

Report on the first National Carousel Association Technical Conference

Kansas City, Missouri

March 10 and 11, 1988

Conference coordinator: Jo Downey

Site coordinator: Jerry Reinhardt

NCA President: Charles J. Jacques, Jr.

Speakers:
Lynne Brown
Jo Downey
Diane Vaught
Charles Walker
Wallace Wilson

Hotel: Sheraton KCI

REPORT FROM KANSAS CITY

Carousel support groups and owners from Florida to New England, from the Midwest to the Pacific Coast shared knowledge and questions at the first NCA Technical Support Conference in Kansas City.

Opening Remarks and Conference Goals

NCA President Charles Jacques, Jr. opened the conference with the challenge that those in attendance are the sources of information. He fantasized that in a perfect world everyone would recognize the value of our antique carousels and carousels would be available to everyone to ride — but this is not a perfect world. No matter who owns each carousel, those who care must make it as strong as we can with our support.

Input from Conference Participants

Dennis Snyder, Recreation Superintendent of Topeka, Kansas, reported on Topeka's purchase of a 1908 Herschell-Spillman menagerie when Joyland Amusement Park closed. Their goal is completion by June 1989. The city-owned carousel will operate in a public park. The key to the project's success is, he said, that "we all own it." Anne Stauffer, chairman of the Topeka carousel fundraising committee, added that it took time to convince the city that it needed to upgrade carousel and park, and that the carousel needed expert help.

Charles Walker, NCA Conservation Chairman, whose one-man project is the restoration of PTC 53, emphasized the importance of community involvement in any restoration. Those who are knowledgeable must watch over the project to keep it from being messed up by well-meaning workers without the expertise to make good judgments.

NCA Board Member Art Curtze is forming a non-profit group to work with people whose carousels are in trouble. The group must be ready to help out with knowledge and financial contributions, and must be prepared to go into action the minute crisis arises. NCA Executive Secretary Gail Hall added that we must have information on tax advantages ready to use as ammunition in fund-raising.

Lynne Beckett, who, with her husband, Tommy Sciortino, has recently purchased and is restoring a 1922 Spillman Engineering carousel, reported on the progress of the project.

Agnes Taylor gave an up-date on the Crossroads Village (Flint, MI) project. The volunteers are trying to restore six horses per years, going back to the original paint. Plans are to build a protective building to replace the open gazebo now housing the carousel. Fund-raising projects include an Adopt-A-Horse program and an annual village festival at which the group sells crafts.

Lynne Brown, Executive Director of Bushnell Park (Hartford CT), described the complexity of her job. She must know fund-raising, mechanics, training operators, and dealing with people.

Ray Lavanaway (Lighthouse Park, New Haven CT), told of the group's fundraising, volunteer restoration, and purchase of a band organ. He stressed the need for a complete photo record of the original condition, details of the mechanics, and work in progress.

NCA Treasurer Brian Morgan reported on the city-owned Santa Monica Pier Carousel, for which every dollar used has been donated. The Friends Group's main function now is keeping the carousel's name in the public eye, and furnishing exhibits for the hippodrome building.

Diane Vaught said that the Burlington NC carousel group raised funds and restored the carousel "by ourselves." She stressed the importance of those who care sharing their knowledge, and of getting a commitment from the city that they will not sell the carousel, no matter what.

Lynda Millner, Director of the Dickinson County Kansas Historical Society, juggles the wants of various interest groups, of which the carousel is only one facet. The partially-restored track machine is in a new building with fire and theft protection.

Michael Cobb, Curator, Hampton (VA) Center for the Arts and Humanities, explained plans for PTC 50, which had always operated at Buckroe Beach VA. The well-cared- for, all-original-equipment machine and its band organ will be part of the Hampton Center.

Tammy Abramson told of the purchase by three local businessmen of PTC 85 when Paragon Park (Hull MA) closed, and showed slides of the gigantic project to move it to a spot on the boardwalk where it now operates as The Carousel Under the Clock.

NCA Vice-President and conference coordinator Jo Downey spoke of the ongoing community project that has put Burlington, Colorado, on the map. Their carousel will run daily mid-May to mid-September, 5 times per day (to keep it from wearing out). As Jo said, this is a success story.

Bob Gilliland reported that the Pueblo, Colorado carousel is operating, restored, in its new building — another success story.

Anne Hinds, Merry-Go-Roundup Editor, cautioned that owners should get expert advice before working on any parts of the carousel still having original paint.

Conservation

Charles Walker showed slides and explained the mechanical details of carousel operation. He stressed the need for constant care and maintenance, and attention to detail; and the importance of maintaining the carousel's integrity: of preserving the "old and wonderful" look and feel of an antique jewel.

Insurance

Wallace Wilson, of Haas, Wilkerson & Wolberg, which specializes in amusement business insurance, advised the group of insurance options. If a minimum of 40 to 50 owners insure their permanent carousels as a group, the cost of liability and physical damage will be less. Portable machines would be covered under carnival insurance. The NCA will see that the information is sent to owners of operating wooden carousels.

Support Groups

Diane Vaught, Lynne Brown, and Jo Downey discussed organizing and maintaining friends groups. A restoration group is needed to get a carousel into operating condition; then a friends group can take over to keep it going. Support groups can raise money while marketing the idea of the carousel and providing fun for the community.

Keep a list of jobs that need to be done. Make sure volunteers are kept busy with meaningful work. There is some kind of job for everyone; you just have to be creative. Utilizing the efforts of disabled adults can pay dividends. Involving young people in the work of the carousel is important, to raise another generation who will love and support the carousel, and appreciate its history.

Cleveland Tech, G-W, Cleveland Voc, Ind Senior Center? Rev. C. O. Greene, Bert Jennings, Brooks

Flyers, posters, letters, and other communications should always incorporate the carousel's logo to heighten awareness. Personal thanks for donations, spelling out the use to which funds will be put, is good public relations. If a blanket appeal for a volunteer doesn't work, a specific request to a specific person will usually bring a positive response. *Artist to design logo*

Promotion and Education

Diane Vaught: If you don't have a volunteer group, you should organize one immediately. Start on Day One with a computer to keep track of volunteers, donors, and mailing lists. Every community has computer-buffs who would like to do such a job. Recognize and thank all those who contribute to the cause. It is crucial to educate the city council or whoever holds the purse strings, the local citizens, and the politicians to the importance of a carousel to the community. "Everything you pass on to someone else is education." Educate the media and get their interest. Invite television to make and use tapes of carousel operation.

Safety education is of the utmost importance: about the hazards and the precautions that must be taken with the use of toxic chemicals used in restoration.

When sanding a stripped horse, wear a mask, and wash yourself and your clothing carefully afterward; lead from the old paints that has saturated the wood is a severe health hazard. Give talks on chemical safety and toxicity whenever you can, to spread the word of the dangers to furniture refinishers and other industries, and to school children.

Educate yourself: know the background of your carousel and the history of carousels in general. Get local industry involved in restoration and maintenance; develop their pride in what you are doing. Research and utilize information about the durability of materials, the effects on paint of temperature, dampness, sunlight and wear. Document everything. Photograph and label every component before disassembling. Be aware that putting the carousel back together in the wrong order can cause the machine to be unbalanced and may bring about undue stress and wear.

Thorough training in safety, history, and operation for employees is imperative. Maintain a strict dress code for operators. Develop their pride in the work of art they are operating. Don't call the carousel "folk art" — instill in them respect for its fine craftsmanship.

A slide show detailing the mechanical side of the carousel can foster interest and volunteerism among car buffs and other mechanically-minded organizations who may never have considered that aspect of the carousel. A band organ is important. It gives the carousel a different atmosphere. Working to get your carousel on the National Historic Register has educational and publicity value.

It is difficult but rewarding to get teen-agers involved. Mall displays are a good idea. Designing and using a logo is important in marketing your carousel. Keep the carousel visible after the restoration.

Talks to school children foster interest. The head of the carousel horse is an excellent prop to show them how an animal is put together. Involve Meals on Wheels and other help groups by offering the carousel as a place to hold a luncheon. Bringing the handicapped into the project can pay dividends. Make advertisers aware of the availability of the carousel for rental as a prop. Use of the carousel as a theme for proms and other celebrations has been successful.

Foundation Grants

Jo Downey: Each foundation has its own major area of interest. You can fit carousel needs into many areas of foundation concern.

Begin by obtaining matching funds, challenge grants, grants in kind, and donations of volunteer time and talents, so you can prove you have a good track record.

Foundations like hardware-type projects: something with a tangible result. After you have received a grant, make sure that the donor gets credit, publicity, and proof of the result. Be prepared to answer questions about your future plans. Have a solid plan so the foundation can see you have given thought to the overall project.

The FOUNDATION DIRECTORY is available in every library. Check national, statewide, and local foundations. The local bank can help. Don't overlook the small foundations. Who is the largest employer in your area? What is their parent company? When a foundation says its giving is "limited to" or "only," don't apply to them if your needs don't fit their interests. But be creative with the possibility of tie-ins.

When applying for a grant, define a project for which you want money as a specific segment of the overall project. Explain your target. Outline budget, local funds available, sources of volunteer help. Have good financial records.

Profiting from Parties on the Carousel

Lynne Brown described parties on the Bushnell Park Carousel — a steady source of funds. A party will bring people to the carousel and stir up interest in merry-go-rounds even in people who had none. Sources of party-givers: carousel society members, who should be given the information with their membership packet or brochure; departments of local corporations: for birthday parties, promotion parties, etc.; political fund-raisers. Get leads through caterers, and let them know the facilities are available.

Join the local convention and visitors bureau so you get lists of future conventions and can inform organizers of the opportunities for a party. Get a list of day-care facilities from the state.

Donate a free party to your local Public Broadcasting Station fund-drive or other fund-raisers for good publicity. A drawing for a door prize at one party will yield a list of prospects for additional parties. Always have brochures and information available at the carousel. Get the information into local tourist guides and airline magazines. Utilize any kind of free or (if necessary) paid advertising available to get your name out as a source for parties. Don't rent the carousel out to private parties during regular scheduled operating hours; it is bad PR for those who expect to be able to ride.

Sales of Carousel Memorabilia and Souvenirs

Conference attendees shared ideas and showed the kinds of items they sell at the carousel. Items may be of general carousel interest, but some, at least, should be local, should be of YOUR carousel: patches; T-shirts; coloring books; stationery; post cards (which can also be sold at local motels and restaurants – a good idea for advertising the location of the carousel), Christmas cards and note cards; jewelry; Christmas tree ornaments; tote bags; buttons; booklets telling the history of the carousel; figures of pewter, ceramic, or wood; posters showing the local carousel; jigsaw puzzles; stained glass ornaments; art work and photographs.

Lighthouse Park sells lengths of old or new brass left over from restoration. Lengths of brass made into napkin-rings have sold well. Burlington, NC has done well with a Monopoly-type game illustrating the entire carousel, and with local businesses as the board locations. Burlington, Colorado, has been successful with cookbooks featuring carousel information and illustrations. If not reprinted, they become collectors' items. Every carousel in the country should have a patch.

NCA President Jacques' Summary

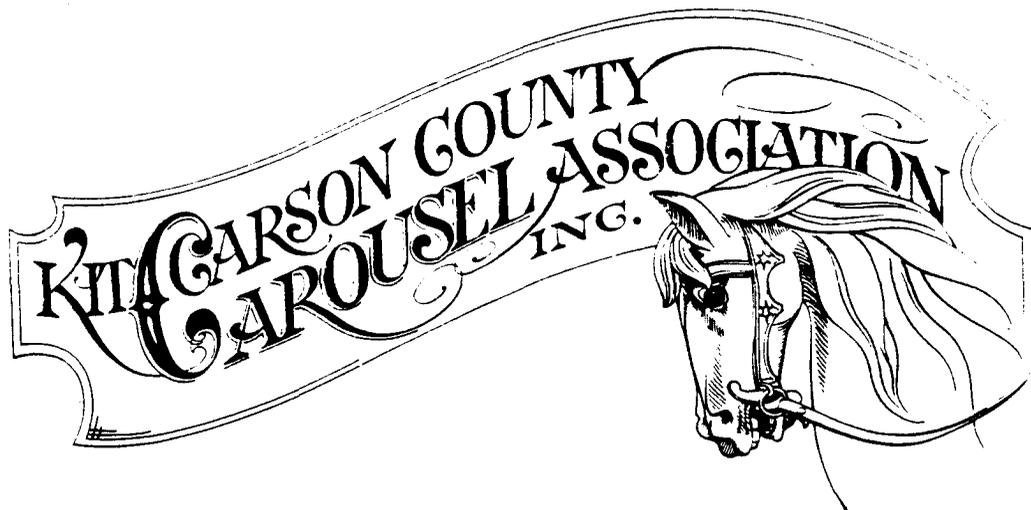
Charlie began by summing up "things I learned" — some merry-go-rounds can't stop on a dime. Popcorn is a high-profit item. You have to dust carousel horses.

More seriously, he recapped the conference with these words: Be creative; be persistent; do your homework; shoot a lot of record photographs; design a good logo and market it; develop a core group of volunteers; keep the carousel visible to the community; adapt your talk or slide presentation to the interests of the audience; recognize and acknowledge contributions of time, money, etc.; clean-up days are happy: they signify a new season; integrity (preserving the historic intent of the artists and craftsmen) is important; video tapes for TV are good advertising; involvement of volunteers, government, school children, foundations, disabled, are keys to success; networking gets your story across, communicates ideas and fosters help.

One participant summed up the value of the conference: "It cost us \$25, and we're going away with thousands of dollars worth of help and information."

A rousing thanks to those who put the conference together and made it so successful: Jo Downey, Jerry and Marilyn Reinhardt and Charlie Jacques; those who headed sessions: Lynne Brown, Diane Vaught, Charles Walker, Jo Downey, Wallace Wilson; and to all who attended and exchanged valuable knowledge.

P.O. BOX 28 (303) 348-5562
STRATTON, COLORADO 80836



To: NCA Conference Participants
From: Jo Downey *J. Downey*
Subject: Attendees Addresses, Etc.
Date: March 16, 1988

My personal thanks to each of you for taking the time to attend the first National Carousel Association's Technical Assistance Conference. I took home a lot of ideas and information that I know will help our project and I am in hopes that we can all continue to keep in touch.

In addition to the names and addresses of those who attended, I am enclosing a copy of the Colorado Carousel Society's membership schedule, etc. and one of its newsletters. As I mentioned in my presentation, Kit Carson County's Association does not have dues or bylaws, but feel free to "cut and paste" any of the Colorado Society's information that might be applicable to your group or interests. If I can personally be of assistance or can answer any questions in the coming months, please contact me. I'll get back to you as soon as possible.

Hope to see you all in Pittsburgh. Again, thanks!!!

Attendees at the NCA Technical Conference in Kansas City
March 10-11, 1988

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Attendees - March 10-11, 1988
Page three

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Anita Wolgast, Chairman
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Get
Letter
out
to one of
them



NATIONAL CAROUSEL ASSOCIATION
TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

March 10-11, 1988

Sheraton Kansas City Airport Hotel
Kansas City, Missouri

Thursday - March 10

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Registration - Coffee

9:00 a.m. Welcome - Charles Jacques, Jr. - President, NCA
Natrona Heights, Pennsylvania

9:05 a.m. Overview of Conference - Jo Downey

9:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Round Table Discussions

10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 Carousel Mechanical Maintenance
Charles Walker, Herschel Harrington
Studio - Atlanta, Georgia

12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m. LUNCHEON

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Affordable Insurance For Carousels
Wallace Wilson - Haas, Wilkerson & Wohlberg
Insurance Group - Kansas City, Missouri

3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. Organizing and Maintaining an Active
Carousel Support Group - Panel Presentation

3:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Break

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Promotion and Education of Local Citizens
& Politicians on Importance of a Carousel
to the Community
Diane Vaught, Chairman - Friends of The
Burlington City Park Carousels
Burlington, North Carolina

Friday - March 11

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Obtaining Private Foundation Grants for
Preserving, Restoring, or Operating a
Carousel
Jo Downey, Project Director - Kit Carson
County Carusel - Stratton, Colorado

NCA Technical Conference
March 10-11, 1988
Page two

Friday - March 11 cont.

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Move Those Horses Out of the Red and Into
the Black by Renting Your Facility for
Private Parties

Lynne Brown, Executive Director
Bushnell Park Carousel Society
Hartford, Connecticut

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 Fundraising Through Sale of Carousel
Memorabilia/Souvenirs - All

12:00 Closing Remarks - Charles Jacques, Jr.

SAVING AN ENDANGERED SPECIES
 NATIONAL CAROUSEL ASSOCIATION
 TECHNICAL CONFERENCE II

April 7-8, 1989

RAFFLES HOTEL
 3200 South Parker Road
 Aurora, Colorado

Friday - April 7

- 12:30 - 1:00 p.m. Registration - Coffee
- 1:00 - 1:15 p.m. Welcome - Charles Jacques, Jr. - President, NCA
- 1:15 - 1:30 p.m. Overview of Conference - Jo Downey - Vice-President, NCA
- 1:30 - 2:45 p.m. Carousel Portraits - All
- 2:45 - 3:00 p.m. Break
- 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. National Register and National Landmark Application Process
 and Guidance - Barbara Norgren, Colorado Historical Society
- 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. Carousel Fundraising Experiences
 Prospect Park Carousel - Tupper Thomas
 Kit Carson County Carousel - Jo Downey
- DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Saturday - April 8

- 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. BIG Colorado-Style Breakfast
- 9:00 - 10:45 a.m. Animal Paint Preservation & Restoration
 - Will Morton, Carousel Conservation & Restoration
 - Rosa Ragan, Rosa Ragan Restoration
- 10:45 - 11:00 a.m. Break
- 11:00 - 11:45 a.m. Preservation of America's Carousels - Charles Jacques, Jr.
- 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Luncheon
- 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Paintings, Panels, Rounding Boards, Conservation, Restoration,
 and Reconstruction - Will Morton & Rosa Ragan
- 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Open Forum - All
- 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. The National Carousel Association's Preservation Manual and
 Closing Remarks - Charles Jacques, Jr.

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Registrants for T.A. Conference
April 7-8, 1989
Page two

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619-235-4014

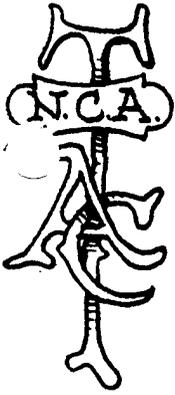
Rosa Ragan
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Phone: 719-547-2082



National Carousel Association - 1989 Technical Assistance Conference
Denver, Colorado

QUESTION SUBMISSION FORM for Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon
sessions with Rosa Ragan and Will Morton.

Your name _____
From _____

Your carousel: Location _____
Manufacturer _____ Year _____
Condition or status _____

Operating Non-operating Being restored

Question regards: Paint Mechanical Electrical Structural
 Original paint Other _____

Who do you anticipate will do your work: Name _____
 Professional Volunteer Owner

This question is for: Rosa Will Anyone

Your question:

Tentative Schedule

SAVING AND PRESERVING AN ENDANGERED SPECIES: OUR AMERICAN CAROUSEL

NATIONAL CAROUSEL ASSOCIATION
TECHNICAL CONFERENCE III

March 24-26, 1990

BROWNSTONE HOTEL
1707 Hillsborough St.
Raleigh, NC 27603
(919) 828-0811Saturday - March 24

Breakfast On Own.

8:30 - 9:00 a.m. Registration - Coffee

9:00 - 9:15 a.m. Welcome - Charles Jacques, Dr. - President, NCA

9:15 - 9:30 a.m. Conference Overview - Rosa Ragan - Secretary, NCA

9:30 - 11:15 a.m. Carousel Portraits - All conference participants

11:15 - 11:30 a.m. Art Curtze - Report on "Our Fair Carousel",
Minn., MN.

11:30 am - 12:00 pm JoAnn Hanley and Diane Leatherman - Glen Echo
Park Carousel

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:15 - 1:45 p.m. Charles Jacques, Jr. - NCA's Preservation Efforts

1:45 - 2:00 p.m. The Dilemma of Private Owned
Carousels in Public Places.

2:00 - 2:45 p.m. Dean Ruedrich - NC Historic Preservation Assoc.
Revolving Funds and Protective Covenants.

2:45 - 3:00 p.m. Break

3:00 - 3:30 p.m. State Archives and History
Involvement with Carousel Restoration Projects.

3:30 - 4:00 p.m. Slide Show - Mechanics of the Dentzel Carousel

4:00 - 5:15 p.m. Panel on Mechanics - Tom Wolf, Merrick Price,
Gaven McDonough and Will Morton.

5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Dinner on own.

7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Show and Tell. Bring your slides and present a
brief talk about your Carousel (15 min. max.
please)!

Sunday - March 25

- Breakfast on own.
- 9:00 - 9:10 a.m. Opening Remarks - Diane Vaught, Friends of the Burlington City Park Carousel
- 9:10 - 11:10 a.m. Panel on Fundraising, Publicity and Friends Groups. Jo Downey, Anita Wolgast, Mary Fox, Diane Vaught
- 11:15 - 12:00 a.m. Jo Downey - Video & discussion on Continued Support of Restored Carousels.
Recreation Dept. Chairmen : Harold Owen, Burlington City Park Dentzel Carousel, Ersell Lyles, Jan Harris, Pullen Park Dentzel Carousel.
- 12:00 - 1:15 p.m. Sit-down luncheon
- 1:15 - 4:00 p.m. Restoration Open Forum Panel Discussion - (Paintings, panels, conservation, comparing different methods of restoration and reconstruction) - Rosa Ragan, Susie Price Hofsass, Pamela Hesse, Nina Fraley, Lisa Parr, Will Morton, Marianne Stevens, Diane Vaught.
- 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. Closing Remarks - Charles Jacques, Jr.
- 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Open House - Rosa Ragan Restoration Studio
100 Snow Ave.
Raleigh, NC 27603
829-1884

Monday - March 26

- Breakfast on own.
- 8:30 a.m. Board bus for Chavis Park Alan Herschell
Welcome - Raleigh Parks and Rec. Dept.
Pictures and ride.
- 9:30 a.m. Leave for Pullen Park
- 9:45 a.m. Pullen Park Dentzel Menagerie Carousel
Restoration Presentation
- 11:15 a.m. Leave for Burlington, NC
- 12:30 p.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch at Burlington Dentzel Menagerie Carousel
- 1:00 p.m. - 2 p.m. Carousel ride and pictures
- 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Brownstone Hotel via Raleigh - Durham
International Airport for flights after 4:45 p.m.
update #6

(8/10/90)



National Carousel Association

February 1, 1990

TO: Carousel Owners, Carousel Managers, Carousel Support Groups
and Other Individuals involved with operating carousels

FROM: Rosa Ragan and Dianne Vaught

Registration for the third annual National Carousel Association Technical
Assistance Conference

SAVING AND PRESERVING AN ENDANGERED SPECIES: OUR AMERICAN CAROUSEL

Enclosed are registration forms for the upcoming third annual NCA Technical Assistance Conference. The conference will be held on March 24 & 25 at the Brownstone Hotel in downtown Raleigh, North Carolina with field trips scheduled for March 26 to three area carousels. The room rate at the Brownstone is \$45 per night for a single, double, triple or quadruple, and is good for the night of the 23rd, 24th and 25th of March.

Transportation to and from the Brownstone Hotel from Raleigh-Durham International Airport is complimentary and Brownstone vans are available from 6AM to 10PM. There are banks of hotel phones in the baggage terminal and the Brownstone can be contacted at no charge from those phones by punching the "Brownstone" button. The vans are red and white and should be at the airport within 20 to 30 minutes of your call. Be sure and tell them which airline you are traveling. The hotel operator will give you the same information when you call.

A block of rooms have been reserved for the NCA for this conference. You need to make reservations directly with the hotel by calling: 1 (800) 237-0772 (in the continental US), 1 (800) 331-7919 (in NC), or (919) 828-0811. You must make hotel reservations by March 9, 1990. We suggest reserving your room as soon as possible as the response so far has indicated that a large number of people plan to attend. Be sure to tell the booking agent that you are with the NCA conference.

Cost of the conference for March 24 and 25 is \$35. This includes two luncheons soft drinks, coffee and will help cover the cost of the meeting room and handouts. The optional field trips on Monday, March 26 will cost an additional \$10 for lunch and gas. The Parks and Recreation Departments of Burlington, N.C. and Raleigh, N.C. have graciously provided transportation to and from the carousels for participants. Those of you who will be in cars may want to drive to Burlington as it is 1½ hours away from Raleigh. The vans to Burlington will stop by the airport on the way back to Raleigh to deposit any travelers who may want to catch an after 4:45PM flight on Monday March 26.

A check or money order should be returned with your conference registration form to us no later than March 9, 1990 at the following address:

Rosa Ragan
100 Snow Avenue - The Store
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

So far approximately 35 persons representing some 20 carousels across the country have expressed tentative plans to attend the conference. Several of the conference programs involve everyone present. The "Carousel Portraits" opens the conference Saturday allowing at least one representative from each support group or carousel present to briefly explain any successes or setbacks he or she may have experienced in trying to save or restore that particular carousel. This will be our time to get acquainted and will enable us to know with whom we can best exchange helpful information and ideas. You can also shake each others hands to let one another know that you understand where they are because you have been there too.

Please bring photos of your carousel or your restoration projects. We plan to have some time, perhaps on Saturday night for a "Photo Sharing Session". We want to see your carousels and hear your stories, so bring a few slides and photos to share with us.

We look forward with pleasure to seeing you in March!

TECH CONFERENCE – STILL ANOTHER VIEW

by Anne Hinds, photos © 1990 by Anne Hinds

The conference was terrific, even though I was exhausted by the time I got there, on the red-eye that arrived just in time for the opening session. A board meeting lasted until after midnight that night, and I was happy that the wake-up call next morning never arrived, so I had an excuse to sleep late. But there were so many people there I wanted to meet, and

devotion into many projects around the country. I was struck with the difference between the warm, caring, sharing attitude shown by this group and the ads, hype, and articles that crow about the high prices auctions are currently bringing for breaking up operating carousels to let people show individual carousel animals as "trophies."



it was obvious that the newcomers were making excellent contacts, and getting valuable information. Riding carousels and visiting with friends at the conventions is great fun, but these tech conferences are the backbone of the effort to save carousels.

Peter Boehm told of thinking when he heard that PTC 33, which had spent its whole life at the St. Paul Fairgrounds, was to be sold at auction, that "Someone ought to do something." He did. He made the winning bid, and added that since then, "My life's changed." He is frantically looking for information on the original appearance of PTC 33, and I — among others — gave him some possible sources. When I got home, I went through the census and listed for him those built about the same time as PTC 33.

Tom Forney, from Shelby, NC, asked for a list of carousels similar to theirs so he can write for help. That, too, I dug out of the computer, along with a list of the Loeff carousels for Slater Park. We decided that this is a project we should do for all the carousels, so the owners can exchange information.

Bill Mulholland, who is in charge of the Loeff carousel at Slater Park in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, was eager for any information. They are just starting on a restoration. He told us he knew next to nothing about them, and was thrilled with all he learned during the conference. It was great to meet so many people I've written to and talked to but haven't met. And, of course it's always a pleasure to see old friends again.

During the introduction period, we heard stories of people and carousels — of those who are pouring heart, soul, and

The makeup of the group ranged from novices to experts, from owners to representatives of support groups, from volunteers to salaried. But the lines blurred as the exchange of information began to ferment and new ideas bubbled to the surface.

The first day's luncheon had a noise level like winter surf churning up onto the beach as people met and interacted with excitement. When we arrived back for the afternoon meeting, Charles Jacques commented on that, and posed a crucial question: **What can the NCA best do to help these groups, with the limited money and time we have?**

Ideas from the floor included taping and showing videos on local carousels to heighten local awareness; working to obtain endowments for carousels as art; having carousels authenticated as folk art; sharing with other groups the information needed to save a ride; pointing out that carousels generate traffic in a downtown area and can help revitalize a city; educating people as to how auctions are conducted; working to see that auctions are publicized in the local area to give people a chance to save their carousel.





The next question raised was: **How would we (the NCA) like to see auctions run?** If the rules we would propose were followed, we could sanction them. We need to formulate a philosophy and guidelines; to be positive, not negative.

Suggestions: The NCA could hire appraisers to set a realistic value on carousels to be auctioned or otherwise sold. **How do we heighten community awareness?** Develop a video to show to children, to help them analyze their feelings about the old wooden carousels vs. new fiberglass ones, and let them decide. Workers identify with their project. Widespread community involvement is an assurance that a carousel will continue to operate, be maintained, and most important, stay — intact — in the area.

How can communities raise funds? Most library computers have a data base of companies that can be tapped for fund-raising. The small contributions are important, including those from NCA members and others outside the area, to demonstrate to potential large contributors that there is wide public interest in the project.

Suggestions for possibilities of how to proceed included production of educational packets and brochures; getting local schools involved, sponsoring marathons, designing logos, selling T-shirts and sweatshirts, giving out awards or certificates for riding the all the animals on the carousel, or for riding all the carousels in the area.

Diane Vaught wore a t-shirt that could well be adopted and adapted by every carousel group. Colorful and attractive, it has a message on the front "We love our carousel" and operators wear an identifying one with the word "Operator" on the back.

If you think this is everything that happened at the conference, you're wrong. My notes have pages of ideas I haven't space to cover, and I'm sure others' notes do, too. The only way to find out is to come to the next conference. It should be a high priority for every owner, operator, or member of a volunteer group. But even if you aren't, if you have an interest in carousels — and you must or you wouldn't be reading this — you will find a wealth of information and ideas, and new friends who don't think you're a bit odd for being in love with carousels.

The Sunday session on restoration was excellent, and I

planned to report on it here. I hope to get time and space to do it in the next issue.

The carousels that were represented at the conference, some by one person, others by a group: Glen Echo (Maryland), St. Louis Carousel, Indianapolis Childrens Museum, Dollywood, Nunley's (Baldwin NY), Santa Monica Pier Carousel, Shelby Carousel (Shelby North Carolina), Hampton Beach Carousel (Hampton, Virginia), Porter Park Carousel (Rexburg, Idaho), San Antonio Carousel Association, Washington Cathedral, Our Fair Carousel (St. Paul), Carousel Under the Clock (Hull,

Massachusetts), Carousel in the Park (Topeka), Prospect Park, Forest Park, Sea Breeze, Riverside Park (Logansport, Indiana), Burlington City Park (North Carolina), Pullen and Chavis Parks (Raleigh), Tuscora Park (Ohio), Wyandot Lake Park (Ohio), Michigan State Museum Carousel, and Scott Harrison (carousel owner, Netherlands, Colorado).

Restorers included Lise Liepman, Susan Hofsass, Lisa Parr, Pamela Hessey, and Will Morton. Nick Veloz represented the government.

Officers and board members present were: Charles Jacques, Rosa Ragan, Brian Morgan, Will Morton, Art Curtze, Jerry Betts, Charles Walker, Terri Mann, Anne Hinds, Bill Mangels, Jr., Bill Mangels, Sr. (NCA Northeast). I'm not sure either list is complete. My apologies if I missed anyone.



SCHEDULE

OUR AMERICAN CAROUSEL: SAVING THEIR PAST - PRESERVING THEIR FUTURE

NATIONAL CAROUSEL ASSOCIATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CONFERENCE IV
MARCH 9 & 10, 1991

Friday, March 8

7:00 p.m. - Midnight Informal "Get Acquainted" RAMADA INN

Saturday, March 9

Breakfast on own
8:00 a.m. Board bus to museum
8:30 - 9:00 Registration & coffee - Johnson Weaver Pavilion
9:00 - 9:30 Welcome & opening remarks - Johnson Weaver Pavilion
9:30 - 10:30 Introductions
10:30 - noon Session I: A - General Maintenance of Complete Machine - Rm. 302
B - Publicity - Rm. 301

12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch at Museum
1:30 - 3:30 Session II: A - Restoration I - Rm. 302
B - Insurance & Safety - Rm. 301

3:30 - 3:45 BREAK
3:45 - 5:00 Session III: A - Restoration II - Rm. 302
B - Marketing/ Gift Shops - Rm. 301

5:00 - 5:15 Evening overview - Johnson Weaver Pavilion
5:30 Board bus to RAMADA INN
Dinner on own
7:00 - midnight Mini "Informal" workshops, share ideas, gab session, slides & videos

Sunday, March 10

Breakfast on own
8:30 a.m. Board bus to museum
9:00 - 9:45 Museum Carousel - level 5
9:45 - 11:45 Session I: A - Restoration of Complete Machine - Rm. 302
B - Grants & Foundation Money, Fund Raising, Special Events - Rm. 301

11:45 - 1:00 Free time & lunch at Museum
1:00 - 2:15 Session II: New Carvers -
Is There a Market for Them? - Johnson Weaver Pavilion

2:15 - 2:30 BREAK
2:30 - 4:00 Questions & answers/
closing remarks - Johnson Weaver Pavilion
4:30 Bus back to RAMADA INN

SESSION SPEAKERS

Saturday, March 9Session I

- A) General Maintenance of Complete Machine
- Jack Arena / Arno Mechanics
"Oil vs. Grease - What to Look For"
 - Jim Jones, Rick Beam / The Carousel Works
"Mechanical & General Maintenance"
 - Eric Wolf / Cass County Carousel Association
"General Maintenance"
- B) Publicity
- Mike Hyer / Media Relations Coordinator,
The Children's Museum
 - Ben Morrison / Reporter, WRTV 6
 - Mrs. Boehm / Our Fair Carousel, Inc.

Session II

- A) Restoration I
- Todd Goings, Dan Jones / The Carousel Works
"Physical/Mechanical/Wood Restoration"
 - Lisa Parr / Old Parr's Inc.
"Looking for Original Paint, Stippling, Glazing"
- B) Insurance & Safety
- James King / Field Supervisor of Amusements
 - Eric Wolf / Cass County Carousel Association
 - Peter Boehm / Our Fair Carousel, Inc.

Session III

- A) Restoration II
- Marilyn Ritchie, Geneva Foster /
The Carousel Works
"Body Painting, Leafing & Pinstriping"
- B) Marketing, Gift Shops, Advertising
- Mary Toshach, Museum Stores Manager /
The Children's Museum

SESSION SPEAKERS
(con't.)

Sunday, March 10

- Session I
- A) Restoration of Complete Machine
 - Kenneth Fiola, Jr. / Fall River
"Bids, Referrals for Proposal (RFP's)"
 - Marvin Sylvor / Fabricon /
"Forest Park Restoration"
 - Shae Anderson /
"Rexburg, Idaho Restoration"
 - Paul Dyer / Dyer's Calliope Works
"Band Organs"
 - B) Grants, Fund-Raising, Special Events
 - Katie Marlowe, Director of Development /
The Children's Museum
 - Jo Downey, NCA Vice-President /
Carson County Carousel
 - Leni Callas-Wrobel /
Bushnell Park Special Events
- Session II
- A) New Carvers
 - Shae Anderson / Rexburg
 - Art Ritchie / The Carousel Works

National Carousel Association
1993 Technical Conference
April 2-4, 1993
St. Paul, Minnesota

Registration Form

Registration deadline: March 12.
Make hotel reservation directly with hotel (see card);
to ensure special conference rates, reserve early.

Name: _____

Additional Name(s): _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Daytime telephone: _____ Evening telephone: _____

First name(s) to appear on nametag: _____

Please indicate number of reservations:	
___ Technical conference @ \$50.00	_____
___ Friday bus tour @ \$15.00 (not included in conference package)	_____
Amount enclosed	_____
Make check payable to Our Fair Carousel, Inc.; mail by March 12 to OFC, P.O. Box 17276, St. Paul, MN 55117. Phone (612) 645-9253.	

Will this be your first technical conference? ___ Yes ___ No

Areas of interest (check all that apply):

- ___ carving
- ___ day-to-day carousel operation
- ___ fund-raising
- ___ mechanical restoration/maintenance
- ___ painting/paint restoration
- ___ product creation/sales
- ___ promotions/publicity
- ___ other (please specify): _____

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The NCA technical conference is an annual gathering of people with a hands-on interest in carousels. Lectures, demonstrations, roundtable discussions, and informal talk all focus on our common goal: to keep carousels operating.

ABOUT THE HOST SITE

Cafesjian's Carousel, which operates in Town Square shopping center in downtown St. Paul, Minn., provides a practical host setting for the conference.

Built by Philadelphia Toboggan Co. in 1914, it ran at the Minnesota State Fair until 1988, when it was scheduled for piecemeal auction.

The community group Our Fair Carousel worked with the city and the community to rescue the carousel, and now operates it--with mostly volunteer labor--in an enclosed city park atop a metropolitan shopping center.

Along the way, the group has raised over \$2 million in cash, goods and services; operated the carousel for a final, record-breaking year at the State Fair; dismantled the carousel; restored its mechanical and structural parts; rebuilt it downtown; and began restoring to original paint the 68 horses and two chariots.

The carousel whose horses were once five minutes from being auctioned away is now a popular year-round downtown attraction, operating four days a week.

Over the past four years, the volunteers of Our Fair Carousel have received state and national awards for public relations, elec-

trical rewiring, wheelchair accessibility, and historic preservation.

The carousel has been named Cafesjian's Carousel in honor of Gerard L. Cafesjian, St. Paul businessman who has contributed more than \$600,000 to help save it.

The program will include on-site workshops at Cafesjian's Carousel and the restoration studio as well as visits to PTC 76 at Valley Fair amusement park (weather permitting), a restored Parker, and a fanciful menagerie being carved in the little town of Kellogg, 90 minutes away on the edge of the Mississippi River.

ABOUT THE WEATHER

Early April weather in St. Paul is unpredictable, so bring layers of clothing. Most conference sites are linked to each other and to the rest of downtown St. Paul by a sprawling indoor skyway system. We'll also run vans to the studio.

ABOUT THE TWIN CITIES

St. Paul is a city of history and charm. Its downtown Cultural Corridor includes the spectacular new Minnesota History Center as well as the Science Museum, Landmark Center (restored federal courts building) and state capitol. Our twin city of Minneapolis is worth a visit, too, and the Mall of America is popular with visitors. Come early, stay late, bring the family, and enjoy Minnesota's hospitality.

RESERVATIONS

Send reservation form by March 12: Our Fair Carousel, P.O. Box 17276, St. Paul, MN 55117; (612) 645-9253. Make hotel reservations with the Radisson St. Paul.

National Carousel Association
1993 Technical Conference



What a Ride!

*Running and Restoring
the Carousel*

April 2-4, 1993
St. Paul, Minnesota

Organized and hosted by
Our Fair Carousel, Inc.,
operator of PTC 33,
Cafesjian's Carousel, St. Paul

Informative sessions for carousel operators and enthusiasts covering operation, maintenance, restoration, and promotion, plus informal discussion that will provide answers to your most pressing questions.

PROGRAM

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

1-6 p.m. **Bus tour to LARK studio**, Kellogg, Minn., where a carver of wooden toys is creating handsome and imaginative menagerie figures for a large new carousel. Bernie Gaffron, who chairs the restoration committee working on Cafesjian's Carousel, will host the tour. \$15 special fee, minimum 10 persons. Bus departs from Radisson Hotel at 1 p.m.

7:30-9:30 p.m. **Registration, rides, and informal reception** at Cafesjian's Carousel, Town Square Park (a short walk through the skyway from the Radisson Hotel).

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

8-9 a.m. **Registration, coffee/rolls, hotel.**

9-9:30 **Greetings and conference overview.** Brian Morgan, National Carousel Association president; Nancy Peterson, Our Fair Carousel, conference co-chair. Radisson Hotel.

9:30-11 **Achieving an authentic look.** Any operating carousel can attain some measure of historic authenticity. Our panelists have worked on projects where original paint was available and others where few or no clues to the original appearance could be found. They will share philosophies and practical approaches. Panelists: carousel restorers Rosa Ragan, Will Morton, and Bill Finkelstein; Minnesota Historical Society objects conservator Bob Herskovitz. Moderator, Peter Boehm, president, Our Fair Carousel. Radisson Hotel.

11-11:15 **Break**

11:15-**Noon Supporting the structure.** Spurred by Derek Ogden's presentation at last year's conference, engineer Steve Kensinger has created computer models to determine the best way to distribute the weight of the carousel. Radisson Hotel.

Noon Lunch on your own

12:30-5:30 **Restoration studio demonstrations.** Hourly on the half-hour. Spend an hour at the studio where volunteers are carrying out original paint conservation and wood repair on horses from Cafesjian's Carousel. Project leaders Linda McDonald and Bernie Gaffron will discuss the process and answer your questions. (Because of toxic chemicals and lead paint, no children are allowed; women of child-bearing age should use caution.) Sign up in advance; limit 10 people per hour. Vans will leave from the hotel entrance at 25 minutes after the hour.

1:30-3 **The music goes round and round: the band organ.** Tracy Tolzmann and Mike Merrick, who often volunteer their beautifully restored Artizan at Cafesjian's Carousel, will demonstrate it and talk about operating, maintaining, and finding music for band organs. Town Square.

1:30-3 **Generating revenue.** Bring your best (and worst!) product or idea for a roundtable discussion about promoting carousel ridership, developing merchandise, and fund-raising. Discussion leaders: Jo Downey, Kit Carson County Carousel; Keith McCormick, Our Fair Carousel. Radisson Hotel.

3:30-5 **The band organ.** Repeat.

3:30-5 **Working with volunteers.** Nancy Tracy and Francy Reitz, volunteers with

Our Fair Carousel, share ideas for recruiting, training, and rewarding volunteers to assist in all aspects of carousel operation. Radisson Hotel.

6:30-7:15 **Reception.**

7:15-8:45 **Dinner.**

9-10 **Informal showing of tapes.** Feel free to bring a videotape or some slides concerning your carousel operation (10 minutes or less, please). Reception, dinner, discussion at the Radisson Hotel.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

9-10 **Restoring and maintaining the machine.** Peter Boehm leads a tour of Cafesjian's Carousel (PTC 33), pointing out aspects of the restoration including more than a dozen horses restored to original paint, historically accurate restoration of the decorative elements of the structure, award-winning electrical rewiring to meet code while retaining an authentic historical appearance, and conversion of one chariot to accommodate a wheelchair. Town Square Park.

10-10:30 **Ride Cafesjian's Carousel.** Ride the carousel in the usual way, or for a different perspective, join Art Curtze--who advises on mechanical maintenance and repair--above the sweeps to observe the mechanism. Town Square Park.

10:45-**Noon Closing Brunch.** Town Square Park.

12:30-3 p.m. **Weather permitting: Bus trip** to ValleyFair's PTC 76 and a nearby restored Parker frame with newly carved horses. Bus will leave from the Radisson and take travelers and luggage to the airport by 4:00, returning to the hotel by 4:30.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The NCA technical conference is an annual gathering of people with a hands-on interest in carousels. Programming and informal discussion all focus on our common goal: to keep carousels operating.

ABOUT THE HOST SITE

Cafesjian's Carousel, which operates in Town Square shopping center in downtown St. Paul, provides a practical host setting for the conference. Built by Philadelphia Toboggan Co. in 1914, it ran at the Minnesota State Fair until 1988, when it was scheduled for piecemeal auction.

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The carousel has been named Cafesjian's Carousel in honor of Gerard L. Cafesjian, St. Paul businessman who has contributed more than \$600,000 to help save it.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Nancy Peterson, chair and publicity
Peter Boehm, speaker arrangements
Carol Buskovich, registration
Mark Carlson, participant roster
Cindy Gaarder, hotel and dinner arrangements
Bernie Gaffron, LARK tour and studio demonstrations
Sue and Dale Hane, hospitality packets
Linda McDonald, studio demonstrations, Friday reception, centerpieces
Dawn O'Donnell and Deb Patchell, Sunday brunch
Francy Reitz, volunteer support

LOCATIONS

Hotel: Daytime sessions are in the Kellogg Suite, Street Level. Saturday evening reception and dinner are in the Garden Court, Skyway Level.

The Skyway: Most downtown St. Paul buildings are linked by a skyway, one floor above street level, open around the clock. Color-coded maps are posted throughout, and you received one when you registered.

Town Square: Located on the Red Skyway. Cafesjian's Carousel and Town Square Park are on the Garden Level. Band organ session and "Golden Age of Carousels" exhibit are on skyway level in the section marked "Norwest Skyway."

Restoration Studio: 262 E. 4th Street (at Wacouta Street), lower level.

National Carousel Association 1993 Technical Conference FINAL PROGRAM

Your bus leaves at the Wabasha
entrance of the Radisson at
:20

What a Ride!

Running and Restoring the Carousel

April 2-4, 1993
St. Paul, Minnesota

Organized and hosted by
Our Fair Carousel, Inc.,
operator of PTC 33,
Cafesjian's Carousel, St. Paul

Informative sessions for carousel operators and enthusiasts covering operation, maintenance, restoration, and promotion, plus informal discussion that will provide answers to your most pressing questions.

PROGRAM

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

1-6 p.m. Bus tour to LARK studio, Kellogg, Minn. Advance reservation only.

7:30-9:30 p.m. Registration, rides, and informal reception at Cafesjian's Carousel, Town Square Park (a short walk through the skyway from the Radisson Hotel).

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

All morning sessions: Kellogg Suite, Street Level, Radisson Hotel.

8-9 a.m. Registration, coffee/rolls.

9-9:30 Greetings and conference overview. Brian Morgan, president, National Carousel Association; Nancy Peterson, conference chair, Our Fair Carousel.

9:30-11 **Achieving an authentic look.** Any operating carousel can attain some measure of historic authenticity. Our panelists have worked on projects where original paint was available and others where few or no clues to the original appearance could be found. They will share philosophies and practical approaches. Panelists: carousel restorers Rosa Ragan of Raleigh, NC, and Will Morton of Denver; Minnesota Historical Society objects conservator Bob Herskovitz. Moderator, Peter Boehm, president, Our Fair Carousel.

11-11:15 Break

11:15-Noon **Supporting the structure.** Spurred by a presentation at last year's conference, engineer Steve Kensinger has created computer models to determine the best way to distribute a carousel's weight.

Noon Lunch on your own

12:30-5:30 **Restoration studio demonstrations.** Hourly on the half-hour. Sign up in advance. Because of our large attendance and small studio, we can accommodate you only at the time you have signed for. Vans leave the hotel's Wabasha Street entrance at 20 minutes after the hour, or you can walk the six blocks to 262 E. 4th St. Volunteers are carrying out original paint conservation and wood repair on horses from Cafesjian's Carousel. Project leaders Linda McDonald and Bernie Gaffron will discuss the process and answer your questions. (Because of toxic chemicals and lead paint, no children are allowed; women of child-bearing age should use caution.)

1:30-3 **The music goes round and round: the band organ.** Tracy Tolzmann and Mike Merrick, who often volunteer their beautifully restored Artizan at Cafesjian's Carousel, demonstrate it and discuss operating, maintaining, and finding music for band organs. Norwest Skyway, Town Square. (Indoors: from hotel first floor Garden Court, follow Red Skyway to Town Square. Outdoors: enter Town Square on Cedar or Minnesota Streets, just off 6th Street.)

1:30-3 **Generating revenue.** Bring your best (and worst!) product or idea for a roundtable discussion about promoting carousel ridership, developing merchandise, and fund-raising. Discussion leaders: Jo Downey, Kit Carson County Carousel; Keith McCormick, Our Fair Carousel. Kellogg Suite, Street Level, Radisson Hotel.

3:30-5 **The band organ.** Repeat.

3:30-5 **Working with volunteers.** Nancy Tracy and Franci Reitz, volunteers with Our Fair Carousel, share ideas for recruit-

ing, training, and rewarding volunteers to assist in all aspects of carousel operation. Kellogg Suite, Street Level, Radisson Hotel.

6:15-7:15 Reception; cash bar.

7:15-8:45 Dinner.

9-10 **Informal showing of tapes.** Let us know if you have brought a videotape or slides concerning your carousel operation (10 minutes or less, please). Garden Court, Skyway Level, Radisson Hotel.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

9-10 **Restoring and maintaining the machine.** Peter Boehm leads a tour of Cafesjian's Carousel (PTC 33), pointing out aspects of the restoration including more than a dozen horses restored to original paint, historically accurate restoration of the decorative elements of the structure, award-winning electrical rewiring to meet code while retaining an authentic historical appearance, and conversion of one chariot to accommodate a wheelchair. At the carousel, Town Square Park.

10-10:30 **Ride Cafesjian's Carousel.** Ride the carousel in the usual way, or for a different perspective, join Art Curtze--who advises on mechanical maintenance and repair--above the sweeps to observe the mechanism. Town Square Park.

10:45-Noon **Closing Brunch.** Town Square.

12:30-3 p.m. **The Golden Age of Carousels, 1885-1925.** Exclusive preview of an exhibit of 44 figures from the American Carousel Museum of San Francisco, brought by Our Fair Carousel to Minnesota for a once-in-a-lifetime visit April 9-June 20. Exquisite horse and menagerie figures by Dentzel, Loeff, Muller, PTC, and more. Town Square.



May 22, 1979

Dear Carousel Society Member:

The horses are off and running for another season at the Bushnell Park Carousel and it's time to renew your membership in the Society. With the astronomical cost of insurance, electricity, operation and maintenance, the Carousel needs your support now more than ever.

A few changes have occurred since last September which include a new fare of 15¢ (still a bargain at twice the price), two new full-time operators (a Hartford public school psychologist and an assistant football coach from South Catholic High School) and a new membership category for senior citizens of \$5.00 per year.

The Carousel Society has also embarked on a capital fund drive to enlist the support of Hartford businesses to make appropriate contributions to be used for improvements of the Carousel, Pavillion and grounds.

Remember that the Carousel is available for rentals at \$50 an hour any time before or after our operational hours (11:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Tuesday through Sunday). For rental information contact the Carousel Society at 15 Lewis Street, Hartford, CT 06103, or call 525-1618.

Won't you please renew your membership today, and maybe consider giving a membership as a gift for a special friend or family. How about a Gift Certificate for an hour's rental of the Carousel redeemable at any time during our operating season. A renewal envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Thanks for your support!

Sincerely,

THE BUSHNELL PARK CAROUSEL SOCIETY

15 Lewis Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06103 Telephone 203/525 1618

The Bushnell Park Carousel Society desperately needs to build a foundation of funds to keep the carousel alive and well. Even though we are an integral part of downtown Hartford, we are not maintained by the city. Instead, we are a private, self-supporting organization.

And we need your help. We can't survive on membership fees and the sale of popcorn, posters and rides alone.

Make a commitment to Hartford. Contact the Bushnell Park Carousel Society today to find out what you can do to help. 🍷

The Bushnell Park Carousel Society, Inc.
250 Constitution Plaza, Hartford, CT 06103 · (203) 728-3089
A special project of the Hartford Downtown Council.

Diane Vaught: If you don't have a volunteer group, you should organize one immediately. Start on Day One with a computer to keep track of volunteers, donors, and mailing lists. Every community has computer-buffs who would like to do such a job. Recognize and thank all those who contribute to the cause. It is crucial to educate the city council or whoever holds the purse strings, the local citizens, and the politicians to the importance of a carousel to the community. "Everything you pass on to someone else is education." Educate the media and get their interest. Invite television to make and use tapes of carousel operation.

Safety education is of the utmost importance: about the hazards and the precautions that must be taken with the use of toxic chemicals used in restoration.

When sanding a stripped horse, wear a mask, and wash yourself and your clothing carefully afterward; lead from the old paints that has saturated the wood is a severe health hazard. Give talks on chemical safety and toxicity whenever you can, to spread the word of the dangers to furniture refinishers and other industries, and to school children.

Educate yourself: know the background of your carousel and the history of carousels in general. Get local industry involved in restoration and maintenance; develop their pride in what you are doing. Research and utilize information about the durability of materials, the effects on paint of temperature, dampness, sunlight and wear. Document everything. Photograph and label every component before disassembling. Be aware that putting the carousel back together in the wrong order can cause the machine to be unbalanced and may bring about undue stress and wear.

Thorough training in safety, history, and operation for employees is imperative. Maintain a strict dress code for operators. Develop their pride in the work of art they are operating. Don't call the carousel "folk art" — instill in them respect for its fine craftsmanship.

A slide show detailing the mechanical side of the carousel can foster interest and volunteerism among car buffs and other mechanically-minded organizations who may never have considered that aspect of the carousel. A band organ is important. It gives the carousel a different atmosphere. Working to get your carousel on the National Historic Register has educational and publicity value.

It is difficult but rewarding to get teen-agers involved. Mall displays are a good idea. Designing and using a logo is important in marketing your carousel. Keep the carousel visible after the restoration.

Talks to school children foster interest. The head of the carousel horse is an excellent prop to show them how an animal is put together. Involve Meals on Wheels and other help groups by offering the carousel as a place to hold a luncheon. Bringing the handicapped into the project can pay dividends. Make advertisers aware of the availability of the carousel for rental as a prop. Use of the carousel as a theme for proms and other celebrations has been successful.

Single Membership

\$10 for the year

These subscribers are entitled to unlimited free rides on the Carousel for one year and an invitation to the Annual Spring Membership Party which will open the Carousel season each spring.

Family Membership

\$25 for the year

Family memberships extend to the entire subscribing family all of the privileges given to the individual member, including unlimited free rides for one year.

Contributing Membership

\$50 for the year

Contributing memberships extend to the subscriber unlimited free rides for family and friends, an invitation to the Annual Spring Membership Party and a Carousel poster.

Supporting Membership

\$100 for the year

These are the special members of the Bushnell Park Carousel Society. In appreciation for their support, the Carousel Society offers to these members: unlimited free rides for family and friends for one year, an invitation to the Annual Spring Membership Party, the Carousel poster and—as an added bonus—a complimentary membership to the National Carousel Association, which is devoted to the conservation and preservation of endangered carousels throughout the nation.

Rent the Carousel

You can't take it home with you, but you can rent the Bushnell Park Carousel for a celebration that will delight your guests.

Imagine a birthday party... a wedding... a bar mitzvah... a fund-raising party... with 48 horses and a couple of Lovers' Chariots at your disposal...

Hartford's social life will never be the same.

If you'd like to know more about renting the Carousel, please contact the Bushnell Park Carousel Society, 250 Constitution Plaza, Hartford, CT 06103. You may telephone us at 203/728-3089, during business hours.



250 Constitution Plaza
Hartford, CT 06103

YES! I'd like to be a member of the Bushnell Park Carousel Society. I have checked the appropriate box below and I have enclosed a check for my membership fee.

Individual (\$10) Contributing (\$50)

Family (\$25) Supporting (\$100)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Please make checks payable to:
Bushnell Park Carousel Society.
Thank you!

All memberships are tax-deductible.

The Bushnell Park Carousel Society

If you are under 50 years of age, you probably think of a carousel as one of those mass-produced merry-go-rounds that come into town with the traveling carnivals. That image is about to change—and it will never be the same.

Forty-eight hand-carved, brightly-painted horses grace the Bushnell Park Carousel—one of a relative handful of hand-crafted carousels that still exist. Hartford's Carousel was created in 1914 by "Stein and Goldstein, the Artistic Carousel Company" of Brooklyn, New York—the same firm that made the slightly larger Central Park Carousel in New York City.

The Bushnell Park Carousel also features two ornate Lovers' Chariots. More than 800 light bulbs and an assortment of oval, square and rectangular beveled mirrors add touches of magic and romance.

Then there's the music. Waltzes, polkas, and marches—all being played on a Wurlitzer Band Organ, the kind that was popular at amusement parks and skating rinks during the 1920's.

The delightful idea of putting a carousel in Bushnell Park came from the Knox Foundation, which wanted to establish a symbol of the efforts to revitalize Downtown Hartford as a place that is interesting, alive and fun.

The Carousel was purchased in 1974 from an amusement park in Canton, Ohio, where it had been in operation since 1940. It was disassembled and shipped to Hartford, where the horses—chipped and cracked after years of neglect—were restored in painstaking detail under the guidance of Tracey Cameron. The Wurlitzer Band Organ has been meticulously rebuilt and maintained by Alan C. Redford.

Jack Dollard, the architect who headed the Knox Foundation, designed a Pavilion that protects the Carousel from New England's unpredictable elements. The 96 stained-glass windows that grace the structure portray the changing seasons.

That theme is carried out in 18 new paintings that appear in the center of the Carousel. These paintings also pay tribute to the craftsmen who created the Carousel and to the Knox Foundation for making it a part of Hartford.

The Bushnell Park Carousel Society is responsible for operating and maintaining the Carousel. The Society will hire the operators, polish the brass poles, replace burned-out light bulbs so that all 800 bulbs are always shining, and keep the Carousel, the Band Organ, and the Pavilion in top condition.

Funds for the Carousel's upkeep are provided in part by membership fees in the Society. Additional revenues are generated through a variety of activities, including the sale of popcorn and posters.

The Bushnell Park Carousel Society wants to make the park a lively, lovely place for people. We hope that you will want to be part of that effort.

DENTZEL CAROUSEL - BURLINGTON, N.C.

July 15, 1981

Homebuilders Association kicks off Carousel Restoration Fund-Raising Drive with \$1,000 donation!

The Fund Raising Drive for the restoration of the Dentzel Menagerie Carousel located in Burlington City Park was initiated Wednesday by the Home Builders Association presenting a \$1,000 check to Mr. Joe Davidson, Parks & Recreation Director. ~~The \$1,000 contribution represents the first of several contributions the Home Builders Association plans to donate to the City.~~ The money was raised at the Home ^{Products} Improvement Show held this past Spring.

The Carousel restoration has drawn much interest and enthusiasm from the community and all working on the project feel even stronger about having the Animals restored in a correct and professional manner. The Restoration of hand stripping the animals has begun with the neutralization and subsequent drying period being the key steps. Much care and research is being done so these steps are done thoroughly and correctly. As many as 40 persons have been contacted both locally and across the U.S., with much advice given that is knowledgeable and competent. Wood Specialists from Raleigh and England will further examine the animals this week. The resulting procedure being used is a pooling of all the available information into a workable series of steps. All restoration will be done in Burlington by local craftsmen.

We are now seeking private donations so the restoration can proceed quickly. Our goal is to not only restore the Carousel animals, but to restore all mirrors and ovals encircling above the animals. We are hoping to find the original landscape paintings underneath all the paint such as those found at the Pullen Park Carousel in Raleigh.

The last phase will hopefully be done by volunteers from different Service Organizations in town and by Community Volunteers.

Enclosing the Carousel is our next goal as this will prevent the current restoration from being damaged by the Weather. The wood of the animals facing the outside is the really damaged and weathered wood. Enclosing the Carousel bays with metal rolling doors will permanently solve this problem. Many Carousels have been enclosed because of this problem.

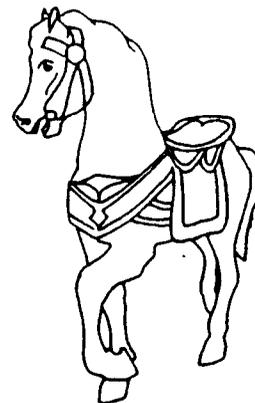
Our goal is to raise \$25,000 of the estimated \$60,000 that it will cost to restore the animals, pictures, mirrors and to weather proof the Carousel by enclosing it. By August 1st, we are hoping to have most of the money raised. By getting advice from persons having restored Carousels and by using local craftsmen, the restoration will cost a fraction of what most Carousel Restorations have cost.

Local interest is the key! Burlington truly has a genuine form of American Art which will not be duplicated. As only 8 to 12 Dentzel Carousels still are operating in the U.S. We are seeking persons or Businesses interested in making a donation or honorarium toward this Carousel restoration, or to sponsor an animal or two. Each animal will cost around \$500 to \$600 to completely restore. The names of all donors will be presented to City Council and recorded there. The name of any person or business giving a thousand dollars or more, will be permanently recorded on a plaque displayed on the Carousel. All donations or honorariums are tax deductible and can be sent to CAROUSEL RESTORATION...P.O. BOX 1358, BURLINGTON, N.C. 27215. Checks are to be made to the City of Burlington Recreation Department/Carousel Restoration Fund.

All receipts will be acknowledged.

"THE FRIENDS OF THE SANTA MONICA PIER CAROUSEL"

276 Santa Monica Pier
Santa Monica. CA 90401



1984-85 FRIENDS OF THE SANTA MONICA PIER CAROUSEL APPLICATION

Name _____
(individual, family or corporation)

Address _____

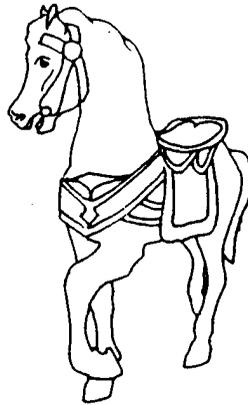
Zip: _____

Telephone (s) _____

Enclosed is: _____ \$10 per individual
_____ \$25 per family _____ number of members
_____ \$150 per corporation
_____ additional contribution

Your membership card is valid for one year and will be mailed to you within two weeks.

<u>office use only</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	mail
<input type="checkbox"/>	booth
<input type="checkbox"/>	card issued
<input type="checkbox"/>	cash
<input type="checkbox"/>	check
<input type="checkbox"/>	initials



THE FRIENDS OF THE SANTA MONICA PIER CAROUSEL

presents

" THE CAROUSEL BY THE SEA "

slide presentations

by

Barbara Williams Harvey Gaylin Shandra Beri

* Santa Monica's Carousel's Operators *

Learn all about the past and present life
of the Pier's Carousel. Priceless views
of the 4 year renovation project - scenes
that are now treasures of the past !

** plus **

" VANISHING FANTASIES "

A tribute to the American Carousel

Carousel horses * Refreshments

Saturday, August 4, 1984, 3:00 - 5:00pm

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY AUDITORIUM

1343 5th Street

Santa Monica, Ca. * Information: (213) 458-8689

(Just north of Santa Monica Blvd.)

ADMISSION FREE * BRING YOUR FRIENDS



Be a part of our exciting restoration project on your carousel at Wyandot Lake Park!

This beautiful old carousel was built in 1914 by W. F. Mangels Company in Coney Island, New York. It was installed in Olentangy Park that year and has been in Columbus ever since. Columbus is the only city in Ohio that still has its original antique wooden carousel. It is owned by the city and operates at Wyandot Lake Park, across from the zoo.

Volunteer workers have undertaken a three-year fund raising to restore your carousel completely. It is in excellent operating condition, but all the horses need to be stripped and repainted, the mirrors need to be resilvered, the scenery panels need to be repainted and the platforms need to be refinished. We also need a larger, more attractive building to house, display and preserve our priceless art treasure. Our goal is to raise \$500,000 in three years to accomplish this renovation. When completed, we will have a fine jewel of an operating antique wooden carousel for all future generations to enjoy.

**REMEMBER
THIS IS YOUR CAROUSEL!**

We invite you to share in the good work of the Columbus Carousel Fund. Here's how:

		Amount Enclosed
Friend	\$10.00	_____
Patron	\$25.00	_____
Sponsor	\$50.00	_____
Golden Sponsor	\$100.00	_____
Platinum Sponsor	\$250.00	_____
Diamond Sponsor	\$500.00	_____
Adopt-A-Horse	\$4,000.00	_____

For a special gift, write or call Jerry Betts at 457-2100 or 889-8623.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____

Letters and checks may be sent to:

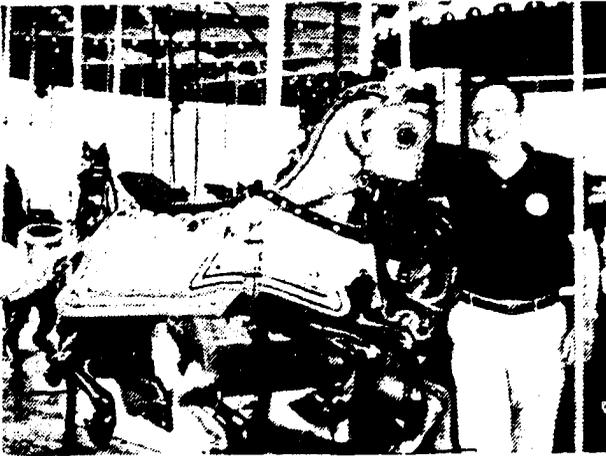
Columbus Carousel Fund
 6770 Skyline Drive East
 Columbus, OHio 43235

Thank you for your interest and sharing. Have many happy rides!

Universal Guaranty Life Insurance Company Proudly Presents:

“The Art, History and Fun of the Carousel”

A delightful and informative show on the artistic and historical significance of a great American heritage.



Jerry Betts is training director of Universal Guaranty Life Insurance Company. He has a life-long interest in carousels and generously shares this interest with many groups. His presentation consists of a 50 minute color slide show with carousel music.

Jerry has spent the last eight years speaking to service clubs, church groups, senior citizen groups, historical societies and children's groups. There is no charge for his lectures and all you provide is a projection screen.

The purpose of these lecture shows is to bring greater public awareness of the need to preserve our American wooden carousels and keep them operating for all to enjoy. Jerry has served three terms as National Director of the National Carousel Association where he has dedicated his work to save and restore these beautiful old machines. With the ever-increasing interest in carousel art and fun, this lecture show should be the highlight of your meeting season.

For further information, you may contact Jerry Betts at Universal Guaranty Life Insurance Co.

(614) 457-2100 or (614) 889-8623

Universal Guaranty

Universal Guaranty Life Insurance Company
 1550 Old Henderson Road
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 1978
 Columbus, Ohio 43216