

Eastside ACTIVITIES

July 23-30

Unicycle nationals comes to Madison

By Lynne Welch, *Madison Unicyclists*

Unicycle riders, beginners to expert, from across North America will prove there are limitless ways to ride a unicycle at the 2011 North American Unicycle Convention and Championships (NAUCC). More than 200 unicyclists from as far away as Puerto Rico will participate in opening weekend competitions and activities taking place at the Goodman Center. The event runs July 23 through 30 in Madison and surrounding areas.

“People here are in for a real treat,” says Ann O’Brien, president of the Madison Unicyclists, who are organizing and hosting the event this year. “From unicycle basketball to the remarkable stunts of trials and creative artistic events, there’s nothing else like nationals anywhere.”

Unicycling Society of America (USA) describes the gathering as “all-inclusive and eye-opening.” You can’t imagine how many different ways people can demonstrate technical ability and skills on a unicycle.

The Madison Unicyclists – an all-ages, all-abilities unicycle club that calls the Goodman Center home – is responsible for bringing this event, the largest annual gathering of unicyclists sponsored by USA, to Madison. Competition is open to all who want to unicycle for fun, achieve personal goals or compete for a 2011 National Championship title.

Activities include distance, track and road races, fun rides, mountain unicycling, and artistic and freestyle riding where unicyclists demonstrate skills set to music with props and costumes. Track and field competition involves almost anything you’d find at a conventional track meet such as sprints, high jump and long jump. In trials, street and flatland, riders demonstrate flip tricks and spins, and jumping



Unicycle riders will demonstrate extraordinary skills at the North American Unicycle Convention and Championships. Watch riders like this negotiate a trials course, a test of balance and nerve.

over seemingly impossible obstacles. In addition, teams play basketball and hockey.

Workshops will offer information for NAUCC first-timers, how to ride, build a trials course, wheel walking, ballroom dancing, unicycle skills, riding a giraffe and competition judging. There’s even a session on how to start a unicycle physical education program.

The official opening event fun parade will start at 1 pm, July 23 at the Goodman Community Center, and proceed eight blocks to Yahara Place for a criterium race scheduled for 2 pm. Later that afternoon, the flatland competition will be held back at the Goodman Community Center and the trials course will be open for practice and spectators.

For details, or to register and participate visit www.uninationals.com.

August 14

‘Essence & Beauty Of A Woman’ book event

Candace Ford introduces her first published book, “Committed 2 Commune,” by hosting an afternoon for women. The event’s focus celebrates that women are fearfully and wonderfully made by God, and their uniqueness makes them beautiful.

Women attending will be pampered with manicures, facials, beauty products, clothing and accessories. Tickets are \$10, and only 65 tickets are available ensuring the event remains intimate. Proceeds

will be donated to Quita’s Heart Foundation which is a community-based organization that provides information about health and wellness of the mind, body and spirit through publications, workshops, advocacy programs and community partnerships.

The event will be held at the Goodman Community Center on Sunday, August 14 from 3 to 6 pm.

For more information, visit www.committed2commune.com.

July 5, 12, 19, 26

Summer concerts at Olbrich Gardens

On Tuesdays in July, pack a picnic dinner, bring a lawn chair or blanket, and listen as the songs float through the summer air on the Great Lawn. Also available at the Gardens are hot dogs and brats sold by the Madison East Kiwanis Club before the concert from 5 to 7 pm.

In case of rain, concerts will be held indoors. Concerts begin at 7 pm. A \$1 donation is suggested. Picnics are allowed in the Gardens for the Tuesday concerts only.

July 11, 18, 25

Free concerts at Warner

- July 11 Oak Street Ramblers (country/bluegrass)
- July 18 Davis Family Band (rhythm and blues)
- July 25 Copper Box (accordion swamp rock)

Get in the groove Monday evenings at

July through August

Garden answer service

Want to know how to keep critters from eating your tomatoes? Do you need advice about shrubs for a shady spot? Are you curious about the name of that beautiful flower you saw in Olbrich’s Rose Garden? On Tuesdays and Thursdays during the summer from 1 to 3 pm a trained volunteer will be ready in Olbrich’s Schumacher Library to provide one-on-one assistance to figure out your gardening conundrum.

If you don’t have time to stop by, call 246-5805 with your questions or email to ljacobson@cityofmadison.com.

6 pm for some cool tunes. Concerts will be held rain or shine at the Warner Park Community Recreation Center. Limited transportation will be available for seniors.

For more information, visit www.nesco-inc.org or call 243-5252.

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Years in the making, this 265 page book offers hundreds of photos and tells the true, poignant and often hilarious adventures of Doris Hoppmann, and her eleven children, Donna, Dean, Duanne, Joanne, Ronnie, Joyce, Beverly, Barbara, David, Judy and Jerry living around Madison’s Schenk’s Corners during the Depression and World War II. A sensitive, remarkable and imaginative work by a first time author, depicting just what it was like growing up with nothing except family in Madison, Wisconsin.

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