



Newsletter

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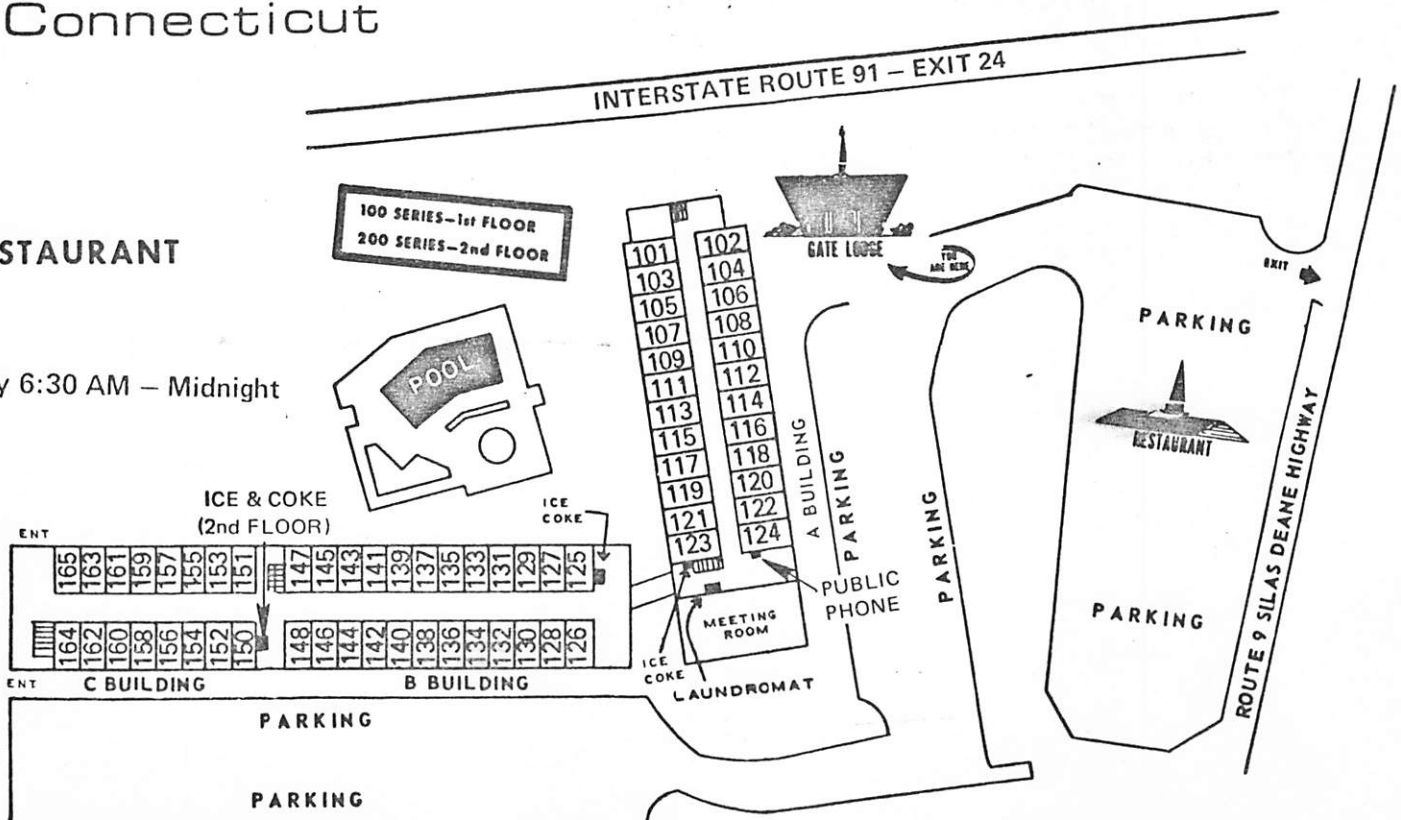
BIG PLANS FOR OUR 25TH YEAR

Welcome To
Hartford
(Rocky Hill),
Connecticut

HOWARD JOHNSON'S
MOTOR LODGE

RESTAURANT

Open Daily 6:30 AM – Midnight



1499 SILAS DEANE HIGHWAY AT INTERSTATE ROUTE 91

PHONE (203) 529-7446

THE IJA NEWSLETTER

Official publication of the International Jugglers' Association.
 Editor, Roger V. Dollarhide, 873 West Boulevard, Apt. 410, Hartford, Conn. 06105. Subscription by IJA membership. Advertising, \$15 per page or prorate for fraction.

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EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Last year's convention was great-and a big success. This year's 25th Anniversary Convention will be even better! The big, air-conditioned meeting room will once again be filled with flying props, and many of the country's outstanding juggs will be there. How will it be better?

This year, we'll have movies-Jerry Greenberg is bringing his 16mm projector and his films. If you have films, bring them along. If they are 8mm, bring your projector. We have improved Juggling Championships rules to allow the less advanced juggs compete on a more equal basis. We have a much better banquet-at the beautiful facilities of Horne's Camelot Inn Restaurant, a block away from convention headquarters. There will be a delicious, 4 course sit down dinner for only \$4.95-which is \$1.05 cheaper than last year.

And, we have a great public show lined up with a contract from our sponsor, The Children's Museum Of Hartford guaranteeing the IJA \$100. And if the tickets sell well, the Museum will schedule a second show and our guarantee is an additional \$200! I already have some great acts lined up and Ken Pense is going to MC. There is room for more acts, so if you want to be in the show, bring your wardrobe 'n stuff.

And speaking of being prepared. I hope many of you will join in the spirit of friendly competition and enter the IJA Juggling Championships. There is a new category this year for juggs with up to 3 years of practice, and there are medals and ribbons to be won for ball, club and object juggling-so let's see what you've gained from all those hours of practice.

The hotel probably won't be too full at this time of year, but if you want to make reservations, do so directly with the hotel. Rooms are in the \$21-\$24 bracket, which is as inexpensive as any in the area. See toll-free phone number on cover of Newsletter.

If you fly to Hartford, Bradley International Airport is 12 miles north of Hartford, and then it's another 7 miles south to Rocky Hill. Cab fare the whole distance is over \$7.00, so I recommend for economy you take the limo into Hartford first. If you come in Friday night, take limo to Hilton Hotel, call me (233-3435) and I'll pick you up. Some busses do run from Bradley to Rocky Hill, so check when you arrive at the airport.

There will be a convention registration fee of 50¢ per person per day to help defray the cost of the meeting room, which is \$100 for the weekend. There will be an entrance fee of 50¢ per IJA Championships event entered to help pay for the medals and ribbons, which cost \$30.

guide to events

June 30, Fri.

7:00 pm

Night before party at Dollarhide's apartment, 873 West. Blvd. Apt. 410, Hartford. From hiway I-91, take I-84 WEST exit thru downtown Hartford 2 miles to Sisson Ave. Exit 46. Continue straight off exit ramp onto West Boulevard $1\frac{1}{2}$ blocks to Hamilton House Apartments.

July 1, Sat.

9:00 am

Registration, juggling, line up for Championships.

2:00 pm

Business meeting, group photo, line up for public show.

3:00-5:00 pm

IJA Juggling Championships.

7:00-9:00 pm

IJA Juggling Championships, cont.

9:00-?

Juggling, movies.

July 2, Sun.

9:00 am

Juggling

10:00-12:00

IJA Juggling Championships, cont.

2:00

Preparations and travelling to public show.

3:00-5:00

Public Show-Children's Museum Of Hartford, Trout Brook Drive, West Hartford.

7:00-?

Juggling, movies. Note: A second public show may be scheduled for this evening.

July 3, Mon.

9:00 am

Juggling

1:00 pm

Business meeting-election of officers, group photo, new officers, IJA Juggling Champions photos. Note: a second public show may be scheduled for this afternoon, rather than Sunday night, in which case, today's business meeting and photo session will begin at 10:00 am.

6:30 pm

Banquet, presentation of new officers, Championships awards. At Horne's Camelot Inn across I-91.

8:00-12:00 am

More juggling??!!

Au Revoir-see you next year!

CHAPTER #3

How 'Twas in Juggle Town BY DOC CROSBY

"Hi Juggie!" It was the old timer and Hettie greeting me on their return from New York City. Overjoyed to see them, arm in arm, I escorted them to comfortable chairs. They had been visiting their old retired booking agent and their former theatrical friends. During their two weeks away I had finished my script. I handed it to the old timer. He lit his pipe and glanced at it briefly and handed it to Hettie saying, "Here Hettie. You read it to us." He lolled back in his chair and puffed away at his pipe and closed his eyes to listen. Hettie adjusted herself comfortably, looked at the script and began:

"My dear friend the old timer said, 'Juggie, you tell it jes like 'twas' and I recall 'that day', as I call it, was jes like 'twas' as usual, day after day, but.....unknown to me 'that day' was to mark the beginning of an unreamed of period in my life. Al, my friendly mailman, laid my mail on my desk. We chatted a bit and as he eased through the door I began to open the mail. It looked like the usual run of wastebasket mail - a couple of letters, bills, etc. (One envelope contained a card which I was about to toss in the basket when I noticed my name written on it. What on earth.....this must be a joke or a prank, I mused, for I've never heard of a juggler's association and this card reads that I am a member of it.

During the day I concluded that Harry Lind was probably the culprit so at my first opportunity I phoned him. "Hello Harry", I says, "do you know anything about a phony juggler's association?" He burst out laughing and I asked, "What's so funny about that?" "Oh, I'm just tickled because I surprised you so completely with that gift membership. Welcome to I.J.A., Doc." Unaware of the trials, joys and friendships that card would bring me, I looked at it proudly and put it in my card case.

Several weeks later the phone rang - ting-a-ling - my wife lifted the receiver and handing it to me said, "Here it's long distance for you". "Hello", I said, in a matter-of-fact tone. The voice over the phone said, "Hello, I'm Art Jennings in Pittsburgh..." "Sorry", I said hastily, "you have the wrong number..." "Hurry", I said, "I could hang up, he said loudly, 'Doc Crosby. Are you Doc Crosby, Harry Lind's friend?" "Yes I am", "Doc", he explained, "A lot of we jugglers want to come to Jamestown for a dinner to honor Harry Lind for all he has done for we jugglers-- and Doc, will you make the arrangements for us?"

OVERJOYED TO PULL A SURPRISE ON HARRY, I SAID "YES". THE NEXT DAY EVA, MY WIFE, AND I HAD ALL ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY.

BUT - TING-A-LING - THE PHONE AGAIN... "HELLO, THIS IS ART AGAIN", HE SAID. "GLAD YOU CALLED, WE'VE GOT IT ALL SET FOR SATURDAY", I SAID. "THANKS, DOC, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO CANCEL THE DINNER...." "OH! WHAT'S HAPPENED?" I ASKED. "GREAT NEWS. THE MEMBERS ARE JUST FLOODING ME WITH RESERVATIONS SO WE'VE DECIDED TO HAVE A CONVENTION A LITTLE LATER AND HONOR HARRY THEN, AND DOC WE WANT YOU TO BE THE CHAIRMAN." "WHAT", I GASPED, "I'VE NEVER BEEN A CHAIRMAN--WHY ART YOU MIGHT AS WELL ASK ME TO JUGGLE FIVE CLUBS WHEN THREE'S A HANDFUL." "AW, COME ON, DOC", HE URGED, "YOU ARE RIGHT THERE. YOU KNOW THE TOWN AND ALL, AND WE CAN'T LET HARRY DOWN...WE CAN'T AFFORD TO HIRE ANYONE...DOC, I DON'T SEE HOW WE CAN DO IT WITHOUT YOU."

WHETHER IT WAS ART'S HYPNOTIC PLEADING OR MY LOYALTY TO MY PAL, HARRY, I AM NOT SURE; BUT SOMEHOW MY WAVERING VOICE SAID, "WELL, ALRIGHT ART, I'LL DO MY BEST." "GREAT! THANKS DOC, DON'T WORRY I'LL BRING A COMMITTEE UP AND WE'LL PLAN THE CONVENTION AGENDA", HE SAID ASSURINGLY.

WE "HUNG UP" BUT THE CHAIRMAN'S JITTERS "HUNG ON". SEVERAL DAYS PASSED BY AND I WAS JUST GETTING USED TO THE JITTERS SO I COULD SLEEP WHEN - TING-A-LING - THAT PHONE AGAIN. "HELLO, DOC, THIS IS ART AGAIN". PRESIDENT ART, ONE OF THE GREAT EIGHT AT THE PITTSBURGH MEETING, LIKE THE OLD TIMER SAID, HAD ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE FIRECRACKER IDEAS POPPIN' IN HIS NOGGIN'. WITH THAT IN MIND, I ASK, "WHAT'S UP, ART?" "A GREAT IDEA FOR THE CONVENTION", HE SAID, "WE'RE GOING TO HAVE SOME GREAT ACTS THERE, AND WE'RE GOING TO HAVE AN ALL-JUGGLERS' PUBLIC SHOW."

IN A FLASH I REMEMBERED THE OLD TIMER'S TELLING THAT THE TREASURY, AS HE PUT IT, WAS NOTHIN' BUT A WISHIN' WELL WITH A PUNY SPECK OF CASH WAY DOWN IN THE BOTTOM BURIED UNDER A BIG HEAP OF HOPES AND IDEAS. THINKING FAST, I SAID, "H__L ART THAT'S SHOW BIZ AND REQUIRES PAID ADS, MUSICIANS, A PLACE TO HOLD THE SHOW AND BOY THAT TAKES CASH." "HOW MUCH DO WE HAVE IN THE TREASURY?"

P. T. BARNUM, WITHOUT A DIME IN HIS POCKET, PUT OVER SOME BIG STUNTS WITH EITHER REAL OR FEIGNED CONFIDENCE, AND TO THIS DAY, I DON'T KNOW WHETHER ART OR BARNUM WAS THE GREATEST, FOR WITH A MILLION DOLLAR CONFIDENCE HE SAID, "SIXTY DOLLARS!" "WHAT", I BLURTED, "HOW IN THE DEVIL....."

WITH THE SURENESS OF ONE WHO HAD BEEN THROUGH MANY TIGHT SPOTS HE INTERRUPTED, "DON'T WORRY, WE'LL TAKE THAT UP IN THE MEETING NEXT SATURDAY...IF THAT'S OK FOR YOU." "YES, THAT DATE IS FINE FOR ME AND AS AN HONOR TO HARRY LIND, WE'LL HOLD THE MEETING AT HARRY'S HOUSE", I SAID.

WE SAID "SO LONG" AND IN A DAZE I GROPED FOR THE HOOK AND HUNG UP THE RECEIVER...BUT...THE THOUGHTS IN MY HEAD BOUNCED FROM ONE TO THE OTHER - "I'M CHAIRMAN" - "THE CONVENTION" - "THE SHOW" - "SIXTY DOLLARS".

IT SEEMED FOREVER BUT SATURDAY CAME AND SO DID ART, WITH GEORGE DEMOTT AND GEORGE BARVIN. ALL FIVE OF US THERE AT HARRY'S HOUSE KNEW THE FUTURE OF I.J.A. WAS OUR RESPONSIBILITY. THE OLD TIMER WAS RIGHT, FOR THAT SOMETHING WITHIN ONE THAT STRIKES THE JUGGLING SPARK IS THAT "OL JUG SPIRIT" AND IT WAS SURELY THERE WITH US THAT NIGHT.

BEFORE WE SAT DOWN AROUND HARRY LIND'S TABLE, ART SAID, "LET'S BOW OUR HEADS AND ASK FOR GUIDANCE". THE EARNESTNESS OF ART'S PRAYER WE ALL SHARED, AND IT WAS AN INSPIRATION TO US. AS WE RAISED OUR BOWED HEADS, ART DREW SOME NOTES FROM HIS POCKET, AND AFTER GLANCING AT THEM FOR A MOMENT HE SAID, "ALL EIGHT OF US AT THE PITTSBURGH MEETING PERPETUATE THE NOBLE ART OF JUGGLING". THEN ART NODDED US TO OUR CHAIRS AND WE SAT DOWN TO THAT INFORMAL HISTORIC MEETING. I STILL, AS I RECALL THEM, CAN FEEL THE TENSENESS OF THOSE BRIEF MOMENTS OF WAITING FOR PRESIDENT ART TO SET THE MEETING IN MOTION AND TO SET THE PATTERN.

HE PAUSED BRIEFLY AND, SMILING WITH CONFIDENCE, HE SAID, "LET'S BUILD OUR CONVENTION ON THE PROMOTION, TEACHING AND PERPETUATION OF JUGGLING". THAT, AS THE OLD TIMER WOULD SAY, "WAS A GOOD FIRE-CRACKER IDEA THAT POPPED IN HIS NOGGIN".

WE FIRST SET THE PLACE, THE DATES AND REGISTRATION FEE AND COMMITTEE AND THE TIMES FOR A LUNCHEON AND BANQUET. WITH THOSE USUAL CONVENTION ITEMS CLEARED, WE SET OURSELVES TO THE REAL AGENDA. REASONING FROM THE THREE PURPOSES OF I.J.A. WE CONSIDERED TEACHING JUGGLING AS A BASIC NECESSITY AND ALLOTTED ALL POSSIBLE TIME FOR JUGGLING SESSIONS BECAUSE JUGGLERS ARE JUGGLING'S FUTURE.

ALL SUCH JUGGLING SESSIONS WERE TO BE INFORMAL FOR PRACTICE, TEACHING AND FUN, AND BOTH INDOOR AND OUTDOOR FACILITIES WERE A REQUIREMENT. THE PROMOTION OF JUGGLING NEEDED POPULARITY WITH THE PUBLIC, AND THE ALL-JUGGLERS' SHOW WAS OUR ACE FOR THAT PURPOSE. A COMMITTEE WAS APPOINTED TO CHOOSE THE ACTS AND MANAGE THE SHOW. PROP MANUFACTURERS WERE ALLOTTED SPACE AND SPECIAL-TIME TO DISPLAY AND SELL.

THE CONVENTION WAS TO OPEN WITH INSPIRATIONAL TALKS BY CLERGYMEN OF THE THREE FAITHS WHO WERE TO BE CHOSEN BY THE CHAIRMAN. THE CHAIRMAN HAD THE RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND A SPONSOR FOR THE SHOW ON A FIFTY-FIFTY SPLIT AFTER EXPENSES WERE PAID. MY! MY! IT ALL SOUNDED SO SIMPLE, BUT..... AS MY OLD UNCLE USED TO SAY, "YOU AIN'T HEERED NOTHIN' YET!"

AS HETTIE FINISHED THAT LAST LINE OF THE SCRIPT, SHE HANDED THE SCRIPT TO ME AND ASKED, "WELL, IF I AIN'T HEERED NOTHIN' YET, WHAT'S THE RFST OF IT ABOUT?" THE OLD TIMER SAT UP ERECT AND ANSWERED HER QUESTION, "HETTIE", HE SAID, "IT'S ABOUT ALL THEM PROBLEMS HE HAD A TURNIN' JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK, INTO JUGGLE TOWN U.S.A.". "YES", I ASSURED HER IT WAS THE BATTLE OF THE CHAIRMAN VS. THE PRESS, SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION, FIRE DEPARTMENT, POLICE DEPARTMENT, PARK DEPARTMENT, HOTEL AND EVEN MY FRIEND, HARRY LIND." "FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, JUCCIE," HETTIE ASKED, "HOW DID YOU EVER DO IT?" THEY ROSE TO LEAVE AND AS THEY APPROACHED THE DOOR, HE FLIPPED THE OLD TOPPER ONTO HIS HEAD AND SAID, "HETTIE, I'LL TELL YOU HOW HE DID IT - SIMPLE ENOUGH - DOCTOR JUGGLE JES GIVE 'EM BIG DOSES OF TINCTURE OF "THAT OL' JUG SPIRIT" AN' YOU KNOW WHAT....IT WORKED SO DANG GOOD THEY GOT TO FOLLOWIN' HIM AROUND COAXING HIM FOR ANOTHER JUGGLERS' CONVENTION.

NEW YORK JUGGLE-IN

The Juggle-In May 21 in Central Park took place as scheduled- but then again it didn't! Heavy rain on Saturday and a forecast for more of the same for Sunday caused Jerry Greenberg to call most of the local jugs and postpone until the rain date, June 4. Sunday turned out to be a beautiful day, however, so Ron Graham, the Weinholds, Stu Raynolds and Bob Geer (anyone else?) turned out and had a good time, according to Graham. Anyway, there'll be another Juggle-In by the Sailboat Pond, Sunday, June 4, and if it rains on that day, we'll see you all in Rocky Hill, Conn. July 1-3!

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NEW MEMBERS

DAVID FREUND 233 5th Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11215
MIKE LUKENS 3081 Larkin Place, San Diego, Calif. 92123

ADDRESS CHANGE

MELVIN MELCHNER 650 Somerset St., Apt. A5, North Plainfield,
New Jersey 07060
BRUCE ROTHSCHILD 270 Sherman Ave., Venice, Calif. 90291

REINSTATED MEMBER

CLARENCE TIERNEY 112 Central Ave., Malden, Mass. 02148

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