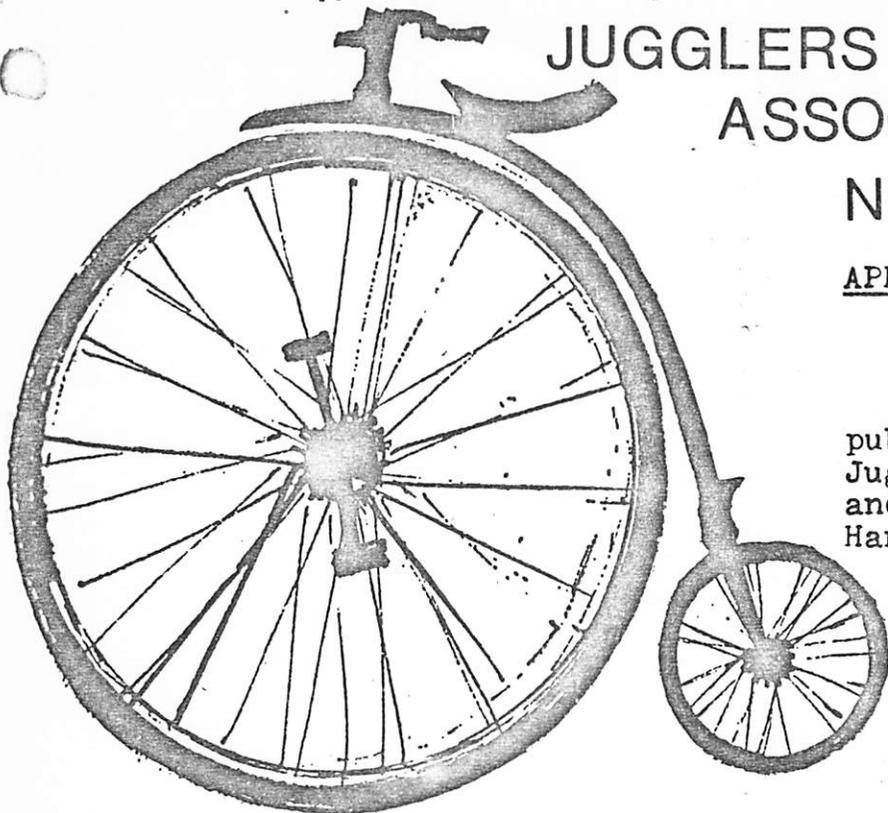


INTERNATIONAL JUGGLERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

APRIL 1973

Vol 25 No 4



This Newsletter is the official publication of the International Jugglers Association. Editors, Ken and Carol Bengé, 1551 Hillcrest Ave, Hanover Park, Ill. 60103.

BALANCING

Several months ago one of our members wrote in asking about the balancing of objects on the head. I believe this is a portion of the juggling art that most jugglers overlook. Some jugglers do include a small balancing feat in their act, however, compared to the unlimited possibilities of objects that could be balanced, very few performers have taken advantage of this skill.

Two performers who I can immediately think of that have received world recognition due to their balancing abilities are Rogana and Marco Polo. Both are performing the sword and dagger balance with great success.

Also, I understand that the Russian Circus School now requires it's juggling students to take up the balancing of objects on the forehead. I personally believe this may bring some new balancing routines into being.

Enough about the unlimited possibilities of object balancing on the forehead. How do you start? First you need to get a 4 to 5 foot house broom, making sure that the end away from the straw end is a non-sharp, rounded end. Now, I would suggest that you begin by learning to balance the broom upright in your right hand (left if you are left-handed). To do this, with your left hand, place the broom upright in the palm of your right hand. Now, let go with your left hand and keep the broom upright by moving your right hand under the object. Also, it is important that you watch the top of the stick, by watching the top of the stick, you will be able to notice the slightest movement of the stick and therefore will be able to adjust the movement of your hand. When you first begin practicing this, the stick will move quite a bit. Try and keep the stick upright as long as possible. The more you practice,

(continued next page)

(BALANCING CONTINUED)

the longer you will be able to keep it upright. Also, as you become better and better at it, try and keep the top of the stick as still as possible.

Once you have control of balancing the broom in your hand you are ready to begin work on learning to balance the broom on your forehead or chin. With your right hand holding the broom in an upright position, tilt your head back and place the broom on your chin or forehead. With your right hand make sure the broom is in a perfect upright position and then let go.

Now, just as you watched the top of the broom and moved your hand under it when you were balancing the broom in your hand, you now again watch the top and simply move your head under the broom. Work to keep the broom up in the air. At first it will move all over the place and your head will really have to move to keep it upright. However, as you become more and more skilled, work to keep the brooms movements less and less.

Once you become competent with the broom balancing, try balancing different kinds of objects such as: umbrellas, spinning plates on sticks, swords, balls on long sticks, trays of glasses on poles, tennis racquets, etc.

JUGGLING REVIEW

The Houcs
Bozo's Circus T.V. program
Oct. 1972

Rings-passed 6-regular
passed 6-back to back
each juggled 4
he balanced a pole of 3 rings with 3 balls inside rings on
his head and then juggled 4 rings

Clubs-she juggled 3 clubs
under legs solids
doubles
2 and 1 split
backcrosses
he juggled 3 clubs
2 in one hand and fake with other
doubles
shower
he juggled 4 clubs
both- 3 club take-a-ways (4 variations)
pass 3 clubs back and forth
over shoulder throws
thru leg throws
throws one then 2 at a time
both passed 6 clubs between them
solids
solids with double turns
he catches all-last one between his legs

CONVENTION

All plans are going great for the 1973 I.J.A. convention May 26, 27, and 28th at the Holiday Inn, 550 W. Mt. Pleasant Ave., Livingston, New Jersey. Ron Graham informs us that the jugglers staying at the Holiday Inn will get a special room rate that is several dollars under the normal rate. This will be taken care of at the convention, not when you are making your reservations.

NEWS FROM EUROPE FROM KARL-HEINZ ZIETHEN

May 5-6 in Bergamo, Italy, Liana Orfei presents the 8th annual festival of jugglers (the 8th Festival Internazionale dei Giocolere) where the "Rastelli Trophy" will be awarded. The festival will be held in the sports palace in Bergamo. Those who have received the Rastelli Trophy thus far are: 1962-Edwardo Raspini, 1965-Vinicio Chiesa, 1966-Angelo Bojilov, 1967-Norman Crider, 1968-Rob Murray, 1969-Alexander Kiss, 1970-Pepito Alvarez and Francis Brunn.

After 2 years, Italo Bedini is in Germany at the Hambourg Hansa Theatre. Some years ago he finished his juggling and acrobatic show "The King Toys" Italo and Paolo Bedini were the most famous jugglers who showed Rastelli style in 1935. Now after 38 years, Italo is back and throws, catches, and balances at a high speed and with great perfection. He works with sticks balls, ropes, and hoops. It all looks so perfect. The artist Italo is ably assisted by his new eager and attractive assistant.

Les Kaskards, club jugglers from Germany, have their first appearance at the Hansa-Theater in March. Les Kaskards, sportsman like and young start off with a simultaneous juggling performance. It is precise work involving difficult moves. They are, for instance, juggling with 6 clubs between two partners whereby the lady of the duo performs a headstand with her male partner.

Now at the Victoria Palace Theatre in London for a long season are the Palermos and Phillips.

Bela and Kris Kremo are appearing in the Swiss Circus Knie this summer. As a duo it is another kind of work and it is a unique opportunity to see such synchronized work. Bela and Kris appear in modern dress and juggle 3 hats, 3 cigar boxes, and 3 balls. It is amazing how they work as a duo. Everything is done with great exactitude and accuracy. Miss Rogana is also on the program with her sword balance.

FROM WALTER BERLIN

The 25th year of the Lido Show in Paris this year includes, Eric Brenn with his plate spinning and also on the show, Rudy Schweitzer presenting his act of cigar boxes, balls and hats.



COLORS FOR UNICYCLES

There are some new and very colorful spoke clips available for bicycles that would add color to any unicycle. The clip-on tubes of flexible plastic that can be cut come in bright day-glo colors.

Here in the Mid-west these clips can be found in many of the chain drug stores. If you cannot find them where you are, write: Technology Associates, Insight Sales Division, Dedham, Mass. 02026. The package of 26 clips sells for about one dollar.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New Member-

James Boehmler
116 E. King Street
Malvern, Penn. 19355

Reinstated member-

Dean Bunn
6309 Excelsior Blvd.
St. Louis Park, Minn. 55416

Change of address-

Larry Fisoni
922 Carolina Street
San Francisco, Calif. 94110

THE WAY THE BAIL BOUNCES

By ROGER MONTANDON

Professional jugglers and those working school assemblies have constantly changing audiences and so can use their carefully worked out routines over and over without major changes. The amateur and semi-pro who works in a limited local area is faced with the problem of using essentially his same routine in repeat engagements and still making the performance appear new and different.

One method of doing this is to add comedy bits of business not directly involving juggling. The following is a topical idea that someone might like to try. President Nixon is well known for his occasional phone calls to sports figures, especially in the area of football, giving them strategy pointers and that is the topicality basis of this gag.

Let us say that you are juggling three clubs, single turns. A phone rings, you stop juggling, reach in your inside coat pocket and take out a red receiver. Hold it up so that the audience gets a good look at it and say, "My hot-line!" Put it to your ear and pretend to carry on a conversation with the audience hearing your end of the conversation which might go something like this: "Yes, Mr. President" pause--- "Throw the clubs or making them turn twice?" pause--- "Then throw the clubs

(continued next page)

(ROGER MONTANDON CONTINUED)

around my back and then finish by kicking the clubs from the floor. I'll try that. Thank you, Mr. President." Put the receiver back in your pocket and say to the audience, "That was the President." Then pick up your clubs again and do the routine you supposedly discussed with the President.

There is on the novelty market an item called "Phon-ee-Ring" which gives a good imitation phone ring and operates with a single penlight battery. It comes with a black receiver which can be painted red. The ring can be operated off-stage by an assistant but can also be carried on your person if you prefer to eliminate outside participation.

Support Juggling---Have a tossed salad for lunch today!

That's the way the ball bounces!

UNICYCLE BOOK COMING from Bill Jenack of the Unicyclists Association of America

A manuscript for "The Unicycle Book" a complete volume on everything connected with unicycles and unicycling has been accepted by the publisher Stackpole Books, and is due to hit the bookstands sometime before next February--hopefully it will be before the end of this year.

The book was written by Dr. Jack Wiley, a unicyclist himself and a Gymnast of note, Santa Barbara, California. I have read the manuscript and am certain it will be the most comprehensive book ever published on the many phases of unicycling---keep your eye out for it.

FROM JUDY BURGESS VIA TELEPHONE

Convention plans are shaping up and I have heard many people who have never attended an I.J.A. convention say that they are planning on coming.

In the New York area the news is about the Ringling Brothers Circus being in town, the Shenyang Acrobatic troupe on television, and the smiling lady juggler, juggling five balls, symbol of the recent Auto Show.

EDITORS NOTEBOOK

Mike Brunn was in the Chicago area for several days. He is definitely a talented, stylized juggler. Be sure and catch one of his performances if he is in your area!

See you at the convention!