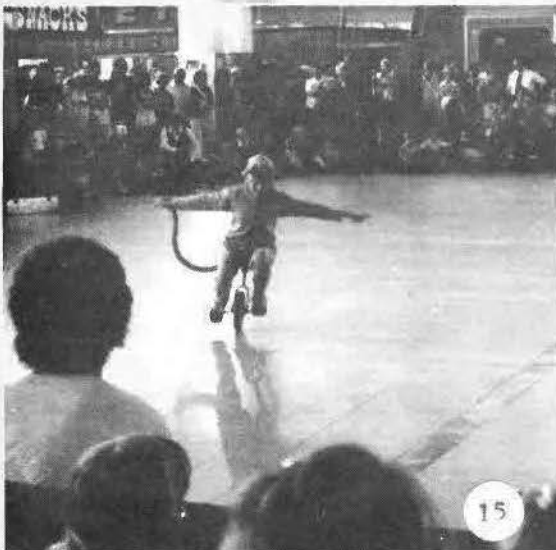
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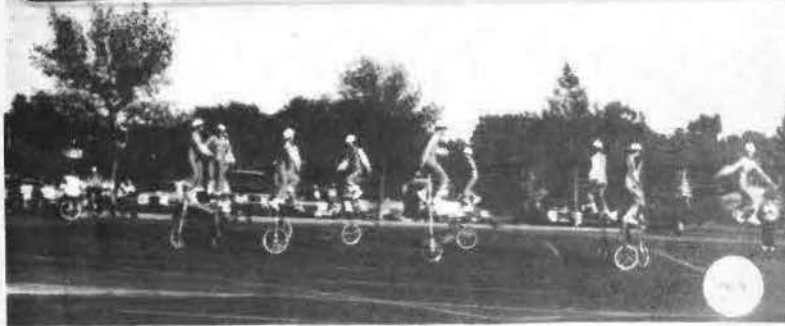
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1978 UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC. ANNUAL MEETING held July 22, 1978, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. (This meeting was originally scheduled for Sunday, July 23; but because the rains prevented the races from taking place Saturday morning, it was decided to hold the meeting instead.)

Before the meeting was officially called to order by Paul Fox, the National Unicycle Meet March, written by Don Shaffer of Erie, Pennsylvania, was played. Paul introduced the present officers of the Society and the Directors' Report was read by Roberto Tschudin-Lucheme. The following persons were then elected to office:

- Director: Al Hemminger - 16152 Kinloch Redford, Mi. 48240
- Director: Floyd Crandall - 124 S. Josephine Pontiac, Mi. 48053
- President: Janet Layne - 514 Defiance Ave. Findlay, Ohio 45840
- Vice-Pres.: Kathy Skinner - 1524 Orchid Pontiac, Mi. 48054
- Sec.-Treas.: Joyce Jones - 20509 Negaunee Redford, Mi. 48240

Carol Brichford will be Newsletter Editor for another year.

A motion was made to create a Public Relations Officer position and Roberto was nominated to fill this position. After much discussion it was decided that each member should be functioning as a public relations person for the U.S.A., Inc.

The possibility of broadening our aims geographically was to be researched. (It has since been determined that this is not possible legally.)

A motion to make membership in the U.S.A., Inc. mandatory for participation in the N.U.M. was not carried. However, a higher entry fee for non-members could be levied at the discretion of the hosting club.

There was a discussion on the advisability of requiring that the N.U.M. be held only where there was an official racing track. It was decided that, while ideally this was a good idea, practically it might cause problems. The important thing was to get U.S.A., Inc. members together each year in the best facilities available.

The 1979 N.U.M. will be hosted by the Smiling Faces of Findlay, Ohio. It will be held on the first or second week end in August on a college campus in Findlay where facilities for room and board are available on the grounds.

Advancement of the U.S.A., Inc. was discussed. A letter written by the Sec.-Treas. will be given all new owners of Schwinn unis.

Your editor would like to say "Thank you" on behalf of all the U.S.A., Inc. members and other unicyclists who participated in the 1978 N.U.M. to the members and parents of SPECIALTY CYCLES UNICYCLISTS. Your warm hospitality was very much appreciated!!!

THE N.U.M. IN RETROSPECT - CONT'D

- the little lady, standing beside your editor, who hid her head as FLOYD CRANDALL prepared to make his six-man jump and asked tentatively after it was over, "Did he make it?" (He did.)
- ROBIN DEAN dressed as a daisy bobbing up and down on the eccentric-wheel horse
- the tremendous skill of some of the younger riders as they performed in the individual and couples competition. If these youngsters continue with unicycling, there is much exciting competition in store for future national and regional meets.
- DR. REYNOLDS, as always giving an excellent demonstration on the ultimate wheel and lasso
- MIKE WILSON doing his individual trick act to DON SHAFFER's music, "Michael on His Unicycle." Why did Don use the name Michael? Can you think of another name that rhymes with unicycle?
- the enjoyment many Apache Mall shoppers received from watching Sunday's competition
- the need for an indoor area suitable for most phases of national meet competition should the heavens again be unkind to future National Unicycle Meets

BOOK REVIEW - BASIC CIRCUS SKILLS - Jack Wiley

Good News!!! The popular BASIC CIRCUS SKILLS book by Jack Wiley that many of our early members found so useful (It went out of print two years ago.) is now back in a new updated and condensed paperback with slightly different title. Since the original publisher, Stackpole Books, opted not to run a reprint or second edition, the rights to the book reverted to the author; and Dr. Wiley decided to publish an updated, condensed version of the four main chapters in a cram-packed paperback with durable vellum cover. Like his fabulous THE UNICYCLE BOOK, the new BASIC CIRCUS, Balancing, Spinning, Tightwire, and Trapeze SKILLS book can be ordered from the Secretary-Treasurer. The cost of \$3.45 includes packaging and handling. See the order form on the back page of this Newsletter.

*TOM PARISH; 902 South Douglas, Lyons, Kansas, 67554; (This is Tom's new address) wrote the following, "Sorry I missed the Uni Meet. I have been busy clowning around. I would recommend Fred Garbo's Clownshop to anyone and everyone. Besides learning some clowning I had a great time with a swell bunch of people. Sept. 19 I report to Venice, Florida, for RBBB Clown College. I'm really excited and can hardly wait."



(GARBO is currently teaching at RBBB, or "Bozo Land" as he calls it. After Jan. 1 he will be the Clown in Residence at the Deaf School in Portland.)

*From DICK LARSON, 2609 Columbus Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55407, we hear: "While the 1978 National Unicycle Meet finished nearly two months ago, the pleasant memory lingers on. ... My wife, Vera, and I spent a week in Kenosha. It was almost like old home week as I met numerous old-time riders - some I hadn't seen for a dozen years.

"In 1940 I raced in Detroit and while no victories came my way, I rode quite well. One thing I remember, I wore a black, yellow and red sweater. Therefore, many Detroit fans of Belgium descent kindly cheered me.

"I am sorry to say, at present no unusual unicycle news has crossed my mind. While at our State Fair last week I met only one fellow in the midway who knew anything about Mel Hall.

"Grover O'Day, who was a well-known trick rider and unicyclist for over 50 years would make a great story. He was also a fine fellow."

(Ed.'s note: One of the highlights of the N.U.M. '78 was meeting Dick and Ken Woods. Their stories of the unicyclists of the days of vaudeville; Jim Dandy, Macey and Brack, the St. Clair sisters, Paul Gordon; were endless. It is hoped that they will make periodic contributions on these personalities. Mel Hall was mentioned on pg. 6 of the July '77 NSLR. Woods and Larson were written up in October '77, pgs. 1-3. Grover O'Day, a former mayor of Paw Paw, Michigan, may be known by other U.S.A. Inc. members who may be able to make a contribution on this unicycling personality.)

*ROBERT HAROLD GRAHAM, 2807 Madison St., Waukesha, Wisc. 53186, writes the following: "A group of about ten unicycle riders are trying to make a club in the Waukesha area. We were hoping that U.S.A. Inc. could send us guidelines about starting a unicycle club.

"We do want to include other circus skills.

"Also, maybe you could ask (through the NEWSLETTER) for information on this from most local clubs.

"We are really quite concerned, due to the number of young riders in the club, about liability; because we often ride each others' equipment. How should we word a release of liability form that could be signed by both parents and rider? Also, can we request that it be signed in order for membership and/or participation?

"We have just started meeting at 1:00 every Sunday outside of Waukesha South Campus High School. The meetings are open to any local or visiting unicyclist, juggler, stiltwalker or anyone else with a circus skill."

(Ed.'s note: It is hoped that by featuring a different unicycle club in each edition, persons interested in beginning a new club will get ideas from clubs that are currently functioning successfully.

Since Robert mentioned liability, it seems the time to again encourage clubs to look into liability insurance and non-profit incorporation status to protect individual club members should a parade bystander or audience member be injured during a performance.

While Robert would appreciate hearing from persons immediately, it is hoped that the NEWSLETTER could also carry answers to his questions since they have universal appeal.)

*Active U.S.A., Inc. member FRANCIS SMITH 2727 Broadway E., Seattle, Wash. 98102, enjoyed meeting and helping Wally Watts when Wally was in Seattle. Francis will be retiring this coming Feb. and is looking forward to attending the next N.U.M.

*STEVE and JOHN McPEAK's mother wrote the following: "...Steven called me from Las Vegas to tell me he is working on his 100' unicycle. Imagine!! When he rides this I must go and see it.

"I also want to comment on how nice I thought it was to see the names and addresses of current members. Through this I have contacted HOWARD KING who lives in Portland, Oregon, just 2 hrs. drive from me. Much to my delight and surprise Mr. King and his lovely wife came down and paid me a delightful visit. Mr. King is extremely interested in Steven and his activities. So leave it to Mother (to drag out the news clippings and pictures of both Steve and John. (Cont'd)

"Had a nice card from John. He was on the Riviera in France and is about through with his tour with the Harlam Globetrotters. It will be nice to hear of his experiences with such a great group of players."

VIOLET WAGNER

Box 373

Depae Bay, Oregon 97341

*KEN BRITTON, who expected to be at the N.U.M., was unable to at the last minute because of the illness and subsequent death of his mother-in-law. She died on July 22 at the age of 86. Ken wrote: "...I built a 9' 7" unicycle for a 14-year-old boy in Phelps who is one of my best riders. He rode it right away with no trouble. I used a Schwinn seat and post and 26-tooth sprockets and almost 4 bicycle chains. I had a 36-spoke heavy-duty Schwinn rim, 20" diameter.

"I still enjoy unicycling and am in constant touch with my friend BILL JENACK, so hear all the news.

"I also built a 27" wheel diameter unicycle for myself. It really moves along the road. I had to hell-arc 18 hole hubs on my unit to accomodate a 36-spoke wheel. I got the hobs off a 10-speed bicycle. I am using 70 lb. pressure tire and rim off a 10-speed bicycle."

For those who might wish to contact him, Ken's address is 3984 West Lake Rd., Canandaigua, N. Y. 14424

*CHARLOTTE FOX ROGERS, 1057 Arlington Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90019, took time from painting and decorating their new residence to write the news from the L.A. area.

"Valerie Gale Rogers of WONDERWHEELS performed as a unicycle clown at the U.C.L.A. Mardi Gras. The student-run charity carnival, held on April 28 - 30, was attended by about 70,000 people. Valerie, who is a music major, also played flute in the band for one of the Mardi Gras variety shows.

"Her older sister, 2LT Dawn Rogers Horn, who received an engineering degree and an Army commission this spring, is still remembered on the U.C.L.A. campus for her freshman-year feat of riding her unicycle down the Janss Steps which connect the upper and lower levels of the hilly campus. Dawn will take her unicycle to Hawaii, where she and her band, 2LT Matthew A. Horn, will be stationed for several years after branch officer's training in Georgia.

"Several unicycling jugglers have appeared in the U.C.L.A. area recently. Georgo Peugeot of the Denver-based Great Salt Lake Mime Troupe performed in the U.C.L.A. Spring Fest on May 20. The young man from Seattle has toured several continents with the Mime Troupe portraying a clown who juggles while unicycling. Peugeot's next activity was in Amsterdam, Holland, where he attended the annual Festival of Fools. About 100 groups of mimes, dancers, and other street performers convene there throughout June to participate in the "Fool School."

"Edward Jackman and several other unicycling jugglers held a practice session early in June in the U.C.L.A. men's gym, where teen-aged unicyclists can also sometimes be found working out. A local newspaper, Second Edition, showed a photo of Dan Rosen of Pasadena performing in Westwood Village near U.C.L.A. (June 28, 1979, issue)"

*BILL JENACK wrote that Bill Tabor from Texas was doing some training in his monocycle on water at the Bayside Marina. Unfortunately Bill missed seeing him but in talking to people at the marina he learned that "Bill Tabor got incredible speed out of the plastic cylinder-like vehicle that he stood up in and walked. Vanes on the outside propelled him." This "water walker" is planning on walking his vehicle across the English Channel.

*From the INTERNATIONAL JUGGLERS ASSOCIATION we received the following notice: "Hi! I'm the new secretary of the I.J.A. Please direct any members of the U.S.A., Inc. to me if they want to join the I.J.A. Enclosed are a membership application and a flyer on juggling literature." Mary Wilkins Wisser
839 Lenz Drive
Anaheim, CA 92805

FOR SALE

RICHARD CHAMBERTAIN writes that he has an unlimited number of unicycles available at a reasonable. For more information his address and phone number are:

3733 Northview Drive
Stow, Ohio 44224
216 - 688 - 9454

For persons wishing giraffes, zig zags, or big wheels BILL STEELE and BRETT SHOCKLEY will build them to order. They may be reached by writing:

2605 County Road H
Minneapolis, Minn. 55432

(This article was submitted by LINDSAY LESLIE, I.J.A.'s European Correspondent from Scotland. Lilly was mentioned on pg. 9 of July, '78, NSLR after she had appeared on t.v. with Sweden's Royal Command Circus. Lilly is appearing with the BLACKPOOL TOWER CIRCUS (the Vegas of Britain) and Lindsay considers her the best speciality act of a show which always books the best in circus performers.)

"Lilly Yokoi had just completed a tour of Europe with the Harlem Globe Trotters before going to Blackpool. She is reckoned to be the best cycling act in the world today. I myself have never seen a complete solo cycle act with such precision, every trick that you could possibly think up for a bicycle is performed with ease and she never dismounts at any time. Then while the bicycle is still in motion she dismantles it to perform all the tricks I've ever seen on the unicycle; still in motion the cycle is rebuilt and finally she does a figure "8" while standing on top of it with one foot on saddle and one foot on handle bars. This conveys to the audience in matadore style that she has tamed the beast and is master of the machine. The applause was tremendous the day I saw the show. As if this was not enough, she finally does several (at least 6) handle bar spins as a sort of encore to finish off her act. I am told she can do these handle bar spins indefinitely."



WELCOME HOME!!! WALLY WATTS

The following press release was prepared by BILL and JOHN JENACK to herald the arrival of "Wobbling Wally Watts" upon his arrival in New York City at the conclusion of his record-making round-the-world trip. Unfortunately it was received by silent presses in the midst of the newspaper strike and was not used by the media. Since the release is so well written and comprehensive, it is reprinted here in its entirety even though it is written in the future tense rather than the past. Wally did complete his trip on October 7, just five days after his 30th birthday and is currently on his way back to his home in Alberta (on four wheels rather than one).

"Wobbling Wally Watts, 29-year-old Canadian unicyclist, is on the last leg of a record-setting 'round-the-world' journey that began in New York some 28 months ago. The 1978 Guinness Book of World Records, page 308, lists Wally as holder of the existing distance mark for his

4,550 mile trans-Canada "practice run" completed in 1973.

"Wally, who calls Edmonton, Alberta, home, has traversed 16 countries on his self-financed solo odyssey, breaking the sojourn several times to earn money and to wait out winter storms or monsoon rains. He has endured steep mountain roads, lonely stretches of desert, humorless police officials, and 'damn near every dog in the world.' He is in the final dash now, having just completed the greater half of his North American leg. At last report he was cycling across Pennsylvania heading for his point of origin, New York City.

"Watts averages close to 10 miles per hour on his 43" wheel, carries a small back pack, and stays in motels, hotels, or with friends whenever possible. By the time he pedals into New York he will have logged 12,000 miles 'aloft' and spent \$15,000. He covers from 50 to 70 miles a day, a grueling pace even for bicyclists who have the luxuries of being able to coast down hills, shift gears on up-grades, and apply the brakes in an emergency. Wally plans to write a book on his exploits, tentatively entitled 'One Way, One Wheel.'

"A mechanic by trade, Wally built his own cycle by cutting and reworking two bicycle wheel rims. He also had to fabricate each of his 64 spokes and the special spring saddle which helps dampen the shock from his solid rubber tire.

"Along with the vagaries of terrain and weather, Wally has endured a pulled Achilles tendon in Greece, a broken arm when forced off the road in Turkey, robbery in Afghanistan, and a terrible case of 'Delhi Belly' in India. With these obstacles behind him, the remainder of the journey should be a 'piece of cake.'

"If all goes according to plan, Wally should cross the George Washington Bridge at about 9:00 a.m. on the morning of October 8 and roll down west side of Manhattan to 72nd St., cross Central Park, and head south on Fifth Ave. Wally would like all interested fellow unicyclists to rendezvous with him as he crosses 72nd St. in the park on way to his final destination, the Guinness Museum at the Empire State Building."

(Ed. note: Wally was accompanied across the George Washington Bridge by JOHN JENACK riding the 42" wheel on which Wally made his trans-Canada trip. They were then joined by several other unicyclists who traveled on to the Guinness Museum. Planned for January's NSLR is a more in-depth overview of Wally's 16-country one-wheel trip and a look at some of the interesting people he met along the way.)

(JACK HALPERN, a technical translator by profession, was born in Germany and has spent many of his 31 years wondering throughout the world. While living in a kibbutz in Israel, he became fascinated by the Japanese language and studied it on his own. Four and one-half years ago he came to Japan, has written several books in Japanese, is translating some, and is often requested to deliver lectures.)

Four and one-half months ago he became "fascinated with unicycling." He ordered Jack Wiley's THE UNICYCLE BOOK from U.S.A., Inc. and mastered the unicycle by self study.

Early on the morning of June 18, 1978, he started out from Shinomeikaido Road at the western edge of Tokyo (Nerima Ward) for a unicycle trip across the city. Wearing a red T-shirt, bathing suit and sash across his shoulder announcing "Crossing Tokyo," Jack rode through the crowded city streets. The shy Japanese stared in amazement at this bizarre foreigner riding on the city streets a vehicle that is seldom seen anywhere other than the circus ring.

Following Jack, by car, was Japan Trick Cycling Club president Yoshito Suzuki, age 86, who introduced the unicycle to Japan. (See photo) Suzuki has lived the circus for 75 years and says, "All the unicyclists in Japan's circuses are my pupils." Suzuki's introduction to the unicycle came in 1910 when an American stunt performer attained popularity on the unicycle at the Kabukiza. To keep his unicycle from prying eyes, the American would take it apart after each performance and lock it in a trunk. Suzuki followed the American around like a devoted disciple and, when the master wasn't looking, sneaked up, examined the unicycle, surreptitiously measured its dimensions, and built another one exactly like it. When the American performer came back to Japan the following year, he was shocked to see Suzuki riding around on a unicycle. "You're just like monkeys, you Japanese, imitating all you see," he reportedly said.

Though Suzuki made much effort to introduce the unicycle in Japan, it only caught on among professional performers. Since "the unicycle is not a difficult vehicle to ride and is such a great sport for both body and mind," both Jack Halpern and Yoshito Suzuki hope to take the unicycle out of the circus in Japan and make it a popular sport among students, housewives and everyone else.)

(Jack has prepared the following article on the extent of unicycling in Japan - past, present, and future - for U.S.A., Inc. readers.)

"Nothing much succeeds in disturbing that look of infinite calm worn by the natives of the Land of the Gods. (In fact, the Japanese countenance has been aptly described as resembling a Buddhist statue.) Nothing except... yes, you've guessed it, when they see this outlandish foreigner (or Southern Barbarian as we used to be called in the old days) making his way through the streets of the most crowded city on earth on a contraption the natives refer to as an "ichirinsha," or "one-wheeled vehicle" - in Chinese characters: 一輪車. Their surprise turns to shock when they find out I am an Israeli technical translator/ writer that has published four books in Japanese and not some kind of a lunatic that escaped from the circus.

"And now down to business. Unicycling is not popular in Japan. Most people seem to believe that riding a unicycle is an advanced circus stunt beyond the capabilities of ordinary mortals. When they see me mounting a giraffe in the open, one-footing and other stunts, they find it hard to believe that I started unicycling several months ago. And they are stunned to hear that with Bill Jenack's method, it is possible to learn the basics within 15-30 minutes.



In front of the Imperial Palace Japan's unicycling pioneer, Yoshito Suzuki (86) put on a "guest performance" with Jack.

"Nevertheless, there is some unicycling activity here. Two companies manufacture unicycles in Japan: Miyata and Nissan. The former puts out 16" and 20" models, and the latter 20" and 24" models. The 24" model is only for export. According to a company official, as many as 5,000 Nissan unicycles used to be exported to the U.S. a month.

"There is an active unicycling group in Mito, a city in Ibaraki Prefecture north of Tokyo. There, the 68-year-old Mr. Oki heads a group called the Mito Cycle Sports Club, where he offers lessons free of charge. Most members are children, the youngest one being a four-year-old girl who cannot ride a bicycle but astounds audiences with her feats on the unicycle such as one-foot idling and obstacle courses. There is even a rumor that a 2½ year-old girl has learned to ride.

"Mr. Oki travels extensively throughout Japan and has taught unicycling to school children throughout the nation. Particularly, in Mito there are two grade schools with active unicycling clubs, and the children often make appearances in parades and TV.

"All this may sound like Japan is bustling with unicycling activities, but not so. Most people have scarcely heard of the unicycle. Some universities, notably Josai University in Saitama Prefecture, and several elementary schools in Chiba Prefecture, have unicycling clubs. Dr. Hatakeyama from Josai U. and his wife lecture on the subject and have done some research on the sport, which was published in Japan.

"No discussion of unicycling in Japan can possibly leave out the story of Yoshito Suzuki. (see column 1, page 15). His story and other information about unicycling in Japan was published on June 19 in the Asahi Shimbun, the most widely-read daily in Japan. (This article appeared the day after Jack's ride across Tokyo. The picture on page 15 was one included in the pictorial Asahi Graph.)

"As a result of this article I have been requested to appear on several radio and TV programs, and my Tokyo ride was taken up in several monthly and weekly magazines, including the Asahi Graph.

"One thing led to another and I was soon approached by a certain MYS Corporation, who plans to start a "unicycling boom" in Japan and has hired me as a "unicycling consultant" (bet you've never heard that one before). My first job was to compile the first and only book on unicycling in Japanese, which is completed. The book, containing about 70 pages, will be given free of charge to all who purchase a unicycle from MYS Corp., who plans to

sell as many as 2,000 unicycles a month starting November.

"At the same time we have formed the Japan Unicycling Club, with myself as president; and starting in November we plan to be very active in lessons, outings, TV appearances, demonstrations, etc. There is a huge plaza in Yoyogi Park in Tokyo that will be used for practice. The headquarters of the club can be reached by writing:

Japan Unicycling Club
c/o MYS Corporation
6-33-14 Jingumae Shibuya-ku
Tokyo 150 JAPAN

"So, at last, unicycling has started to burgeon in Japan. This state of affairs has inspired me to write a full-fledged book of some 300 pages with many photos and illustrations, on the sport. Also, a sports magazine called Popeye is going to run a series of articles on unicycling, which I am to write. I really must thank everyone at U.S.A., Inc., particularly Bill Jenack and Jack Wiley, who are an endless source of information and inspiration to my activities."

(In the final paragraph of Jack's article he asks for some readers' advice on techniques for practicing one-foot riding backwards. He has tried the following three methods: 1) riding backwards with both feet and letting one foot go (immediate spill); 2) one-foot idling while facing uphill on a slight down-grade and trying to get the pedal around; and 3) same as '2' but with toe clip on left foot (limited success with some difficulties in dismounting). Anyone offering suggestions may write to him at 1-127-4-312 Kamishakujii Nerima-ku, TOKYO 177 JAPAN

WEDDING BELLS



On August 5, 1978, Carol Haines; Paul Fox Unicycle Club, Inc. and Haines Family Circus; and Steven Mills; who set a new world record at the IJA Convention in Eugene, Oregon, this year; were married in the Epworth United Methodist Church in Marion, Ohio. This picture was taken during the reception following the ceremony. Hopefully,

space will permit the inclusion of a bigger photograph in a future issue.

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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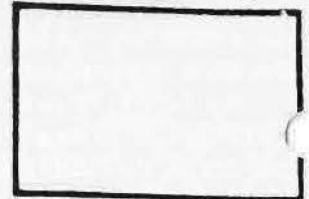
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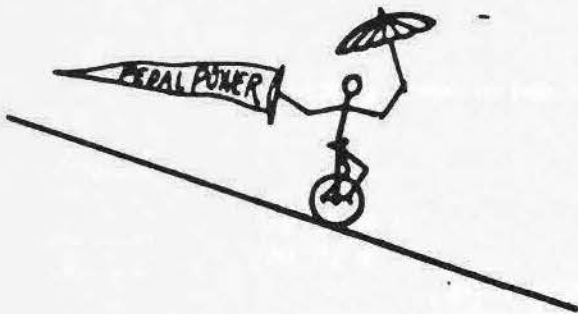
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.



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

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