

**ASSOCIATION of TRACK and FIELD STATISTICIANS
64th YEAR**

**A.T.F.S. BULLETIN
1/2014 (June 2014)**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear ATFS Members,

I am sure all financial members have now received the latest Annual, Athletics 2014. Once again Peter Matthews has done a fantastic job and for many of you an indispensable and necessary book. Congratulations to Peter and thanks to the many who contribute to this great work and publisher Randall Northam.

As I wrote in the December bulletin the ATFS website is out there and up to you the members to make it work. The four historic books we hope to have on the website soon. Getting older copies to scan has been a challenge. The ATFS does not carry a lot of old books so it is important to get a lot of the older material onto the website so it does not get lost and will be there for future generations.

It would be good if we can get more information on current projects onto the website. We now also have the opportunity to contact one another on similar projects.

Work continues on the 1900-1910 historic project. A very dedicated group has been finding a lot of results during this period. It is amazing how much athletics went on in various parts of the world. Needless to say it is also a difficult period as it was pre-IAAF and rules varied. Different

weight implements, different hurdle heights, marathons run over a variety of different distances, size of tracks. Was the 200 metres on a straight track, a quarter turn, a half turn ? All these and many more challenges have been met by the group with great results. There will be results which will be debated once the work is published in the not too distant future but the wait will be worth it.

I wish to thank Tomas Magnusson for his tireless work not only finding information but also creating the data base. I would also like to acknowledge German statistician Hubert Hamacher whose original work laid the foundations. Unfortunately Hubert has had to stop due to ill health and we all wish him a speedy recovery.

There are many international events throughout this year and coming up soon will be the World Junior Championships in Eugene, USA. A number of members will be going so hopefully a get together will organised. Tom Casacky will have some further news on this.

The Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in July and the European Championships in Zurich, Switzerland in August will attract some members. Hopefully some of you who are not tied up with jobs may wish to meet. If so let us know if you can help organise a get together.

On a final note you will notice on the ATFS website updated world rankings from the 1960's by Pino Mappa and also Richard Hymans. This is an ongoing work for Pino and it is open for other members to become involved so we can add to the earlier years. I am hoping to have the world rankings of the 1950's, 60's, 70's put on the website. Unfortunately many of the earlier annuals are no longer available or accessible. I hope to have more information on this later but if you are interested please let us know. I would also like to point out that there were no women's lists in the ATFS Annuals of 1975-1979. Someone must have done something ?

I wish you all an enjoyable remainder of the athletic year and the best of health.

Best wishes,
Paul Jenes
President ATFS

FROM THE SECRETARY

World Junior Championships 2014. Several US ATFS members have expressed an interest in organizing a meeting/social gathering of members at next month's IAAF World Junior Championships in Eugene, Oregon. If you've previously attended a World Junior meet, or have ever enjoyed athletics in Eugene, you'll want to be there. If you haven't yet experienced the famous Hayward Field atmosphere, this will be an excellent reason to do so. If you are intending attending this meet please drop me an email so that the Executive can get an idea of numbers and plan accordingly.

Additionally, the Track and Field Writers of America and TrackTown USA will host a reception open to all members of TAFWA/FAST and ATFS, along with visiting members of the

international press and IAAF staff on Thursday, 24 July, from 13:30 to 15:00 at the University of Oregon Business School, a short walk from the stadium at Hayward Field. ATFS members who plan to attend the World Junior meet should contact **Tom Casacky** for additional information regarding reception attendance

We hope to see as many of you as possible at what promises to be a superb Championships.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of the 19th June 2014, the ATFS bank accounts hold \$25,515.54 in cash and \$50,919.41 in certificates of deposit. There are also approximately 1200 Euros (present value \$1626) in cash. Additionally, there are 600 Euros (present value \$812) and \$1000 in our Paypal accounts. So, a total monetary value at present of approximately \$79,872.95. Our largest expense for the year — the postal fee for Athletics 2014 — has been paid, so the total listed represents our assets going forward.

To date, a total of 167 of 236 invoiced members are current with their subscriptions, and one — Vladimir Jorda — will not see another invoice until 2024! Our thanks to all who have sent their dues, and for those who have not, you will need to contact me if you wish to remain on the membership list. So we encourage you to use a Paypal account (www.paypal.com), which is free to you, or to send cash (preferably in a registered letter).

MEMBER MENTIONS

New and Reinstated Members

- New. **Jon Mulkeen**, 2 Ludlew Mews, River Lane, Peterborough PE3 6HR, England
jonmulk@gmail.com
- New - Pending
- Address and/or Email Updates

Stanislav Aubrecht (New Postal Address) Novoveska 1633/216, 35801 Kraslice, Czech Republic

Ken Nakamura (New Postal Address) 1544 S. Harvard Blvd., Gardena, California 90247, USA

Paul Jenes (New Postal Address) 36 Clarke Street, Portarlington, Victoria 3223, Australia

Tom Casacky (New Postal Address) P.O. Box 4288, Napa, California 94558, USA

Jira Ondracek (New Email Address) jira.ondracek@gmail.com

- Applications Pending

Matteo Moscati - mrmoscati@hotmail.it

Risto Karasmaa - Tontunmaentie 44 G, 02200 Espoo, Finland -
risto.karasmaa@icosathlon.net [Awaiting Application and 2013 Subscription]

Bolakale Ebenezer Alake, P.O. Box 18973, Garki, Abuja, Nigeria

- Resignations

Long time member **Hubert Hamacher** (ATFS-Ger) has written tendering his resignation from the ATFS due to continuing health issues. A good sprinter in his competitive years, Hubert, who is in his 90s, has been a member of the Historical Group researching performances back into the 1800's. The thoughts of the whole membership are with Hubert the best as he battles his latest health issues

- Projects

For the past year and a half Member Ramesh Kharkar (ATFS India) has been researching athletes reaction times in the various track events, but particularly in the 100 metres. He is concerned that the threshold limit is too stringent given the current development of athletes and that there is no recognised certification process for the currently used false start apparatus. Following correspondence from the IAAF Technical Committee he is seeking assistance from members and national association bodies for support to amend these thresholds. If you would like to be involved in this research and or can assist Ramesh, please contact him at **ramesh_kharkar@yahoo.co.in** .

Note: Members, if you receive this Bulletin by post and you have an active email address, please send along your email address to me, (Michael McLaughlin) Those members who have an email address on file receive this publication weeks before those that receive a posted copy and are instantly notified regarding the availability of IAAF publications that we periodically receive for distribution. And of course, they have access to our website.

UNSUNG CIAA TRACK HEROES

By: Ulf Lagerstrom

The Colored Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) was organized in 1912, and later had about a dozen member universities and colleges, located in the southern part of the USA. It became the first and better known of such associations. As concerns track activity, the SIAC with their members further down south, also became important.

The first CIAA track championship was arranged c1920. In the first years, the level of performances was fairly unimpressive. Only in the 1930's did things begin to change, the member institutions producing athletes of national or even international class.

Such was the case of John Borican (Virginia State U), who started out as a 440/880 runner and low hurdler. Later he concentrated on the longer distances, and became national AAU Indoor champ at 1000 m/yds for four straight years, 1939-42. That was after he left the university and moved north. There also was Juan Luyanda (Lincoln U), who at the 1938 CAC Games in

Panama City nipped two golds (HJ, LJ), one silver (TJ) and one bronze (Pentathlon) for Puerto Rico.

However, the unsung heroes kept to the colored conference circuit, with very few exceptions. The exploits made by Afro-American sprinters at the Olympics obviously inspired many of the students to take up sprinting. A handful of those managed to overcome poor training facilities and not very fast tracks to produce first-rate performances.

The first of Olympic hopefuls to appear was Rozia (Rozier) Singletary, a 22-year-old sophomore studying on a scholarship at St Augustine's University in North Carolina. The university had no track. Early in May 1935 he won both sprints at a triangular meet and posted 9,8 at 100 yds despite a constantly poor get-away. A week later he started at the CIAA Open Relays and nailed second in both events. Rozia may also have returned a 9,6 somewhere that season albeit hardly legitimate.

He hailed from Columbus County NC, where he grew up dirt poor. His father died early and his mother had to manage the family's survival by raising strawberry and tobacco. Legend has it that she sewed together four polished cotton 200 lbs tobacco fertilizer bags for her tall son to use as a bed sheet at college. Prior to that, Rozia attended a local vocational school for colored boys. There he began to dedicate himself to running, and reportedly won short races at county and other meets.

In the all-important Olympic year of 1936 he turned out to be the leading sprinter of the CIAA Big-4 group. In the conference title meet he clashed with two highly talented freshmen, Wellington Ross (Morgan State College) of New Jersey, and Joe Hall (Virginia State U) of Philadelphia. Both were footballers. The fourth lad was Odell Pryor (Howard U) of Ford City PA, with a solid high school background at sports. A week earlier, Hall beat Singletary by four feet with a windy 9,6 in the CIAA Open 100. In the 220 Pryor pressed Singletary to set a 21,1 record (Pryor 21,2e).

CIAA championship, held at Hampton VA on 16 May 1936.

100 yds 1. Singletary 9,8 2. Ross 3. Hall

220 yds 1. Singletary 21,0 (record) 2. Ross 3. Pryor.

The 220 yd winning time, on a straight, was excellent. Hall never ran the furlong as he usually preferred to compete at JT (got second). He would win the JT competitions though not managing even 55 m throws.

Their respective institutions decided to enter Singletary and Pryor for the district OG pre-trials held in Baltimore. Then the difficulties commenced. They were not admitted, obviously on racial grounds. In regard to the trials staged in Washington DC, the same thing happened.

A strong protest was lodged and finally Rozia was allowed to start at trials, staged in Philadelphia on 6 June. He easily won, besting 10,5 at 100 m and 21,5 (heat) at 200 m run on a turn. Pryor desisted because of surgery. "I wasn't pressed a bit, sure I can go faster", Rozia said after the wins, "and I cocked a rakish straw skimmer over one ear". Obviously for luck.

Yet he failed at the final try-outs, straw skimmer or not, his form being unrecognizable. Ross, who had muddled his way through to the event in some other way, also failed. They were not in the semis.

Rozia's mentor, George Mitchell, later said that his lad "had so spent himself in inconsequential efforts that he was over-anxious and pressed too hard for his own good".

Had 21-year-old Ross qualified for OG participation, there would have been an obstacle - his mother's consent. "His grades are not high enough for my letting him go running abroad", she uttered.

Rozia was lured into going north, to New York, to compete at the national AAU indoor 60 m event at Madison Square Garden in February 1937. He won his quarter-final in 6,8, then slipped to fourth in the semi and did not advance. The final was won in 6,8, too. In March he nailed third at a big meet, downing Perrin Walker, and ran close to stars Peacock and AAU champ Ben Johnson.

In the following season (1937) neither Hall nor Pryor was seen on the tracks. Singletary and Ross divided honors. Ross won the CIAA Open 100 in 9,8, Rozia second. In the title meet Rozia beat Ross by two yards in 9,9. Singletary took both 220 finals, the open one with 21,4 by a foot.

Tall, powerful Joe Hall was back in 1938 to fight "Ducky" Ross. Hall took the open 100 in 9,7, inching out Ross. The latter took the 100 title on a slushy track, with Hall a foot behind. Ross became 220 winner on both occasions, Hall not starting as usual.

The Ross nickname, "Ducky", had to do with his waddle like gait, caused by a foot injury in his teens. He and Hall had already become arch rivals.

Their battles continued in 1939. A new face appeared, that of Willis Moss, a Virginia State freshman and Hall's team mate. They downed "Ducky". In the open 100 Hall sped to a 9,6 clocking (CIAA record), followed by Moss, with Ross third. His time was just one-tenth off the fastest clocking made that year. Then Moss beat Ross to the 220 victory.

In the championship century, Hall spanked Moss by a yard, Ross third, in rain on a slow track. Again, Moss handled Ross in the 220 event.

Joe Hall's winning time, 10,0 on a heavy track, was in fact one-tenth faster than Ben Johnson's time in a special 100. Ben defeated Eulace Peacock by a yard. Moreover, Hall pulled a tendon eight yards out, went on running and knocked the tape clasp on his injured leg. He proved his class. It was said to be Hall's last race for his college. Yet he returned a year later, being as fast as ever.

Then in 1940 he had to hold off another, new team mate, Hoax Brown, to nip the open 100 yd win, in 9,7. Brown took the measure of Moss in the furlong. In the championship 100 Hall stormed to a 9,6, tying the record and thrashing Moss, with Brown fourth. In the 220, Jim Griffin of Hampton Institute surprised most by winning and producing a fine 21,3. Moss was shunted to second and Brown only fourth.

Unsung hero Hall, a football standout at high school, terminated his track career without measuring against any nationally heralded top speedster and without competing against a white runner in his five college years.

Cocky Ross had already graduated, and later took post-doctorial courses. Later he became a city housing inspector, then a science teacher at a high school, and also worked with educational programs.

Singletary worked as a teacher for some time, before joining the Navy. Afterward he was hired by the Post Office, where he stayed until retirement.

In the war years standards of the CIAA athletes dropped for obvious reasons - like elsewhere. Of course, much later collegiate conferences only for colored athletes did not exist anymore.

**A GREAT MAN WITH A BIG NAME -
WILLIAM BUCKINGHAM CURTIS NOYES**

By: Ulf LAGERSTROM

Bill Curtis was a monumental figure in early US amateur athletics - and a fine sprinter. He was born in 1837 in Vermont, the son of a clergyman, and studied at college in Indiana. To counterbalance a health problem he took up rowing and later became a leading oarsman and an excellent gymnast. Another hobby of his was mathematics and he even edited a book on higher mathematics.

He worked for an insurance company in Chicago before settling in New York, where he joined the staff of the “Spirit of the Times”. Subsequently he became its managing editor. Together with two friends, one of whom was Harry Buermeyer, he organized the New York AC in 1868. It was not the first US athletic club but it was to exert such an influence on the whole athletic movement, particularly the amateur aspect that it earned a unique position in the history of American sports. It was modeled on LAC in Britain.

Curtis was one of the founders of the (national) NAAA association and later was instrumental in forming the AAU, in which organization he exercised great power. Bill also introduced spiked leather shoes, which a friend had brought from London in 1868.

It is said that Bill, nicknamed “Father Bill”, could do almost anything in sports except box, and he left the boxing to his longtime friend Buermeyer, also a very capable part-time sprinter.

In athletics he was the first so-called American sprint champion. That was in 1875. The race, a 100 yds dash, was run in New Jersey and Bill won the gold medal offered by the local club, beating CN Harris, who was one of the fastest amateurs around.

Seven years before that, he had won the sprints in the first indoor meet held, in a Manhattan skating rink structure with an unfinished roof. In fact, it was the very first NYAC meet arranged.

In that year, 1868, he was clocked in unbelievable 9 sec at 100 yds - the path was even remeasured at 102 yds and nearly 6 ft! Curtis later commented that the idea of doubting the timekeeping was never entertained in those days, and that the athletes were not so thoroughly informed on times and distances. His time was accepted for years.

Legend has it that Bill was “the fastest man on foot” for twenty years (1852-72), taking on all comers at 100 yds and never losing a race.

In the mid-1870’s Bill was a big, heavy man, like friend Buermeyer (90 kg !), not being a young lad any more, and not a great sprinter though he mostly managed to whip the second-rank men.

In the inaugural 1876 NAAA he was shut out in his 100 heat by LaMontague and Saportas. A year after, he reached the semis, in which college speedsters Horace Lee and Potter eliminated him. It certainly was no disgrace to be beaten by such renowned dashmen. He still won a few NYAC Games dashes, normally from scratch. Not much later he gave up sprinting, with a probable 10 ¼ “legal” career best at 100 yds (1875).

At the same time he achieved NAAA titles in other events, hammer and weight throwing as well as tug-of-war. Bill dominated American hammer throwing for several years and did not quit until he was over 45 years of age. Tragically he died in 1900 in an unexpected snow storm, when climbing his favourite mountain.

PUBLICATIONS

Members who produce publications that could be of interest to other members and the general track and field population can send a copy of their work to the Secretary. These will then be publicized in the next Bulletin and included on our website in anticipation of potential sales. Please be sure to include your name and contact details for purchase as well as the cost.

New Titles

2014 FAST Annual

The 36th edition of the **FAST Annual** is now available. 560 pages of valuable data, including the 2013 USA year lists, 50-70 deep for men and women, expanded all-time lists, all-time college, junior and walk lists, and index information on more than 2500 athletes, including resident foreign nationals who compete for US colleges and universities. This is the essential reference book for everyone who is interested in USA track and field. The cost is \$25 USD in North America and \$43 USD (or €32 Euros) abroad via air post. Note that mandated first-class air postage from the USA adds substantially to the cost of the book. Copies can be obtained from Tom Casacky, PO Box 4288, Napa, CA 94558; Paypal account: tom@interis.com.

L'athlétisme Africain/African Athletics 2014

This is the 33rd edition of Yves Pinaud's **African Athletics** and an absolute must for statisticians. Complete details are given for the 2013 season with 100+ deep lists for men and women, all-time lists, records, results of international meetings, and much more. This is certainly the definitive work on the subject. 152 pages. You can order from Yves at pinaud@wanadoo.fr.

South East Asia Athletics Annual 2013/14.

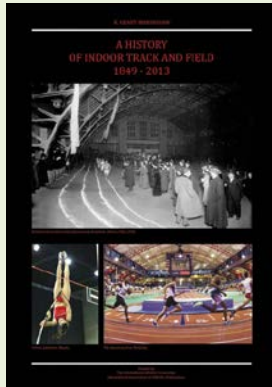
This 3rd edition features the 2013 season and encompasses the 27th Southeast Asian Games and Pune Asian Championships and the 2013 World Championships. The handbook provides comprehensive details of performances and performers of athletes from the South East Asian region, particularly countries like Malaysia, Singapore, The Philippines and Malaysia. The 170-page publication has again been produced by **Jad Adrian Washif** and details and orders can be directed to Jad at info@adriansprints.com



Israeli Athletics 2013/2014.

The latest edition in this series by ATFS member **David Eiger** comprising detailed 2013 and all-time lists, biographical profiles of leading athletes, national championship results and all relevant records is now available. Order from David at eigerdavid@gmail.com at a cost of \$US10 or 7Euro plus postage. Past editions are available at reduced prices.

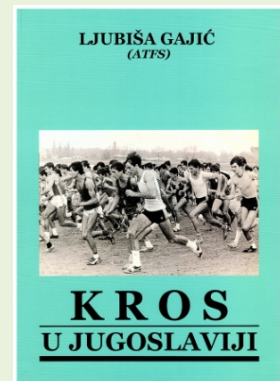
A History of Indoor Track and Field (1849-2013)



Launched in conjunction with the 16th IAAF World Indoor Championships, Grant Birkinshaw (NZL) has authored a must have book for all Indoor track enthusiasts. The book spans the era from 1849 to 2013 and is some 500 pages on the history of this aspect of the sport. It includes commentary on the milestones in the sports history as well as profiles on the history makers and contains rare data and some never before seen images. A website is being developed which will contain videos from as far back as the 950s. The cost of the book is expected to be \$US40 plus postage and can be obtained from the author at: grant.birkinshaw@gmail.com

Cross Country in Yugoslavia

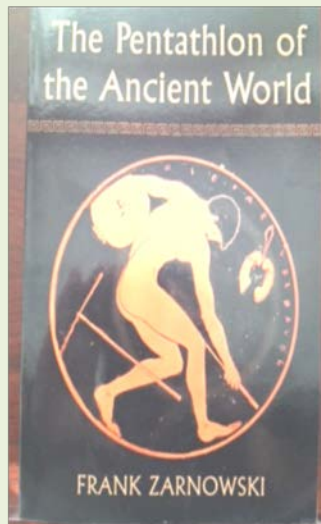
Member Ljubisa Gajic (Ser) has authored a new book on the history of Cross Country in Yugoslavia. It is a 64 page A4 style booklet. It is available from Ljubisa at Vukasina Stefanovica 9, 35000 Jagodina, Serbia at a cost of 25Euro or \$US30 - cash only. His email address is: akvozd@open.telekom.rs



Combined Events Annual 2012.

ATFS member **Hans van Kuijen** (NED) has produced the 20th edition of the definitive events yearbook. This superb book contains the 2012 world rankings for men and women, the top 200 men and women and all results down to 7272 points for men and 5325 for women, results of major meetings in 2012, all-time men's and women's performers and performances, national and international records, indoor rankings for 2012, the 2012 and all-time rankings for junior athletes and much more. The book is a must for all fans of the multi events. The price is 30 Euros or equivalent for European orders and \$US50 elsewhere. Order from Hans at de Bergen 66, 5706 RZ, Helmond, Netherlands. Or contact him at jkuijen4@upcmail.nl . A few back copies are still available.

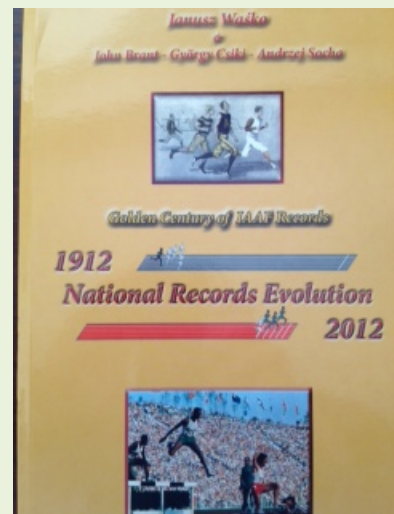
The Pentathlon of the Ancient World.



Dr Frank Zarnowski (USA) has departed from his usual realm of decathlon statistics to write this definitive history of the pentathlon, beginning with its origins in ancient Greece and extending to the present day. This is a scholarly study, complete with citations, notes and references, as well as photographs, drawings and tables. If you want to know how the modern multi-events evolved, and why the characterization of a superior athlete is important, this fascinating book should be on your list. It is 216 pages, soft cover, and can be obtained for \$35 from the publisher at www.macfarlandpub.com.

National Records Evolution 1912-2012.

Our Polish colleague **Janusz Wasko**, along with John Brant, Gyorgy Csiki and Andrzej Socha has produced another monumental (458 pages) publication, this time detailing the evolution of national records in all men's and women's events for the current top 34 athletics nations (but also including two past entities, the GDR and Yugoslavia). The criteria for selection: a sustainable level of development in all events. Every entry includes the athlete, the mark, the venue and date. Relays and multi-events are fully detailed. There are also lists of the "top 30" national records by decade, beginning in 1940. To obtain this valuable publication, write to Janusz at rwasko@onet.eu, or at Aleje Wyszynskiego 28/48, 22-400 Zamosc, Poland.



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