

WORLD ACROBATICS SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

MAY 1999

Enhancing Communication Between the Friends of Acrobatics Worldwide

THIRD ANNUAL CONGRESS: Bil Copp of Venice, Florida served as our host for the 1999 annual meeting. The program convened at the SHOWFOLKS circus club in Sarasota. In photo (1), Joe Schabacker is welcomed to SHOWFOLKS by new Board member Tito Gaona (famous trapeze family). Although our attendance was small, the sessions were well received by those present. In photo (2) we see some of those who were on hand for the program activity. (left to right) Joe Schabacker, Sean Greeley, Don Leas, Bil Copp, Charlie Pond, Tito Gaona, Paula Boelsems, Gary Hutchinson, Glenn Sundby. On the following pages we have included a series of photos illustrating the kind of program enjoyment and colleague camaraderie which took place.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AND TEMPLE/PHILADELPHIA RE-UNIONS: This new part of our program planning proved to be one of the most successful aspects of the three-day congress. Charlie Pond of Illinois and Joe Schabacker of Temple/Philadelphia had set a wager as to which of the two reunions would attract the larger turnout. Joe won hands down! The Illinois group met for lunch at Applebee's Restaurant on February 19th. The Temple/Philadelphia gang gathered at the Comfort Inn for an evening reception. The sharing of stories, lies, films, videos and albums brought many fine memories to those who attended both events. In several instances, gymnastics/acrobatics teammates who had not seen each other in over fifty years enjoyed emotional re-unions.



THE YEAR 2000 CONGRESS SET FOR LAS VEGAS: Action taken by the Board of Directors at this meeting has agreed to return to Las Vegas again next year. Weather, air travel and hotel costs favored this decision. February or March? Please let your Executive Director know your preference in writing no later than June 30, 1999.

**A MESSAGE FROM
OUR PRESIDENT
DON LEAS**

First of all I want to thank Joe Schabacker for volunteering to serve in the capacity of Acting Executive Director and more particularly for taking on the arduous task of producing this newsletter. These chores came at a very difficult time for Joe as he and Jerilyn were dealing with Jerilyn's mother's very serious illness and passing.

I am sorry that many of you missed the World Acrobatics Society's Congress in Sarasota, Florida, in February. Many thanks to Bil Copp for making all the arrangements for this year's meeting. Besides the general sessions and the Board of Directors' meeting we also had two alumni gatherings. Close to twenty supporters of Charlie Pond and his Illini gathered for a luncheon and tails of how great everyone use to be. This presented a formidable challenge for Joe and his Temple Owls and Philadelphia alumni. However, Joe and close to thirty of his friends came through and had a wonderful time talking over old times and looking at ancient movies and scrap books of their wonder years in Philly.

During the Board of Directors' meeting we made some changes in the Constitution and also elected some former and new members to the Board. I'm sure will be giving you more details somewhere else in this newsletter.

Thanks to Edsel Buchanan we were able to send each member a directory of all the member who have belonged to the World Acrobatics Society. Along with your directory we have made a plea asking you to please renew your membership. Our only source of income at this time is with membership dues. Please respond to Edsel's request for renewal so we can continue to provide for our newsletter and work for the continued growth and development of World Acrobatics Society.

Carol and I had a wonderful stop over in Savanna on a recent trip to Florida when we spent several hours with Roger Council. As many of you know I was Bill Meade's assistant coach at Southern Illinois when Roger was an undergraduate on Bill's Gymnastics Team where I coached Roger on the trampoline and also in diving for the Swimming Team. Roger and I had many tales to tell Carol as she learns more about my past athletic and coaching career. I am also happy to report that Roger has offered to take over the task of editor of the newsletter.

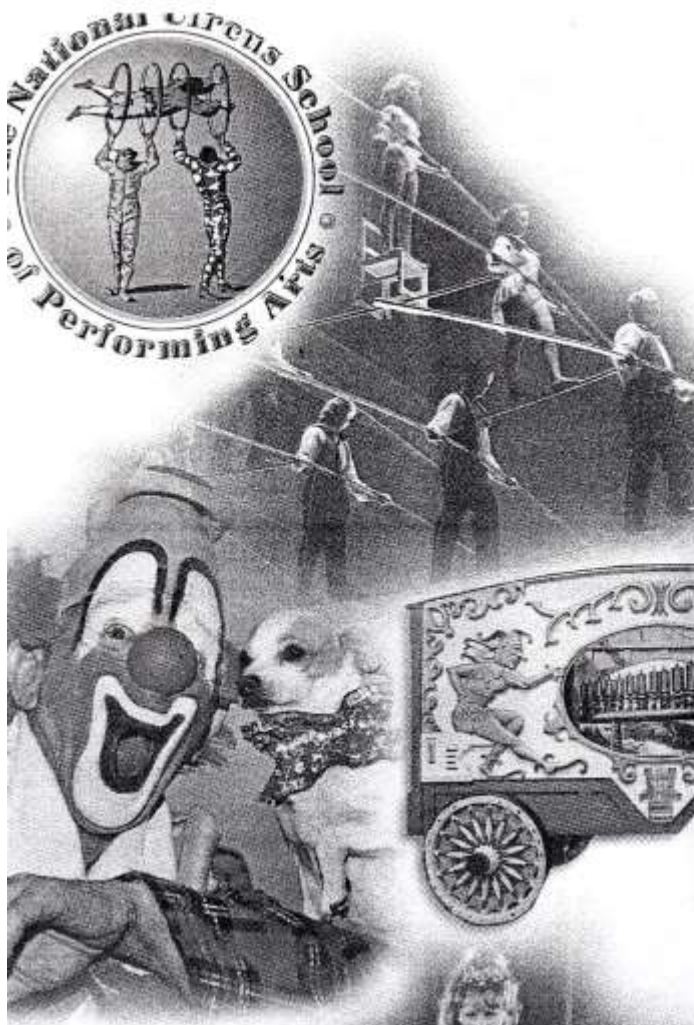
SARASOTA BOARD MEETING:

Your Board of Directors held meetings during the Congress, starting on February February 18th. Among actions taken was the addition of two new members to the Board. We welcome Kathy DuPree (New Orleans) and Tito Gaona (Sarasota). Several changes in the Constitution and By-Laws were approved. A need for financial support was addressed, Our Treasurer's report underscored a lack of renewals by annual members. A telephone campaign was to be made by individual members of the Board with the goal of enlisting continued annual membership sign-ups. After considering many venues for future Annual Congress, it was decided to hold the event in February or March in the year 2000. (Cities considered were Orlando, Chicago, San Diego and Phoenix) It was felt that Las Vegas is our best location choice...air fare costs, hotel accomodations and entertainment opportunities being the key factors. Specific details of the next Las Vegas session will follow in future Newsletters.

Board Members present
in Sarasota were:
(left to right)

Don Leas, Bil Copp,
Charlie Pond, Paula
Boelsems, Glenn Sundby,
Joe Schabacker





The National Circus School of Performing Arts is committed to continuing the legacy of CIRCUS in Sarasota; a legacy started in the 1920s by the legendary circus magnate John Ringling.

OUR GOAL is to have a permanent, professional circus school based here in Sarasota, Florida. **OUR MISSION** is to educate & encourage students to achieve professionalism & excellence in the circus arts, while embracing all performing arts.

OUR FACULTY are all world renowned circus artists who share the vision of creating a progressive program to bring Sarasota Back To The Future as THE Premier Circus City of the World!



Henry Barragan
Sales / Marketing

P.O. Box 18636
Sarasota, FL 34276
(941) 924-7054
e-mail: ncspa@gte.net

National Circus School of Performing Arts is a not-for-profit performing arts organization



NATIONAL CIRCUS SCHOOL : During the Sarasota Congress, your Board of Directors enjoyed the privilege of V I P treatment by Henry Barragan of this newly-formed circus organization. The One-Ring show was top notch and included not only the famous Dolly Jacobs (NCSPA co-founder), but also fantastic circus acts. The back-stage photo includes Hal Frey, Dr. Bill Marcus, Sean Greeley, Don Leas, Henry Barragan., Bil Copp, Joe Schabacker, Glenn Sundby and Paula Boelsems.

You are invited to join this not-for-profit group by writing to them at the address on the left.

CONGRATULATIONS LANI ! We are pleased to announce that our recent Executive Director is off to a grand start as Executive Director of the International Trampoline Industry Association... I T I A. Its first official meeting will be held on May 19, 1999 in Seattle, Washington. Lani Loken-Dahle produced its first Newsletter in her usual high quality style. For ITIA information, write Lani at:

International Trampoline
Industry Association
1063 East 21st Avenue
Eugene , Oregon 97405
U S A

SARASOTA CONGRESS ACTIVITIES: Shown here on page (4) are some photos illustrating the friendships enjoyed by the attendees. (1) Joe Schabacker, Johnny Yong (famous German/American handbalancer), Gary Hutchinson, Glenn Sundby. (2) At Showfolks meeting room...Bruce Frederick, Tito Gaona, Glenn Sundby. (3) Gary Hutchinson, Charlie Pond speaking on his video program, Bil Copp. (4) Bill Marcus, Tito Gaona, Paula Boelsems, Joe Schabacker, Gary Hutchinson. (5) Glenn (and Joe) being thrilled by Bil Copp on a tour of the lake in front of his home in Venice. (6) Bruce Frederick with Hal Frey at the Illinois luncheon.

THANKS TO BIL COPP: Bil and Debbie Copp and their family, including Bil's very active father deserve our special thanks for the ways in which they opened up their beautiful estate on the lake for our three days. Be sure to visit their "plantation" home when you are in Florida.



TWO RE-UNIONS BRING BACK WARM MEMORIES: One of the most successful parts

of the 1999 Congress was the plan to bring together two groups of old time gymnasts and acrobats. Charlie Pond's luncheon held on February 19th is shown on the left directly below. Photo (1) includes Bill Copp, Glenn Sundby, Bruce and Norma Frederick, Bill Marcus, Carol and Don Leas, Charlie and Pam Pond, Sean Greeley, Paula Boelsems, Gil and Dee Brinkmeyer (Illini gymnast), Fred and guest, Hal Frey and Joe Schabacker

Joe Schabacker's group of Philadelphia and Temple gymnasts and acrobats is shown on the right below. (2) photo...back standing Hal and Wilma Frey, Norma and Bruce Frederick, Atsie and Lois Walter, Anni (sitting) and Willie Edelston, Warren and Hazel (sitting) Conrad, Bill and Elise (sitting) Chapman, Glenn Sundby, Don and Carol Leas, Dave and Louise (sitting) Danser, Pat Warner (sitting), Front row...Bill Marcus, Paula Boelsems, Joe Schabacker. Not pictured...Pat and Jack Heinz.

Some interesting facts about the people in the photos. Charlie Pond of course one of the most successful college gymnasts coaches in the history of the sport. The Edelstons and Chapmans were star circus performers for years with Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey. Atsie Walter was NCAA high bar champ, Glenn Sundby is one of the most well-known names in the gymnastics and acrobatics world. Bill Marcus was a member of Temple's NCAA championship team of 1949. Bruce Frederick has put together several books on the history of gymnastics in the USA. Don Leas continues to hold key positions in Olympic and National diving.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS GROUP



Philadelphia/Temple Group



TEMPLE RE-UNION CONTINUED: Photo (3) page (5) Dave/Louise Danser, Willie/Annie Edelston. Photo (4) Hal Frey, Pat/Jack Heinz. Photo (5) Bud/Hazel Conrad (Schabacker's secretary at Temple 1946-49), Joe Schabacker. Photo (6) Bill Marcus and Bill Chapman. Photo (7) Adam Walter and Colonel Dave Danser (USMC).



PRESIDENT LEAS APPOINTS SCHABACKER ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Don thanks Joe at Chandler, Arizona for agreeing to fill in to replace Lani Loken-Dahle on a temporary basis. Photo (8) November, 1998.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:

In Photo (9), members of the Executive Committee meet at Joe's home in Chandler Arizona in March, 1999. From left: Dick Smith, Don Leas, Joe Schabacker and Charlie Pond



HANDBALANCING CHALLENGE

by Bil Copp

This will test your knowledge of some great handbalancing acts and competitors. Match the names with the action or group. Some names are used more than once. There are 21 possible answers.

1. Glenn Sundby
2. Adrienne & Charlie
3. The Yong Brothers
4. Monyhan & Sweetland
5. George Nissen

6. The Two Vladimirs
7. Franz Unis
8. Columbus Acrosports
9. Igor & Stacy

10. The Schaller Bros.
11. Hu and Hu
12. Joe Schabacker
13. The Ussems

-
- A. The "Five Arm"
 - B. Partner with Jack Juvenileau, Jim Allen, Al Motter, Dick Lobs, Bill Ault
 - C. One Arm Planche/USSAF Men's Pair Champions
 - D. Walked Down Washington Monument on his hands
 - E. "One Finger Stand"
 - F. Free Head to Headstand on a Free Ladder
 - G. Free Headstand on a Free Headstand
 - H. The Wayne Marlin Trio
 - I. USSAF Mixed Pair Champions

- J. Early IFSA Legends
- K. One Arm Stand on a One Arm Stand
- L. Undercast Swing to Diamidov and Handstand
- M. Flying Handstand from a Trampoline
- N. Press Handstand on his 80th birthday
- O. The Undercaster was a Lady
- P. The Leonardos
- Q. Handstand on top of a Handstand
- R. Handstand on a Free Head-to-Headstand

-
- ANSWERS:
- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. = D & H | 7. = E |
| 2. = M & O | 8. = A |
| 3. = G K & Q | 9. = I |
| 4. = C | 10. = M |
| 5. = N & P | 11. = L & Q |
| 6. = J | 12. = B |
| | 13. = F Q & R |
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A TRIBUTE TO COACH HARRY NELSON (1906-1999)

On January 26, 1999, the world of Men's Gymnastics said "goodbye" to a beloved coach, judge, teacher and friend. Harry Nelson died in Philadelphia at age 92. He continued to be active with his gymnasts, swimmers, divers and students to the end. He graduated from Northeast High in 1925, where he later coached many athletes for 20 years. He was Temple University's first coach in 1926. Harry retired in 1971 after 43 years as a Teacher and Coach. He would have been 93 on March 3rd. His gymnasts included Bob Stout, George Szypula, Norm Boardman, Phil Schneider, Joe Schabacker Bill Coco, Carl Patterson, Don Leas, Charlie Houston, and others. The photo left shows "Coach" at the 50th re-union of the Temple 1941 Intercollegiate Champions (clockwise) Royal Morris, Boardman, Houston, Schabacker, Szypula, Herb Litvin, Ed Danser, Sam Fogel. With Jerilyn Schabacker at age 87. Among Harry's major honors: President of National Gymnastics Judges, High School and College Gymnastics Medal winner. He will be missed.

G R E A T H A N B A L A N C E R S

This article (and the photos which follow) is a follow up of one of the sessions prepared for the Sarasota meeting by Bil Copp and Joe Schabacker. It is an introduction to a series of articles to be included in future editions of our Newsletter.

'During the vaudeville days of the 30's, 40's and 50's, theaters would include in their shows various kinds of acrobatics professionals. Among the acts which were enjoyed by audiences across the nation were the talented handbalancing showfolks of those days. We are limiting our presentation in this article to to the men performers. Adagio and similar balancing teams which featured women will be covered later.

There are two kinds of handbalancing performers...single men and men's pairs. The latter term is now used in the world-wide competitions in the newly-formed "Sports Acrobatics" (introduced in world events in 1975). Some of these talented amateur athletes will be addressed in this article.

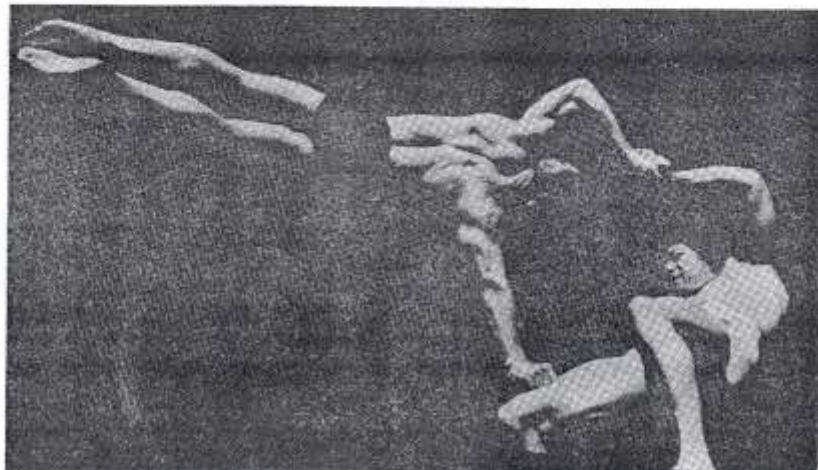
Let's first look at some of the star performers who performed their amazing feats as a single act. No such listing would be complete if it did not include the fabulous "Unos". Franz Unos, whose name is enshrined on one of the tablets of circus greats in Sarasota as well with his one finger statue in front of Circus Circus in Las Vegas, performed world-wide. One of his long-term contracts was with the Ringling circus in the fifties where our colleagues Willie Edelman and the Chapman Brothers also shared the billing. Lou Karns and Bob Jones of Philadelphia did one arm wonders. Jones was famous for holding a handstand supported by only his two thumbs. He started the routine by pressing into a handstand on top of ten Indian Clubs. As he lifted each finger a club would fall...until only his two thumbs held the balance. And of course, our own gymnastics Guru George Nissen deserves mention. To this day at age 83, George presses into a handstand to wow audiences at national and international acrobatics/gymnastics events. At the turn of the Century, Philip Henry Thurber (whose stage name was Paulinetti) held a perfect one-arm planche. Jules Keller also did this trick in the 1890's.

Vaudeville in its hey day produced many superb two-man balancing acts. The Ghezzi Brothers from France would end their act by dancing on their hands "upside down". Motter and Davis were "Poetry in Motion" with top mounter Dwight Davis also holding the National Still Rings title in the thirties. Goodrich and Nelson (Bert being the first Mr. America in 1939) performed in the 1930's and 1940's. Later, Bert Goodrich did shows in California with George Redpath. Renald and Rudy of New York thrilled audiences across the country in the forties and fifties. Dick Lobs, with his Latvian partner were known as O'Toole & Charlie. Dick also worked in the East with Joe Schabacker in an act billed as Lee and Shannon. Joe performed in and around Pearl Harbor during the war with Al Motter, known as Motter and Shannon. Joe later worked with Jim Allen and Jack Juveneau in the All-Marine show fronted by Bob Crosby. Gallagher and Rush of Philadelphia did a smooth act in the thirties and forties. The Titan Trio are famous for their three-man balance on the corner of a New York skyscraper building.

The photos which follow show not only professional acts, but also a selected number of Sports Acrobatics champions.

A Tribute to Bert Goodrich (1907-1991)

Sports Acrobatics and, Athletics in general, lost a long-time friend on December 6, 1991, when Bert Goodrich passed away in California. At age 84, Bert leaves behind a legacy of athletic prowess hard to be duplicated. He was the first Mr. America (1939). He and his HAND-BALANCING PARTNERS Jack Nelson and George Redpath performed in vaudeville houses across America during the 1930-40's. In 1929, he was an all-around athlete at what is now Arizona State University. Bert, weighing 220 pounds was a stellar performer in football, track, gymnastics, acrobatics, and circus aerialist. He took part in many movies as a stunt man for such greats as John Wayne and Buster Crabbe. At age 65, he was still able to hold a one-arm handstand, and at age 38 ran the 100 yard dash in 9.8 seconds. During his lifetime he earned the reputation as one of the most versatile athletes of all time. His many friends in the USSAF salute this special man.



Glenn Sundby – The Acrobat

Many of our members do not know the talented acrobatics background of one of the founders of the USSSA, Glenn Sundby. George (Wayne) Long and Glenn (Marlin) Sundby formed the Wayne-Marlin hand-balancing duo (men's Pair) in 1939. Among other vaudeville houses across the country, they performed at Radio City Music Hall, and in a Mike Todd musical on Broadway in New York City. Glenn's sister Dolores joined them three years later to make the act the Wayne-Marlin Trio. They continued to do shows around the world with stops in such places as Australia, Cuba, and Panama. The trio played the Roxy Theater in New York, the Desert Inn and other hotels in Las Vegas, along with an exotic booking at the Royal Hawaiian in Waikiki. In the mid fifties, the trio performed a publicity stunt atop the chimney of a 25 story building in Miami Beach, while they were on tour with Spike Jones Musical Insanities. On the international scene, he is probably best known for his original monthly publication International Gymnast. In the 1950's he published his first magazine on acrobatics which later became the official publication of the USSAF called AcroSports. Some back issues of this excellent publication may be ordered from Sundby Sports, 225 Brooks P.O. Box 2450, Oceanside, CA 92051. At the present time, Glenn is working hard at his pet project of developing the International Gymnastics Hall of Fame. This facility already has a room set aside for memorabilia of Tumbling, Trampoline and acrobatics. If you want to have your club included in the Hall of Fame Book of Sponsors, just send names and \$1.00 for each club member.

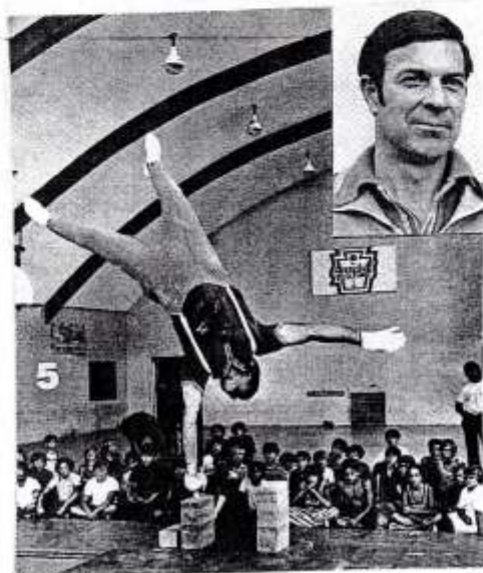
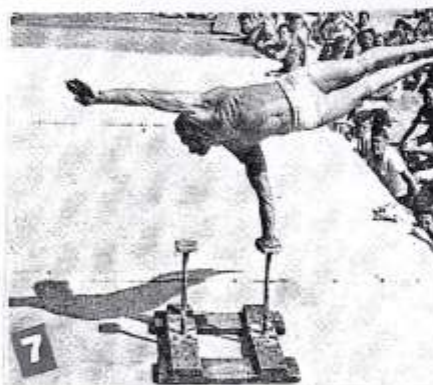
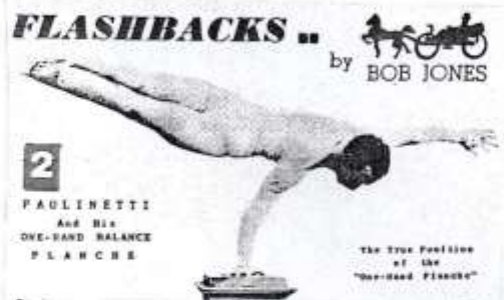
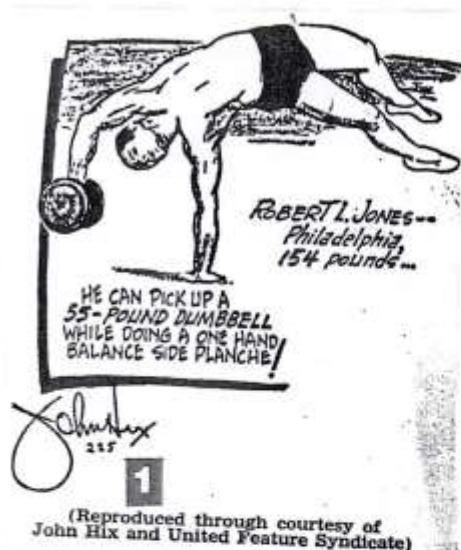


Don Gustuson Passed Away

Former USSAF member and long-time hand-balancer at Waikiki, Don Gustuson collapsed and died instantly on the Kuhio Beach in Honolulu, January 1, 1992. Don was active with the Waikiki Acrobatics Troupe for many years. During World War II, he entertained the service personnel in Hawaii in a USO show called Out of This World. His partner was USSAF lifetime member Al Motter, with whom he did a men's pair and a mixed trio routine. In recent years, he taught children on the beach near Waikiki.

ONE-ARM - ONE FINGER FEATS

- (1) Bob Jones, Philadelphia-1934 (2) Paulinetti, New York-1900,
 (3) Glenn Sundby, Washington DC-1945 (4) Danny DuVal, Philadelphia-
 Age 65-1997 (5) Don Robinson, Tempe, Arizona-1975 (6) Bob
 Jones, Philadelphia-1933
 (7) * Muscle Beach Acrobat, Santa Monica-1955 (8) Muscle Beach Men's
 Four, Santa Monica-1954

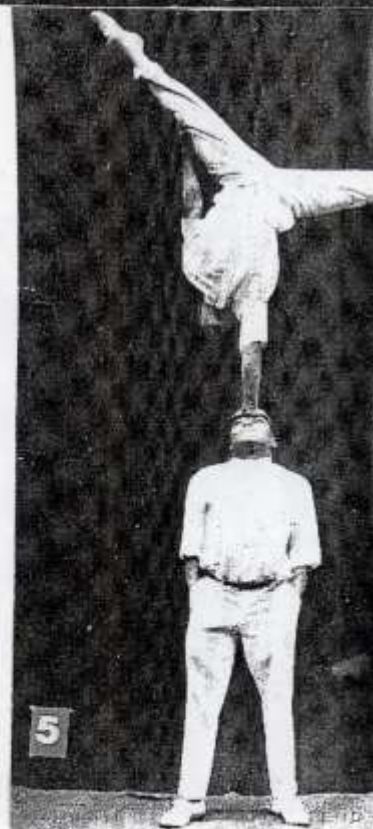


DU VAL & TRINA

One Finger Stand (without glove)
 Juggling - Plate Spinning - Trina's Marionette Revue
 217 Apple Street, Levittown, Pa - 19057
 610-261-5700

SOME OLD-TIME HANDBALANCING ACTS

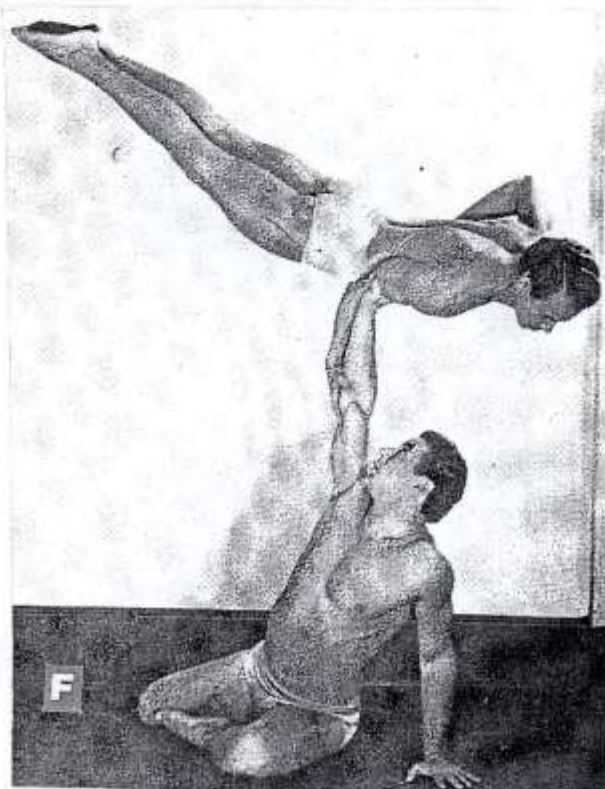
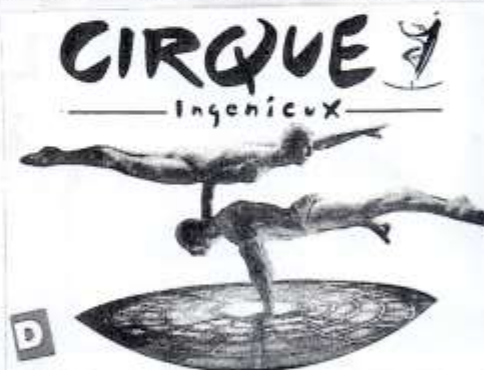
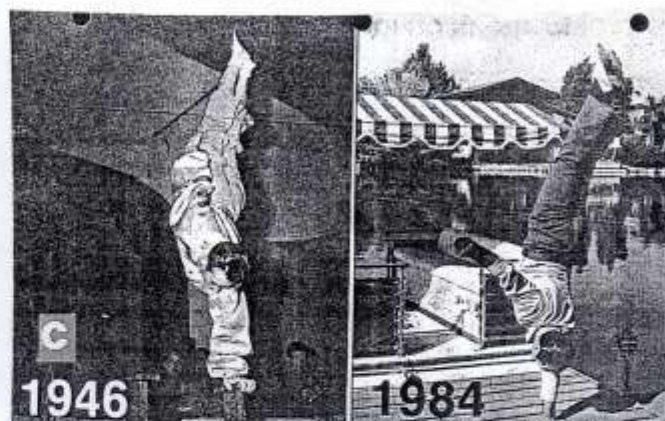
- (1) Circa 1920 (2) Asia Boys 1950 (3) Men's Trio-1920
- (4) High One-To-One-1910 (5) Chinese Men-1950
- (6) Jackson Trio doing their famous "Jackson Balance" on the 87th floor ledge of the Empire State Building-New York 1936
- (7) Bert Goodrich and Charlie Schaffner-Los Angeles-1935



(9b)

PROFESSIONAL ACTS AND SPORTS ACROBATICS CHAMPIONS: Page (9c): (A) Motter and Davis-1937 (B) O'Toole and Charlie-1951 (C) Joe Schabacker-China Arizona (D) Jarek & Darek-Polish National Champions 1989 - Jaroslaw Marciniak & Dariusz Wronski (E) 1978 Polish National Champions and Men Fours World Champions Krzysztof Suszek & Bogdan Zajak (F) Renald and Rudy-1948 (O) Gallagher & Rush-1937

Page (9d): (1) George Nissen- 1992-age 78 (2) Glenn Sundby/George Wayns-1940 (3) Columbus Acrobatics Team (top to bottom) Marty Bell, Harry Boudourian,, Virgil Burns, Walt Baker, Gary Hutchinson, Bruce Trott-1974 (4) Motter & Shannon-1944, (5) Russian World Champions Valerie Liapounov & Sergie Tchigevski- 1986 (6) Polish National Champions-1979-Adam Klis & Krzystof Olendrzynska (7) Lee & Shannon-1947 (8) USA National Champions-1978-John Sweetland & Bob Monahan (9) Chinese World Champions-1987- Hong Xu & Hu Bingchen / (10) First World Champions-1974-Russians-Alimonov & Vladimir Nazarov. (11) Chinese World Champions-1982-Hong Xu & Hu Bingchen.

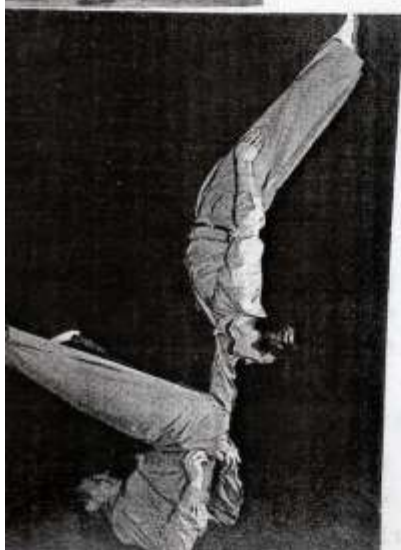




CHAMPIONSHIP GYMNASTS
(standing) in 1961 for the
Championship in the Soviet Union
compared all members of the
team of 100 men, women and youth
the Soviet Union in the summer of
the summer, 1961, in 1961, 1961
have played in 1961.
Ukraine: 1961, 1961
1961, 1961, 1961, 1961
1961, 1961, 1961, 1961



Above: Alimanov & Nazarov Vladimir winners of the Men's Pair competition at the First World Championships in Moscow in 1974.



ALTHOUGH gymnastics continues to evolve at a mind-boggling rate, there will always be a few basic skills that are frustrating to learn and equally difficult to teach.

One of these mysteries may have been solved through Charlie Pond's "Look-In To Win!", an instructional video that teaches twisting somersaults. Advertised as "76 minutes of pure dynamite," the video, accompanied by a brief text, outlines an unusual twisting technique that Pond has been using since his days as the men's gymnastics coach at Illinois (1948-73).

Pond, who actually invented the Pond's Twisting Belt that American Athletic, Inc., markets, narrates most of the video and is shown spotting his subjects on a trampoline using an overhead rig. Filmed primarily at West Coast Gymnastics in San Marcos, Calif., the video begins with a rare discussion on how to use an overhead spotting belt.

West Coast gymnasts Sara Pacheco, 12, and Jason Kuhns, 13, both of whom had done only full-twisting somersaults, serve

Look-In To Win!

BY CHARLIE POND

(Courtesy of International Gymnast)

as willing guinea pigs for Pond's unique twisting instruction. Pond's method introduces gymnasts to twisting by starting and finishing sideways, like a cartwheel. It also requires that the gymnast never lose eye

contact with a line running the length of the trampoline bed, a technique that enabled Frank Bare Jr. to become the only aerial freestyle skier ever to perform a triple-twisting

quad somersault (footage included on video, as well as a testimonial from Bare).

Remarkably, Pond gives relatively few technical instructions to his students, but the results are evident. He tells them about their "active" and "inactive" arms and allows physics to do the rest. After the gymnasts master fulls, double fulls and

nearly-completed triple fulls—all in the belt—Pond has them gradually turn their bodies to face the end of the trampoline before starting. However, they must always "look-in" at the line on the trampoline as they initiate the skill.

Pond also covers forward twisting as well as a few skills that involve multiple twists and somersaults. And with today's gymnastics dismounts becoming more advanced, Pond's method of always seeing the ground is invaluable.

For any coach who has wrestled with various progressions on how to teach a full-twisting back somersault, "Look-In To Win!" may offer a surprisingly easy solution. Indeed, Pond is in his element when he's talking about twisting.

Now, if only someone could produce a video for teaching a kip.

—Dwight Normile

UNITED STATES SPORTS ACROBATICS:



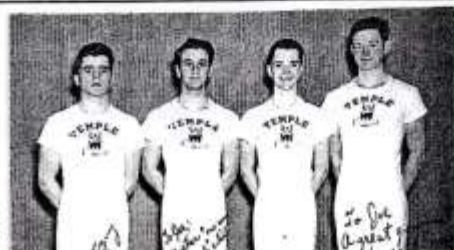
The USSA held its annual Board meeting in Las Vegas January 30-31, 1999.

Executive Committee included Bob Meier, Pat Baldovi, Tonya Case Patterson, Alexa Hukari Bonnie Davidson and Linda Porter. (l to r)

Photo by Paula Boelsens

USSA Nationals will be held in Phoenix - July 25 to 31, 1999.

IN MEMORY OF BILL WILLARD:



(10)

Bill Willard of Pottsville, Pennsylvania died February 6, 1999. He was a member of the NCAA National Championship team in 1949 while a senior at Temple University. During WW II he performed an adagio act at his training base. He served for several terms on the Pottsville City Council. Bill is shown left with Herb Litvin, Joe Schabacker, George Szypula..Temple 1941.

THE FTA

The Flying Trapeze Assoc. is a new non-profit organization founded in Dec. 1998 by Maria Carrillo. The mission of FTA is to promote flying trapeze and aerial arts as a recreational sport to the general public through education and competition.

Every year thousands of regular folks find their way to the trapeze rigs at Club Med, the Superclubs, summer camps and various private training facilities. The goal of FTA is to bring all these folks together to share ideas on safety, training techniques, educational materials and more.

This is a very exciting time for the Flying Trapeze Assoc. One of the ways that we hope to promote such a sport is to establish an advisory council of training experts and luminaries that can formulate a scoring system and set of rules for competition purposes.

Once these rules are established, competitions and meets will be sponsored by the Flying Trapeze Assoc. on a local, regional, state and national level.

We hope to begin club competitions in the early summer with results published in our quarterly newsletter, "Listo!"

Who knows, maybe someday, flying trapeze will become an Olympic event. (If snow boarding can, trapeze can!).

The Association will also sponsor workshops and training seminars at the various clubs throughout the U. S. As students become more adept at their trapeze skills, no doubt some will want to seek careers as aerialists in the performing arts. The Flying Trapeze Assoc. hopes to encourage these artists by providing some financial assistance in the form of scholarships so that they can pursue their dream.

The FTA will also assist

new clubs that are in the process of setting up rigs. As with any sport, safety is a primary concern and attention to detail is paramount.

There is a lot of expertise out in the trapeze community that is not yet being communicated. The FTA hopes to bring that expertise to the forefront and provide everyone with the educational materials needed to have a safe and fun facility.

One of the ways to increase safety is to have the advisory council work with each other to establish criteria for certifying coaches in training techniques and safety.

Many sports associations provide certification programs and coaching workshops so that trainers can learn from each other and provide the best possible protection for the student.

We would also like to establish a set of rigging specifications and inspection techniques so that individual rigs can be certified to FTA guidelines. Finally, the FTA would also like to sponsor first aid and CPR courses for the club.

The FTA's first edition of "Listo!" is now in production. This newsletter will publish articles written by coaches, experts and members on the burgeoning sport of trapeze.

We'll share narratives and biographies on the professionals and offer tips on various tricks. We'll also profile different clubs around the world and let you know where members can get their next 'high'.

All members are encouraged to write articles on their own experiences in trapeze for publication. In addition to articles and stories in "Listo!" there will also be a section to place classified ads for job opportunities, items to sell, etc.

Classified ad costs are \$10 per issue. Additional ads can be placed at the following rates: 1/8 page

ad is \$20; 1/4 page is \$40; 1/2 page is \$80 and a full page is \$150.

A longer term project that the FTA will conduct is the production of a series of instructional videos that will be sold through the Association. "Ready, Hep" will be the first video to be produced and will provide visual instruction on the basics of flying trapeze including the take-off, swinging and some of the early tricks.

The production team hopes to travel around the country and have the members of the advisory council and other experts teach each segment of the video. In addition to the video, instructional handbooks are also being written which will provide students with a series of photos on how to perform each trick.

Learning, practicing and performing flying trapeze skills is great exercise in itself. It conveys other benefits such as im-

proved coordination, balance, posture and self-esteem.

The FTA's goal is to obtain worldwide recognition of the sport of trapeze and aerial arts and to encourage the general public to participate as a new and innovative form of recreation and exercise.

To contact the Flying Trapeze Assoc. call 1-800-205-6888; fax 650-968-7153 or e-mail at TrapAssoc@aol.com.

Membership dues to the association are \$30 annually, which includes a free subscription to "Listo!"

Non-members can subscribe to "Listo!" for a \$40 annual fee.

To learn more visit our web site at <http://members.aol.com/trapassoc>.



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U.S.A GYMNASTICS HALL OF FAME

By Year Elected

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 59 Bass, Raymond "Ben" * | 1974 Elste, Meta Newmann | 1988 Berry, Glenn H. * | 1998 Women's '96 Olym. Team ** |
| Cumiskey, Frank | Lienert, Walter | Bonniwell, Roberta R. * | Crosby, John G., Jr. |
| Gulack, George * | Lomady, Clara Scroth | Buffa, William ("Bill") | Daggett, Tim |
| Haubold, Frank* | Meade, William T. | Klaus, Bruno | Gaylord, Mitch |
| Heineman, Gustav H.* | Rossi, Tony | McCoy, Cathy Rigby | McNamara Zeile, Julianne |
| Hoffer, Daniel * | Schiget, Henry * | Trieber, Greta | Talavera, Tracee |
| Jochim, Alfred * | Sjursen, Helen Schifano | Yeager, Pat * | |
| Judd, Leslie J.* | Uram, Paul | | |
| Kriz, Frank * | Vogel, Herbert ("Herb") | 1989 Chencinski, Linda | |
| Mang, Louis * | Wachtel, Erna * | Hardy, Jerry * | |
| Meyer, Frederick * | | Hennig, Edward * | |
| Moore, Roy E.* | 1975 Barone, Marian Twining * | Nightengale, Pearl P. | |
| Piper, Ralph | Keeney, Charles * | Perry, Don | |
| Pitt, Arthur | Lewis, George * | Simms, Charles | |
| Price, Ben * | Prchal, Mildred * | Strauss, Bill | |
| Price, Hartley D'Oyley * | Roetzheim, William | Strauss, Donna | |
| Wheeler, George * | Shanken, Courtney | | |
| Wolfe, Rowland | | 1990 Bakos, Maria * | |
| Younger, Maximilian * | 1976 Beckner, Jack | Frederick, A. Bruce | |
| Zwarg, Leopold F.* | Brown, Margaret C. * | George, Gerald S. | |
| | Lenz, Connie Carruccio * | Roethlisberger, Fred | |
| | Stout, Robert ("Bob") * | Schroeder, Joyce Tanac | |
| | Wolcott, Frank | Thomas, Kurt | |
| 60 Bixler, Dallas * | 1977 Marquette, Clayton R. | 1991 Bordo, Louis "Lou" J. | |
| Brown, Marshall * | Unser, Bernard * | Cohen, Steve | |
| Kern, Gus * | Zwickel, Walter M. * | Sasvary, Les | |
| Kern, Rene J. * | | Weiss, Gregor | |
| Krempel, Paul * | 1978 Canino, Anthony J. * | | |
| Mais, John * | Coco, William ("Bill") * | 1992 Beckner, Richard * | |
| Matthai, William * | Gable, Martha A. * | Ekas, Kathleen Corrigan | |
| Picker, Adolph * | Kotys, Joseph ("Joe") | Gault, Jim | |
| Rottman, Curtis * | Pico, Roman * | Geier, Jake | |
| Smidl, Henry * | Sorenson, William | Hennessey, Jeff | |
| Volze, Erwin W. * | Todd, Jerry | Peters, Don | |
| Witzig, Herman * | | Tom, Bill | |
| | 1979 Fie, Jacquelyn Klein | Wilderoter, Don | |
| 53 Bergman, Alfred * | Grossfeld, Abie | | |
| Denton, William * | Vega, Armando | 1993 Ashmore, Jamile "Jay" | |
| Eklund, E.A. * | | Banner, Larry S. | |
| Griffin, Lester * | 1980 Muzyczko, Ted | Bedard, Irvin "Irv" | |
| Lober, Abe * | Scrobe, Ed | Bissinger, Jr., John * | |
| Phillips, Chester * | Tonry, Don | Cline, Judy Wills | |
| Schroeder, Henry * | | Kanis, Franz "Frank" * | |
| Vavra, Charles * | 1981 Grossfeld, Muriel Davis | McKee, Helm | |
| Wettstone, Eugene | Hanvey, Tom * | Miles, John "Jack" | |
| | | | |
| 54 Nelson, Harry G. | 1982 Brause, Doris Fuchs | 1994 Draghi, John | |
| Preiss, Emil * | Gagnier, Edward ("Ed") | Gnat, Joan (Moore) | |
| Welser, Lyle * | Schwensfeier, Karl | Holder, Donald | |
| Zitta, Fred * | | Wradecky, Rudolf * | |
| 55 Nissen, George P. | 1983 Aronson, Richard | Johnson, Kathy | |
| | Bonsall, William | Krimmel, Paul* | |
| 56 Giallombardo, Joe | Holzaepfel, Richard | Millman, Dan | |
| Pond, Charles | | Ozzy, Joseph * | |
| Steeves, Ted * | 1984 Men's '84 Olympic Team * | Steffan, Otto * | |
| | Bare, Frank | | |
| 57 Graves, Charles * | Kephart, Dale McClements | 1995 Barak, Ron | |
| | Mulvihill, Dick | Blanchette, Marcia | |
| 58 Beyer, E.F. "Bud" | | Frederick | |
| Perry, L.R.* | 1985 Criley, Richard ("Dick") | Hug, Steve | |
| Sundby, Glenn M. | Darst, Delene | Kormann, Peter | |
| | Mitchell, Rusty | O'Quinn, Gar | |
| 60 Frey, Harold | Mulvihill, Linda Metheny | | |
| Johnke, Bruno | Orlofsky, Fred | 1996 Conner, Bart | |
| Patterson, A. Carl * | Shurlock, Arthur ("Art") | May, Kimberly Chace | |
| Szypula, George | Stumpf, Al | Mancha, Roxanne Pierce | |
| Van Aalten, John | Stumpf, Sally | Zabka, Norma | |
| '1 Loken, Newton C. | | | |
| Maloney, Tom * | 1986 Edwards, Vannie | 1997 Hartung, Jim | |
| | Jachter, Kathy Gleason | Lynn, Bob | |
| '2 D'Autorio, Vincent | Russell, Ernestine | Kelley, Mary Lou Retton | |
| Rozanas, James * | Sakamoto, Makoto | Svirsky, Alla | |
| | Tonry, Barbara Gallaher | Vidmar, Peter | |
| '3 Dunn, Hubert ("Hubie") | | | |
| Fina, Paul | | | |
| Hughes, Eric | | | |

A special thanks to
Board Member
Dr. A. Bruce
Frederick who
offered this
historical data
as a service to
members of the
World Acrobatics
Society.

1 9 9 9

GYMNASTICS

NCAA Men's Nationals

AT LINCOLN, NEB.
Team competition
FINALS — 1, Michigan, 232.550
(Floor, 39.075. Horse, 38.600. Rings,
38.975. Vault, 38.775. Parallel,
38.700. High, 38.425).
2, Ohio State, 230.850 (Floor,
38.900. Horse, 38.200. Rings, 38.100.
Vault, 38.250. Parallel, 38.575. High,
38.825).
3, Nebraska, 229.600 (Floor,
38.425. Horse, 38.525. Rings, 38.375.
Vault, 37.700. Parallel, 38.050. High,
38.515).

* 1984

Men's Olympic Team

Bart Conner, Tim Daggett,
Mitch Gaylord, Jim Hartung,
Scott Johnson, Peter Vidmar and
Jim Mikus

** 1996

Women's Olympic Team

Amanda Borden, Amy Chow,
Dominique Dawes, Shannon Miller,
Dominique Moceanu, Jaycie Phelps
and Kerri Strug

Prepared by A.B. Frederick, Ph.D.
1043 11th Ave., Wilmington, DE
19808

Historian/Archivist
1/29/99 196/74*

Deceased

Excerpted from

Roots of American Gymnastics

Nissen/AAI Award Honorees *

The Nissen Award for men was originated by George Nissen formerly of the Nissen Corporation of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
The AAI Award for women is made by the American Athletic, Inc., an equipment manufacturer in Jefferson, Iowa.

Nissen Award Honorees

1966 - Jim Curzi (MSU, George Szypula)	1982 - Jim Hartung* (NE, Francis Allen)
1967 - Steve Cohen* (PSU, Gene Wettstone)	1983 - Peter Vidmar* (UCLA, Art Shurlock)
1968 - Dave Thor* (MSU, George Szypula)	1984 - Roy Palassou (San Jose, Rich Chew)
1969 - Bob Emery (PSU, Gene Wettstone)	1985 - Matt Amot (U. NM, Rusty Mitchell)
1970 - Pete DiFurio (Temple, Bill Coco)	1986 - Wes Suter (NE, Francis Allen)
1971 - Brent Simmons (IA State, Ed Gagnier)	1987 - Michael "Spider" Maxwell (PSU, K. Schier)
1972 - Tom Lindner (SIU, Bill Meade)	1988 - Tom Schlesinger (NE, Francis Allen)
1973 - John Crosby* (SCSC, Abie Grossfeld)	1989 - Dave Zeddies (IL, Yoshi Hayasaki)
1974 - Steve Hug* (Stanford, Sadao Hamada)	1990 - Mike Racanelli (OH State, Peter Kormann)
1975 - Jay Whelan (SCSC, Abie Grossfeld) Gary Morava (Posthumous special award)	1991 - Jerrod Hanks (OK, Greg Buwick)
1976 - Gene Whelan (PSU, Gene Wettstone)	1992 - Scott Ketswick (UCLA, Art Shurlock)
1977 - Peter Kormann* (SCSC, Abie Grossfeld)	1993 - John Roethlisberger (MN, Fred Roethlisberger)
1978 - Tim LaFleur (MN, Fred Roethlisberger)	1994 - Kip Simons (OH State, Peter Kormann)
1979 - Kurt Thomas* (IN State, Roger Council) Also only gymnast ever to win Sullivan Award	1995 - Josh Stein (Stanford, Sadao Hamada)
1980 - Mario McCutcheon (SCSC, A. Grossfeld)	1996 - Darin Elg (Brigham Young, M. Sakamoto)
1981 - Bart Conner* (OK, Paul Ziert)	1997 - Blaine Wilson (OH State, Peter Kormann)
	1998 - Dan Fink (OK, Greg Buwick)

AAI Award Honorees

1981 - Sharon Shapiro (UCLA, Jerry Tomlinson)
1982 - Mary Ayotte-Law (OR State, Ron Ludwig)
1983 - Julie Goeway (Cal. Fullerton, Lynn Rogers)
1984 - Donna Kemp (UCLA, Jerry Tomlinson)
1985 - Barbara Mack (AL, Sarah Patterson)
1986 - Penny Hauschild (AL, Sarah Patterson)
1987 - Tami Elliott (Cal Fullerton, Lynn Rogers)
1988 - Anita Botnin (Univ. FL, Ernestine Russell)
1989 - Yumi Mordre (Univ. WA, Bob Ito)
1990 - Marie Roethlisberger (MN, Katalin Deli)
1991 - Joy Selig (OR State, Jim Turpin)
1992 - Melissa Marlowe (UT, Greg Marsden)
1993 - Tammy Marshall (U Mass, Ken Anderson)
1994 - Chari Knight (OR State, Jim Turpin)
1995 - Beth Wymer (MI, Bev Plocki)
1996 - Jenny Hansen (KY, Leah Little)
1997 - Kristen Quackenbush (WV, L. Burdette)
1998 - Kim Arnold (GA, Suzanne Yoculan)

* Excerpt from Highlights of 100 Years of Intercollegiate Gymnastics

by Dr. A. Bruce Frederick, Historian
Director of Gymnastics Roots Project

* Hall of Fame Honoree

ED DANSER HONORED ON HIS 80th BIRTHDAY : On April 30th, Ed Danser, 1941

NCAA Floor Exercise Gold Medal winner was surprised by World Acrobatics colleagues at a dinner in Mesa, Arizona. The occasion was his 80th. Among those who feted Ed were: Audrey and Don Robinson, Helen and Dick Smith, Jerilyn and Joe Schabacker, Ed's wife Faye, Donna and Scott Barclay, Pam and Charlie Pond. Several roasted him with memories of the past. Don gave him an appropriate cartoon sketch suitable for framing. Happy Birthday Ed! The photo shows Scott, Joe, Ed and Don.





ROOTS OF AMERICAN GYMNASTICS

(Second Edition)

Do you recognize the faces on this page? ---

Thanks once again to Dr. Bruce Frederick

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HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY
JUNE 4, 1999



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Friday, June 4
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Saturday, June 5
Fly to Las Vegas
Sunday, June 6
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INCLUDES

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- Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Dinner
- Las Vegas hotel, show, brunch and reception

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1-800-367-7402



Congratulations to Frank Bare on this significant honor.

Frank has been a major factor in the life of Gymnastics in the USA over many years.

Under Charlie Pond at the University of Illinois, Frank was a Big Ten and National Champion.

The efforts and talents which he contributed to the early formation of the United States Gymnastics Federation are appreciated by those who knew the stellar work he did; not only on the National, but also at the International level.

Mr. Bare was also most helpful with advice and efforts in the initial formation of the World Acrobatics Society.

We wish him the best as he receives this top honor.

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY MEN'S TEAM WINS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP FOR SECOND STRAIGHT TITLE.

Congratulations to Coach Scott Barclay and his team. Scott also was named USA Gymnastics Club Coach of the Year. He is pictured on the back row third from the left, along with former coach Don Robinson to the right of Ed DAnser (1941 Floor Exercise National Champ). The University of Washington came in second in the championships hosted by Abie Grossfeld Southern Connecticut University.



WORLD ACROBATICS SOCIETY



DON'T

LET YOUR MEMORIES
OUT NUMBER YOUR
DREAMS!



Thanks to C
Don Robinso
for sharing
Philosophy
with our me

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 1999-2000

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Glenn Sundby (Acrobatics)	Member

NEXT YEAR'S CONGRESS: LAS VEGAS

Program details and
March or February dates
to follow
Mark your Calendar Now !

URGENT ! PLEASE HELP !

We need articles, photos,
stories for the Newsletter.
Don't be bashful! Send to
our Acting Executive Director
address below. THANKS !

ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Joseph C. Schabacker
1751 West Linda Lane
Chandler, Arizona 85224
U S A
(480) 786-6184