

GREAT SCOTT!



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1972 CONVENTION REPORT

This years Hartford Conn. convention was great fun! Juggling enthusiasts from all over the United States were in attendance. The following is the official list of convention attendants from convention chairman Roger Dollarhide:

George Barvin, Ken Benge, Phil Berubi, Bill Brown, Hovey and Judy Burgess, Bob Dacquet, Roger Dollerhide, Hamilton Floyd, David Freund, Ron and Nancy Graham, Bob Good, Jerry Greenberg, Bob Greer, Skip Heddin, Ann Holzel, Frank Hull, Steve Kreyneck, Violet Lemmon, Mike Monroe, Al Morgan, Irvin Perry, Ivor Price, Stu Raynolds and his son Jimmy, Aldin Richards and his passport, Bruce Rothchild, Shower Sandor, Ernie Schenk, Mitch Schnaer, Adrin Sullivan, John Teeple, the Joe Temple family, Eddie Tierney, John McPeak, and the Weinhold family.

I think the overall impression I got from this years convention was the amount of diversification within the ranks of the jugglers. Different groups were trying roping, hand-balancing, magic, bongo boarding, and unicycling. I don't mean this to take away from the juggling at the convention, but it seemed that everyone was trying many different things.

As far as juggling there was; Eddie Tierney with his fantastic four and five club juggling, Hamilton Floyd with his color changing juggling balls, Jerry Greenberg with his "space" juggling comercial, Ron Lubman with unique cup and ball routine, John McPeak with his Cardinas juggling tricks, Bob Geer with his fantastic comedy, Ron Graham with his variations on the variations, the Weinhold boys who have made unbelievable progress from last year, Adrin Sullivan with his

(GENERAL CONVENTION REPORT CONTINUED)

ball on ball spin, Hovey and Judy Burgess with their 8 club passing - - -and their light blindfold juggling, Mitch Schnaer with his ball bouncing, Stu Reynolds with his many new fiberglass clubs - - -and more, and more, and more!

As far as shows at the convention, we had two good ones. The public show performers were Jay Greenberg, Phil Berubi, the Wienhold family with their excellent unicycling and juggling, Shower Sanders, Ivor Price, Bob Geer, Ken Benge, and the Burgesses. Phil Berubi did such an excellent job as a clown that the Children's Museum asked him back for a special show later in the summer. The second show was the banquet show and the performers were Ivor Price with his impressions and Bob Geer. Bob Geer is definitely a witty young fellow and his humor made the banquet!

All and all the convention was fun, entertaining, and educational. All of you who didn't make it this year should start planning for next year.

Also we will have a special report on the convention business meetings from Judy Burgess in next month's issue.

EDITORS NOTEBOOK

In this issue I would like to give you my ideas on the newsletter now that I am publishing it. However before I do, I would like to thank Roger Dollarhide for the job he has done in guiding the I.J.A. over the past few years. I believe few members realize the effort Roger has given to the newsletter, yearly conventions, the juggling championships, and juggling in general. And he has given this effort through many happenings in his personal life. I think all of us owe Roger a THANK YOU.

Now, as far as the newsletter, I see it incorporating many of the features of the past few years plus much more in the way of juggling ideas. I hope that in the next twelve issues I can put in:

- letters
- special articles
- convention reports
- juggling tricks
- ideas on presentation
- historical notes
- comedy juggling ideas
- and answers to juggling questions from you.


Obviously each issue isn't going to contain all of the above items. But I hope over the year that I can incorporate all of them. I also hope that these efforts will help the newsletter become more worthwhile to the membership. However,

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there is one catch and that is that you contribute tricks, articles, letters, historical notes, reviews of acts, ideas, and questions. I will do my best to make the newsletter interesting but I need the help of every member.

JUGGLING PRESENTATION IDEAS


I thought this month I would go over two old juggling bits that many of the newer members may not know about. Even though both of these bits are old, both are good if they are done right.



The first bit is eating an apple while juggling. The basic idea is to juggle two balls and one apple. Now as you are juggling you slowly eat the apple until you are juggling two balls and an apple core. A special note here, in order to have time to take a bite from the apple, you will need to throw one of the two balls you are juggling up in the air several feet, thus giving you time to take a bite of the apple. Or, you can juggle the two balls in one hand and hold the apple with your other hand, thus allowing you time to take the bite. You will find the best method for you by simply practicing the trick.

Now that you have the basic trick, there are many variations on the presentation of it. For instance, you can juggle an apple, a fork, and a napkin. Some of the possibilities with this are throwing the apple high in the air and as it comes down, you hold the fork, point up, under it, thus catching the apple on the fork. Or, every time you take a bite of the apple, you immediately wipe your mouth with the napkin.

The possible variations of the basic apple trick are only as limited as your thoughts. You can juggle a cup, saucer, and donut - - - or two hot dog buns and a hot dog - - - or a candy bar, candy bar wrapper, and a napkin - - - or - - - or?



The second time tested juggling bit is the blindfold with the hole in it. The juggler from the audience's point of view starts juggling while blindfolded. However, when he finishes and turns towards the audience, there is a big laugh as there is a big hole in one eye of the blindfold enabling the juggler to see out. Needless to say this is a comedy bit. Make the blindfold so that when it is on your head and your right side is toward the audience there is a big hole in front of your left eye. Now after you juggle with your right side toward the audience for a few seconds, catch the objects being juggled and slowly turn face forward toward the audience and bow for your big laugh.

One extra idea here. If you present a serious juggling act and you want to juggle blindfolded without the comedy

(JUGGLING PRESENTATION IDEAS CONTINUED)

ending, many of the magic shops have various trick blindfolds that will enable you to be blindfolded but yet you will be able to see to juggle. This isn't "pure juggling" perhaps, but it can be good presentations. On the other hand if you are a purist juggler, you can actually learn to juggle blindfolded.

JUGGLING ACT REVIEW

Tommy DuVal and Vera
on Circus T.V. show
6-23-72

- Vera-3 clubs
 - cascade
 - under both legs, alternating chops
- Tom and Vera-3 clubs
 - quasi take-a-ways
 - 6 clubs
 - normal passing
- Tom-5 clubs with good control
 - 4 clubs
 - split two and two
 - normal two in each hand
 - shower
 - 3 clubs routine
- Tom and Vera-3 clubs
 - Tom jumps over Vera and takes the three club juggle from Vera. Then Vera crawls under Toms legs and takes the three clubs back again.
- Tom and Vera-6 clubs
 - Vera on top of two high on a tall unicycle, both juggling three clubs to themselves.

I would like to explain that all of the reviews printed of juggling acts are published to give the reader an idea of what other jugglers are doing. Therefore encouraging you, the juggler, not to copy the act, but rather learn the tricks and come up with original variations of your own. Inotherwords, reviews and explanations of other jugglers tricks and stunts are printed to encourage originality.

JUGGLING QUESTIONS

This is a segment of the newsletter that I am going to try and keep going for at least the next few months. It is an excellent juggling tool for advancing your knowledge on juggling - - - if it is used. All you have to do is write in questions to be answered.

(JUGGLING QUESTIONS CONTINUED)

This months only question, "Are those special trick balls you use for spinning a ball on your finger?", was a question that someone asked at the nite-before party at this years convention. I forget who asked it, but I know it is a common question.

No, they are not trick balls. Ball spinning is a juggling skill that is the direct result of practice. However, there are certain balls that are preferred by certain jugglers, yet they still are not "trick" balls. The secret of spinning a ball on your finger is to get the ball spinning, very fast, on a horizontal plane. If you are interested in learning ball apinning, I have four suggestions:

1-Watch for a juggler who does ball spinning and watch his technique of getting it spinning.

2-Talk to a juggler who does ball spinning and ask him to help you get started.

3-Read a series of excellent articles by Adrian Sullivan on ball spinning in your old newsletters from four years ago. (If you are interested in reading these articles and yet you don't have the specific back issues of the newsletter, contact me and I will try and get you copies.

4-After doing one or all of the above, practice spinning a ball on your finger.

FROM BOBBY MAY (in a personal letter to the editor)

I have a television book Vaude to Video that says the Three Swifts were the first juggling act on American television.

TRY IT, YOU'LL LIKE IT - - - MAYBE

Several jugglers have told me that they feel it is best to practice your juggling tricks in the same order every day. That way if you ever juggle in a show, or for friends, you will already have a learned pattern for doing your tricks. Have you ever tried this?

NEXT MONTHS ISSUE WILL ALSO HAVE THE 1972 HARTFORD JUGGLING CONVENTION PHOTO'S BY ROGER DOLLARHIDE.