



OM ASSOCIATION, INC. NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 6,

NUMBER 2,

WINTER 1984

Scholarships For OM Students

The OM Association announces a plan to award college scholarships or financial aid grants to outstanding members of OM teams. Funding for these awards will come from two sources.

Corporations are being approached to establish contributions. Chevron has already allocated \$10,000 as "seed money" for a scholarship program this year.

Colleges are also a source. College Misericordia in Dallas, Pennsylvania set an example by offering a four-year tuition scholarship to a selected OM participant. Additional scholarships have been donated by Lambuth College in Jackson, Tennessee; Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins, Texas; and Friends World College in Huntington, New York.

The scholarships will be announced each spring at the appropriate chartered association competitions. In addition to bringing prestige to the team and the school of a winner, participating donors will receive national attention. Colleges, of course, will benefit by enrolling top notch students.

OM coaches who think they have an outstanding OM student who should be considered for one of the scholarships that will be available should write for details to:

Dr. Al Oliver, Scholarship Chairman
OM Association, Inc., P. O. Box 27, Glassboro, NJ 08028

GE Foundation Awards OM Grant

The General Electric Foundation located in Fairfield, Connecticut has presented a grant to OM for production of a Judges' Training Videotape. A copy of this videotape will be given to every chartered OM Association for use in training its judges.

This grant has enabled OM to put together a training package for chartered associations which includes the videotape; an audio cassette of the music from Music, Maestro, Please; Judges' Rulebooks; and a certification program for judges. This should enhance the quality of judging in OM competitions. A limited number of these tapes is available on loan and may be copied by any OM member or tournament director. ■

Creatatraction

OM coaches and teachers of the creative may find a new N/S-LTI-G/T publication of interest. CREATATRAPPING: TO FIND AND ENCOURAGE THE INNOVATIVE is a teacher-designed, simple, versatile instrument for identifying and nurturing the type of creativity most congenial to OM tasks. As a matter of fact, the need to find students suited to the OM challenges was the germinating trigger for this book. CREATATRAPPING provides a task within an invitation, rules, materials, judging and prizing framework. Except for the time and materials requirements, the task is wholly open-ended and easily altered from year to year. CREATATRAPPING can be used as an activity independent of its use for identification, and the 75 light-hearted and whimsical prizes included may be used to reward any kind of creative endeavor that emerges during the school year. Suggestions for extensions and variations on the basic activity, plus a how-to teacher's manual and rationale exploring the creative process and its role in our schools is part of the purchase price of \$17.50

(+10% handling & shipping). Write to: N/S-LTI-G/T, Civic Center Tower Bldg., 316 W. 2nd St., Suite PH-C, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

The author, Carol Tremper, is an experienced OM coach, and has disseminated CREATATRAPPING through her workshops on creativity prior to publication. She is a gifted/talented specialist. ■

OM Summer Program

Want to have your team members gain additional training in the OM approach to creative problem solving — and have a lot of fun at the same time? Then enroll them in the OM Summer Program.

The OM one week summer sessions (July 7 and July 14, 1985) will include activities which are designed to enhance a team's problem solving ability. The summer sessions will be held at College Misericordia, Dallas, Pennsylvania in the beautiful Pocono Mountains. The sessions will be open for students ages 10 to 14. The cost will be \$275 per person for a one week stay. Both teams and individuals are welcome.

For more information please contact OM Association, Inc., P.O. Box 27, Glassboro, NJ 08028, (609) 881-1603. ■

Membership Names Listed As Programs

Please check this newsletter's address label. This is the information sent to your association director. If PROG is at the end of your membership name, your membership may enter only one team per problem in competition. Some purchase orders have been unclear as to an accurate membership name. Therefore, since a school district is not an acceptable membership name, OM PROG has been assigned. Refer to the *OM Coaches' Handbook* for clarification of the membership categories. Each membership name which reflects a city wide program should be corrected with the national office unless it covers a maximum of five schools per membership served by the same itinerant teacher. The gifted coordinator is not considered to be itinerant unless he or she actually teaches those students involved in the program. If your membership name should be corrected, contact OM Association, P. O. Box 27, Glassboro, NJ 08028 immediately. ■

1984-85 PROBLEM CAPTAINS

OM Association is pleased to announce that the five long term problem captains who served in 1983-84 have once again agreed to serve for 1984-85. They are: Mr. A. Lee Talbot, Vice President, Richard Alaimo Associates, Mt. Holly, NJ — Ecology Dozer; Ms. Rita Sleeman, Teacher Consultant, Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District, Traverse Bay, MI — Hi Tech:Smarty Pants; Dr. James Pallante, Academic Dean, College Misericordia, Dallas, PA — Music, Maestro, Please; Dr. Fred Bradley, Professor, Glassboro State College, Glassboro, NJ — Compound Fracture; and Dr. Marietta Kehler, Educational Examiner, Pulaski County Special School District, Little Rock, AR — The Big Top.

In addition we have named two additional problem captains. Serving as problem captain for the Commodore Computer Contest at the World Finals will be Burdene Dalton, Computer Manager, Revere Local School District, Bath, Ohio and serving as problem captain for spontaneous problems will be Joyce Lozito, Educational Consultant and Oregon OM Association Director, Portland, Oregon. ■

Problem Procedures

The following are procedures which the long term problem captains have established to assist the teams and the judges in organizing the competition. They will be followed at the World Finals and it is strongly suggested that they be followed at all OM competitions.

Ecology Dozer

By A. Lee Talbot

The team, Ecology Dozer, trees and sites, and props will stay in a designated staging area until the time starts. The team will present its style card, cost card, and any problem clarifications it has received to a judge. It will also have available a properly completed Outside Assistance Form (if not previously submitted) and manufacturer's information regarding the size of the jack(s) utilized on the Dozer. Prior to beginning, the judge will check the Ecology Dozer to validate the cost and operation limitations and will check the trees and sites for design. Also prior to beginning, the team will set up the trees and transplant sites and have their placements checked by the judge. At the signal from the judge, the time will begin and the team will proceed with set-up, transplanting and style. Set-up will include moving the Dozer to the starting line, placing the school sign, etc. The first driver will get into the Dozer, pump the jack(s), and proceed with the transplanting. Style may be introduced at any time during the ten minute time limit. The driver will proceed through segments E, D, C, B, and A. The jack(s) may be re-set at any time during the first run by the driver. To receive points, the trees must be standing upright in the bucket and the buckets must be completely covering the marker points on the floor. If the Ecology Dozer goes out of bounds, the driver will get out and s/he and/or the team will place it back on course in the previous lettered segment. No credit will be given for additional segment crossings. Prior to the conclusion of the first run (before Ecology Dozer's wheels or floor contact points have crossed the finish line) Driver One has the option of going back and re-transplanting any trees correctly if necessary and then may drive the Ecology Dozer across the finish line. Driver Two will then get on the Ecology Dozer and may pump the jack(s) one time for the purpose of making the return run. After the front wheels or forward floor contact points have traversed segments A, B, C, D and E, the return trip will be complete. If the return trip is completed before the ten minutes is used, the remaining time may be used for style. The long term problem competition is complete at the end of ten minutes or when the team indicates, whichever comes first. No scoring will be given for anything performed after that time. The Head Judge will advise the team's coach when the long-term raw score will be presented to him/her.

HI Tech: Smarty Pants

By Rita Sleeman

When the team is called by the judge, the five long-term problem members will proceed to the designated staging area with Smarty Pants, their school sign, and any props needed for the long term problem solutions and style. The team will present its style card, cost card, and problem clarifications to the judge. If Smarty Pants recites a historical fact, an 8½" x 11" transcript of what Smarty Pants says must also be presented. Prior to beginning, the judges may check the "robot" and props to validate costs, operational limitations and specifications.

At the judge's signal the ten minute time limit will begin. The team will proceed to display its school sign, set up Smarty Pants at the starting line and place any additional props in the school or near the test site. Pat, a team member, will go into the nurse's office. All teams will use the props supplied by the tournament director and these props may not be altered in any way. Judges will place the props in the same position for each team; however, multiple choice answers for science and geography will be randomly placed for each team.

Once the four remaining team members are out of school, Smarty Pants will proceed into school to complete the tasks in any order. Style may be completed at any time during the ten minute time limit.

The competition is over when all tasks and style are complete or the end of ten minutes, whichever comes first. At this time the team is to give the style judge Pat's get well card to be scored. The judges may also ask the team questions about the design, construction, and operation of Smarty Pants. Teams should be prepared to present to the judges their Outside Assistance Forms (if not previously collected) and documentation of the two historical facts Smarty Pants recited or displayed for the social studies assignment. The Head Judge will advise the coach when the team's long-term raw score will be presented to him/her.

Music, Maestro, Please

By James Pallante

Prior to beginning the performance, the team will present a script, or description of the presentation; a separate style card; a cost card; and any problem clarifications it has received to the Head Judge. The style card must list the membership name, city and state, problem and division followed by five title lines. Lines one and five are fixed titles, artistic qualities of the script/description, and overall effect of the style presentation. Lines two, three, and four are "Free Choice of Team" and should be descriptive titles which focus the judge's attention on these style areas for which points may be awarded. Remember, style points are awarded for areas *not* already considered in other long-term or style scoring areas.

The props provided by the Tournament Director will be set in place for each team prior to the start of the timed period. The team will wait backstage or in the staging area if provided until the judge signals to begin. When the signal to begin is given, the five long-term team members will begin their set-up, style and long term performance. The placement of the membership sign is considered part of the timed set-up. Once the team begins setting up for competition, neither the coach, alternates, nor spectators may enter the competition area or assist the team in any way. At the end of the timed set-up period the team will stop set-up. When the judge signals the ten minute performance period to begin, the team may complete any unfinished set-up (if necessary) and begin its presentation.

The team must make the theme of its presentation known to the audience and the judges prior to the start of the presentation. The same five team members who present the long-term problem must make the style presentation. At the conclusion of the performance the judges may ask the team to bring any artwork or props to them for closer inspection and may ask any questions which they may have about the presentation. The Head Judge will inform the team's coach when the long-term raw score will be presented to him/her.

Compound Fracture

By Fred Bradley

Teams will present their structures for weighing and measuring at the structures' table. For some competitions (including the World Finals) structures will be tagged and stored at the table until approximately fifteen minutes prior to competition at which time the structure is to be picked up by the team and taken to the competition site.

Style cards and any problem clarifications a team has received must be presented to the judges prior to competition. All preparations for problem presentation are to be made outside the testing area; however, the structure(s) may be placed on the test site prior to beginning. Teams may make all preparations and be standing beside the testing area as soon as they are called and prior to the judge's starting cue for the timed period.

At the judge's signal, the team will have eight minutes to complete set-up, style, and the placing of the weights. Weights may be placed in any increment available and there is no time lapse needed between weights placed on the structure.

No one is allowed inside the testing area except the five team members, the judges, and a possible adult for aid with placement of weights over 15 pounds in Division I. There is to be no coaching of

any kind from any person during competition.

As part of the eight minute timed period, a "burial" or other similar disposal of the structure may take place after the structure has collapsed; however, no burning, exploding or similar mutilation of the structure will be allowed. The style judge is to be alerted prior to the eight minute time period if a disposal procedure will take place as part of style.

Competition ends when the style has been completed and the structure has broken or after the eight minute timed period has expired whichever comes first. The Head Judge will inform the team's coach when the long-term raw score will be presented to him/her.

The Big Top **By Marietta Kehler**

The team getting ready to compete may line up in an area designated by the judge. The team will then present its cost card, style card and any problem clarifications it has received to the Head Judge.

The props provided by the Tournament Director will be set in place for each team prior to the start of the eight minute timed period. These props are the two 4' x 5' back panels; and, if provided, the two 4' x 5' end panels. When the timing judge gives the signal to begin, the five long-term team members will begin their set-up, style and long-term performance. If the team chooses not to use the panels provided by the Tournament Director, it may remove and/or replace them but this must be done during the eight minute timed period. The placement of the membership sign is considered part of the timed set-up. It should be placed so that the judges can view it within 25 feet.

Once a team begins setting up for competition, neither the coach, alternates, nor spectators may enter the competition area or assist the team in any way. Violators may receive one warning and, if they continue, the team may be given an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty and/or a Spirit of the Problem penalty. If the team uses more than eight minutes, a penalty will be imposed. The Head Judge will signal the team when it is appropriate for it to remove its props.

The Head Judge will inform the team's coach when the long-term raw score will be given to him/her. If a team chooses to wait in the competition area to receive its raw score or to observe the performance of other teams, it is encouraged to do so quietly in respect to other teams. ■

Problem Clarifications

HI TECH: SMARTY PANTS PROBLEM CLARIFICATIONS

Competition

1. The bell for the science questions may be a buzzer or a bell. In either case it must be activated or rung by Smarty Pants.
2. All props must conform to exact limitations. The get well card has no limitations and the team has freedom in its creation.
3. Pat may operate apparatus while in the Nurse's office.
4. Props provided by the Tournament director may not be altered.

Limitations

1. Human beings may not be used as Smarty Pants.
2. Remote control devices for Smarty Pants may be held by the team outside the school.
3. All talking which is to be done by Smarty Pants must have the sound originate on Smarty Pants. Smarty Pants may not merely provide a speaker system for the sound.

Site

Consideration should be made at competitions for remote control devices directing Smarty Pants. Contestants should have to either turn in remote control devices or be required to refrain from practicing with their remote control devices in the same room as the competition. Should either of these requirements be made the judges have the right to enforce their non compliance under the unsportsmanlike conduct penalty.

MUSIC, MAESTRO, PLEASE PROBLEM CLARIFICATIONS

General

1. For scoring purposes performance will include the types of presentations listed in C,#2. However, any one or combination of these will constitute a performance.
2. Definition of a "crowd shot." In film-making parlance a crowd shot is a full shot or long shot of a group of people. Crowd shots create atmosphere, color, or realism. Members of crowds do not have speaking lines and individuals are not filmed close-up. They are, in effect, part of the set, not part of the acting performance, *per se*. Performers normally speak lines, are filmed close-up, and create a special character who is part of the story; crowd members do not do these things.

Crowd members may wear costumes of any kind and may be human or non-human in appearance.

Team members may be part of the crowd, or they may perform (be filmed close-up, speak, create a character) within the crowd. Other non-team members of the crowd shot may not speak, create a character who is central to the story, or be filmed close-up.

Music

The only music that may be used is to be selected from C-12.

COMPOUND FRACTURE PROBLEM CLARIFICATION

Construction

B. 6: The total structure, when assembled and placed on the 2" x 4"s, must measure a minimum of 8½" from the top of the structure to the top of the flat surface of the base.

Tester

1. The 2" x 4"s will be fixed to the base of the tester.
2. The upright pipe extending from and secured to the base of the testing site will have an outside diameter of 1". All weights used in competition should have a center hole measuring 2" in diameter. This difference allows for slight movement of weight. If a judge feels the pipe is being used in the support of placed weights, the problem is ended.

Competition

In order to measure the "open area" within the load bearing structure and the beam structure, there will be a 2" circular column at the weigh-in area. Each structure, in turn, will be placed onto the circular column to ensure the opening to be a minimum of 2" in diameter.

THE BIG TOP PROBLEM CLARIFICATIONS

General

For this problem homo sapiens will not be considered a species of animal.

Animals

For the raggedy animal all items which are part of the costume must be counted toward the cost. If an item has no market value, then its cost is \$0.

Cost

There is no \$3 exclusion on the cost of the raggedy animal's costume. It must cost only \$1 (garage sale prices) or less.

Competition Site

The two side panels may or may not be provided by the tournament director. Should a team's performance require them, it should check with the tournament director to see if they will be provided or if the team should provide its own.

Ringmaster

The Ringmaster must remain unchanged throughout the performance. She may not change either costume or personality. (C-2) ■

Association Round-Up

The following information has been provided by the chartered OM Associations. Please check to see if your association had information here for you.

All Canadian Teams: Please note that dollar allowances for long term problems are given in U.S. dollars. The equivalent amount in Canadian dollars may be used. e.g. \$40 cost limit translates to approximately \$50 in Canadian funds.

California: Final — April 27, 1985 — Sacramento; Membership closes February 15, 1985. Registration for final closes March 22.

Florida: Final — May 3, 1985 — Miami-Dade South. Membership closes February 28, 1985. Registration for final closes April 10. Judges' workshop in March.

Michigan: CHANGE: Finals — May 4, 1985 at Michigan State University.

Minnesota: Final — May 4, 1985 — Minneapolis.

North Carolina: Central Regional — February 23, 1985 — University of No. Carolina, Charlotte.

Ohio: Regionals: February-March 1985, Contact Regional Directors for exact dates; Final — April 13, 1985 — University of Akron.

Virginia: Final — April 20, 1985 — Virginia State University; Membership closes January 15, 1985. Registration for final closes March 23, 1985.

West Texas: Final — April 12 & 13, 1985 — El Paso Community College, Valle Verde Campus; Membership closes March 1, 1985. Registration for final closes March 12.

West Virginia: Final — April 27, 1985 — West Virginia State College.

NEW ADDITIONS

OM Associations have recently been formed in the following states:

MINNESOTA: Director: Jane Holmberg, Gifted Education Services, Intermediate District 287, 1820 North Xenium Lane, Minneapolis, 55441.

WEST VIRGINIA: Director: Diane Chandler, Beverly Hills Jr. High School, Saltwell Rd., Huntington, 25705. ■

OM Membership Provides...

Being an OM Association member entitles you and your students to receive as curriculum materials the set of five long-term problems, a non-competing primary problem for grades K-2, and an *OM Coaches' Handbook*. You also receive a subscription to the OM quarterly newsletter, a membership card which entitles you to enter teams in

competition, problem clarifications, and the services of the OM Headquarters staff to assist you and your association. Membership fees also help to support the World Finals. Your Chartered OM Association receives benefits through your membership fees which enable it to better serve you. These benefits provided to your Chartered Association by OM include:

1. A rebate of 5% plus 1% for each 1000 total OM memberships (8% in 1983-84).
2. Periodic lists of members in label or printout form.
3. Coaches' Training Guide with accompanying slide series.
4. Judges' Training Package which includes a training videotape, a training guide, judges' rulebooks, certification tests and cards for judges, and a cassette tape of the music for Music, Maestro, Please.
5. Tournament Set-up Guide with scheduling options and score sheets.
6. Public relations kits to use in soliciting financial aid and publicity.
7. Brochures.
8. Ranatra Fusca Awards.
9. Spontaneous problems for regional and final competitions.
10. A computer scoring program.
11. Liability insurance for all sanctioned competitions.
12. One day of paid consultant time.
13. An annual grant of \$100 to be used for expenses which a chartered association incurs in exhibiting or presenting OM at a state conference. ■

Resource Note

This is an exciting time in education because there are many new programs that offer learning opportunities for students who are gifted in the visual arts. But there is no single book for teachers and administration which addresses the needs of these students.

Educating Artistically Talented Students by Gilbert A. Clark and Enid D. Zimmerman is based upon extensive research and in-service application. The authors set forth philosophy and goals based upon their analyses of problems, and they offer recommendations about identification and characteristics of students, approaches to teaching, curriculum content and organization, and appropriate administrative settings for the effective education of these students. The authors clarify terms and present structures in support of further discussion and research on gifted/talented education in the visual arts. The cost is \$20 plus \$1.50 postage and handling and it can be obtained from Syracuse University Press, 1600 Jamesville Ave., Syracuse, NY 13210. ■



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The OM Newsletter is a publication of OM Association, Inc., P. O. Box 27, Glassboro, New Jersey 08028. Managing Editor: Dr. Albert I. Oliver. Executive Editors: Dr. C. Samuel Micklus and Carole J. Micklus.