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# NEWSLETTER

Official Organ UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA Inc. ©1978 All Rts Res.  
Yearly Membership \$6 Includes Newsletter (4) ID Card - See Blank Pg. 16



INGEMAR STENMARK .....2-3

LILLIPUTIAN UNICYCLES .....2-3

SUPER SILLY SPRING MEET .....3

FEATURED - REDFORD TOWNSHIP UNICYCLE CLUB, INC. .... 3-4

U.S.A., INC. UNICYCLE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS..... 5

HELP WANTED .....5

THE PROFESSIONALS' PAGE BARRY LAPPY.....6

THE SIKORSKY'S.....6

COMPLETE 1979 NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET INFO...7-10

MISCELLANEOUS .....11-12

DATES TO REMEMBER .....13

UP ON ONE WHEEL, article from BOY'S LIFE.....13

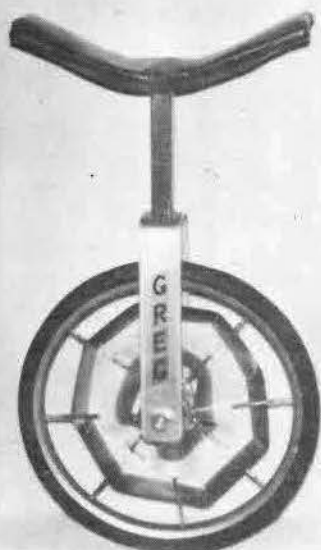
FREE MOUNTING TECHNIQUES by JACK HALPERN.....13

LETTERS FROM OUR MEMBERS .....14

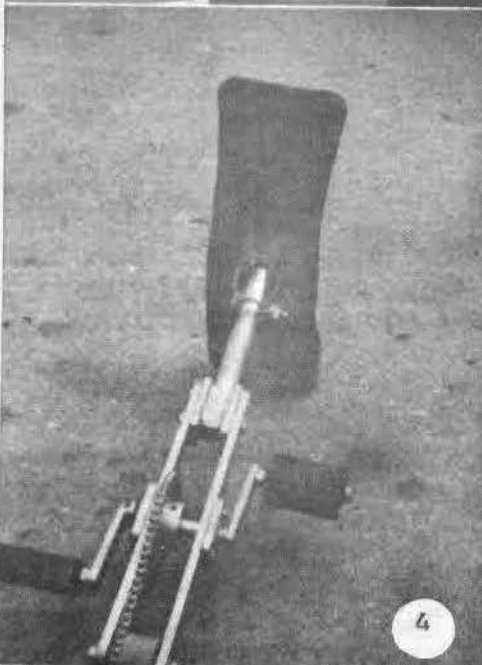
BOOKS, BACK ISSUES .....15

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION .....16

INGEMAR STENMARK UNICYCLING DOWN A STREET IN TOKYO FOLLOWING HIS VICTORY IN THE WORLD CUP SKIING COMPETITION (pgs. 2-3)



WHILE WALLY WATTS BUILDS BIGGER AND BIGGER UNICYCLES (HE'S CURRENTLY WORKING ON A 10' GIANT) SOME UNICYCLE BUILDERS BELIEVE THAT THE BEST THINGS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES SEE LILLIPUTIAN UNICYCLES (pgs. 2-3)



1. Sweden's INGEMAR STENMARK once again took first prize in the World Cup skiing competition held in Furano, JAPAN. Ingemar has been mentioned in previous NSLRs, for his interest in unicycling. While in Japan Ingemar's whereabouts was a closely guarded secret. However, ace detective JACK HALPERN was able to locate him and arrange a meeting in true "cloak and dagger" fashion. The end result was an hour and a half of happy unicycle riding. Of Ingemar's skill Jack writes, "Boy, is he good! He has excellent control of the uni (backwards, idling, spinning, stair climbing) and his face was full of joy as he was riding." The picture shows Jack presenting one of two gift unicycles to Ingemar.
2. Riding sensation BARRY LAPPY. See story on page 6.

LILLIPUTIAN UNICYCLES

While the unicycle on page 1 is not a working model (It was made by DAVE BRICHFORD for Redford Township unicyclist GREG BARNIER when he faced his second major surgery in two months. Made of a 7" wheel from a set of training wheels, the uni stands 12" high and was signed by all his R.T.U.C. friends with their get-well wishes.), the uni's on page 2 can all be ridden.

1. is a 10" wheel constructed from tricycle parts
4. is one of a matched set owned by TOM MILLER and BRETT SHOCKLEY. The chain-driven wheel measures between 1 and 2 inches.
5. is a belt-driven wheel measuring 3/4" which is exactly the size of a penny

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Paul Fox Unicycle Club, Inc.

983 E. Center Street - Marion, Ohio 43302

The Fox Unicyclists would like to invite all interested unicyclers to a SUPER SILLY SPRING MEET, May 13, 1979. The Meet will be held in Marion, Ohio, at the Tri-Rivers Joint Vocational School. Sign-up - 9:00 a.m. Races 11:00

The silly part of this meet is that couples will be chosen by the "luck of the draw." Persons wanting to participate in couples must be registered by 11:30, you must also bring a tape, marked with your name! You will not dance to your own tape but will pick another one. The groups will also be drawn from all the people present wanting to ride in this part of the competition. The time limit for group will be 5-7 minutes.

There will also be a silly obstacle course but individual trick will be performed in the usual way (see information on N.U.M.) The races will be: 1-foot; backwards; walk-the-wheel; slow; relay; 100 yd. and mile. Age groups: 0-11, 12-14, 15-up

There will be a picnic on the grounds. Everyone is asked to bring a hot and cold dish to pass plus table setting. Picnic time will be a social time - plus an opportunity to plan the couple and group routines.

Any questions? Call 614-387-1496. (Anyone coming any distance might call on the 13th if the weather is questionable.)

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FEATURED CLUB:



The club's logo, utilizing the initials RTUC is a unicyclist. "U" is the head, "T" the bent arm, "C" the wheel

The Redford Township Unicycle Club, Inc. was begun in 1975 when twelve neighborhood riders decided to enter a few local parades and their first National Meet. The club grew when the enthusiastic "charter riders" personally invited anyone interested in unicycling and regularly submitted articles to local newspapers telling of activities and practices. While the riders have always built their own props and tall and unusual unicycles, the parents have formed a "booster" organization to take care of the more mundane chores. Those holding office are: parents - President, AL HEMMINGER; Sec.-Treas., CAROL BRICHFORD; Publicity, LIZ MILLS; Wardrobe, AUDREY HETTEL; Nsr., JOYCE JONES; riders handle Membership, PAUL CUNNINGHAM; and are elected to represent the club at meetings and in co-directing. This year these people are: CLIFF HETTEL, TERESA HEMMINGER, DEBBIE JONES and DANNY HETTEL.

The picture on page 4 was taken following a show at the Detroit Police Athletic League. The League has hope of sponsoring a new unicycle club for Detroit residents. Football enthusiasts will recognize RICHARD "NIGHT-TRAIN" LANE, Director of P.A.L. in center, back row. He's a former player with the Chicago Cardinals, L.A. Rams and Detroit Lions. He's long been associated with youth.

Seventeen R.T.U.C. riders will be traveling for a month in Europe this summer participating in 16 shows and 9 parades. DAVE BRICHFORD will direct this as well as the other activities planned for the year.



Anyone who has worked with a group of unicyclists knows that very few are self-motivated. After a few of the basic riding techniques are learned, inspired practice comes only during the period immediately preceding a meet or important performance. In an attempt to continuously challenge unicyclists to improve their riding skills, an achievement award system offered through the U.S.A., Inc. was suggested by JAN LAYNE, President. Jan has spent many hours writing to active riders and clubs, sorting out the information they have sent to her. The levels below were thoroughly discussed and accepted at a meeting of the U.S.A., Inc. officers and directors held on March 25, 1979. Since determination of the skills required at each level becomes more complex as the skills become more difficult, only four levels were accepted at the March 25 meeting. Additional levels will require more input from U.S.A., Inc. members, thought and discussion. Anyone with ideas on this may write to Jan Layne, 514 Defiance Ave., Findlay, Ohio 45840.

**LEVEL 1**

- Mount unicycle unaided
- Ride unicycle 100 yards
- Dismount gracefully with unicycle in front

**LEVEL 2**

- Ride 25 feet between 2 parallel lines one foot apart
- Ride in a figure "8" staying within 10-foot diameter circles
- Ride down a 6" curb or ramp
- Mount with "wrong" foot

**LEVEL 3**

- Ride 50 yards backwards
- Ride 50 yards one foot
- Rock 50 times (forward and back = one count)
- Ride one mile forward in less than 8 minutes

**LEVEL 4**

- Ride through the regulation obstacle course in less than 40 seconds
- Rock 25 times one foot (forward and back = one count)
- Do a "wheely" (ride forward, hop over a 2" by 2" obstacle, and continue riding forward)
- Ride 50 yards while holding seat in front (no contact with seat except hands)
- Ride for 30 seconds while continuously performing one additional skill (juggling, baton twirling, playing instrument, etc.)

The awards for the various levels (probably patches and cards) will be available at the 1979 National Unicycle Meet. Non-club members who attend the meet may earn an award by performing UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

all of the requirements for each level for a designated U.S.A., Inc. representative. Club members will be tested within their own club by a designated adult. Only this adult will be permitted to order patches from the U.S.A., Inc.

While the awards themselves will not become available until early August, it is suggested that clubs begin testing now and keep a record of riders who have passed all of the requirements for each level. The cost of the awards and other pertinent information will appear in the Ju., '79 NSLR. PLEASE NOTE: Awards must be earned in order. To earn the award for Level 2, Level 1 must have been successfully completed, Level 3 requires completion of Levels 1 and 2, etc.

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GOLD  
IDEA

If you own one of the new SCHWINN 20" or 24" regular unicycles and would like to master the art of riding a "Kangaroo" (unicycle that has both pedals at the bottom at the same time) you can easily convert it in just a couple of minutes. Here's how: With a large screwdriver unscrew the cap from one of the cranks at end of axle. This will let you get at the 14MM nut holding the crank in place. Using a 14MM socket wrench unscrew the nut, remove the crank, reposition it 180 degrees, and reinstall it in that position. Put the cap back on and you have your "Kangaroo." A helpful hint: Most kangaroo riders agree that learning to ride one foot on a regular unicycle first is a big help in mastering the kangaroo.

**HELP WANTED - FEATURE ARTICLE WRITERS**

To write articles on the following:  
Professional Unicyclists - Past & Present  
Unicycle Tricks  
Unicycle Construction Projects  
Prop Construction Projects  
etc.

Experience not necessary

Salary - Much Appreciation

If Interested Contact: Editor, U.S.A., INC NSLR  
24460 Lyndon  
Redford, Mich. 48239

(See page 2 for picture of Barry)

After two years with the State Circus in Romania, one of our members, BARRY LAPPY has returned home to England. Many of our readers will remember him as the talented young unicyclist who toured with RBBB CIRCUS in this country in 1975-76 (See feature write-up on Barry in Jan. '77 NSLR). Barry's fabulous 13-minute act now consists of 6 minutes on the unis and 7 minutes on his Circus Bike. In the 7 minutes on the bike, much is on the rear wheel only; Barry performs 44 figures. His skill on both the unicycles and bike enabled him to quickly become the top act in Romania. The photo on page 2, just received by BILL JENACK, taken of Barry in Cluj, Romania in 1978, shows Barry completing the 4th part of one of the figures in which he transfers from the saddle to the head tube of his bike and starts riding it like a giraffe. For those interested in Kunstradfahren, the sequence Barry used in this figure is divided into 4 parts. The first is lifting the front wheel; the second, rising from the saddle; the third, progressing to a sitting position on one handlegrip with wheel half turned; and the final move, as shown in the photo, is progressing to the head tube by lifting his leg over the handlebars as he straightens the wheel with his left hand. The ease and grace with which Barry performs this figure, as evidenced by the photo, belies its difficulty but makes it easy to understand how he has obtained top billing in the circus world. The Lappys recently purchased a new van and are now prepared to take on engagements anywhere in Europe. Perhaps someday Barry will return to U.S.A. and we will all have a chance to see his outstanding act.

\*\*\*\*\*

Good news for the pre-sixteen-year-old youngster who wishes to perform professionally. Manhattan Judge EDWARD GREENFIELD ruled that child performers are an "integral part" of any show. Depriving them of the right to perform, which is what the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children wanted to do, would be more cruel than permitting them to find fulfillment in performing for others. The judge used the case of JEROME HOOKS, a unicyclist who joined RBBB with his parents' approval when he was in the pre-sixteen age bracket, as the basis for his decision. So, all you talented, young unicyclists, the door is now open for you to ride professionally. But please drop a line to the U.S.A., Inc. NSLR Editor and let her know what circus you have joined!

UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

THE SIKORSKY'S

The three Sikorsky brothers, whose Father, BERT, has served as President of Clowns of America and editor of their monthly publication, combine the art of juggling, unicycling and clowning in their traveling act. Pictures in their brochure show the three, THOMAS, ALBERT AND LARRY, juggling clubs on the ground as well as on 6-foot unicycles, doing synchronized riding on their giraffes, and juggling rings while perched on the shoulders of a giraffe rider. All of this riding is being done on plywood platforms on uneven ground. The nine separate plywood pieces often shift during the act, making everything more difficult. Also included in their act are mini-uni's, ramps and teeter-boards. For thrills, the trio also includes some other two-man high stunts on giraffes as well as fire eating. Their home is in Maryland and U.S.A., Inc. members may have seen these talented young men perform in many areas along the East Coast and the Mid-West.

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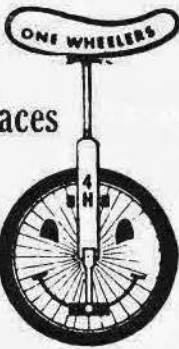
While the other articles on this page are about present professionals, there is a budding new group that may well be the professionals of the future. They are first-through third-grade students at the WADING RIVER, NEW YORK, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. These youngsters, coached by JOHN JENACK, did their routines to the music of the WADING RIVER HILLBILLY HOBO CIRCUS BAND in their "first ever" performance entitled SWRCUS '79. Included in the show were several unicycle acts, some tricky maneuvering on huge electrical wire reels, German wheel routines, juggling, stilts, and clowns, clowns clowns. BILL JENACK, who saw the show, said that the performers looked so very young but the enthusiasm and cooperation was tremendous.

\*\*\*\*\*

Can the cartoon character SCOOBY DOO be considered a "professional"? If so, then he, too, deserves mention on this page for Ambassador has put his picture on different sized paper plates riding - you guessed it - a unicycle!



NEWSLETTER 4-79



Smiling Faces

Unicyclists

NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET

FINDLAY COLLEGE, 1000 NORTH MAIN STREET

FINDLAY, OHIO

AUGUST 3, 4 AND 5, 1979



Name \_\_\_\_\_ (as of) \_\_\_\_\_ Age (8-11) \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

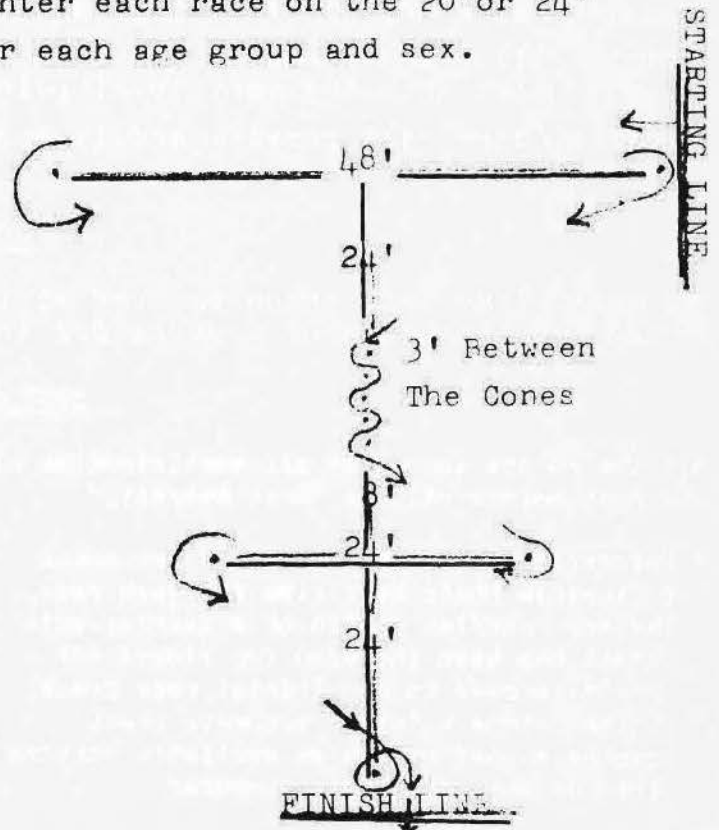
Club Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Check the races you will race in. You may enter each race on the 20" or 24" wheel but not both. There will be awards for each age group and sex.

- 100 yd. race 20" wheel \*Time \_\_\_\_\_
- 100 yd. race 24" wheel \*Time \_\_\_\_\_
- 220 yd. race 20" wheel \*Time \_\_\_\_\_
- 220 yd. race 24" wheel \*Time \_\_\_\_\_
- 440 yd. race 20" wheel \*Time \_\_\_\_\_
- 440 yd. race 24" wheel \*Time \_\_\_\_\_
- 880 yd. race 20" wheel \*Time \_\_\_\_\_
- 880 yd. race 24" wheel \*Time \_\_\_\_\_
- 1 Mile race 20" wheel \*Time \_\_\_\_\_
- 1 Mile race 24" wheel \*Time \_\_\_\_\_
- 1 Mile race women & men over 30
- 50 yds. one foot
- 50 yds. backwards
- 10 yds. slow
- 10 yds. walk the wheel
- obstacle course
- relay (all one sex or mixed)



OFFICIAL OBSTACLE COURSE

Select one only in the individual classification.

- ( ) Individual Trick Riding - one standard unicycle, no props, no music, no costumes allowed. ( 2 Minutes )
- ( ) Individual Chain-Driven Trick Riding - one chain-driven unicycle, no props, music and costume optional. ( 3 Minutes )
- ( ) Individual Open Class Trick Riding - any unicycles, any props, must have music and costume. ( 3 Minutes )
- ( ) Couples Trick Riding - any two people. ( 3 Minutes )  
Age is determined by the older of the participants.  
Partner's name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) Group Figure Riding - Must have at least 8 people. ( 15 Minutes )  
Name of group \_\_\_\_\_

The Age Groups for all events will be as follows :

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 10 years & under | 17 - 18 years   |
| 11 & 12 years    | Open Class - 19 & over & Professional.                                      |
| 13 & 14 years    | (Professional - Anyone who receives money for personal gain by performing.) |

#### AWARDS

The overall winner of each boy's and girl's age group will receive a trophy. Riders will receive points for each event they place in. The overall winner is the rider with the most total points.

Event winners will receive medals and ribbons.

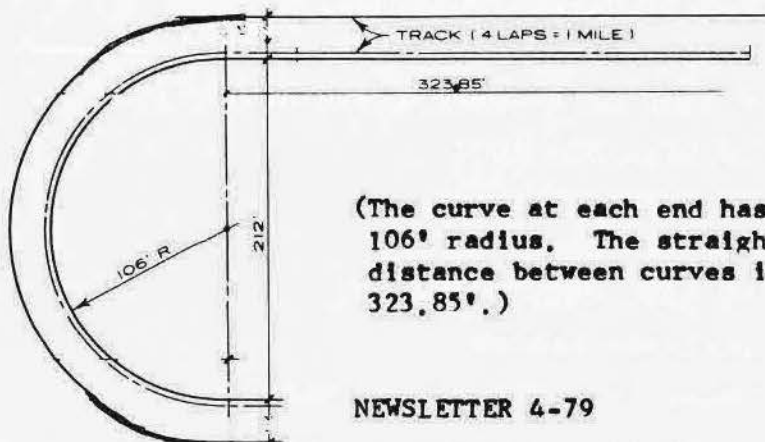
#### JUDGES

We would like each group to send at least one person's name and address who would be willing to be a judge for Individual, Couples and Group Riding.

#### BEST OVERALL CLUB

All the points earned by all participating club members will be totaled. The club earning the most points will be "Best Overall."

- \* Unicyclists filling out page 7 are asked to include their best time for each race. The accompanying sketch of a quarter-mile track has been included for riders not having access to an official race track. Using pylons a fairly accurate track can be mapped out on an available parking lot and accurate times computed.



(The curve at each end has a 106' radius. The straight distance between curves is 323.85'.)



RULES AND REGULATIONS

- All races will be started with rider mounted, holding to support, except 2nd, 3rd and 4th relay riders who will have a starting distance to receive the baton.
- Any rider fouling shall be disqualified for that race.
- Any rider intentionally fouling shall be disqualified and barred from further competition and forfeit any and all awards.
- Rider must ride across finish line.
- If rider falls or dismounts, he is disqualified except in relay, 880 yard or mile races where he shall remount without running.
- Rider may not compete on both 20" and 24" wheels in any one race of the same distance.
- All riders must stay in their lane. However, if rider gets out of lane and immediately gets back without interfering with other riders he will not be disqualified.
- In the "obstacle course" each rider shall be allowed two (2) rides with the best time being official. Pylons may be hit but **not** knocked over. If pylons are knocked over, the rider will be disqualified in that race.
- In the slow race rider must ride in a straight forward continuous motion. Rider may not stop, rock, bounce or twist.
- All races are timed finals.
- Age group will be determined by the age the rider is the first day of the meet. Anyone falsifying age will be disqualified.

FOOD AND LODGING

The cost of staying at Findlay College for the week end will be \$28.00 per person. This includes 6 meals and 2 nights lodging.  
If you cannot arrive Friday night deduct \$3.50.

Alcoholic Beverages are not permitted on Campus.

All participants must be in their room by 12:00PM. Anyone failing to comply may be disqualified from the meet.

All groups should have at least one adult responsible for them.

ENTRY FEE

Entry fee for U.S.A, Inc. Members will be \$2.00

Entry fee for Non U.S.A, Inc. Members will be \$3.50

After July 1, 1979 add an additional \$1.50 for members or nonmembers for late entry fee.

FOOD & LODGING \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY FEE \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY FORM AND CHECK MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE JULY 1, 1979.

MAIL TO: NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET, 514 DEFIANCE AVE, FINDLAY, OHIO 45840

UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

NEWSLETTER 4-79

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR FRIDAY, SATURDAY, AND SUNDAY

## FRIDAY - AUGUST 3

- 6:00 PM - Check into room. (\$3.00 key deposit) This is a college dormitory not a motel. You will need towels, bedding (sleeping bag), etc.
- 6:00-11:00 PM - STUDENT UNION - get acquainted
- 8:00 PM - Tour of Findlay College
- 9:00 - 10:00 PM - Swimming
- 10:00 - 11:00 PM - Student Union - Snack
- 12:00 - LIGHTS OUT

## Saturday - August 4

- 7:00 AM - Breakfast
- 8:30 AM - 1st boys and girls racing to clerk of course.
- 8:55 AM - National Anthem
- 9:00 AM - Races Begin - Track  
Obstacle Course - Tennis Court
- 12:00 AM - Lunch
- 1:00 PM - Races Continue  
Obstacle Course Continue
- 2:30 PM - Individual Trick Riding - Gym (gym has a rubber floor)
- 5:00 PM - Supper
- 7:00 PM - AWARDS Auditorium
- 8:30 PM - Unicycling Society Of America, Inc. Annual Meeting. - Auditorium
- 9:00 PM - Swimming
- 10:00 PM - Student Union - Snacks
- 12:00 PM - Lights Out

## Sunday - August 5

- 7:00 AM - Breakfast
- 9:00 AM - Couples Trick Riding - Gym
- 12:00 AM - Lunch
- 1:30 PM - Parade Order of groups in parade determined by drawing.
- 2:30 PM - Group Riding - Same order as the parade line up. Gym
- 5:00 PM - Supper
- 6:00 PM - Awards - Auditorium



To be available for the first time at the 1979 N.U.M. is an official 4" red, white and blue Unicycling Society of America, Inc. patch.

\*NANCY BRICHFORD was pleased to read that DANA TAPPER, who plays the outspoken Kate with the national touring company of "Annie," an accomplished unicyclist. Dana has appeared on T.V. in the Burger King and Oregon-Idaho Potato commercials (without her unicycle, unfortunately).

\*FAMILY CIRCLE from March 13, 1979, reports that JAMES THOMPSON, who lives in Fairmount, Indiana, claims to be the oldest bicyclist in the country. His age? 105. Can anyone help in finding the oldest active unicyclist?

\*Dr. Roland Geist's BICYCLE PEOPLE has received much acclaim from a review that appeared in the April 1 magazine section of THE DETROIT NEWS as well as from U.S.A., INC. members who have read the book. The book was reviewed on page 8 of the Jan., 1979, NSLR, and is available by sending in the order blank in this issue.

\*EMMETT KELLY, whose performing career began in 1921, died March 28 at the age of 80. Kelly's character "Weary Willy" made his appearance in dumpy hat and floppy shoes at a time when clowns were supposed to be white-faced, apple-cheeked performers in a raked hat and ballooning costume. The idea for this down-and-out character came from sketches Kelly made when trying to break into the cartooning business. Kelly performed with Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey for 14 years, retiring in 1956. He never did really retire and was scheduled to do some filming on the Monday following his death.

\*Unicyclists looking for additional skills to add to their unicycle routines may be interested in the following books available through ROGER MONTANDON, Box 711, Bixby, Okla. 74008:

BATON TWIRLING by Virginia Page \$3.00  
WILL ROGERS ROPE TRICKS by F. Dean \$2.00  
COWBOY ROPING AND ROPE TRICKS \$1.50

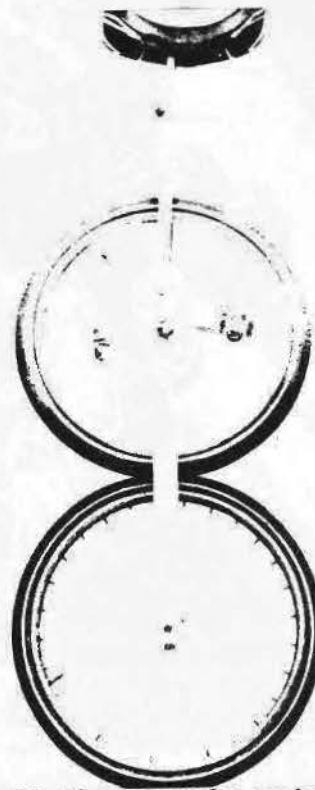
(Add \$.50 for orders under \$10.00)

\*A recent issue of THE DETROIT NEWS contained an article about DOTTIE WINN, the Shrine Circus' first female producer in its 71-year history. While Ms. Winn is adept at searching out unusual acts for her circus, she mentions in the article that the WORLD WHEELERS (the fantastic unicycle basketball team from New York) is one of the unusual acts she is most pleased to have this year. There is much "wheeling" in the Shrine Circus this year.

UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

In addition to the World Wheelers, the GREAT WALLENDAS have a high-wire, bicycle act and there are other artistic bicycling and unicycling acts.

\*



The picture on the left is the two-wheeled unicycle built by TAKESHI HINO and ridden by JACK HALPERN. (Jack wonders if anyone has attempted building or riding a similar unicycle. If so, please write to Jack at: 1-127-4-312 Kamishakujii, Nerima-ku, Tokyo 177 JAPAN) Jack writes that this unicycle is much more difficult than it looks. You must pedal backwards to go forward and this is more difficult

than merely pedaling backwards on a standard unicycle. He says that it takes much practice but is great fun once you learn it. A hint in learning to ride: You must keep your weight on the saddle almost all of the time. Jack will be bringing this uni with him when he attends the 1979 N.U.M.

\*Also from Japan, DAVID HALL, a highly skilled 16-year-old unicyclist, plans to break the world's long-distance speed record. (The current record according to the 1979 GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORDS is held by FRANK WILLIAMS who rode the 100 miles from Austin to Waco, Texas, in 12 hrs. 50 mins) A special giraffe with a high gear ratio is being constructed for David for his attempt at breaking the record.

\*Any U.S.A., Inc. members who wish to learn the art of clowning might suggest to the head of the community or adult education in their school district that such a class be offered. Dearborn, Michigan, is currently offering a very successful class, taught by local talent which includes how to clown, apply make-up, etc.

\*Guinness lists CARLHO S. ABRAHAMS as the rider of the tallest unicycle with a safety belt (45", 10"). What happened to BRETT SHOCKLEY's 53", 9½" ride?  
NEWSLETTER 4-79



The "visitor" in the picture on the left might be asking who builds ultimate wheels on our planet - and how do they do it? Several U.S.A., Inc. members have been asking that question. Could anyone who has successfully built and learned to ride an ultimate wheel share his or her secrets with other members. (The BRICHFORD family watched aghast as BRETT SHOCKLEY, a skilled ultimate wheel rider, took quite a tumble on a spoked version that has since been stored on a shelf marked "unrideable.") Is a 24" wheel easier to master than a 20"? Does the crank arm length make a difference? What are some hints in making a durable wheel? What are some of our riders' experiences in learning to ride? Pictures of ultimate wheel riders may be found

on pg. 12, Oct., '76, NSLR.

THIS PICTURE IS REPRODUCED WITH PERMISSION  
courtesy of THE OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS, Livonia, Michigan

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Last December while doing an "Hourglass Spin" on his giraffe JOHN JENACK had the misfortune of having a weld break at the crank barrel. The cycle wound up in two pieces and John wound up on the pavement. Fortunately John was only slightly bruised but he felt bad about losing the giraffe he used most in his act. Since the cycle was over 30 years old and something of a collector's item as well as his favorite giraffe John shipped the frame to HAMILTON'S BICYCLES EAST in Wichita and asked EMMETT CARPENTER if he could repair and rechrome it. Hamilton's is one of the few old time bike shops where high quality custom built cycles can still be obtained (see feature write-up on EMMETT & BETTIE in the April '77 newsletter). Emmett, who is one of our USA Inc. members, went to work on the frame, replaced the barrel, added some braces, had it buffed and rechromed, and shipped it back a 'gleaming gem'. Needless to say John was extremely happy with it and has but the highest praises for Hamilton's Bicycles East, 1622 So. Parkwood La., Wichita Kansas 67218.



Do you recognize the young lady pictured here? It's CAROL MORAN of the KOKOMO ROAD RUNNERS and hers, along with Findlay, Ohio's SHELLY LAYNE, Marion, Ohio's WAYNE HAINES and a race at the 1977 N.U.M. are pictures found in a new book on unicycling entitled "Anyone Can

Ride a Unicycle" by JACK HALPERN. But don't rush out to your local bookstore for a copy unless you are well versed in reading Japanese, for Jack has written this book for the many people in Japan who are rapidly developing an interest in unicycling. Included in this 27-page book are articles on construction, care and adjustment of the unicycle, shortcuts in learning to ride, some trick suggestions for the beginning and intermediate rider and directions for idling and riding backwards. Each article is liberally illustrated. The book is given to buyers of MIYATA unicycles.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- July 17-July 22 - 32nd Annual International Jugglers Convention; Amherst, Mass. For information write: 149 Larch Rd., Cambridge, Mass. 02138
- Aug. 3 - Aug. 5 - National Unicycle Meet; Findlay, Ohio



(The high-hatted, unicycling clown with the Blue unit is U.S.A., Inc. member TOM PARISH)

\*RBBB - Blue

Apr. 25-29	Rochester	New York
May 1-6	Binghamton	New York
May 8-15	New Haven	Connecticut
May 17-20	Portland	Maine
May 22-28	Providence	Rhode Island
May 30-		
June 3	Glens Falls	New York
June 5-6	Wheeling	West Virginia
June 8-10	Lexington	Kentucky
June 12-13	Huntsville	Alabama
June 15-17	Memphis	Tennessee
June 19-20	Little Rock	Arkansas

\*RBBB - Red

Mar. 28 -		
June 3	New York City	New York
June 5-17	Philadelphia	Pennsylvania
June 21-24	Norman	Oklahoma

\*Monte Carlo

Apr. 24-29	Cleveland	Ohio
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UP ON ONE WHEEL, BOY'S LIFE, March, 1979

Those unicyclists who attended the National Unicycle Meet in Marion, Ohio, in 1977 will remember the two young men from BOY'S LIFE who photographed and talked to many of the riders of the meet. JAN STEENBLIK's article and BRUCE BAUMANN's page of pictures appeared in the March, 1979, edition. This magazine, by the way, cannot be purchased off the counter but is available through local libraries. Your editor will need some help in identifying some of the riders, but that does look like CATHY FOX of the PAUL FOX UNICYCLISTS headlining the article. And BILL JENACK is pictured riding a big wheel along with four other riders. And those are probably BRETT SHOCKLEY's feet astride his zig-zag. The half-page article chronicles WAYNE HAINES of the Haines Family circus in his individual trick act and then gives a brief overview of the meet, dwelling mainly on the differing types of unicycles.

1. Probably the simplest method is as described in THE UNICYCLE BOOK: down pedal slightly back, put full weight on down pedal, step on top pedal as wheel rolls back, then ride off with forward lean.
  2. One drawback of Method 1 is that it is slow; another is that in a crowded place you bump into people behind you. An efficient alternative is to put cranks in horizontal position, place one foot on back pedal with body leaning forward, quickly swing other foot up to forward pedal before wheel rolls back and immediately pedal forward. With practice this is very simple.
  3. Similar to Method 2 but with rear crank at an angle of about 30° to the unicycle frame (that is, in up and back position). This lets you start pedaling forward as soon as your foot hits the forward pedal.
  4. Running mount: run forward as you hold unicycle saddle and hop on as your foot hits the back pedal when the cranks are horizontal. Careful timing is required. This is basically similar to Method 2 except that uni is in motion.
  5. With cranks horizontal (or forward crank slightly upwards) put foot on forward pedal. Swing your body onto saddle as you put your weight on forward pedal, then bring up other foot as wheel starts rolling forward. (Not comfortable but a fast way of getting under way.)
  6. A strange variant is the backwards mount. All you do is perform a forward dismount in reverse. Not too difficult.
  7. Hold saddle in both hands with cranks in horizontal position. Hop on the uni (straddle over saddle) in a single jump, with both feet landing on the pedals simultaneously. (This can be hard on the shins.)
- One-foot free mounting of standard unis
8. Start as in Method 1 but instead of stepping on top pedal, immediately begin one-foot idling. Bring pedal around and ride off forward.
  9. Same as Method 8 but immediately after the first half turn backwards, ride off forward
  10. Same as Method 4 but one foot never touches uni. Hop on the uni while it is in motion and keep riding with one foot. (Difficult but possible.)
- (Different mounting techniques can be an interesting addition to an individual trick routine. Do readers have any other methods to suggest?)

\***HELEN BOWER**, who is the Promotional Manageress of the **SPRINGVALE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB** in Victoria, Australia, writes that **WALLY WATTS** visited their group while unicycling across the country. Of unicycling in Australia she writes: "As you no doubt realise, unicycling is a very small activity with very few clubs. We have been fortunate to have a group of children between the ages of 6 years and 20 years who do musical routines." (Hopefully, there will be more about this group in future issues.)

\***EARLE C. MART** of Mundelein, Illinois, who does his clowning as **DO DO**, asks, "How do you learn to ride one of the unicycles?" To anyone interested in learning or improving, your editor suggests Jack Wiley's **THE UNICYCLE BOOK**, now available only through the U.S.A., Inc.

\***JIM STEVENS** of Atlanta, Georgia, is looking for a beginning rider to learn with. He writes, "I have seen a young man riding in our park and have talked with him. The problem is he is very young and I think he was born on his unicycle. He really has no concept as to how to teach someone." (Are there any other Atlanta unicyclists?)



\***MAD PIERRE**, otherwise known as **PATRICK MAMAN**, wants to help promote a "uni-craze" in England. He would like any help anyone can offer. His address is:

28 Webheath  
Netherwood Street  
London NW 6 ENGLAND

(An article on England's only mass-produced uni was in the July, '78, NSLR. The manufacturer, **DAVID MARINER** of Dorset, England, is now a U.S.A., Inc. member.)

\***ANN THERESE FERGUSON** made her public unicycling debut during the half-time of the **DUQUESNE-DUKE**, PENN STATE basketball game on February 10. Ann writes about the event, "I made arrangements with **DEBRA VAUGHN** to have the pep band to accompany me as I rode. For the first song I rode my regular unicycle with the 24" wheel and for the second piece I mounted my 6" giraffe unicycle and performed on it. In my performance I rode rhythmically and smoothly in many patterns to the music. I also twirled a baton. The audience received my performance well. There were over 3,300 people in attendance. Thanks to **EILEEN SURDOVAL**, the Women's Athletic Director at Duquesne, and to **NELLIE KING**, the Sports Information Director, I was able to make my first performing public debut. It was an exciting day for me!"

Ann goes on to say that she used a 6" ladder to aid her in mounting and would like some help in learning how to free mount. (U.S.A., Inc. member **PAUL CUNNINGHAM**, after hours and hours of trial, taught himself to free mount his 6". Perhaps he or other members might write the technique so it could be put in a future NSLR.)

\***GLEN GLANBERRY**, a third grader, received his first unicycle for Christmas. He writes, "I rode in the parade here in **PASCAGOULA** last month with my good friend **JAY MEEKS** and my Father. My Dad graduated from **Asbury College** the year before **STEVE McPEAK** arrived on campus. I have read **THE UNICYCLE BOOK** with my Dad and we would like to start a unicycle club here in Pascagoula. Any helpful information you could send us about starting a club, plus information about places to buy giraffe unicycles or a small one for my four-year-old brother would be appreciated. (Many individuals are interested in beginning clubs. What suggestions do U.S.A., Inc. members have? Also what do members do for a uni for a tiny rider?)

\***BILL JENACK** writes that **BRIAN MATTHEWS**, **SIM** and **MATTHEW BRIGDEN**, members from Canada whose letters and antics often appear in the NSLR, are now traveling all over the U.S.A. and Canada with their robots. Bill reports that the robots are amazingly clever and built with outstanding craftsmanship. "(The boys) had them running around our living room and kitchen taking pictures and surprising us constantly."

\***DICK LARSON**, Minneapolis, Minn., sent a picture from the **SAN DIEGO UNION** of **KIT SUMMERS**, who is often mentioned in the NSLR., going for a ride on his giraffe at Ocean Beach. Dick writes that Kit did more than just ride; he thrilled the fast-gathering audience with some very fancy riding. Dick also writes, "...my mind goes back to the great work **MEL HALL** did on his unicycles 40 years ago. His 10-min. act would start about where some similar acts end now days."

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.  
 P. O. Box 40534  
 Redford, Michigan 48240

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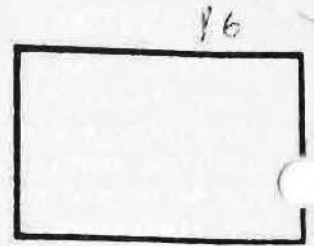
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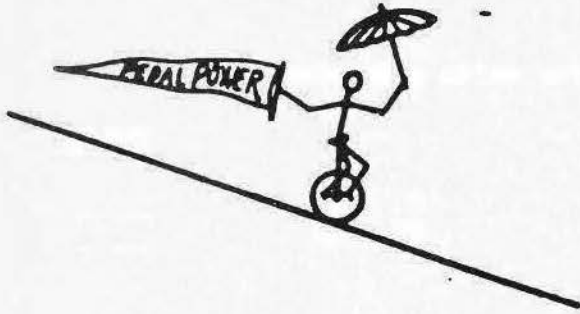
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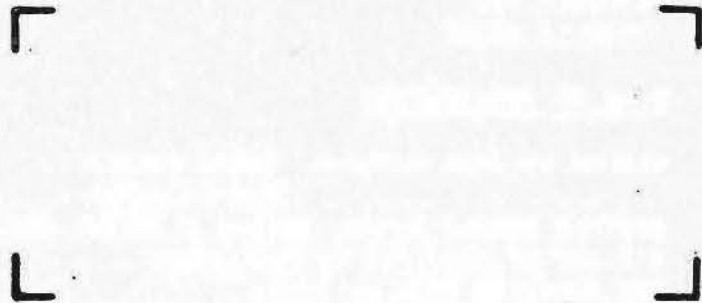
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FIRST CLASS



FIRST CLASS



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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.



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