

Official publication of the Unicycling Society of America...

ON ONE WHEEL

Volume XIV

No. 4

1988

Quarterly



Current U.S.A., Inc. Director and a former President, Unicycle Rider, Creator and Builder of the Extraordinary - all apply to TOM MILLER, who - at age 30 - could well be called "Mr. Uni." Tom is shown here with some of the collection he has built in his UNICYCLE FACTORY. From the left it includes wheels sized 1 3/8", 8", 12", 16", 20", 24", 28", 35", 40", 45", and 56 in. Two of these big wheels were used in record-setting 100-mile rides by CONNIE FOX and FLOYD BEATTIE (see article-this issue) And how did all of this begin? with a Christmas present of a Montgomery Ward's unicycle many years ago. After 30 days this vehicle was replaced with a Schwinn, which - at the time - cost \$45.82. Always a builder, Tom is merging his talent and interest

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1987 - 88

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We are not responsible for articles and pictures unless accompanied by a request for their return and a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Please include same with any inquiries requiring a reply.

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the Unicycling Society of America, Inc. Aims:

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.

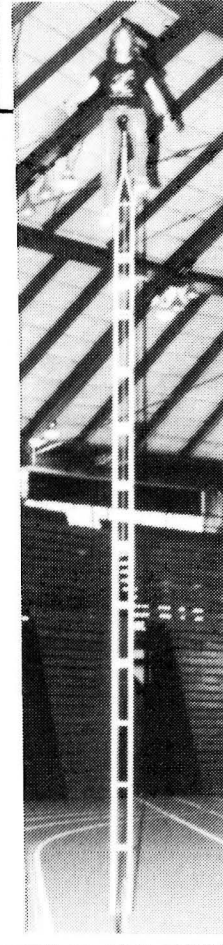
To disseminate knowledge and information on all phases of the sport to all interested parties throughout the country via a newsletter and information service.

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COVER:

TOM MILLER - pictured on the cover - is shown here -----> riding a 24-foot unicycle, which is also one of his creations. He regularly demonstrates his riding ability on his giraffes but says, "I respect these tall unicycles and what they can do." Tom regularly submits material to ON ONE WHEEL and is much sought-after at all meets for his talents in repairing unicycles and for his generous loan of his unusual cycles for all to try.



by David Brichford

THANK YOU!! to the members who submitted the great material found in this issue.

THANKS, too, to those who sent in articles and pictures that will be featured in future issues.

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REGIONAL MEETS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Since September, 1987, there have been four regional meets in different parts of the United States. This may be a paltry number compared to the quantity held regularly in Japan; but it represents a 400% increase compared to the same time last year. (If any member knows of a meet not reported here, PLEASE!!! write to: Editor - OOW)

Three of these events were advertised as "The First Annual." In each case it is hoped that there will be a Second - and a Third - Annual; and that other clubs will be encouraged to stage competitions in their location.

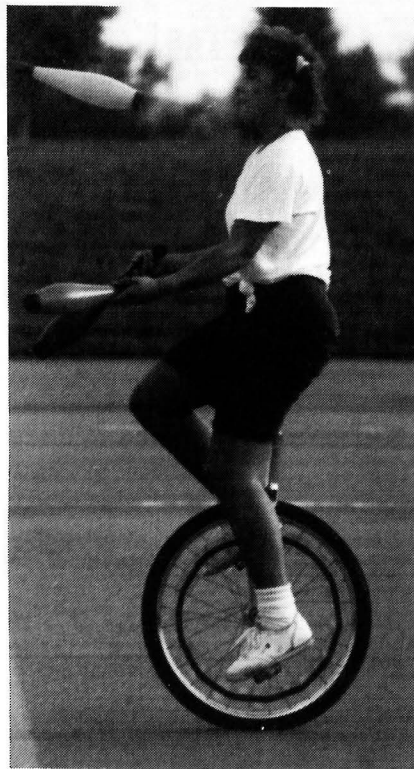
REDFORD TOWNSHIP UNICYCLE CLUB, INC.

11th ANNUAL MINI-MEET - SEPTEMBER, 1987

For ten years Redford had hosted this well-attended event in parking lots of local shopping malls. It was financially expedient to use these facilities because of the support the mall business associations gave the event. For the first time all of the malls in the area had experienced tremendous growth, which resulted in far less parking area. The management of each mall approached refused to hold any event in the parking lot. The emphasis now is to draw people INTO the mall.

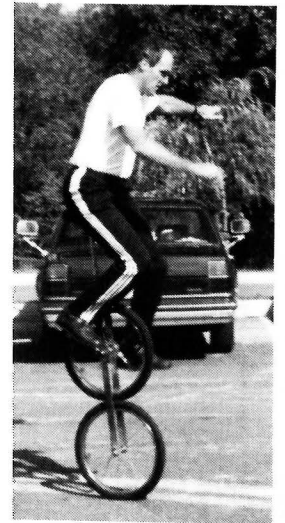
After much searching the Club was finally able to rent the parking lot at Madonna College in Livonia, Michigan. Any outdoor event is at the mercy of Mother Nature - and a cloudburst immediately following lunch caused the artistic riding competition to be delayed almost an hour. However, all 92 competitors completed their events before dark and over half of those attending ate together at a local restaurant before traveling back to their homes in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan.

Pictures can best catalogue the events of the day:

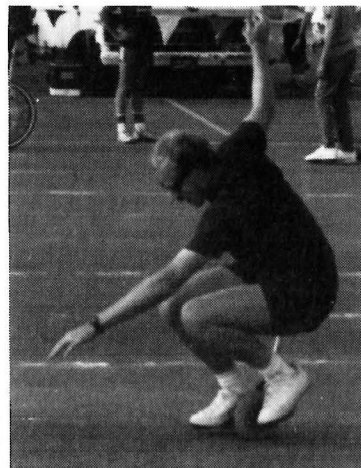


. . . AND FROM INDIANA.

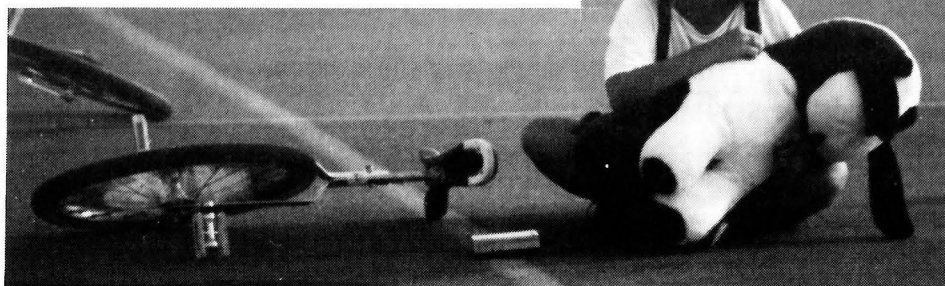
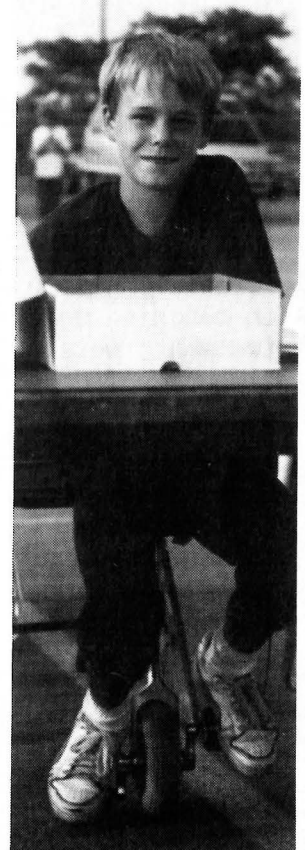
THEY TRIED RIDING THE TWO-WHEEL UNI . . .



. . . AND THE MINI-WHEEL.



THEY SAT ON ANYTHING AVAILABLE TO WATCH THE RACES AND THE ARTISTIC RIDING COMPETITION -->



THEY CAME FROM OHIO . . .

REDFORD WILL HOST ITS 12th ANNUAL MINI-MEET ON SEPTEMBER 17 IN THE SAME PARKING LOT AT MADONNA.



KAREN MESSAMER's thirteen years of teaching physical education in Chariton, Iowa, has resulted in 208 youngsters who can handle a unicycle with considerable ease. No, actually, eleven years resulted in success in teaching unicycle riding. The first two years were not too fruitful; and they almost caused Karen to seriously question whether a unicycle program was well adapted to her school.

Fortunately, for many, she persevered. And the results of this labor of love were seen on Saturday, not only by the quantities of young people who would never have known the joy of riding on one wheel, but also by the Chariton Community School District receiving the state's FINE award for its unicycle program.

In addition to drawing in many of Chariton's current and former unicyclists, BRIAN SCHULTZ came from Minnetonka, Minnesota, to participate in the meet. (Brian was the age 15 and older division winner.)

The entire community, as well as the school district, was supportive of this meet and contributed the awards for the division winners.

Karen, who gives as much of herself to her school endeavors as she does as Treasurer of the U.S.A., Inc., provided the media with much information preceding the meet. She and AMY EDWARDS were on T.V. Amy challenged the sports announcer to ride a unicycle. When they went to Des Moines to tape the segment, the announcer was so impressed that he said he was going to send a clip to Johnny Carson. Who knows? Perhaps there is a trip to CA in the future for Karen and Amy!

This successful event was not only the "first annual reunion meet," it was also the swan song for Karen and her association with the Chariton School District. She, her husband and daughter will be moving to Des Moines following Dr. Messamer's graduation from medical school. To advertise the meet and to mark the "end of an era," the CHARITON LEADER had a two-page spread of the Chariton unicyclists with pictures from various events throughout the years.

The picture above, showing the unicyclists kicking off the reunion meet, is reproduced with permission of the CHARITON LEADER and appeared with other pictures and the story of the meet on May 24, 1988.

CENTRAL PARK FESTIVAL OF JUGGLING AND UNICYCLE

ARTS - MAY 21, 1988 (raindate May 22)

by JOHN FOSS

The actual event took place on the rain date of Sunday, May 22. On the morning of the 21st, the skies were ominously gray and the organizers called it off. Of course, lots of people showed up anyway, including the school group from Islip Terrace. In June, 1986, Circus Education Specialists, Inc. had done a residency at the school. At that time there were NO unicyclists. Apparently Physical Education teacher Evelyn Eckhard was very serious about incorporating unicycling riding in the school program and has achieved great success. The school had procured a bus to get the students to the Festival on Saturday, and come they did!

Some of the unicycle notables who came were SEM and TERESA ABRAHAMS, JOEL SILVER, DAVID RAMOS, and TIM TEACHEN. There were between 40 and 50 riders who enjoyed performing in the big bandshell and impromptu basketball playing. Some of the highlights were: juggling great LOTTIE BRUNN being honored as the "juggler in residence" with an award by the NYC Parks Commissioner Henry J. Stern, a performance by the "Gizmo Guys," ALLAN JACOBS and BARRET FELKER (top professional jugglers), the big "toss up and stay up" (the group juggle and ride for the cameras).

No official competition events were held this year; but this is to be considered a first annual event. Now that we've seen the possibilities, there is lots of room to add structure in future years.

Of great historical significance to unicyclists is that the site chosen for this year's event is the same spot as the first "Unicycle Invitational" back in October, 1971. And that, of course, was the fore-runner of our National Unicycle Meets.

FIRST ANNUAL SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL MEET

JUNE 11, 1988

by JOHN FOSS

U.S.A., Inc. President, SETH GRANBERRY, who is also the Director of the Mobile Unicycle Club, hosted this meet in Mobile. It was the first known unicycle meet in the area and was partially done as a test run for holding a future NUM there. Racing events were held at a local high school track and

were divided into several ago groups. The events held were similar to those at a NUM. Most of the riders came from the Mobile area, but there was one man from South Carolina, JOHN FOSS came from Long Island, and SEM and TERESA ABRAHAMS, who had been spending a month traveling around the country visiting with many unicyclists.

A Long lunch break divided the day, after which riders converged at a different school for artistic riding in the gym. Due to the widely varying skill levels, unicyclists performed and demonstrated their skills rather than competing. This allowed more riders to feel relaxed enough to get up in front of the group and provided good experience for the big unicycle competitions of the summer.

Sem and Teresa demonstrated some individual skills as well as some of the acrobatic "adagio" they have been working on together. In this, Teresa took different acrobatic poses on and around Sem as he rides. It was clear by their performance that they have been doing a lot of work in front of real audiences; the most recent being Japan's Holland Village Theme Park.

John Foss did his winning Freestyle routine from last year's UNICON in Japan. He performs this almost daily in his work in the schools.

Seth Granberry did, what he said, was his first "performance;" other Club riders included GLEN and DALE GRANBERRY and LARRY SCOTT. These three riders were pictured riding through cones at the 1983 NUM (where Larry was "King") in the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC WORLD article. Glen demonstrated jumping rope on a 3-wheel "stacked" giraffe.

Though the number of riders was not as large as expected, all present had a great time. The event ran smoothly and was a promising experience for future unicycle meets in the South.

(The pictures John sent to accompany these articles arrived too late to be screened for use in this issue. They will appear soon.)

HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR EITHER THE NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET (IN YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN) OR UNICON (IN PUERTO RICO)? There is still time. The registration form for the NUM is the blue outer wrapper for this issue. You can still receive information about UNICON by writing to: Seth Granberry, Jr. - 3204 Desire St. - Mobile, AL 36606

The meeting was held Saturday, July 25, 1987, in the Bethel College Gym, Arden Hills, MN. (site of the 1987 N.U.M.) President, LEN SALVERDA, presided.

He began the meeting by suggesting that the officers should keep in touch by means of a monthly newsletter prepared by the President and that one of the Society's main functions should be providing guidance for local clubs.

SEM ABRAHAMS explained his unicycle level skills. He was asked to divide his list into ten levels. A motion was made by RALPH STONEROCK that the Executive Board Members make a decision within three months on the adoption of these levels. (see Vol. XIV, no. 2) Level patches should be ordered and the membership would officially adopt all ten levels at the 1988 Annual Meeting. This motion was seconded by JAMES GREEN and passed by majority vote.

AL HEMMINGER asked if U.S.A., Inc. would consider combining with the I.U.F. for a meet in Puerto Rico. SEM ABRAHAMS asked that the U.S.A. Inc. and the I.U.F. work together instead of in competition with one another. He asked that the U.S.A. Inc. encourage membership in the I.U.F. A discussion of the liability insurance stipulations and restrictions followed. This clarified the problem of the U.S.A. becoming more international in scope.

It was suggested that the backwards race is dangerous and the Society should consider eliminating it. (see 1988 N.U.M. page in this issue)

It was also suggested that a shorter crank arm (less than 5½") should be permitted. (see rules in XIV, no. 3 - 5" will now be permitted for races)

The following officers were nominated and voted into office:

- President SETH GRANBERRY
- Vice-President CONNIE SCHLECK
- Secretary JAN LAYNE
- Treasurer KAREN MESSAMER
- Editor CAROL BRICHFORD
- Director ORLAND REYNOLDS
- Continuing Dir. FLOYD CRANDALL
- Continuing Dir. TOM MILLER
- Meet Director TOM BRICHFORD

CONNIE SCHLECK will continue to prepare address labels for the newsletter mailing. LEN SALVERDA was thanked for all his work on the 1987 N.U.M.

Jan Layne
Jan Layne, Acting Secretary

OUR U.S.A. DIRECTORS
WHO AND WHAT ARE THEY?

an editorial

Without looking on page 2 of this issue, can you name the three Directors of U.S.A., Inc.? (FLOYD CRANDALL, TOM MILLER, ORLAND REYNOLDS)

Do you know why these three were elected? (For their dedication to serving the Society for many years. Floyd: son of BERNARD CRANDALL, helped his folks for many years with the PONTIAC UNICYCLE CLUB, was listed in the Guinness for unicycling speed, was a tireless worker at many NUMs on racing day and a fierce and fair competitor in both racing and artistic riding.

Tom: served as President of the Society, generously allows riders to experiment with his unique cycles at any event he attends, is owner of The Unicycle Factory.

Orland: has often been pictured in OOW with his ultimate wheel, lariat, or speed-riding his standard, eagerly teaches rope techniques in NUM workshops.)

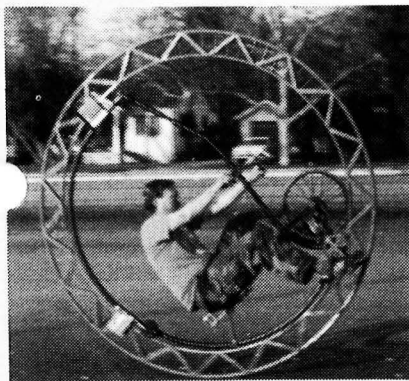
How long is a Director's term of office? (Three years - with a new Director voted upon at the annual meeting each year.)

What is the Director's responsibility to the Society? (To uphold the aims, of course. But that is the responsibility of EVERY member. He is a voting member of the Board of the U.S.A., Inc. But unless a Director takes on a particular chore, that is the extent of his responsibility.)

An organization made up of volunteers CANNOT afford to have honorary positions! When GORDON MITTON was first elected to the Board, he proposed that Directors each have an area of expertise. For example, the Director in charge of unicycle racing would accumulate data on winning times, Guinness records, etc. This authority would then supply information to the membership through the pages of ON ONE WHEEL on items of particular interest and would reply to letters that requested specific information in this area.

Past U.S.A. President, LEN SALVERDA, has also championed this idea and has written to each Director with a suggested "area of expertise" for each.

It is PAST TIME for the membership of the U.S.A. to vote upon a new Director AND TO ASSIGN HIM A SUBJECT TO RESEARCH for the benefit of the membership. That's the way the Editor sees it. What do you think?



MONOCYCLES

AND MOORE!

by . . .

STEVE GORDON

DAVE MOORE. The name doesn't mean much to most unicyclists, and for good reason. Dave doesn't ride a unicycle (although he does own one, and he has built several big wheel unis). Despite not riding a unicycle (yet), Dave does have some distinction in the unicycling community since he is the first non-unicyclist to be listed in the Guinness Book of World Records under 'Unicycle Records.' This listing is for being a co-architect of 'Large Marge,' the world's largest (not tallest - LARGEST!) unicycle.

Unicyclists may also be interested in Dave's latest achievement. It involves the unicycle's cousin - the monocyclus. Monocycycles are similar to unicycles in that they ride on one wheel; they differ from unicycles in that the rider sits inside the wheel.

Dave's monocyclus seats a rider inside a seven-foot diameter wheel. The rider sits about two feet off the ground in a semi-reclining position (like a recumbent bicycle). This mono-strosity, as Dave affectionately calls it, is made out of steel (so it could also be called a 'ferrous wheel') and weighs one hundred and five pounds.

Probably the most amazing thing about Dave's monocyclus is that it works, and it works well! First-time riders have mastered it in a matter of minutes - even learning to turn and to start unassisted. More experienced riders have conquered slight uphill grades and have ridden for over two miles without stopping. Measured speeds have ranged from six miles per hour minimum (below which it tips over) up to 13 miles per hour. Turns of 180° have been accomplished in a 10-foot radius, and wider-turned figure eights are commonplace.

The one thing that hasn't been mastered (although everybody asks) is doing a loop-the-loop inside the wheel. Dave has done one unintentional loop-the-loop when an attempt to ride a motorized version of the mono-strosity went sour. Actually, several

miles were logged on the motorized version before it looped; but it was more difficult to steer and less safe, consequently making it less fun to ride than the pedal-powered version.

Dave has done some research on pedal-powered monocycycles. He has found that several have been built, but he found no evidence or indication that they actually worked or were ever ridden successfully. From the pictures it is obvious that some of them would not work. As far as he's been able to determine, his is the first-ever working pedal-powered monocyclus. (There have been successful motorized monocycycles before.) If anyone knows of any other pedal-powered monocycycles that work and have been ridden any reasonable distance (like a quarter of a mile, at least), Dave would very much like to hear from you. You can write him at:

2226 Gladys

Rosemead, California 91770

or call him at (818) 280-9045.

Besides building the occasional unicycle or monocyclus, Dave builds exact reproductions of 1880's Penny Farthing bicycles (huge front wheel - tiny rear wheel). He also restores original Penny Farthings, fixes motorcycles and sidecars, builds sundials and specialized tools, and dabbles in welded sculpture.

And then in his spare time - - - (right!).



[ed. note: Thanks to STEVE GORDON for his fascinating article! Volume XV, no. 1 (available to those who renew their membership for 1988-'89) will contain a fine article by U.S.A., Inc. Historian CHARLOTTE FOX ROGERS entitled "Who Was the First Unicyclist?" In it she explores the invention of the Penny Farthing (or Ordinary) which quite naturally led to the creation of the unicycle and monocyclus. You won't want to miss this!]



by CHARLOTTE FOX ROGERS

I recently read a book called, THE RICHEST WOMEN IN THE WORLD, which told about a 1976 Dallas debutante party in the form of a circus performance featuring a bird act, dancing camels, and bears on unicycles! I had been hearing about MEL HALL, the outstanding stage and movie unicyclist whose wife, Aurelia Zoppe, had been a circus equestrian; whose four children had been the Cycling Whiz Kids; who later had animal acts; and who now works out of Dallas as "Happy the Clown." I wrote to Mr. Hall to find out if the unicycling bears belonged to his family and asked for an update on all the Halls.

Mel discontinued unicycle riding in about 1960 after several decades of performances and concentrated on training his children. He taught his youngest child to ride a unicycle when she was 18 months old. The Cycling Whiz Kids broke up their act when they reached adulthood and started to perform as singles. Mel also trained animals, including a baboon named Mary which rode a giraffe unicycle.

He left show business for a few years and then learned clowning at Beaumont, Texas. He bought a unicycle at a flea market and resumed riding after a 25-year hiatus, later building several specialty models for his clown act. He works mostly in Texas and other southern states, including International Wildlife Park at Grand Prairie, Texas.

The Halls' oldest son, Ervin, currently presents a comedy cycle act and a baboon comedy act for a Garden Bros. circus in Canada. Daughter Carman, who no longer rides unicycles, has a show-stealer baboon act in the Ringling Bros. Blue unit. Jim Hall, the younger son, has the Castles Bear Act, but the bears ride bicycles and motorcycles, not unicycles. Jim does a unicycle routine with his wife and daughter and worked the Ringling Museum in Baraboo, Wisconsin in 1987. Jeannine, the youngest Hall, does a unicycle and juggling act for the Sterling Bros. Circus and also does some of the buying for the show. Her husband, Fred Hart, is in charge of the working crew; and their three daughters, aged two to five, are being trained in unicycling and other show routines.

Past-President LEN SALVERDA has suggested that each issue of ON ONE WHEEL should have questions about unicycling and unicyclists - the answers to which are found in past issues of OOW. Members finding the answers would write to: Editor, ON ONE WHEEL, in care of the post office box with the answer and the issue and page. The reward for this research would be to see their names in the next issue of ON ONE WHEEL.

To initiate this idea the first question is:

WHAT INFORMATION HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PRINTED ABOUT MEL HALL?

When replying include the Volume, issue, and page number.

JOHN FOSS wrote that SEM and TERESA ABRAHAMS recently returned from visiting Mel and all three enjoyed riding unicycles together. Hopefully, the next OOW will include an account of this visit.

HAVE YOU READ . . . ?

THE WHOLE UNICYCLE CATALOG

by JACK WILEY

This twenty-four page book, the newest in Jack Wiley's expanding publications on unicycling, is, in the author's words, ". . . the first attempt at cataloging sources for information and equipment and making it available in published form.

Chapter 1 - focuses on organizations, clubs, classes, instruction, and events.

Chapter 2 - is devoted to published and video materials.

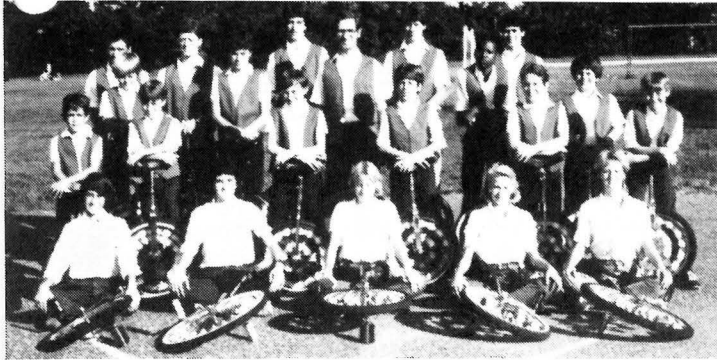
Chapter 3 - covers unicycles and other equipment and props used for unicycling."

This is definitely a "let your fingers do the walking" sort of publication that would provide all sorts of information (or sources for information) for people doing school research papers, looking for unicycles (standard and specialty), and just garnering what is available in the unicycle world today.

Too new to be included on our order sheet, this book is, none-the-less, available through U.S.A., Inc. for a total of \$8.00 (which includes postage and handling).

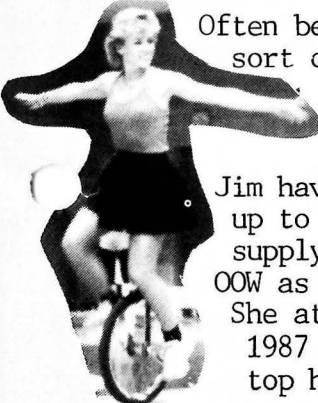
YOUR SOCIETY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - SETH GRANBERRY -



As Director of the Mobile Unicycle Club, Seth has just completed hosting his first regional meet (see article by JOHN FOSS). This year Seth is coordinating with John the unicycle team that will represent the United States at UNICON in Puerto Rico.

VICE-PRESIDENT - CONNIE SCHLECK -



Often being V-P is a "ho-hum" sort of job, but Connie certainly has not made it that way! For the last year and a half she and her husband Jim have kept the membership list up to date on their computer - supplying the labels for mailing OOW as well as for the roster. She attended UNICON in Japan in 1987 where she took some of the top honors.

SECRETARY - JAN LAYNE -

In 1974, when Jan was leading a 4-H group, one of the members of her group purchased a used unicycle. Within a short time there were five budding unicyclists. As news of the new riders got around Findlay, Tom Fox, the brother of founding U.S.A.Inc. member PAUL FOX, told Paul about the fledgling club, and new vistas opened up. As an entirely new 4-H concept, Jan was charged with the responsibility of writing a comprehensive book on unicycling that would be available through the national 4-H organization. Her original club is now the well-known SMILING FACES. And the second club she has originated is the WOOD ONE WHEELERS. Jan has served as Society President three years. That means that she and one of her clubs have hosted three different National Unicycle Meets.

TREASURER - KAREN MESSAMER -

Karen is a relative newcomer to the U.S.A., Inc. But in the few years since joining, she has been one of the most dedicated contributors to OOW. She, too, hosted her first unicycle meet this year (see article, this issue). And she made all the arrangements in addition to teaching school full time, planning a move for her husband, daughter and herself to Des Moines, and organizing a number of farewell activities.



DIRECTOR - TOM MILLER

see cover and page 2

DIRECTOR - ORLAND B. REYNOLDS (EL ROPO) -

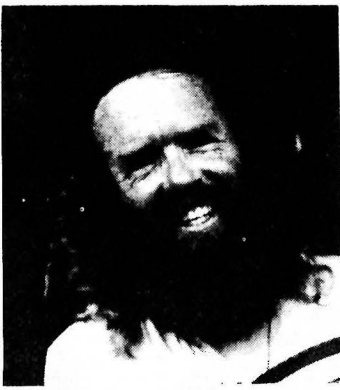
Dr. Reynolds was born and raised in Idaho. Both he and his wife, MOIRA, obtained PhD. degrees in biochemistry from Boston Univ. He has just retired from teaching physiology at Northern Michigan University in Marquette, Michigan. The Reynolds have one son, Ron, who is a family physician practicing near Cincinnati, Ohio. Ron, too, is a unicyclist; he and his wife have a two-year-old daughter.

Dr. Reynolds started unicycling at the age of 46 and rope spinning two years later. He attended his first NUM four year later in 1974 and hasn't missed one since. His unicycling specialties are the 30-and-up mile and the 19-and-up open class trick riding. He often performs for art fairs, school groups, etc. in the Marquette area. His areas of expertise as a Director are: Lifetime sports and Combination of other arts with unicycling.

EDITOR - CAROL BRICHFORD -

As Carol puts Volume XIV, no. 4 "to bed," it will mark the 23rd issue of ON ONE WHEEL (formerly NEWSLETTER) that she has been responsible for. And that says it all!

GOOD NEWS!! For your 1987-'88 membership you are going to receive five issues. In addition to the four issues comprising Volume XIV, you will also receive a roster of the current membership of U.S.A., Inc. With this (to be mailed out in September) you will also receive notice of your membership status. Unless you have renewed for more than a single year, your membership expiration date is October 1, 1988!!



THE 100 MILE
"CHALLENGE THE
GUINNESS RECORD"

by FLOYD BEATTIE

(ed. note: Floyd, a regular contributor to ON ONE WHEEL, traveled to Japan in Aug., 1987, for the express purpose of upholding his 100 mile Guinness title. This is his first-hand report of this unicycle race.)

On August 9, 1987, at 6:00 a.m. six riders set out in pursuit of the one hundred mile record. It was a cool, heavily overcast morning at the Natori Cycle Sports Center (Japan) as the riders mounted their big wheels on the 4 km (about 2.5 mile) course.

Takayuki Koike quickly led a three-man break away on the first lap. For the next twenty-five miles the lead changed between Takayuki and myself with Yoshiaki Handa keeping pace.

At the quarter mark, I stepped up the pace to try to break free. Takayuki stayed right with me, but Yoshiaki fell behind.

Takayuki followed me until lap seventeen (42.5 miles), when he took the lead. I fell in behind him until the 50 mile mark, when he pulled away with ease.

Takayuki finished with a 6:44:22, eclipsing his previous best by 1 hour, 4 minutes, and 50 seconds. This also beat the existing world record by an incredible 34 minutes and 33 seconds.

I held on to second with a time of 6:59:10. Yoshiaki Handa placed 3rd with a 7:33:05. Shigeru Koike finished 4th with a time of 7:42:42. All of these times would have been the record one year ago!

Hideaki Handa stopped after twenty-one laps with the time 4:29:07, Hideo Ishi managed to complete the full 100 miles in a time of 9:58:58. This includes one rebuild of his unicycle!

Jack Halpern (President of International Unicycling Federation) and a fellow from New York rode towards the 100 pm record on twenty-four inch unis, but neither finished the distance.

The amazing story here (if the world

record is not enough) is that aside from me, the riders were all teen-agers. Give them five more years of riding and some competition (please!!) and we will see some tremendous times. And now that Takayuki Koike has broken the seven-hour barrier, the question becomes: Who will be the first under six hours and when will this be done?

The record as I know it from here back:

Aug. 9, 1987	TAKAYUKI KOIKE	6:44:22
Oct. 11, 1986	FLOYD BEATTIE	7:18:55
Sept. 15, 1986	TAKAYUKI KOIKE	7:49:12
Aug. 24, 1985	FLOYD BEATTIE	7:52:55
Jan. 2, 1981	JOHNNIE SEVERIN	9:27:?
	1980 CATHY FOX	10:30 (prox)
	JACK HALPERN	11 (prox)

TIPS FOR COMPETITIVE ARTISTIC RIDING

by DON BURSELL

First off, I want to say that I saw some really nice artistic riding at the 1987 NUM. I saw some old tricks, some new tricks, and some old tricks with new variations.

Being a judge for the first time, I found that it's not an easy task. It's not just numbering a score sheet with numbers from one to ten. I had to look for originality, for smoothness, difficulty, and the one that needs the most improvement from riders: PERSONALITY!

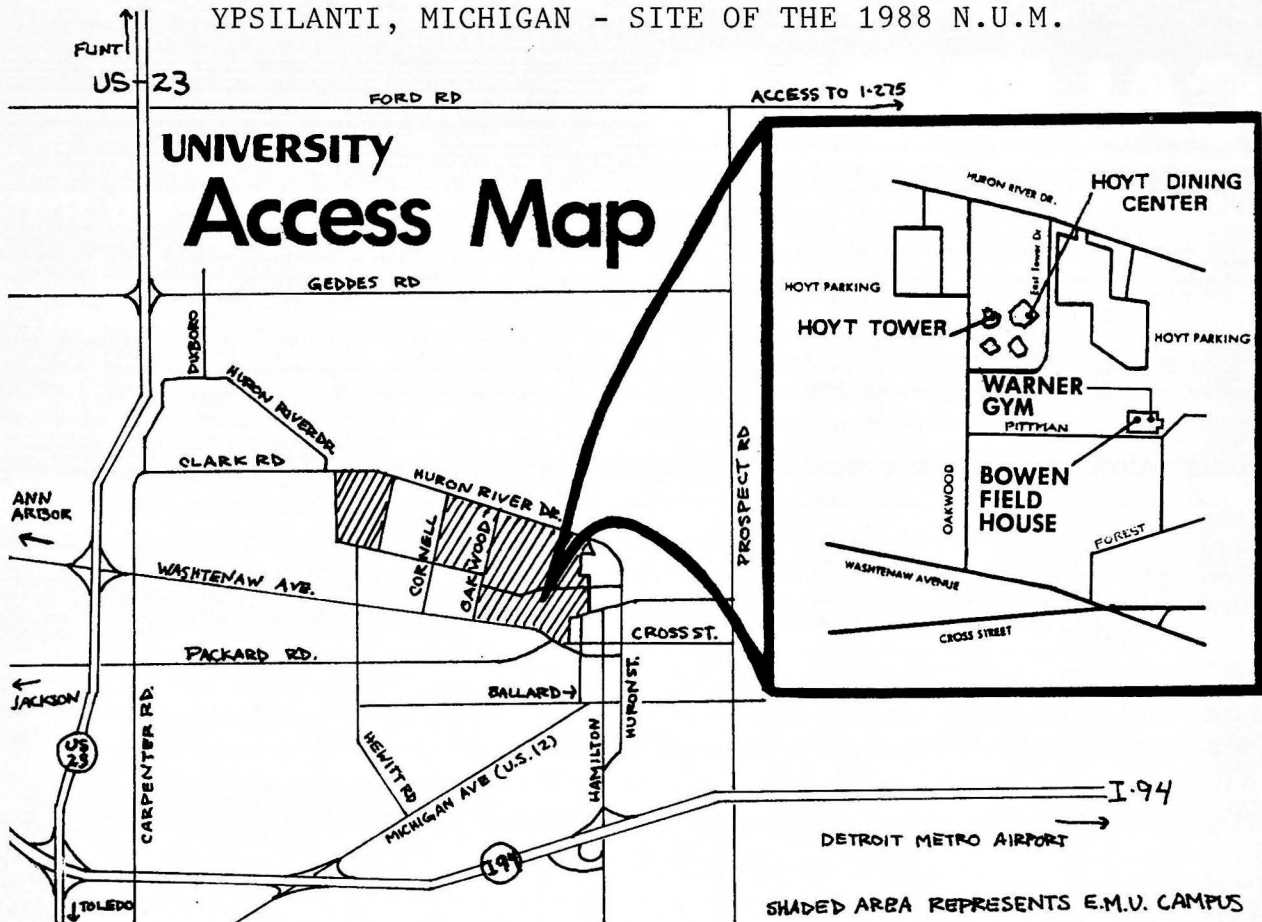
"Personality" (during routines) includes simple things like smiling, looking up from the ground, and establishing eye-contact with the audience. Over the NUM weekend I saw approximately 60-70 routines performed. Out of those, only about 8 or 9 did a fair amount of smiling and looking up. To me, looking up helps to establish a friendly "rapport" with the audience, and especially with the judges.

Also, some riders seemed so tense on the riding floor that they became less smooth and more jerky while riding. I can understand that it's only human to get nervous when performing for judges and before public crowds of up to 300 people, BUT ... try to have fun and relax. Try to enjoy what you are doing when you're out there. Get into the beat of the music. Smile after each short sequence of tricks; and if the audience starts to applaud for you, keep smiling and accept the applause that you're receiving.

If you have fun, the audience is pleased; they applaud; the judges hear it; your score goes up!

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN - SITE OF THE 1988 N.U.M.



1988 NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET - SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY - JULY 29

SATURDAY - JULY 30

- 1:00 N.U.M. Registration-Hoyt Tower
- 3:00 Workshop - JOHN FOSS -
"Intermediate & Advanced Skills"
bring unicycle
center courtyard (Hoyt)
- 4:00 Workshop - LEN SALVERDA -
"On Running a Club"
Hoyt Tower
- 5:00 Timers & Judges Orientation
- SEM ABRAHAMS -
Hoyt Tower (will be repeated)
- 6:00 Riding (or walking) Tour of
Eastern Michigan campus
- 7:00 Workshop - JOHN FOSS -
"How to Put Together a Winning
Open Class/Freestyle Performance"
center courtyard (Hoyt)
- 8:00 Workshop - "Expand your Horizons"
(demonstrations on juggling,
roping, etc.) center courtyard
- 9:00 Workshop - JOHN FOSS - "How Can
We Further Promote Unicycling?"
Hoyt Tower
- 10:00-11:00 Snacks - Hoyt Tower
- 12:00 Lights, noise, etc. out! (The
doors at Hoyt Tower will be
locked at 11:00 p.m. each night.)

- 7:00-8:00 Breakfast - Hoyt Dining Center
- 8:45 Opening Ceremonies - Bowen
Field House
- 9:00-12:00 Racing (mile first) - Bowen -
Slow Races (backward & forward)
& Obstacle will be run concu-
rently on an individual basis
- 1:00-5:30 Races continue
- 5:30-6:30 Supper - Hoyt Dining Center -
- 7:00 Parade Competition - Bowen -
- 8:30-9:30 Racing Awards - Banquet Room -
- 9:30 U.S.A., Inc. Annual Meeting

SUNDAY - JULY 31

- 7:00-7:30 Sunrise Service - Lobby, Hoyt -
- 7:30-8:30 Breakfast - Hoyt Dining Center -
- 9:00-12:00 Individual Artistic Riding
Competition - Warner Gym -
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch - Hoyt Dining Center
- 1:00 Couples and Club/Group Artistic
Riding - Warner Gym -
- 5:30-6:30 Supper - Hoyt Dining Center -
- 7:00 Awards - Warner Gym -



CALENDAR:

ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL JUGGLERS ASSOCIATION, INC. * July 12-17 *
University of Denver, Denver, CO. IJA membership information:
Rich Chamberlin, Box 29, Kenmore, New York 14217

NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET * July 29-31 * Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti,
Michigan. Contact: Tom Brichford, 24460 Lyndon, Redford, MI 48239
phone: (313) 533-4677 - registration form is the blue outer wrapper for
this issue - map and schedule of events are on page 11 of this issue -
additional information is on the bottom of this page

THE UNICYCLE FEDERATION OF THE OUTAOUAISE * August 6-9 * Hull, Ontario, Canada
juggling, unicycling, and much unicycle basketball with workshop demonstra-
tions by LUC TREMBLAY. Contact: Federation Outaouaise d'Unicycle,
39, rue Leduc, Hull, Quebec, Canada J8X 3A3

UNICON IV * August 12-17 * Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. Contact: Alberto Ruiz,
P.O. Box 6068, Santurce, Puerto Rico 00914 - phone: (809) 790-1929 (eve.) -
all riders from the United States are asked to contact SEITH GRANBERRY,
3204 Desire St., Mobile, AL 36606. U.S. riders are to purchase a t-shirt,
designed by JOHN FOSS, that will identify you as a team member and will be
worn for the opening and closing festivities.

12th ANNUAL MINI-MEET * September 17 (rain date Sept. 18) * Madonna College,
Livonia, Michigan. Madonna is located on the north service drive of the
I-96 expressway, 1½ miles east of 275. Maps and additional information
will be available at the 1988 N.U.M.

ADDITIONAL 1988 NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET INFORMATION

- > One of the responsibilities of a Club is to mail to the Meet Director the names of two people who will serve as judges and two for timers. Has your Club met this requirement?
- > The Backwards Race will be done as a "slow" race with no rocking, standing, forward or zig-zag motion permitted. It will be run on the floor with 12" width for ages 11 and up and 18" width for ages 10 and under.
- > Ultimate wheel races will be run on Saturday afternoon if time permits. Ribbons will be awarded but the points will not count for individuals. Racers will be divided by wheel size.
- > Relay races will be run on Saturday afternoon if time permits.
- > Level testing will be available throughout the afternoon and evening on Friday. (Cards and Patches are now available for all ten levels.) Volunteers who are familiar with the testing requirements are needed to help with this.
- > Since the dorms are not air-conditioned, persons may wish to bring a fan for comfort when in the room.
- > Come - Relax - Enjoy
- > Return home with more memories and unicycling ideas than you dreamed possible.

* DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEXT ISSUE: SEPTEMBER 15 *