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FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY  
OUR 11th YEAR

Number 33-34

September 6/13, 1982



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## Circus Startime

by DORIS and GENE MacDONALD

We've just returned from a trip to Newcastle, NSW, Australia, where we visited with Geoffrey Graves and his wife Robin. He is a member of the CFA and like a true circus fan, he had arranged that a small circus be in Newcastle on the one night we were there.

It was "Circus Startime," of NSW Australia, and the owners are Barry Nixon, Clive Lotha and Naaf Louw. Barry came to the house after the evening performance and we had a late night session of circus talk.

This was the program of Startime, Aug. 11-15, 1982.

Introduction by Mrs. Anne Lotha (Harrison); Parade of artists and animals; Urban Troupe of six from Hungary, highlighting four-man high; Pony Reginald and monkey Freeby (Gillian Gatenby); Two Welsh Ponies (Shelly Coughlan); Duo Michelle, casting trapeze (Gabor and Michelle Szembati); A Clown Entree, telescope (Clive Lotha, Harrison, Gillian Gatenby); Four performing buffalo (Naaf Louw), these were water buffalo; Intermission.

Four Karolys (Urbans), eccentric acrobats; Duo Kathleen (Julie Petersen, Gillian Gatenby), whip cracking; The Largest Performing Camel in Australia, Valeschka (Gillian) Juggling, Clive Lotha (Harrison); Clown entree, honey bee (Gillian and assistant); Sway

ACTS . . . . Are you listed with us?

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Pole, Clive Lotha (Harrison); The Flying Karolys, flying trapeze (Robbie Urban catcher), Eleanor, Robbica and Gabbie Urban flyers).

The tent was a four pole European type big top, with one ring.

All trucks and equipment are nicely painted. They carried one semi of cats which were not used at this time. They are still being trained.

The show carried its own light plant, music was on tape, the tent was heated and almost all of the seating was chairs.

## PEOPLE

RICHARD LAMPARSKI, author of the series of books titled "What Ever Became Of?" is reportedly writing a book about freaks in America.

# Show Dates

Beatty-Cole Circus  
Sep 7-9 Columbia, SC  
10-12 Augusta, Ga.

Bentley Bros. Circus  
Sep 5-6 Davenport, Iowa  
8-9 Topeka, Kans.  
10-12 Springfield, Mo.

Carson & Barnes Circus  
Sep 7 New Castle, Pa.  
8 Delmont  
9 Morgantown, W. Va  
10-12 Pittsburgh, Pa.  
13 Salem, Ohio  
14-15 Mansfield  
16-18 Cleveland

Castle In't Circus  
Sep 10-12 Johnson City,  
Tenn.  
15 Gallup, NM  
16 Farmington  
19 Silver City

Circus Knie  
Sep 16-17 Pertems, Switz  
18-19 Hippodrome

Circus Vargas  
Sep 6-7 Wenatchee, Wash.

Franzen Bros. Circus  
Sep 9-10 DeKalb, Ill.  
11 Stellman Valley  
12 Geneva  
13 Ashton  
14 Profetstown  
15 Bettendorf, Iowa  
16 Marquoketa  
18 Anamosa  
19 Vinton

Garden Bros.  
Sep 4-6 Kitchner, Ont.  
11-12 London

Hanneford Family Circus  
Sep 2-6 Canton, Ohio

Liebel Family Circus  
Sep 11-12 So. Windsor,  
Conn.  
14-18 Richmond, Va.

Ronald McDonald Circus  
Sep 6 Syracuse, NY

Ringling-Barnum - Blue  
Sep 8-13 Fresno, Calif.  
16-19 Portland, Ore.

Ringling-Barnum - Red

Roberts Bros. Circus  
Sep 2 Millington, Md.  
3 Middletown, Del.  
4 Milton  
6 Dover  
7 Milford  
8 Millsboro  
9 Seaford  
10 St. Michaels, Ind.  
11 Greensboro  
13 Chesapeake Beach  
15 Spotsylvania, Va.  
16 Dumfries  
17 Catlett  
18 Culpepper

Royal Hanneford Circus  
Sep 2-11 Greenville, SC

Royal Palace Circus  
Sep 4-12 Rutland, Vt.  
16-19 Mattoon, Ill.

Swan Bros. Circus  
Sep 9-12 Auburn, Calif.  
16-19 Lodi

TNT & Royal Olympic  
Sep 8-12 Monroeville, Pa  
17-19 Louisville, Ky

Carla Wallenda Circus  
Sep 21-26 Edenton, SC

## --- OTHER DATES ---

Burr's Fun-O-Rama  
Sep 9-18 Portland, Me.

James H. Drew Exposition  
Sep 6-11 Newport, Tenn  
13-18 Cartersville, Ga

Elliott Amusements  
Sep 11-12 Berrian Springs  
15-19 Niles Mich

Foley & Burk Shows  
Sep 9-26 Pomona, Calif.

D. MacValley Stunts  
to Sep 12 Storytown Prk

Tom Mix Festival  
Sep 13-19 DuBois, Pa.

Tip Top Shows  
Sep 9-12 Richland Cent.  
Wisc.

## --- MAGIC ---

Pf. Miller-Magic Time USA  
Sep 19 Wahpeton, N.D.

Royal Lichtenstein Circus  
Sep 6 Bryte, Calif.

7 Sacramento  
8 Oakland  
9 San Jose  
10 Santa Clara  
11 Hayward  
12 Oakland  
13 San Francisco  
14 Red Bluff  
15 Forest Grove, Ore.  
16 Salem  
17 Portland  
18-19 Mt. Angel

# Knott's BERRY FARM

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## **COL. HOWE'S TRAVELING CIRCUS EXTRAVAGANZA**

- \* **TARRA**  
World's Only Roller Skating Elephant!  
Trained and Presented by CAROL BUCKLEY
- \* **DOUGIE ASHTON**  
Australia's Funniest Clown!
- \* **MADMOISELLE SALLY**  
SALLY ASHTON  
Beauty, Grace and Daring On The Swinging Trapeze!
- \* **THE VICKINAS-AGUILAR TROUPE**  
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➡ **PLUS** ⬅

SINGING RINGMASTER - DAN SOHRT  
HOWE'S ACROBATIC TROUPE  
HOWE'S CIRCUS CONCERT BAND

We also wish to thank the numerous circus fans who called it "the very best little one-ring circus" they'd ever seen!

# An English Show

by JACK NIBLETT

Sally Chipperfield's Circus, now playing a 14 week season at Clacton-on-Sea (on the Pier), an English east-coast resort is notable for the richness of its program material, and for the way it is unified by the ringmastery of Jim Royal, here on loan from Carson & Barnes Circus.

Mr. Royal's debut in an English one-ring circus is a complete success. His fine singing voice, his American-style introductions with their artful alliterations, have charmed British audiences. Jim is also a look-alike for the popular Michael Crawford who plays the title role in the hugely successful London Palladium production of "Barnum" and that must also help quite a bit.

James Clubb, Sally's husband, has assembled some first class acts for this new venue but he must be given full marks for his own contributions with big cage acts. He has a remarkable mixed group of small cats - spotted leopards, black panthers, jaguars and pumas.

Jim alternates this act with his group of six Bengal and Siberian tigers. He also has a new group comprising three lions and four tigers which will probably make its debut during this run. The incredible Jim Clubb also has an act of eight lionesses at present working on the Continent.

More animals trained and shown by Jim Clubb in this circus include Tina, the elephant, a group of exotic animals, and the four Arabian liberty horses. Jim also assists his wife with her Poodle and Monkey Revue. In his comparatively brief circus career, and with a hard apprenticeship with Richard Chipperfield's Circus, Jim has emerged as one of England's finest animal trainers. No wonder that Jim Royal announces him as the incomparable James Clubb.

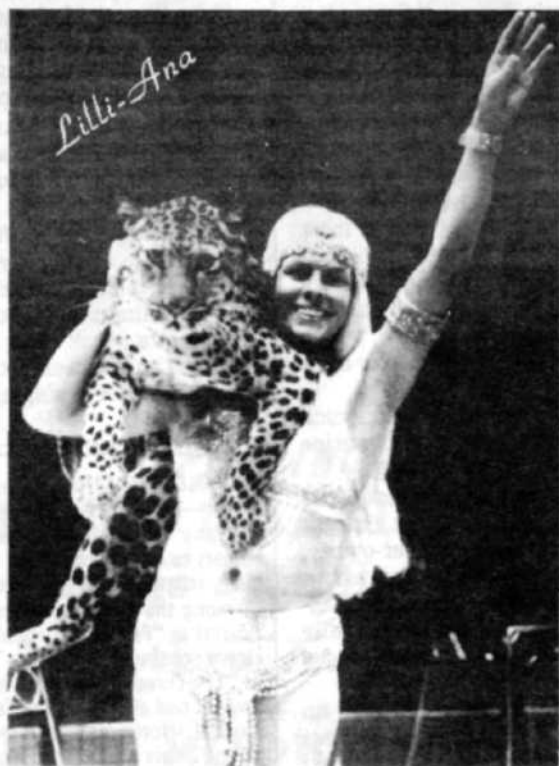
Among the specialty acts, new to this country, are the Five Petrescu, pole perchists; the Tabaks, Russian Bar Acrobatics; the Kabzaro Sisters, "Poses Plastiques"; the Giovanni Sisters, tightwire artists; Irma Crystal, hair hang; and Beverly Royal at

(Continued on Page 8)

**"THE ACT BEAUTIFUL" Arena Act**

# LILLI-ANA'S

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# Elephant on roller skates hams it up at Knott's big top

By Harry L. Graham  
Register staff writer

Tarra, the roller-skating elephant, has established herself as the star of Colonel Howe's Traveling Circus Extravaganza at Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park.

But she is bucking a trumpet-playing tramp clown, a whirling girl on a trapeze, a spinning troupe of teeterboard artists and a ringful of singing showgirls and showguys.

While Tarra may not be the most beautiful thing on wheels, she is at least the biggest — two tons and still growing. The 8½-year-old Indian elephant also does a hula dance, which isn't graceful — just unusual for a gal of her girth.

She also plays the harmonica (poorly) and shakes a tambourine (clumsily).

Putting Tarra through her paces during the five daily shows (except Tuesdays) is her trainer-owner, Carol Buckley of Ojai. "Tarra is a ham," says Buckley. "She loves applause." And the audience was really applauding her during a show one day this week.

Clown Dougie Ashton, dressed up like Charlie Chaplin of the silent movies, gets his share of laughs and applause for his mime act, which is filled with pratfalls and nosedives. Ashton has appeared with other circuses in Orange County, including Ringling Bros. in Anaheim.

He went from the "Greatest Show on Earth" to the littlest show in Orange County. The Knott's tent is a little top, not a big top, and instead of

three rings there is just one. But it is a very busy ring throughout the fast-paced 30-minute show.

After the grand-opening parade of stars, assistant ringmaster Louis Cowing introduces Ashton, a member of the famed Ashton circus family of Australia. The funnyman plays a hot trumpet, winding up his act with "When the Saints Come Marching In," with the help of Colonel Howe's five-piece circus band.

Then comes Mademoiselle Sally, Doug's wife, on the trapeze. She is a former member of Ringling's aerial ballet who prefers the spotlight to the chorus line. Her hurricane spin, heelhang and back balance are topped by her break-away fall toward the audience.

After Tarra does her fun-filled act, the Vickinas-Aguilar teeterboarders spin and flip through their whirlwind act. The climax is a backward somersault to a perch chair 12 feet high.

Filling in between acts are members of Howe's singing acrobatic troupe.

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## AN ENGLISH CIRCUS (Continued)

"Tiffany" (Cordelisse), all welcome newcomers to our shores which do not see so many talented imports these days.

Among the English performers, Tommy Fossett as "Professor Grimble", musical clown continues to delight. Tom's two sons as "The Duvals" supply a fast-moving juggling act and also assist the "old man" in his musical efforts. Veteran Jimmy Scott with young Jamie provide run-in clowning, good old-fashioned reliable stuff. Pete Burrell's excellent four-piece band works above the ring doors.

During the season four shows a day has been the running order - three afternoon (one hour performances of selected acts, and a full two-hour night show).

I understand that Sally Chipperfield's Circus has been invited back to the Pier for another season next year.

# *The Wainwrights*

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## Carson & Barnes

by KEN HOLEHOUSE

How can you have a love affair with a circus? It's easy if you are a circus fan. Easier still if the circus is Carson & Barnes.

Carson & Barnes spent the latter part of July zigzagging across the northern part of Illinois and I caught a number of their shows. With the kind invitation of Mr. Circus, D. R. Miller, to "make yourself at home" I did just that, and thoroughly enjoyed myself for a number of days. This is a friendly, congenial group of people and they all seem to be having the time of their lives doing what they're doing. As we all know, the work is hard and the hours are long, but everyone I met seemed happy doing it. Morale was high and the lot and the show literally sparkle.

The show runs about two hours and opens with a lively overture on the downbeat of Charles Stevenson and his eight-piece band, whose music is all circus and all mud-show appropriate.

Barry Brazell has taken over the announcing job from Jim Royal who is presently

with the Chipperfield Circus in England. Barry was recruited for the assignment six weeks ago from Clown Alley and handles the chores with the assurance of a professional. His former assignments included the Ringling show and Circus World.

Another Circus World alumni with the show is Brian Davis, whose falls and slips and spills all over the tent are nothing short of amazing. This energetic clown takes a variety of falls in one show and does them all expertly - even the unscheduled ones like one time when he slid about ten feet across wet asphalt.

Maudie Lou Bayless, another member of the clown quintet was, along with Peggy Williams, one of the first girl clowns for the Ringling show. Her style is enchanting and her mugging and friendly openness are great.

Richard Perales is the stiltwalker and his professionalism is everywhere evident. It's obvious that he takes his clowning seriously - he's always on, and always funny. Rick is also a good greeter and he makes everyone feel right at home in the tent.

Producing clown is veteran Jack Jackson whose agility belies his many years of clowning. This clown has been around and he knows his business.

Mike completes this alley of professionals, whose gags include pretending to be the symphony orchestra of whatever town the circus is in (with emphasis on "off-key" phony); a boxing gag in which Mike usually seemed to take about a million blows; and a long shirt gag. Moises Ferreira takes center ring with a clown balancing act near the end of the show, but does not work gags with the rest of the Alley.

The show opens with four cradle acts followed by Patricia White's cat act. Pat knows her cat's personalities well, and the basic display included roll-overs, leaps, jumping through a flaming hoop, etc. Pat is also working two new lions into the act.

Two rola bola acts were spotlighted with Tito coming out in a space suit and some fancy apparatus to look like he was walking on the moon and then doing a seven cylinder high rola bola. The Rolans, working at the same time, include a 32 ft. high perch pole in their rola bola routine and the whole family gets into the act.

(Continued on Page 23)



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## HOTLINE

Aug. 25 - Dallas, Texas - Gino Farfan left the hospital in Dallas wearing a neck brace which he will be required to wear for about six more weeks. In a TV interview the family said they would be leaving the Ringling-Barnum Circus and would return to their home in Chile.

## Miscellaneous

A Circus Trailer Park in Sarasota, Fla. has two former Ringling circus coaches which are used for the park's facilities.

A ceramic figurine of the Normal Rockwell drawing "The Runaway" a clown wiping a tear from the face of a young boy, is available from: The Sterling Treasury, Box 5090, Sterling Bldg., Garnerville, NY 10923. The figurine is 6 in. tall and sells for a total of \$29.95, plus \$3.50 for postage.

Join us every Monday 11:30 . . . til?

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## Comments

*by Circus Joe Valenciano*

We enjoy the Circus Report very much. We have been taking it for about five years now and I always look forward to reading it. It is very informative and enjoyable, if you are into the circus scene. As the logo says, it is MY favorite circus weekly.

Mama Valenciano celebrated her 85th birthday on Aug. 5th. She still lives in her own trailer, which is in A-1 condition after traveling across the country for many years with circuses and the fair circuit. She lives with her family on the lot, in the Tampa Bay area.

This season we've found a lot of changes on the big top lots all over the country. Big top canvas is now usually striped with multi-colors. Most all circus midways now have an elephant ride, in addition to the traditional pony ride. And for the kids they have a moon walk/bubble bounce, which I like. These help to give the appearance of more tents on the lot.

Side shows are being eliminated and the show's rolling stock seems to be losing the colorful decorations, while some carnival trucks are getting more colorful.

# **Sally Chipperfield's Circus**

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# WORLD'S YOUNGEST HIGH WIRE PERFORMER



## NICKOLAUS WINN

IN

CARCARAS, VENEZUELA

August 14, 1982

***THE WINNS HAVE DONE IT AGAIN***

### Show Date Signed

Harold Haering, Assistant Rabban and the 1983 circus chairman, and Tommy Hanneford, President of Hanneford Circus, Inc., have jointly announced that the Hanneford Circus has been selected to produce the 1983 Moslem Shrine Circus in Detroit, Mich. Since the 1983 show will commemorate the 75th shrine circus in America, numerous special events are planned in addition to the traditional performance.

"We've planned such things as a special commemorative opening party, an exhibit in the Detroit Historical Museum, the dedication of a historical marker to the birthplace of the shrine circus in America and the publication of a shrine circus history," says Haering. "It's going to be a very special circus, and I know everyone associated with the shrine circus in America is going to want to attend."

Hanneford enthusiastically supported Haering and said, "the performance itself is going to be very unique. There are going to be acts never before seen in an American

circus and specially designed production numbers. It's going to be the greatest shrine circus ever!"

The circus will appear in Detroit's state fairgrounds coliseum from March 11 thru April 27, 1983. Then in a major departure from normal practice, highlights of the show will tour Moslem Temple's geographic area in Michigan. "This will allow the public who live a great distance from Detroit to share in this unique entertainment event," commented Haering.

## PEOPLE

THE WOODCOCK'S elephant acts will be appearing this fall at the Memphis, Birmingham and Montgomery fairs for Eddie Zaccchini and the Dallas fair for Gil Gray.

BEN WILLIAMS and the elephant Anna May will return to New York and the Big Apple Circus next year and will then jump to the west coast to appear with Circus Vargas for 45 weeks.

## From Dallas

by *BOB STODDARD*

The Ringling show came to Dallas, Texas, during National Clown Week, so I didn't get to spend as much time there as I would have liked. I did get several articles about the performers on the show.

I also picked up some names that I will drop on you right now.

This year the Red Unit has only two female clowns and both of them are "First of Mays". They are Cynthia Anne "Charlie" Hackett and Stephanie E. Parks (Ruthie Chaddock works advance).

The Blue Unit has two female clowns, Debbie Gilbert is a "First of May" but Tammy Parish is in her third season. She's married to boss clown Tom Parish on that unit.

Glen "Frosty" Little is still the big boss clown over both units, but he wasn't here this year. He was on the Blue Unit where Peggy Williams, former clown, is now the assistant performance director.

Not only was Gino Farfan in the hospital

during the week in Dallas, but he was joined by Lou Jacobs who had a minor infection which caused him to lose some time. I was there on Sunday and about one-fourth of the show's personnel went to the hospital between shows to visit the two ailing performers. Both are doing very well.

Joe Atkinson is in his sixth year in charge of the clown wardrobe. David Caesar is still the backdoor man, electrician and mailman.

Sean Emery said that the clowns really came through with their softball team this year. They had a four and one record which is the best record on the show. They play ring stock, prop department, concessions, etc.

Jim Arneberg, the stilt walker (stick man) said that instead of calling them clowns I could refer to their trade as "clothes changers" with their 13 or 14 appearances.

Jim Vogelgesang suggested "quick change artists". But they all love being clowns on the big show.

You can still revue the performance with only five words - "The Greatest Show on Earth."

# 'Instant' Aerial Ballet Set For 'Moulin Rouge'

**F**LYING 25 feet above the stage of the Las Vegas Hilton next Wednesday night will be six beautiful girls, who will be twirling and spinning in the "Web Ballet" of the "Bal du Moulin Rouge de Paris" for the first time in their lives.

*Text and photos by Elliot S. Krane*

Although the girls stepped from the dancing chorus into this exotic circus act with just a few week's training, their instructor and his assistant, Carlos Farfan and his daughter Maria, are two of the best in the business.

"I've been working on aerial apparatus since I was nine," said the attractive instructress, Maria. "My father and I have worked for most of the major circuses in the world and he has been rigging apparatus similar to what we're using here for the past 20 years."

Carlos, who was busy supervising the erection of the three spinning pieces of apparatus for the "Web Ballet," has been hired as a rigger not only in this country for Ringling Brothers and Sea World, but also for the Circo Magico Italiano and Circo Americano.

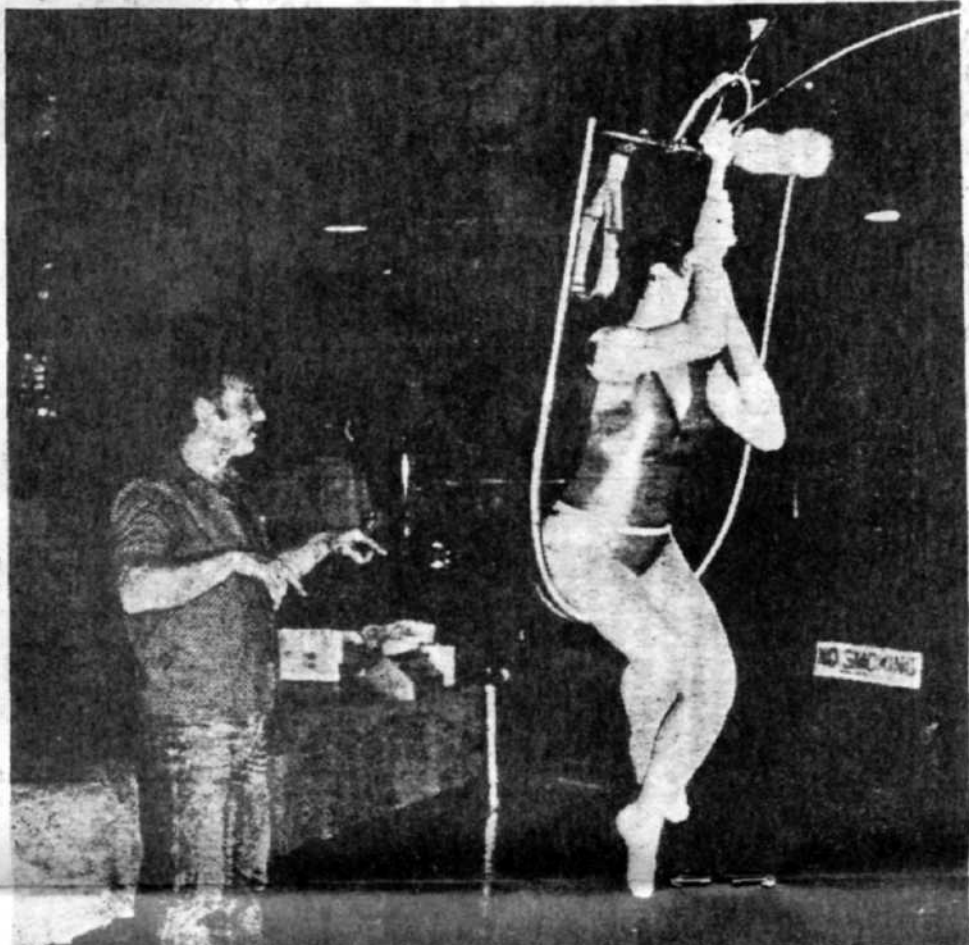
(Maria Consuelo)

**M**ARIA explained that the girls, who have all volunteered for the exciting ballet high overhead, have had no special gymnastic training, although they all are excellent dancers. "We start them out on stationary equipment," said Maria, "and after they are proficient, we put them on the apparatus. They first practice on it in a stationary position and then the motor is turned on and they move while the trapeze is swinging."

The trapeze scene is a part of the circus act which is one of the many acts in this multi-million dollar production at the Hilton.

Featured acts include European chanteuse Torill, balancing expert Monroe, the Saly Brothers acrobats, Bablu Mallick with his display of shadow figures and Tanya the Elephant.

Emmy nominee Walter Painter is staging and



Carlos Farfan watches one of his 'swingers' during rehearsal

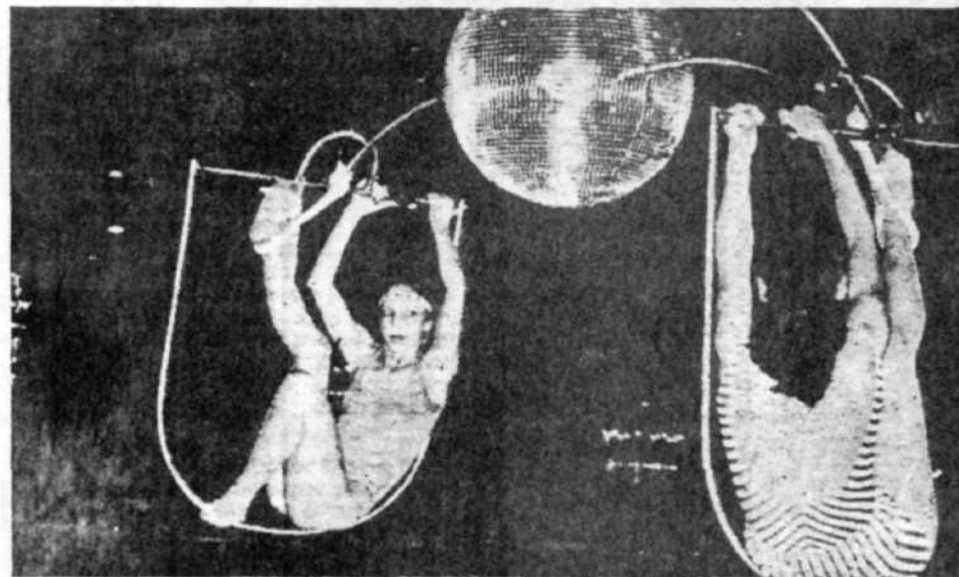
directing "Bal du Moulin Rouge de Paris," and over \$1 million in costumes is being imported from Paris and other fashion centers all over the world.

Dick Lane, who is directing the entire massive show, has organized over 16,000 hours of research among his staff, as well as the staff of the

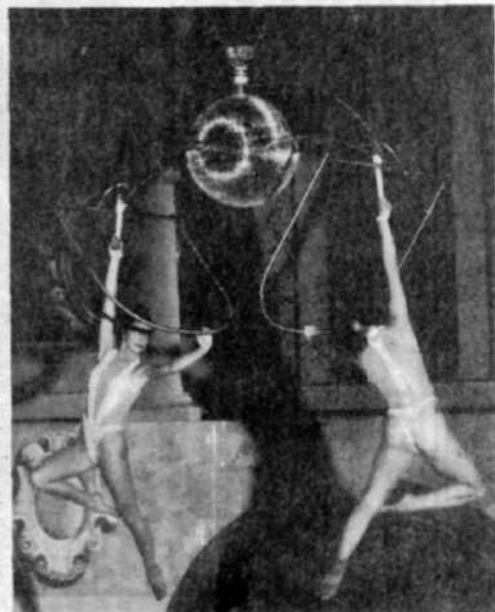
international Moulin Rouge operation itself.

The original Moulin Rouge nightclub opened in Paris, in Montmartre, in the 19th century and the show has continued since that time.

An innovation, pre-show dancing for dinner show guests, will be backed by the Charlie Shaffer Quintet prior to the 8pm show. ■



Hanging by a foot takes a lot of practice



# The Ohio Fair

by DON SANDMAN

A key attraction at this year's Ohio State Fair, Aug. 6-22, was the Pugh International Circus, produced by George Carden Circus International. The show was presented in the outdoor arena on the Midway. The seating, ring corbs, backdrop, etc., were supplied by George Carden Circus International.

The show was presented in a three ring set up with the cage for the cat act left up in ring three. The Flying rigging was off ring one and left up all the time. Other acts worked in ring one and two, except for the cannon and high wire which were presented separately at the other end of the midway.

Six performances were presented each day in the Circus Arena, while the cannon and wire act presented two shows daily.

The show as presented in the arena featured, not necessarily in the order given as each act only worked three shows a day, except for the elephants which worked all six performances.

The arena show opened with the Flying Aztecs, followed by clowns at the dentist, Kohl's Dog Pound Revue (mixed bunch of man's best friend), Clowns in the Washerwoman, Carden's trained elephants presented by Cuccillo, The Oscanian Troupe, risley, Trampoline with Cuccillo, Clowns, Kohlreiser's Liberty Ponies, Sr. Ramos, Mixed Cat Act (2 tigers, 2 linnis, 2 leopards, 2 black panthers), Clowns, Bill Brickle's Poodle Fantasy.

On the other end of the midway, Capt. Circus Dave Smith, the human cannonball was fired three times during weekends and two times a day during the week. Also at this end of the midway, The Great Wallendas presented their high wire act and Miss Rietta's aerial number were presented two times a day.

Other attractions at this year's fair included in the grandstand Kevin Mabry and Liberty Street, McGuffey Lane, Barbara Mandrell, Ronnie Milsap, Boxcar Willie, Midnight Star, the 5th Dimension, Statler Bros, Kool & The Gang, Bob Hope, Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Bros., Phyllis Diller, Frankie Laine, The Oak Ridge Boys, The Whispers, Dolly Parton and Wayland Jennings.

In other locations around the fair were: Hank Peters Lumberjack Show, Blue Jacket Outdoor Drama, Turkeys in the Straw String Band, Palantir Band Concert, A Touch of Grass, Bluegrass Band, SIRRUS Band Concert, Fusion Band Concert, Tecumseh Outdoor Drama, Shenandoah Outdoor Drama, Bernard Upshaw Gospel Singers, The Brothers & The Sisters Bluegrass Band, Budweiser 8 Horse Hitch, All Ohio State Fair Band, The Forerunners Barbershop Quartet, All Ohio State Fair Youth Choir, David Rubenoff, Canton Civic Opera, Back Poarch Miracle, Blue Grass Band, Dymon Band Concert, Demolition Derby, U. S. Navy Band-Atlantis, Harness Racing, Tractor Pulling, The Street Players, Wrestling, Blackjack Band, Westerville Song Spinners.

The world's largest model train display is also set up at the fair in the Transportation Building with N Gauge, HO and O Gauge layouts which completely fill the building, while outside Paul G. Busse, Inc., proudly presented a 'G' scale outside world of Garden display. CMB Chuck Ellsworth of Cincinnati, Ohio, supplied the 'G' scale equipment.

The Wallendas were booked into the fair thru Ron Bacon's J & E Productions.

Lee Maloney was show manager and made 17 trips a day from one end of the midway to the other, overseeing the performances. Bill Brickle handled the announcing for the arena performances and Lee Maloney did the announcing for the Wallendas and Capt. Circus Dave Smith.

Clowns on the show were: Dave Williams, Tony LaMonica and Larry Zanavich. Bill Brickle was producing clown.

Good TV coverage of the Ohio State Fair was provided all across Ohio, as well as into Indiana and Kentucky. Bob Braun's show was aired live from the fair everyday at noon. He also hosts a half hour show in the evening. A circus act was featured on each of his shows.

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Tarra, the roller-skating elephant, and her friends are appearing in Colonel Howe's Traveling Circus Extravaganza at Knott's Berry Farm.

## Rest Time

by *HERB HOYT*

The Joplin, Nensho and Carthage, Mo., Shrine Clubs had a very successful 26th annual Shrine Circus, produced by Tarzan Zerbinini. It was a good performance, well received by near capacity crowds both nights. The two matinees were well attended in spite of the 90 degree temperature and hot sunshine. Our dates for 1983 are July 29-30 same place, same time.

Now after Joplin the show had one performance in Springdale, Ark., held in a Rodeo Arena that seats about 1500. It was filled to near capacity. From Springdale they moved to Fort Smith for one day.

Now for the good part. I knew they were taking the month of August off, so I called on Lois Van Pool Johnson and asked if she would like to have a circus in her front yard. Being a chip off the old block (Paul Van Pool), she grinned and said, "that would be fun wouldn't it," so we were all

cat

On Thursday evening, July 29th, the show was back in Joplin and settled in at the Van Pool Acres.

As most of the acts were booked to go to Honolulu with Paul Kaye, only the trucks of the Zerbinis, plus the bus belonging to the prop boss were here.

We had the lions, tigers and eight elephants and oh yes, one horse for two days.

There is a nice stream of water running thru the place so there was a lot of fishing done. At the same time all equipment was cleaned and most of it was painted.

As I am writing this they are loading up and going to a nearby truck stop and get set to start for New Jersey on Saturday at 5 am.

I have enjoyed their stay and will miss the group. Perhaps they'll have time off next year and come back for another visit.

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## PEOPLE

REMO CRISTIANI has his elephants on the Link Carnival again this year.

## A Fair Circus

by ALLEN BABCOCK

From Aug. 5 to 15, Ron Kelroy had a circus at the Illinois State Fair. It was sponsored by the Fair and Wendy's Fast Service Restaurants.

The program included: Ringmaster's entrance, Austin Miles; Overture with Boom Boom Browning directing (trumpet, organ and drums).

Wendy's theme as introduction for Miss Wendy; The Great Huberto (Herbie Weber) slide-for-life; Miss Loni and Miss Barbara, foot juggling; Olinka, single trapeze and upside down walk; The Galambo Family, juggling, rolling globe, rola bola; Billy Barton, cloud swing; Angela Wilnow and Her Braves (collies); Marjars, aerial motorcycle; Los Latinos, tightwire; Tino Wallenda Zoppe and Olinka, high wire; Johnny Luxem and The Wheel of Destiny; Grand Finale.

The show's staff consisted of: Ron Kelroy, producer; Boom Boom Browning, musical director and Austin Miles, ringmaster.

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## PEOPLE

HERBIE WEBER and AUSTIN MILES recently visited CFA'r NORMAN SCHULER who is recovering from surgery.

ALLEN BABCOCK spent several days visiting the Amateur Circus from Chicago which was being presented at the Illinois State Fair. The circus is directed by ED SHEEHAN.

JAMES WILLIAMS, with a unit of the Woodcock elephants recently completed a tour in Mexico with the Ed Migley circus.

## From Canada

by ED WICKSTROM

Being in the area of animal showbusiness, it is always a great pleasure to meet with new and old friends as they are passing through the area, enroute to Winnipeg.

June and July of this year were no exceptions. Most animal acts did real well up here in Canada this year. With tight money, the shopping centers are trying all kinds of acts for shopper enticement. Circuses, both big and small were more evident here.

Also in speaking with many acts it seems the border points and custom people were thorough and without the usual beaurocratic hassles. American show people new to Canada and working here for the first time tended to forget the large USA-Canadian dollar difference. They found that on pay-day the Canadian dollar was up to 30c less than their familiar American dollar.

Most experienced acts are now stating that they be paid in US dollars. It seems funny, but it wasn't all that long ago that our

money was worth more than Uncle Sam's.

Names and Such - Ken and Jenny La Salle (Ken-Jen Petting Zoo) were busy playing a string of shopping malls before their usual tour of the Canadian A-circuit fairs and celebrations. It's also nice to see them back in Winnipeg.

Wally Townsend had his petting zoo at the fair . . . Garland Parnell and his Capuchin Monkeys worked their for the 12th year . He mus be doing something right!

Barb and I usually spend a couple of evenings at the fair visiting and talking. Richard Humphrey representing Brølords educated critters returned again this year with his son.

Highbockets, Jr. did a midway balloon stilt act . . . Jerry Lipko's Chimps stole the children's hearts . . . Roxy Engesser (who I read about in CR) is in town. It was our first meeting and it didn't take long to break the ice and start talking of our mutual love, the Big Cats. Roxy and Don and their son and daughter helped with their conservation show at a local mall. I also had the opportunity of meeting Roxy's mom. She's a wonderful lady with wit and charm and a great memory for show business events of the past and present.

I hope that someone will contact her and record her memoirs for future generations. The old genuine show troupers have a lot to teach and show us and lets face it - the times are a changing!

I've been fortunate to meet and befriend greats such as Karl Wallenda, Albert Rix, C. R. Montgomery, Emmett Kelly, Don Kidder, Hal and Fran Fisher, etc. These people and their dedication have had a prolonged effect on my own life.

Don and Gracie Kidder spent two weeks with us in Canada. It was over 20 years ago that they watched over me on my first carnival job as a teeny bopper working a grab joint for another great, the late Ray Westman, on Royal American Shows.

Friendships have stood the test of time friends are now considered family!

Anyone coming through Winnipeg, please look us up!

Ed Wickstrom, Box 513, Winnipeg.

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**NEED ACTS FOR 1983 SEASON****CARSON & BARNES (Continued)**

After Dave Rawls stops the action with a most professional sounding pitch for 'Fiddle Faddle' the Spec begins.

The Wild West Spec, which includes most of the performers and many of the animals, is a colorful walk-around to the accompaniment of cowboy tunes. This finally leads to an aerial ballet on webs, swinging ladders, etc. with the tent full of cowboys and cowgirls.

This is followed by five rings of dressage with Joanne Pinson and "Lucky Star" holding down center ring. A feature story on Joanne was in an earlier issue of CR.

Lucy Loyal, a more than twenty year veteran with Carson & Barnes does her bareback act in center ring on a giant Belgian mare, jumping hoops and ropes in an extension of the Western theme of the Spec.

The production ends with five rings of galloping liberty horses. And the well-choreographed, beautifully costumed spec, with beautiful girls in every corner of the tent, comes to an end.

"Lullaby on Broadway" is a kind of mini-spec with five elephants and five lovelies performing in five rings to the tune "New York." Later in the show, nineteen elephants under Don Carr's direction, fill all five rings with non-stop action and an unbelievable variety of routines. Cochise commands five elephants in center ring and does a terrifically energetic job of keeping those pachyderms parading. The whole display ends in a long mount extending the

length of the tent. And by this time the audience goes wild.

From the Gaona Family come two acts, teeterboards as the Francisco's and the Gaona Flying Act with Julio featured in the triple. The other flying act, which appears at the same time as the Gaonas is the Flying Randalls, with Max and Rosa Avila and Randy Fulton as the catcher.

Other displays include the Zunigas juggling duo and a five ring mixed display of animals with llamas, camels, horses and Pinson's canine act in center ring.

The huge zoo, which the crowd walks through on their way to the main entrance includes Buddy the giraffe, a hippo, a rhino, zebra, bull, in addition to the already mentioned animals.

I enjoyed watching D. R. every morning spotting the trucks with just a few well-placed hand signals and supervising every aspect of teardown. During the show he was always in his lawn chair, sometimes shoveling up, working the rigging, distracting a lion, helping with props and a variety of other tasks.

I also enjoyed pleasant conversations with Rosalie Draper who, along with her husband, is spending the summer traveling with the show and working security, and so many others too numerous to mention.

# Show Acts

Acts appearing with the Hubler Int'l Circus at Oakland, Md., July 26, Cumberland, Md., July 28 and Hagerstown, Md., July 31 were:

The Bertinis, low wire; Shrine Clowns; Giovanni, lamp post; Miss Barbara, foot juggling; Olga Zoppe, web; Susan Sheryll's Royal Afghan Champions; Tino Zoppe Wallenda, high wire; Davide Laddie, unsupported ladder act; Bertinis, bicycles; Davide Zoppe's Rhesus Monkeys; Olinka, aerial trapeze and Jeanette and Albert Rix, bears.

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The program for the West Virginia Shrine Circus presented at Wheeling, W. Va., July 16-17, produced by Wm. Kay included:

National Anthem, shrine band; Introductions; Overture, John Malett and orchestra; Andre's Lions; Davide Laddie, unsupported ladder act; The Drougets, juggling; Miss Michele, aerial; Sir Harry James, balancing; Jack Cook, comedy car; The Mad Hatters, juggling; Dime and Connie Wilson, clowns; Susan Sheryll's Royal Afghan Champions; The Wallendas, high wire; Intermission.

The Flying Lantons; Gina's Royal Palace Leopards; Miss Rietta, aerial space act; The Davide Zoppe Rhesus Monkeys; Clowns; Norbu, Almost Human Gorilla; Diano's elephants; The Albanis, aerial motorcycle act; Finale.

# News Coverage

by KEN HOLEHOUSE

Carson & Barnes Circus has enjoyed some fine press coverage on its annual trek thru the Mid-west this summer.

The Daily News of Newton, Iowa, ran a half page aerial view of the lot on the top of the front page in its July 15th edition. A huge headline "Circus Arrives" was printed across the top of the picture. The picture itself was so clear and so complete that you could easily spot everyone's trailer, count all the animals and easily pick out workers and early-birds on the midway.

Chicago's south-suburban Star Herald news paper ran two feature articles on the show, including interviews with D. R. Miller and Pat White, and an immense photo spread including front page photos of clowns Brian Davis, Jack Jackson and Rick "Buckles" Perales. A full-page photo spread included pictures of Irene Bautista, Pat White, circus set-up and animals.

The Ottawa, Ill., Daily Times gave the circus front page coverage with pictures and also ran a long interview with stock manager Bobby Gibbs whose features, according to the article, "resemble those of country-western superstar Kenny Rogers, a fellow Texan." A photo of Bobby completed the coverage.

## TNT & Royal Olympic

by EARL W. TEGGE

The TNT & Royal Olympic Circus opened its regular 1982 season in New Orleans the end of April, after several successful dates on the west coast earlier this spring.

The first performance in New Orleans was opened with prayer by The Rev. David Sedlemeyer of Gethsemene Luthern Church of Chalmette, La.

The early part of the tour was filled with holes and cancellations and changes in the routing, so numerous it was impossible to keep up. However, we have since managed to fill some of the holes and all in all it looks like the season will turn out ok.

The dates played have been very successful even though some of the replacement dates made long jumps necessary. Some long jumps in this business are necessary, but we had more of these this year than ever. No show likes a lot of layoffs, ours were filled with some enjoyable times.

Between Houma, La., and Columbia, SC the show was invited to spend its time off with a newly made friend, Cliff Gray and his wife, Roberta, in Picayune, Miss. Cliff,

a giant of a man, not only in stature, but also in personality, is a collector and refurbisher of band organs, calliopes, and music boxes. He has been invited to join the CFA, and it was truly a delightful forced "vacation."

Friends in Elkhart, Ind. also put us up for a time at their place, and then after our Marshfield, Wisc., engagement, the always generous and congenial Ralph Pierce invited us to enjoy and his and Joan's facilities at their place just outside of Baraboo, on our way to Merrillville, Ind.

A warning to the other shows, don't mistreat the Circus Fans and Model Builders. They come through when you need them most.

We are all looking forward to a couple of days visit with Herman and Elsie Brandmiller just before we open in Grand Rapids, Mich., for Sept, 2-4.

God Bless all of you fans and model builders and to those of you with whom we haven't yet caught up with, see you soon.

# Book of Clowns

by *GEORGE C. BINGAMAN*

**THE BOOK OF CLOWNS** by George Speaight, Published by MacMillan, 1980.

It is important to credit the three photographers, Malcolm Fielding, Ralph Gobits and Homer Sykes in describing George Speaight's "The Book of Clowns" inasmuch as their photography is a major factor in the composition of this fine new volume. These vivid and attractive colored photographs sell this book on appearance alone. The prize-winning "snappers" travelled extensively throughout the USA and Europe to get these photographic masterpieces. One hundred twenty-eight pages of this book comprise the finest picture book on clowns and clowning I have seen.

Furthermore, the author and his co-workers have taken special effort to photograph events significant in chronicling the history of clowning, such as the memorial service in honor of Grimaldi, pages 28, 29, The festival of Fools, Page 14, a modern jester at Abbot's Bromley Horn Dance on "Wakes Monday," pages 6, 7.

Circus enthusiasts in America have a two-fold treat because top American buffoons have been included with the great stars in Europe's top circuses. In addition to established greats such as Adler, Kelly, Jacobs, Jung and Griebing, we are reminded that there are other current stalwarts on the American roads, independents as Rex Young, and some of Beatty-Cole's fine alley. Certainly Sandy and Oscar and their sidekicks belong in this group. I would have liked to have seen veteran Mike Padilla included. Many Americans do not get to see the greats such as Popov, Dimitri, Sammy Fossett, Dede, Charlie Cairoli, Alexis Gruss

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and Annie Fratellini. 'The Book of Clowns' gives you a substantial visit with the current greatest joey's of Europe.

George Speaight's text is well written covering milestones in the extensive history of clowning with well-chosen words and sentences so that in an amazing brief number of words you are treated to a vast spread of clowning history and present day activities on 128 pages including numerous full-page and half-page colored photographic gems.

The table of contents illustrates the spectrum of subjects. Early Comedy and Clowning, Clowns on the Stage, The Circus Clown, European Clowns, Clowning in Russia, American Clowns, Modern Times for Clowns, Index.

Here is a book you will be proud to give to a valued friend or loved one. No circus fan, performer, model builder can do without it.

## PEOPLE

**RAUL HERNANDEZ**, whose father is a member of the Cuban National Circus in Cuba, works as a fire eater in the Miami, Fla., area.

# Dallas Show

by BOB STODDARD

*(Reported in late 1981, but delayed in being printed due to a lost mail situation).*

Billed as "The Greatest Show in Dallas" the thirteenth annual Shrine Circus presented by the Hella Temple closed its six day stand at the Convention Center on Nov. 25.

Claude W. Lyon, Jr. was general chairman with Robert Atterbury as director. Assisting Bob was Joey Atterbury, while Carol Atterbury was in charge of wardrobe.

Assistant ringmaster Earl Michaels announced the warm-up show as the Hella Clowns performed a teeterboard act and Don and Jo Young (Poco and Slo-poke) did a plate spinning act.

Keith Killinger and the Shrine Circus band rendered the spirited circus overture.

Golden throated Ernie McLean, as ringmaster, presented the show.

The show opened with Circus on Parade; Julie Ventura did the slide for life, followed by the Chipperfield lions from London presented by Marcel Peters; The Pirates of the Sky, Roger Lamothe and David Chabira, were followed by the clown act "Petey and the Dog Catcher," featuring "Spikeawopski" (Terry Parsons).

Two rings of trampoline featured the Fornasaries and the Cristianis; The Garza Bros. from Mexico City presented the 'Living Statues' and back again by popular demand was King Arthur the Lion (Arthur Duchek) and Goldie, following a tough act successfully with a unique comedy high wire act. The Fabulous Darnells present (with a big touch of class) Magic, Beauty, Glitter and Wardrobe - heavy on all four.

Then on four corners, three cradle acts - The Reginin Duo, the Pinson Duo and the Ventura Duo, plus Danuta on the motorized chrome spider web; The Great Chinese Acrobats from Taiwan took the show to intermission, and Earl Michaels as Toe Toe the Clown.

After intermission: Beauty and the beasts perform in the center ring as Goldie presents the Cristianis uncaged leopards; Beautiful female flyers, The Flying Carrolls, perform amazing feats - way up yonder; The Fornasi's Clown Band, with papa Italo, his wife, three sons and a daughter present a rare and

precious novelty; then two rings of beautiful white horses presented by Jo Ann and Don Anderson are one of the most beautiful and well trained animal acts in the world.

Three rings of juggling featuring Lotti Brunn in a thrilling display of skill and timing, plus Tommy Curtin and Armondo Cristiani; Good comedy as clown 'Spikeawopski' presents his racing taxicab; three rings of the Shrine Circus elephants included the Cuneo elephants presented by Linda and Ben DeWayne, the Hawthorn elephants presented by Wade Burck and Tracy Mayo, and the Bucky Steele elephants presented by Jody Craigmile alone; Toe Toe the clown (Earl Michaels) and then the Finale.

The show this year was all new and I believe that it was better than ever. I admit that I may be influenced to a really great extent by the fact that I have never seen as many friendly circus people in the same show. (Some of you look down your noses at us towners). I'll only say that, for me, it was a better show put on by a great group of friendly people. I was sorry to see it end.

During the week the Shrine representatives met to make some decisions on next year's Shrine dates and many booking agents were on hand to book acts for next year.

Among them were: Gunner Amandis, Sandy Dobritch, Tarzan Zerbini, and Tibor Alexander.

Other visitors seen were: Gene Randow, Lou Regan and his wife, the Olmedas, Joe Clark and his wife, Joe Zoppe and his wife, Jimmy Hall and wife Tapa, and the baby, Irving Hall and his mother, their father Mel Hall, Joe Lemke, Tim Priestly, the Gary Henry family, Myna Moon and Ed Carlson.

Kumar Pallana, Bob Yerkes, Red Hartman, Ray Valentine, Eddie Murillo, John Cuneo, Steve Baker, Donna Wilson, Bill Bannister, Reggie Armor, and Johnny Johnson. This list is probably a small part of the whole visitors list! Sorry if I missed anyone.

Some acts have already signed up for next year. Some that I know about includes Earl Michaels (Toe Toe the Clown), Gene Randow the clown, King Arthur the Lion and Goldie, Pirates of the Sky set for Houston but not yet for the rest of the cities. Most are waiting to find out the dates for next year because several changes are being set.

## In Memoriam

PATRICIA MARIE CHRISTMAN, of Concord, Calif., and an employee at the Alameda County Fair (Calif) died in an auto accident on Aug. 25th. She had been employed by the fair for 22 years, starting there as a teenager. Most recently served as the Fair's publicity director.

## Miscellaneous

A new national touring company of the Broadway hit show "Barnum" started a two-year tour of the U. S. last month. The tour will include more than 100 cities and the show features Harvey Evans in the title role with Jan Pessano playing his wife.

# PEOPLE

JEANNIE and GEORGE YORDANOV, members of the riding act on the Ringling Blue Unit are the proud parents of a baby boy — Assen — born in Oakland, Calif., on Aug. 29th. The new arrival weighed in at 6 lbs.

## HOTLINE

Aug. 25 - Wilmington, Dela. - The Clyde Beatty front yard light plant truck was cut in half when it was rammed by another truck on U.S. 13. One light plant unit was found 30 ft. away with the flooring still attached. There were no injuries, although the other tractor-truck unit was demolished.

The show used the backyard light plant and a light plant from the cookhouse to carry the front end for several days. A new 150 kw plant, plus a new semi trailer were acquired to replace the damaged unit.