



**Odyssey of the Mind**

# Newsletter

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SPRING 1990

## OM Plans Summer Tours to the Soviet Union

**B**ased on the success of last year's trip to the Soviet Union, and at the invitation of our Soviet friends, OM Association is sponsoring two summer tours to the Soviet Union. The tours are open to adults and children associated with Odyssey of the Mind, e.g. coaches, team members, family members, and supporters. As happened last summer, visitors will develop strong bonds with their Russian friends as they stay in the homes of families familiar with Odyssey of the Mind.

Travelers will come together at Kennedy Airport in New York to fly to Moscow. We anticipate offering the first trip for mid-June and the second trip for mid-August. Each tour will spend ten nights in the Soviet Union and will visit Moscow, Leningrad, and the famous *Ring Cities*. Highlights include Red Square, the Kremlin Armory Museum (fabulous!), the Pushkin Exhibition, the Arbot Craft Area, several Leningrad palaces, and theater/cultural excursions in Moscow and Leningrad. Daily meals will be included in the tour costs.

Last summer's eighteen-person entourage visited St. Basil's Cathedral pictured below. It will be on this year's itinerary as well. You may wish to refer to the fall newsletter for personal quotes about last summer's tour.



*Tours stop at St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow*

Passageways Travel Service, OM Association's official travel agency, will coordinate the arrangements and required documentation for the tour. In fact, at the time of this newsletter's writing, Jim Walter, President of Passageways, was visiting in Moscow to finalize details for this fantastic opportunity.



*See the Soviet Union version of the Liberty Bell.*

To receive additional tour information, call the OM Group Department at Passageways from the USA by dialing 1 (800) 678-1754 or call 1 (616) 947-0880 from outside the U.S. Your request can also be faxed to 1 (616) 941-4611.



## Ideas to Reduce the United States Federal Deficit

In case you're interested in entries we've received on ideas to reduce the U.S. federal deficit, a few examples follow.

"Everyone should send in their unwanted pennies."  
**Ben Robb, age 9, grade 3, Lake Forest, Illinois.**

"Not using lots of money on nuclear weapons if we aren't going to use them. And, you could use some money from Fort Knox."

**Matt Brugger, age 10, grade 5, Libertyville, Illinois.**

"I think that you should not spend the country's money on things that the country doesn't need. For instance, in Colorado, they are painting a canyon white so that you will camouflage a bridge. No one cares that much if you can see the bridge or not. This painting will cost over \$30 million."

**Brad Ruskin, age 11, grade 6, Ocean, New Jersey.**

"The way I think you could solve the national deficit is to collect all the money from the Air Force bases being closed down and sell all surplus uniforms made for the military. With some of this money you could build amusement parks across the country. But when these

*(continued on page 3)*

## Spontaneous Problem Solving

Hey, Team Members, the following are actual spontaneous problem-solving situations where tournament officials made on-the-spot decisions. You're invited to become the decision maker and decide how you would handle each situation.

1. A fire alarm interrupts the competition and causes the building evacuation of teams performing in both long-term and spontaneous.
2. An unforeseen or uncontrollable distraction, i.e. baby crying, loud noise, etc., causes undue and unreasonable disturbance to the performing team.
3. Several competing teams are unaware of a particular problem clarification, thus causing them to score poorly.
4. In a performance problem, the competition is running ahead of schedule, the upcoming team is questioned regarding whether it wants to go ahead and perform or wait. The coach, however, is with another team at another site. The team agrees to go ahead. After the team performs, the coach arrives and lodges a complaint.
5. A team's props will not arrive in time for competition. What are its options?
6. A vital team member, due to religious reasons, cannot attend a scheduled tournament.
7. A team reports late to a competition site.
8. A team member sees a parent from the opposing team in the rest room putting makeup on her child.
9. A team begins the year with seven team members. They've only worked on spontaneous problems when two team members drop out. The team adds two new team members.
10. The spontaneous problem hall monitor tells a team the schedule is forty-five minutes behind. The team leaves the area but decides to return within ten minutes. As the team comes down the hall, it is told it is time to compete and is rushed into the room. The team felt it did not perform well because of being rushed and also that the judges thought it was late.
11. A judge breaks the team's structure beyond repair as it is being weighed in.

## Try These Little Tricks With Your Team Members

1. Without looking at what the team member writes, ask a team member to jot down any three-digit number, and then to repeat the digits in the same order to make a six-digit number, e.g., 123,123. Then, ask this team member to pass the paper to another team member who divides the number by 7. Tell the team members that even though you don't know what the number is, there won't be a remainder, e.g., 123,123 divided by 7 is 17,589. Next, ask another team member to divide that amount by 11. Once again, tell the team members there'll be no remainder, e.g., 17,589 divided by 11 is 1,599. Then ask another team member to divide the last amount by 13. Again the division comes out even, e.g., 1,599 divided by 13 is 123. Instruct the last team member to write this number down on a piece of paper. Hand the paper to the first team member and say here's your original three-digit number. You'll look like a genius.
2. Divide a rectangular sheet of paper in to eight squares and number them on only one side as follows:

There are forty different ways this "map" can be folded 1 8 7 4 along the ruled lines to form a square packet

1	8	7	4
2	3	6	5

with the 1 square face-up on top and all other squares beneath. The trick is to fold the sheet so that the squares are in serial order from 1 to 8 with the 1 face-up on top.

3. Try "punny" sayings with your team members like: "I don't want to burst your bubble, but did you hear the song *Blowing in the Wind* by the Bubble Gum Rapper?"

## How Funny We Must Sound

Our non-English speaking teams must chuckle when they visualize some of the English idioms we speak in our everyday language. An example is the statement, "Try to keep the spontaneous problem under your hat." Now how funny would that look? Ponder the examples below and then try to come up with some of your own.

He's a wolf in sheep's clothing.  
I almost killed myself doing that.  
I died laughing.  
We'll kill two birds with one stone.  
Don't beat around the bush.  
He doesn't have a leg to stand on.  
She had me in stitches.  
Little kids are all ears.  
He's an old wet blanket.  
She said it tongue-in-cheek.

He's spreading himself too thin.  
Please don't spill the beans.  
That smells like a rat to me.  
Shake a leg to get back here.  
I'm going to raise a stink.  
He's waiting in the wings.  
Let's play it by ear.  
We're finally out of the woods.  
Sounds like monkey business to me.  
She let the cat out of the bag.  
That'll knock your socks off.  
He's almost at the end of his rope.

She always bends over backward.  
Did the cat get your tongue?  
She's dressed to kill.  
That car needs some elbow grease.  
His eyes are bigger than his stomach.  
That's for the birds.  
She's going to bat for her friend.  
That's a horse of a different color.  
If the shoe fits, wear it.  
I worked my fingers to the bone.  
She has eyes in the back of her head.

### Please Let Us Know

If you have unique ideas of how to work with Odyssey of the Mind teams, we'd like to know. We'd also like to know if your school schedules the Odyssey of the Mind Program in any special manner, such as a special club period or a special class.

**Federal Budget** (continued from page 1)

amusement parks are built, make as much as you can solar power. When you get profits from the park, you can start to pay off the national deficit."

**Wally Munoz**, age 13, grade 7, Dixon, California.

"I think you guys at the White House should have a garage sale in front of the White House. You could sell George Bush's desk, pencils, chair, and lamps. People would buy them at a higher price because George Bush used them. You could sell them for \$1 million each."

*Students in grade 7 at Jacobs School in Dixon, California.*

"This idea has several parts to it.

**I. SAVING MONEY**

1. The United States cannot be everything to all nations. Now I may be misinformed, but if Japan has tariffs on our exports, why don't we have some on theirs? From my knowledge, because of these tariffs, they have a lot of money left over every year.
2. Cut on arms spending. Right now we have so many thermo-nuclear weapons in our country and in others. No nation will be stupid enough to use them. If they do, they will destroy themselves in the process. So, I will say it again, we do not need more thermo-nuclear weapons. We also should not give other countries arms unless they buy them from us.
3. The individual states could save money by not having the lotteries. The money used to fund them could go toward better education or housing for the homeless or a variety of other things.

**II. GAINING REVENUE**

Because so many people go to professional sports and fine arts events, I came up with this idea. Put a \$.50 or \$1 tax on every ticket bought to one of these events, rotating yearly . . . Note: So many people go to these events and pay such high prices anyway, \$.50 or \$1 will not matter to them much."

**Kristopher Muhl**, age 15, grade 9, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.

"All we can do now is try to get prices back to a comfortable level. I suggest a roll back to a base period. For instance the 50's. This includes everything from gas to a box of Wheaties, from medical expenses to wages. Twenty-five cents gas may sound ridiculous, but just think how food stamps and social security could be reduced if the recipients were only paying \$.29 for a box of cereal or \$5 for a doctor's office call. Foreign countries would also be able to buy U.S. products without our loaning them the money to do so."

**Ellen Melius**, age 45, Miranda, South Dakota.

"Why not exact honoraria for legislators' presentations and earmark the money specifically for debt reduction? The legislators would not see the money, but those paying for services would pay the treasury directly. This treasury account could be an interest-bearing escrow account."

**Eloise Wolfensteig**, age 59, Macon, Georgia

**ATTENTION!!!**

World finals' teams must share equally in the payment for world finals' activities and services. World finalists who stay in OM provided housing pay their share of this fee in their housing and meal costs. For the 1990 World Finals at Iowa State University, teams staying off campus must pay a \$750 fee to cover their share of world finals' activities and services.

**OM Spotlight**

Filling the OM Association *Director Spotlight* are California's husband and wife dynamic duo, Dr. G. Bradley (Brad) Huff and Hari Ellen Huff. In 1980, while living in New York, Brad and Hari began working as coaches of the Odyssey of the Mind Program. Leaving behind a trail of OM, the Huffs moved to Fresno, California from Geneseo, New York in 1985.

They jumped right into the swing of things in California where Brad served as regional director and both served as coaches' and judges' trainers. In 1987, the Huffs teamed to be the first, and thus far, the only husband and wife chartered association co-directors. Under the Huffs' guidance, the California association increased 200 percent. Much of this accomplishment can be attributed to the fact that they somehow found and solicited outstanding people to serve as regional directors.

The OM involvement of their two daughters, Amy now an OM judge in Massachusetts and a judge at last year's world finals, and Jenny, a California OM state finalist for two years, make OM an "All in the Family" affair.




Husband and wife dynamic duo, Brad and Hari Ellen Huff, share duties as the California OM Association co-directors.

Brad teaches science for the Fresno Unified School District and was recently honored as California's 1990 GATE Teacher of the Year. Hari, a former accountant, is now a full-time OM volunteer, serving also as the OM liaison for non-English speaking teams who come to world finals. Their workshop for visiting Russian students from Troitsk was a major factor in getting teams in the Soviet Union involved in OM.

The following quotes sum up their OM experiences.

"We have enjoyed our 10+ years' association with OM as parents, coaches, judges, and directors. Having seen our first teams mature from 7th grade through high school, college and out into the 'real' world, we KNOW the difference OM makes in the lives of those students fortunate enough to have the experience. We have become increasingly aware of the importance of the integrity of the coaches and the judging quality in the OM 'experience' for the problem solvers of the future.

"We believe that state and world finals competitions are secondary in importance to sub-regional and regional competitions because it is at the local levels that we interact with and serve 100% of the competitors, recognizing the OMers' accomplishments." 



## WORLD FINALS COACHES' AND OFFICIALS' PROBLEM: EGGCENTRIC TOSS

- A \* Purist Division (Coach must solve the problem alone.)
- B \* Poetic License Division (Coach may get help from others.)
- C \* Officials' Division


### A. THE PROBLEM

Your problem is to accurately propel an uncooked chicken egg toward a target. The egg must pass over a string 36" (.9m) above the floor on its way to the target. You will make a container or protective device to protect your egg. The contestant whose egg is **closest to the target** and **does not break** will be the champion.

### B. LIMITATIONS

1. You must enclose the egg in a package of some type. The package **must**:
  - a. not leak if the egg breaks.
  - b. have the contestant's name, state/province and division (A, B or C) printed on it.
  - c. not weigh more than 1 pound (.45kg) including the egg.
  - d. not damage the floor.
2. You may use any safe method to propel your egg. No explosions, shooting darts, arrows, etc., are allowed.
3. Contestants and propulsion materials not part of the package must stay behind the foul line at all times.
4. The foul line will be 20' (6.1m) from the center of the target (see Figure A).
5. There will be a 1-minute set-up period. The judge will give the signal to begin. You will be given 10 seconds to send your package.
6. If packages collide, redirect each other or break someone else's egg . . . SORRY!
7. The distance will be measured from the package's closest point to the center of the target. If a package covers the center of the target and other packages rest on top of it, the package touching the center will be judged as the closest. The egg must be unbroken and in the package to count.
8. Eggs will be considered broken by the presence of leakage or an obvious crack(s). The judge will determine if an egg is broken. The judge's decision is final.
9. Violation of any limitation brings automatic disqualification.
10. If something is not prevented in the limitations, it is allowed.

### C. THE COMPETITION

1. Each contestant is honor-bound to enter the appropriate division. The Purist Division may be entered only if the coach has solved the problem alone. Coaches electing to have their teams or others help them must enter the Poetic License Division.
2. The Officials' Division may be entered only by this year's OM World Finals Officials, Association Directors and Regional Directors.
3. Only contestants within a division may compete against each other. Competitions may not mix groups, e.g., an official entering the Purist Division.
4. First-, second- and third-place trophies will be awarded in each division.
5. Contestants will propel their packages in groups. For each group, the three packages closest to the center of the target containing an unbroken egg will be recorded. When the final group is finished, the three overall closest will be determined. If there is a tie, there will be a play-off between the contestants involved in the tie. Since the package may be ruined after one attempt, a second package may be used in a play-off. 

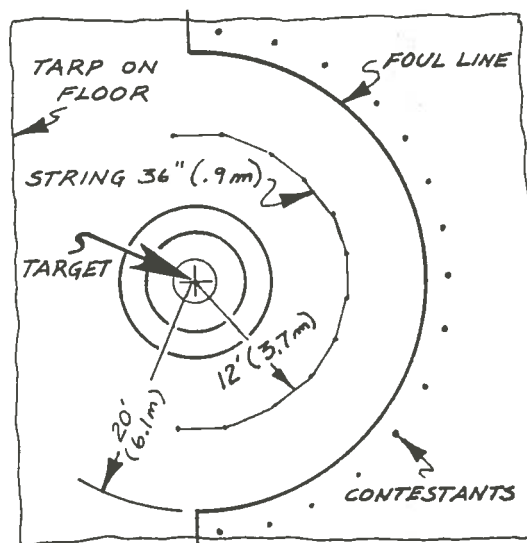



Figure A.


## OM Notes

- \* Congratulations to **Pat Schoonover**, Wisconsin OM Association Director, for receiving the Chancellor's Award of Merit for 1989. Forty-eight people on the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus received the award by nomination of colleagues and supervisors. Pat's nomination was based on her work with OM.
- \* Congratulations also to Florida OM Association director, **Connie Hicks**, for receiving her master's degree in Guidance and Counseling in April from the University of South Florida. Connie began her involvement with OM as a parent coach. She's the only parent coach we know who assumed the association director duties.
- \* We wish **Elaine Kohler**, Montana OM director, a speedy recovery from her surgery. We also wish **John Ristow**, Idaho OM director, a speedy recovery from his recently-diagnosed illness.
- \* *Learning 90's* February issue, page 55, lists Odyssey of the Mind as a program recommended to build better thinkers.
- \* **Judy Bassett**, South Dakota association director, informs us that one South Dakota principal serves fifteen individual schools. One school enrolls four students.
- \* **CONFRATUTE '90**, featuring presentations by some of the nation's well-known leaders in gifted education and creativity, will be held July 16-27 at the University of Connecticut. For information contact: Sally Reis, The University of Connecticut, 231 Glenbrook Road, U-7, Storrs Hall, Rm 28, Storrs, CT 06269-2007 (203) 486-0618.
- \* Talk about inflation — **Anne Godbee**, South Carolina association director, reports that after Hurricane Hugo, plywood in the hurricane hit area escalated from \$10 a sheet to \$25.
- \* Did you see the *Mother-Daughter Pageant* from southern California? Washington state's **Ally Wilkins** and her mother finished in the top eight. Host John Davidson asked Ally about her involvement with the OM program to which Ally gave a great response.
- \* OM received 128 scholarship applications.
- \* Remember, the competition dates for the **1990 World Finals at Iowa State University are May 31 to June 2**. A creativity festival, similar to the one held at Central Michigan University, will highlight the event.
- \* You may wish to read *To Give & Learn*, a program designed to identify and honor outstanding teacher-directed student community service programs across the country, in grades K-12. IBM, in association with *U.S. News*, presents the series of six profiles in separate issues of *U.S. News*.
- \* "To be creative you have to be willing to take risks, to work alone and to want to be distinctive, not to run with the pack. Modeling is important. If you spend five years around risk takers, chances are you may be willing to take risks, too." — **Howard Gardner**, a co-director of Harvard's Project Zero. Gardner also is quoted as saying that normal or above-normal intelligence is necessary for creativity, but genius is not.
- \* OM Association will again work on a joint venture with **The National Science Foundation** to develop problem-solving activities for schools in the United States. A copy of the activities will be sent to each OM member as part of a special edition newsletter.
- \* **Richland College**, Dallas, Texas joined OM as a collegiate member.

- \* **Dee Steele**, Minnesota regional director, reports that in April she will present gifted workshops in Johannesburg and Pretoria, South Africa in private British schools and at the university. Part of her presentation will familiarize the staff with Odyssey of the Mind. 

### Access to Clarifications Via Modem Seems to Work Great

Many OM members have successfully gained access to the OM Association computer to obtain the most up-to-date problem clarifications. Logging on as first name, **OM**, and last name, **Member**, and password, **OMer**, the user opts to view, to print, and/or to download clarifications. The telephone number is 1 (609) 881-0562. No new clarifications will be made after March 1; so, even if you try after that date the clarifications will remain unchanged.

**Bruce Sawyer**, Maine's OM Association director, himself a computer instructor, periodically downloads the file and electronically mails it to Maine members via two state bulletin boards. Since chartered association administrators can also access their membership files via the modem connection using an individual log-on, Bruce has been able to keep his regional directors informed of their memberships. 

## Handy Dandy Check List OR

### *How the Coach Can Kill the Team's Creative Ideas*

(Distributed at a Maryland OM Association Coaches' Training Workshop)

The coach says,

1. That idea is silly or ridiculous.
2. We've tried it before.
3. We've never tried it before.
4. It will cost too much.
5. It's not in our area of responsibility.
6. It's too radical a change.
7. We don't have the time.
8. It will make other things obsolete.
9. We're too small to do that.
10. It's not practical in our situation.
11. The community will be upset.
12. Let's get back to reality.
13. That's not our problem.
14. The old way has always worked well.
15. You're two years ahead of your time.
16. We're not ready for it.
17. It isn't in the budget.
18. Can't teach an old dog new tricks.
19. The board (administration, management . . . ) won't go for it.
20. We've done ok without it.
21. We'll look foolish if it fails.
22. Let's think about it for awhile.
23. Let's form a committee to study it.
24. Has it worked for anyone else?
25. It won't work at our level (or in our area).

## 1989-90 OM Association Associate Members

We're very proud of the following people who joined OM as associate members.

AB Kenneth Rogers	CO Scot Carson	MA The Levesque Family	NV Gary Wilson	TN Carolyn McPherson
AL The Leah Weaver Family	CO Judy Trout	MA The Rose Anne Sullivan	NV Donna Spear	TN The Donald Watson Family
AR Anne Ayres	CO The Clay Family	Family	NV The Yacenda-Crocco Family	TX Polly James
AR Ann Jacobson	CO Barbara Weigel	MA Antoni Bielan	NY The Wayne Kehrlri Family	TX Carla Garr
AR Polly Bakker	CO Shawn McCaffrey	MA The Sandra Wenig Family	NY Richard Rollo	TX Tom & Jeannie Scott
AR Rosemary Green	CO The Donald Smith Family	MD E M Ceanfaglione	NY James Lapey	TX Eileen Standridge
AR Paula Rawls	CT Billy Goodrich	MD Darlene Fila	NY Lee Rogers	TX John Pierrel
AR Kathleen Svatek	CT The Art Heiss Family	MD Ann Walker	NY The Ed Smith Family	TX Michael Gagnon
AR Nell Rockett	CT The Hagan Family	MD Dennis Dariak	OH Richard Cullen	TX Julie Wilkinson
AR Wendy Evans	DC Yvonne Davis-Smith	ME Toby Atkins	OH Nancy Dewey	TX Donna Gibson
AZ Steven Matsura	DE Larry Breedlove	ME Marilyn Snipe	OH Steve Schleman	TX Barbara Williams
AZ Joyce Kovacs	FL William Weber	MI Marsha Barter	OH Kent Heyward	TX Earle Williams
BC Glenn Galy	FL Ted Coulson	MI Jane Yoder-Short	OH Frederick Scheltz	TX Ruthanne Thomas
CA Jonathan King	GA Nedra Mathis	MI Jan Barker	OH Marge Youngsberg	TX Billy Crain
CA Frederick Auerbach	GA The Richard Hennessey	MN Jan Jausmann	OH Nancy Baker Wiese	TX Marjorie Silverstein
CA Adrienne Moreland	Family	MN Jill Somrock	OH Stephen Ahern	TX The Stevens Family
CA La Patera School	GA Angela Wilkerson	MN Tracy Safris	ON Gerry Moss	TX Andrew Hill
CA Beth Poindexter	GA Glenn Liptak	MO Jeanne Johnson	OR Jeannette Crowley	VA Sydna Gong
CA Sandra Corman	IA The Rich Safris Family	MO The Jasper Family	OR The Gary Thompson Family	VA Linda Ozier
CA Nancy Devaurs	IA Meredith Watters	NC The Joe Burke Family	PA Carol Ulrich	VA Sam Level
CA Carla Ohanesian	IA The Paul Meginnis Family	NE Jeanne Beavers	PA Reggie Bunis	VA Julie Harris
CA Dennis Kirksen	IL Andrea Lewandowski	NE The Gary Javitch Family	PA Mary Murphy	VT Mary Kay Gillen
CA John Nithya	IL Preston Kushner	NE Doug Monson	PA The Charlene Risbon Family	VT Richard Bremmer
CA Dixie Luckenbill	IL The Jim Babb Family	NH The Donald O'Bryant Family	PA Sandy Putkowski	WA Kathy West
CH Xu Tas	IN Charles Hall	NH Matthew Lamstein	SC Craig Vial	WA Mary Long
CH Chen Fan	KY Peter Moore	NH Cy Richard	SC Tom Roy	WI Ira Sison
CH Tang Xin Bao	MA Chris Charland	NJ Louisa Llewellyn	SD Eric Boyle	WI The Frank Melvin Family
CO The N. Damrauer Family	MA Tom Atwater	NJ John Braden	TN Debra Taylor	WV Sharon Cook

### *Past Participant Praises OM*

Dear Dr. Micklus,

I cannot thank you enough, Sir, for founding OM! I have been a participant in the Indiana program since it began four years ago and I can honestly and whole-heartedly say that it has been the most stimulating, exciting, and rewarding experience of my life.

For three years, my team from Silver Creek High School won state competition and went on to compete at world finals. This year, since most of my team members have dispersed to various colleges, I found a *new* way to be involved. One of my team members and I have been accepted as judges at both regional competition and this year's Indiana state OM competition. In addition, last weekend we took part in an OM overnigher at the Louisville Museum of History and Science. There, we were able to share our experiences with younger OMers. It is so thrilling to know that now, we will be, just as you already are, a part of enriching so many lives!

Sir, I hope you realize how much joy you have given so many young people and how proud I am to be one. There are simply no words to fully express how I feel.

Sincerely,

Angela Hobbs  
Sellersburg

### *Sounds Like a Great Idea*

Sherry Dixon, from Mayfield Central School in New York, informs us that she and four other area OM school district coordinators, held a spontaneous problem-solving competition on a Saturday in February. Each team, divisions I-III, was tested on its problem-solving skills on four verbal and four non-verbal spontaneous problems.

The competition was topped off with an awards ceremony. All participants received participation certificates. Sherry believes this competition helped to prepare the teams for their regional competition.



### *Coaches Please Note*

Spontaneous team members need to be instructed on how to respond to the judges' words, "duplicate" and "repeat." If an answer is given and the judge says "duplicate," the team member has given an answer very similar to one that another team member gave. The team member is to come up with another answer. If the judge's response is "repeat." The team member is to say the answer again.

# Association News

*Director change:*

**Ann Keast**

Department of Education  
400 W King St, Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710  
(702) 885-3136

## Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) News

If your students are interested in attending an official OM Association Summer Enrichment Program (SEP), the following persons may be contacted for more information about the SEPs in their chartered associations.

Carol Giersch  
1841 Mifflin Dr  
Lansdale, PA 19446  
(215) 584-1593

Hari Huff  
1637 W. Morris  
Fresno, CA 93711  
(209) 438-1260  
*Camp:* June 24-July 1  
*Site:* SciCon (south  
of Strathmore)  
*Cost:* \$250

Richard Safris  
7200 Townsend  
Urbandale, IA 50322  
(515) 278-1254

Ruth Christy  
13103 E. 31st Court  
Apt. 604  
Tulsa, OK 74134  
(918) 627-0533  
*Camp:* June 10-15  
*Site:* SE OK State Univ

Robert Purifico  
P.O. Box 412  
Marlton, NJ 08053  
(609) 478-0703

Lois Williams  
Center Educational Research  
University of Maryland-  
Baltimore County  
Baltimore, MD 21228  
(301) 455-6546  
*Camp:* June 24- 30  
*Site:* University of Maryland-  
Baltimore County  
*Cost:* \$425

Kathy Martinchek  
Charlevoix-Emmet Int Sch Dist  
P.O. Box 318  
Charlevoix, MI 49720  
(616) 547-9947  
*Camp:* August 5-11  
*Site:* N. Central Michigan  
College, Petoskey

Karen Anderson  
4192 NW Tamarack Dr.  
Corvallis, OR 97330  
(503) 754-9399

## 1990-91 Long-Term Problem Synopses

Although next year's long-term problems are subject to change, the descriptions that follow should give your teams a rough idea of the nature of the 1990-91 long-term problems.

### BUGGY LITE

The team's problem is to create a theme that incorporates a lightweight, battery-powered vehicle that the team designs, constructs, and drives. The vehicle must attempt to attach itself to a trailer, tow the trailer, detach the trailer, travel between specific locations, move in reverse, travel over an obstacle, then come to rest in a specified parking place.

### GIVE AND GO

The team's problem is to make four separate devices that relay tennis balls from different locations into a container. Team-made obstacles will block the balls' direct path.

### *Classics* . . . POMPEII

The team's problem is to create and to present an original performance that includes a scene taking place in the ancient city of Pompeii before or during its devastation. The performance must be supported with team-made works of art presented in various media.

### TUNNEL STRUCTURE

The team's problem is to make and to test a balsa-wood structure. The structure will have a horizontal opening running through it that may vary in size. The structure will be tested to hold weight.

### TRANSFORMATION

The team's problem is to create and to present a performance that shows a series of real or imaginary changes or evolutions of something. Photographs and/or drawings illustrating each phase of the transformation must also be presented.

## Georgia OM Association Tidbits

Regina O'Brien, Georgia Association Director, reports that the Georgia District of Kiwanis International approved Odyssey of the Mind as one of its major emphasis programs.

Regina also reports several neat ideas her association has for the year. One idea that the association followed through on last year and will continue to do so this year is a "seat of recognition" at the tournaments. The honorees in the seat are the team alternates and the team's coach whose names are announced before their team's performance. The alternates and coach sit in the seat of recognition while the team performs.

Another idea the Georgia association has for this year is to award "special" *Ranatra Fusca* hats and rings, i.e. spider hats and Halloween spider rings to the students who win *Ranatra Fusca* awards. The awardees will be honored first at the awards ceremony to promote winning the *Ranatra Fusca* Award to a higher status than placing at the state finals.

The Georgia OM Association established a memorial fund this year in honor of Sherrill Eddleman, an Odyssey of the Mind coach, judge, and avid supporter from Gwinnett County who died in 1989. Interest accruing yearly from the memorial fund will be used to honor an adult who makes outstanding contributions to the Georgia Odyssey of the Mind Program. Regina reports that also teams have contributed money in Eddleman's honor. As the fund grows, the Eddleman Award grows in the amount an awardee receives.

## OM Workshops Scheduled for Poland and Japan

At the time of writing this newsletter, Dr. Sam Micklus is scheduled in early March to present OM workshops in Gdansk, Poland to leaders and students. Later in the month, he'll travel to Toyota City, Japan to meet with Japanese officials to discuss the Odyssey of the Mind and to present OM awareness and training workshops to coaches and students.

On his way to Japan, he'll stop in Anaheim to speak about creative problem solving and OM at the Epsilon Pi Tau breakfast at the California Industry and Technology Education Association convention. Over 200 technology educators are expected to attend this convention.





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Ms Mildred Micklus  
339 Monroe Ave  
Cherry Hill NJ 08002

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(Please indicate your membership category by circling the appropriate category below.)

- A Individual School: In competition may enter one team per problem, per division, for each division within the school. (\$90)
- B Program Name where an itinerant teacher works with the OM Program in two to five schools: In competition may enter each problem once. Under this membership, the itinerant teacher, not the program coordinator, must work with the OM Program. Tip: If you work with a specific program in just one school, it will probably be to your advantage to join under category A, not B. (\$90)
- C Two buildings served by the same principal: In competition may enter one team, per problem, per division. Please list both schools as the membership name. Example: Washington Ele/Jefferson JHS. (\$90)
- D Community Group: In competition may enter each problem once. This must be an existing community group, not one formed just to join the OM Association. Community memberships are available only if the local schools refuse to participate in the program and have never done so. (\$90)
- E College / University: May enter one team in each problem. (\$125)
- F Associate Member (Individual \$15, Family \$25)

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