



8th Year

December 17, 1979

Number 51-52

# Ethnic Circus Set

Circus producer Ed Migley, of Circus Odyssey, reports that he has signed a contract to produce an ethnic circus next year for the Italian American Historical Society National Foundation. He will produce "Circo Di Italia" which will make its debut in December of 1980, at a city to be selected by the circus committee.

Four large eastern cities, all with important Italian communities, are being considered for the show's initial bow. The planned date will be a four day run, operated as a test, and if successful it will then be developed for a full tour in 1981 for the Italian organization.

Contracts for the circus were signed in Washington, DC, on Nov. 30th. In addition to Ed Migley and his legal counsel those signing the contracts were Raymond Gallo, president, Jim Veliese, circus chairman and Paul D'Maio, attorney.

Circus Odyssey has won acclaim for its many eastern and Puerto Rico engagements over the past several years. They carry a great deal of their own special equipment, including floats, bubble ma-

chines, lighting, backdrops, ring curbs, etc.

"Circo Di Italia" will feature Italian acts as much as possible. Some of the show program will be filled out with acts that do not have Italian backgrounds.



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# Greetings



DEAR CIRCUS FRIENDS...

I am five shows behind in getting pictures mailed, which were promised in 1979. I'm slow, but sure.

SALLY PAYNE  
2909 Preston Highway, Louisville, Ky 40217



BILL WILLIAMS (Cotton Candy the clown) has been working Christmas show dates in the Northern California area.

CHARLIE SMITH has been busy getting the two Ringling-Barnum show trains ready for the 1980 tour. The Blue Unit opens Dec. 27th and the Red Unit opens on Jan. 27th.

PAUL WESSLER is currently doing research on the Foley & Burk Railroad Show. If you have any information that could help him write: 2130 Park Ave., Apt. 17, San Jose, Calif. 95126

Al and SUE DAWLEY bought a new van for their upcoming circus season, which starts in just a few weeks. Their old van had too many problems.

M. H. BUSCH, of Missouri, reports that he was able to visit the Carson & Barnes, Beatty-Cole, Monte Carlo, Kelly Bros. and Big John Strong circuses this past summer.

THE CIRCUS REPORT is compiled and edited by Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Calif. 94530 - Phone: 415 - 525 - 3332.  
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# Show Dates

## Circus Knie

Dec. 20-30 Rotterdam, Holland

## Monte Carlo Circus

Jan. 5 Perth, Australia  
(Opening date for Australian  
and Japanese tour)

## People, Animals, Sensations

Dec. 12-31 W. Berlin, Germany

## Science Circus

Dec. 26-Jan. 1 Seattle, Wash.

## Wonderland Circus Revue

Dec. 17 Branchville, SC  
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## Yuletide Circus

Dec. 20-Jan. 12 Birmingham, Eng



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### ---- MAGIC ----

#### Kim Dixon Magic Show

Dec. 17 Santa Cruz, Calif.  
18 Fremont  
19 Oakland  
20 Monterey  
21 Salinas  
22 Big Bear

#### Prf. Miller - Magic Time USA

Dec. 17 Winchester, Va.  
18 Lessburgh  
19 Gettysburg, Pa.  
20 Reading

#### Tom Ogden - Magician

Dec. 17 Roanoke Rapids, NC  
18 Cherry Point  
20 Greenville, SC  
21 High Point  
22 Jacksonville  
27 Pottstown, Pa.  
28 East Stroudsburg  
29 Hazeltown



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**RECORD BREAKING** Wild West star **FRANK DEAN** has broken a batch of new ones. He guested recently on the Guinness Game Show (Dec. 10) and makes a return appearance on that TV series Dec. 19th. Frank contested on Oct. 13-14 in Oklahoma's Will Rogers Roping Contest to win First Prize plus two Second Prizes. With justifiable pride Frank reports that he accomplished the "Texas Skip" enclosed in a sack. Also contesting were **SYLVESTER** and **BARBARA BRAUN** who "placed" in a number of events. The purse was \$10,000 - one of the largest ever offered in this type of contest. Foot-note: Frank entered his first major contest in 1927 and 52 years later is able to enter contests and win, a record in itself. Frank was the oldest contestant to win First Place Award.

**EVERYTHING HAS ITS REWARDS!** **NANCY GIORDANO**, out of the hospital and walking (if not skipping) about, is dating her physical therapist and indicates the involvement is serious. Her sister **DE DE** is marrying musician **ROY ROBINETTE** this month, a former trumpet player with Hoxie Bros. and Carson & Barnes. Nancy's ex, **ROBERT GIORDANO** is tying the knot three days after De De and - here's a switch - Nancy will be Robert's fiancée's Maid of Honor! Ah! Those Californians!

**NANCY'S** accident was caused in part by anemia and a calcium deficiency which then caused her bones to break easily. That problem has been corrected. She chastized me slightly for begging her to stay on the ground. Go ahead, then, girl, Fly, but for heaven's sake Be Careful.

**CLOSEUPS:** **SIEFRIED** and **ROY** will headline their first vidspec for NBC. Lensing began last month. **PAUL LOWDEN** and **BERNIE YUMAN** put the package together for the magic super-super stars. . . **BOB LORRAINE** is shopping for a motorhome and plans to trek back on the road in 1980. Sez he's looking for a tour and has made tons of lavish wardrobe. . . Speaking of wardrobe **MILLIE WARD** is all needles and pins and things working on the 1980 Vargas pretties. . . **JIM SWAFFORD** was invited to dinner by **AURELIA HALL** and her girls while he was playing circus enthusiast in Houston. . . Word is that pressure is being applied by the unions to make the Dunes Hotel reinstate its show policy. . . **SOON** . . . Clown **TIM HILL** worked with a bad-

ly sprained ankle during the Texas dates and was on crutches out of the ring. . . One of those talkative little birds whispers that **GEORGE CORONA** and **JANIE ZAMPERLA** are at the hand-holding stage. . . Returns to the Texas dates this year were the **MAYANS**, the Living Statue act so popular in the program last season. They are painted silver and work with slow motion muscle control in changing color lights. . . **JIM PARKER** called to say that as much as he likes California he has no intention of giving up his Key West home. . . **JIM SWAFFORD** also caught the circus at the Dallas State Fair produced by veteran showman **GIL GRAY** and jackedpotted with **JIMMY HALL**, **BOBBY** and **ROSA GIBBS**, **YOLANDA ZOPPE**, **PETE LUVAS** Family, **HERBIE WEBER** and **MARCELLA**, the **ARWOODS**, **CHECKERS & PATCHES**, **SANDRA CRAIG**, **PIETRO CANESTRELLI** Family, **MAC** and **PEGGY MacDONALD** and **CLEO PLUNKETT**. Says that **PEGGY ZOPPE** was a frequent visitor and that **PEGGY MacDONALD** is as pert and peppy as ever in the ring. She and Mac were working a two elephant act. **BOBBY** and **ROSA** were working "Bimbo" from the DeWayne show and Jim reports the act is quick-tempoed and that Rosa is mounted on the bull throughout. . . **ANETA VARGAS** is back in Vegas and will return to a Circus Circus Casino either in Reno or Vegas. Her new illusion act involves dogs, ducks, doves and at the end Aneta changes into a young man and then into a leopard (hope I got that right). . . Visitors seen by Jim included the late Uncle Heavy (Boyd Klmes) and Family, Hines Rucker, the Duke Family and Betty Huber. . . The **DOLLY SISTERS** are off to England. . . **GIL ARIA** is going to Mechanics' School so he can repair their bear truck if and when it goes kaput. The new bear that the **ARIAS** acquired from **ALBERT RIX** is working out well in the act, they say. . . Aside to **TOMMY BENTLEY**. . . What's all this I hear about your "new hair" . . . **DAVID SMART's** planned USA visit was postponed three times because of his involvement with a new Safari Park in Malaga, Spain. Hopefully, by the time this sees print he will have finally arrived!

**TWO WEEKS** ago I wrote about "rediscovering" **CONNIE CLAUSEN**, author of the delight-

**SPECIAL****HE'S A MAGICIAN**

. . . . . by Kathy Melvin

(Reprinted from the Herald-Times of Bloomington, Ill., of Dec. 2nd, 1979).

Saturday evening (Dec. 1) was fairly quiet at Monroe County jail, but one prisoner booked into custody for disorderly conduct managed to put a little magic into the deputies lives.

Allan Ravin, also known as Allan Houvine, told the jailer on duty that he was a magician by profession and proceeded to prove it. The jailer ordered the prisoner to empty his pockets as is customary, but Houvine or Ravin did it with much more flair than most prisoners.

He pulled out a deck of cards and did several tricks for the deputies and even produced a live bird during his small act. The bird was given food and water and put in protective custody along with the magician's other valuables.

Paul Ramon, one of the jailers at the police station said Ravin's act was "fantastic". Late Saturday evening he reported he'd given the magician a deck of cards and he was busy enter-

**HOLIDAY GREETINGS**

from

**BILL and ONALEE  
WILLIAMS**



taining the other prisoners, much to their delight. "They think he's just great," said Ramon.

The unusual prisoner is a native of Dayton, Ohio but has apparently spent much of his time traveling, performing with circuses, for school children and with a wide variety of celebrities that include Hugh Hefner, William Conrad, Princess Grace, former President Gerald Ford and actor Jimmy Walker.

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**SPECIAL****WEDDING and ENGAGEMENT**

Trapeze aerialist Chela Gaona, a member of the famous Flying Gaona Troupe, and Manuel Mendez, a business manager for Madison Square Garden, were married on Dec. 1st. The wedding took place at the Epiphany Catholic Church in Venice, Fla., with circus chaplain Rev. David Hennesey, officiating.

In addition to the Gaona family, many circus stars, along with Lee Merriweather, of TV's 'Barnaby Jones' with daughters Lesley and Kyle Aletter, attended the wedding and reception. Irvin and Kenneth Feld, producers of the Ringling-Barnum Circus also attended.

At the reception, Tito Gaona, famed aerialist, and Lee Merriweather, announced their engagement.

Tito and the flying act leave at the end of the month for a tour with the RBBB Monte Carlo Circus in Australia and Tokyo. Miss Merriweather has completed her film commitments until next March and reportedly plans to travel with the show as much as possible.

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Police in Montreal recently raided two amusement parks, arresting 37 people and closing some 18 games of chance.

Police said the games, located at two large parks — La Ronde, On the Man and His World exhibition site and the privately owned Belmont Park — were rigged by their operators in such a way that it was impossible to win.

# Merry Christmas

AND MANY THANKS

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# Holiday Greetings



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## HOTLINE

New Jersey laws now require that all chimp acts must be presented from within a protective cage or arena.

Chimps will no longer be allowed to be worked on leads or loose. They must be confined within a cage for their performances.

## Miscellaneous

Visitors on the Hoxie Bros. Circus lot at its end of the year closing date in Edgewater, Fla., included: Billy Sheets, Kenneth Van, Mari Jo Couls, Edna Antes and her sister Loretta, Jim Cole; Billy Griffin, Bob and Lou Beck; Beth Boatmen and Dave Knoderer.

Jimmy Cole, Edna Antes and Mari Jo Couls were presented with Honorary Ringmaster Certificates by John Lewis at the start of the circus performance.

## REPORT

### ORIENTAL SHRINE CIRCUS . . .


. . . by Bill Galloway

The Oriental Temple of Troy, N. Y., presented its 1979 Shrine Circus, Nov. 18 to 25. Each of the Shrine Clubs sponsored the George Hubler produced circus at Schenectady, Fonda, Cohoes, Greenwich, Saratoga Springs, Glens Falls and Plattsburgh (NY). Excellent weather helped to bring out good crowds for all performances.

The show line-up included: Joe Sherman, clown come-in; Overture; National Anthem; Introductions; Adele & Gory (Hans and Adele Klose), in a gorilla parody; Clowns with Dog Pie; Joyce Rice, fire baton twirling; Clowns with the Magic Hat; Carol Wainwright, trapeze or web; Rex Horton, bears; Intermission; The Great Hans (Klose) ladder, sword balancing; Clowns with Magic rope; Joyce Rice, rope spinning and whips; The Wainwrights (Wayne, Carol, Shane), trampoline; Clown number with "Boys and Girls"; Joe Horwath and his chimps; Exit Marches.

The show staff consisted of: George Hubler, producer/announcer; Harry Mills, concessions; Shane Wainwright, lighting; Joe Horwath, props with Jessie Griffiths at the organ.

Clown Alley included: Joe Sherman, producing; Uncle Willie and Bubba Hastings.



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ANDRE KOLE, illusionist, is featured in the Nov. 1979 issue of the magazine "Genii".

PAULO and PHILIPPE are the clowns who will be producing clown numbers on Circus Vargas during the 1980 tour.

MRS. LOYETTE BURDEN, mother of Weldon Burden and the grandmother of "Kansas Bozo" (Patrick Burden) entertained Patrick and Velma Lowry with a birthday party last month.

DARRELL WALLEN and his horse "Mr. Rhythm" were featured WGN-TV's Circus program broadcast from Chicago on Dec. 17th.

BERNARD BERWIN, of Bernard and Ken, Il-

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lusion Show, missed only one days work after being clawed by one of their lions.

HINES RUCKER and the cast of the Int. All Star Circus recently camped out on the parking lot of Morris Costumes in Charlotte, NC.

PHILIP MORRIS has been signed to be the announcer for the TOMMY HANNEFORD produced Moslem Shrine Temple Circus in Detroit, in March of 1980. Morris' costume operation was recently featured on TV's "P. M. Magazine" show



# HOLIDAY GREETINGS

TO FRIENDS AND MY LOVELY FAMILY

BLESSINGS TO BABY DAUGHTER

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## WILD'S ANIMALS

Wild's Animals enjoyed a successful spring and summer season, playing both shopping centers and fairs. Wild's Animals presents three units - appearing together as one attraction or separately. Bookings are handled by Tom Wilds. The three units are: "Critters to Cuddle Petting Zoo and Menagerie" - "Pachyderm Power" (Bones Craig) - and "Capt. Bones' Travelin' Animal Show" (a twenty minute performing animal show).

The three units operate either under a top or side-walled and are presently playing Christmas fairs in California. They'll move south for winter fair dates and other engagements after the first of the year. Summer and Fall will find them up north again.

Bones operates his "Pachyderm Power Rides" out in front of the "Critters To Cuddle Petting Zoo and Menagerie". The "Capt. Bones' Travelin' Animal Show" consists of a llama, donkey and mule act, African pygmy goats presented by

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and

# Happy New Year

TO

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and

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One American Brown Bear, about 14  
 months old — Leash broke.

## Miscellaneous

The New York Clown Alley recently worked a  
 Beaux Art Ball engagement, followed by a ben-  
 efit program for UNICEF.

## PEOPLE

TIM HOLST, of the Ringling Red Unit, plans  
 to spend a month in Hawaii before resuming  
 his show duties for the coming year.

JON FRIDAY visited the Ringling Red Unit at  
 Chicago and then caught the International Unit  
 of Holiday On Ice at Grand Rapids.

PAT "Hunky D'Clown" BISSONETTE and  
 GERRY MERTENS, magician, have been play-  
 ing Santa Claus at the Crossroads Mall in St.  
 Cloud, Minn. DOROTHY NATHAN has her  
 patented 3 lense camera photo concession at  
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# SEASON'S GREETINGS



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# Season's Greetings

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THE HAPPIEST OF NEW YEARS TO FRIENDS  
OF THE CIRCUS EVERYWHERE . . . .

Thanks to Gordon Walsh; Howard and Marc W. Schultz;  
Ward Hall and C. M. Christ and others for a good 1979  
season on the road.

Special thanks to Hubert Castle, Tarzan Zerbini and  
Eugene C. Lambart for early 1980 dates as Ringmaster  
with the Hubert Castle International Three-Ring Circus  
commencing January 19th at Flint, Michigan, and ending  
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J. S. Sawchyn  
Ian Garden  
Big John Strong  
Corlee



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and a  
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from  
WINI Mc KAY  
and  
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# SEASON'S GREETINGS



GEE GEE'S

from  
COSSACK ELEPHANTS

GEE GEE ENGESSER

ROY & PAT WELLS



# magic

MAGIC, Hints, Helps and Hocus

... from FRANK HERMAN

Took a couple of weeks hiatus to let the mail catch up. Appreciate all your letters and will answer them in order.

"Tee-Ko" Ray of Edmond, Okla., is having trouble locating a prop Zipper Banana. Funny how fads go in the magic trade, a few years back Zippery slipperys were as common as thumb tips . . . now they are as rare as a 10% agent.

The Zip Chiquita is not hard to make on your own. Go to a yardage shop and look for some bright yellow, shiny cloth. A good quality stretch cloth or any goods with a little sheen and body. You might even find a bargain on the remanent table. Also buy two seven inch zippers. On the way home buy a medium sized real banana. Lay the banana on a piece of paper and draw an outline around it. Cut out two of these. Tape the edges together with masking tape and see if the unpeeled real fruit will slip easily inside. Make sure it is not too tight and you have a paper pattern to cut out the cloth. Sew a few inches of the two sides together at the ends then install the zippers. Use a brown

felt tip marker pen to lightly outline the ridges of the banana and daub a spot on each end. If you are not handy with a needle or sewing machine, take the cutouts and the zippers to any drycleaners that advertises alterations. They are experts at installing zippers. The original magic shop models were made out of oilcloth and had plastic linings. In time they all cracked, discolored and had to be replaced. Your hand made model will last a long time.

There is something funny about a performer eating on the stage and for some mysterious reason a banana is extra comical. A standard vaude bit was to have the straight man sing while his wife face comedy partner would peel and eat a banana just out of the straight man's sight. Bert Wheeler the famous Zigfeld comic used to do a monolog about the other actors on the bill while eating a big bread sandwich. Both bits always got big, automatic laughs.

The standard way to use a zipper banana was to announce that you did not have a chance to eat before the show, take out the partially unzipped banana (secretly holding it together) and pantomime peeling it. Eat a few big bites and then say, "I'll finish it later", and make a big deal out of zipping up the banana before returning it to your pocket.

(Continued on Page 32)

## WASHINGTON TUBBS II



# A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

AND A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL SHOW PERFORMERS AND FANS

Royal Hanneford, Hamid-Morton, Hoxie Bros., R. W. Commerford & Sons, Philip Morris Magic, Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros., C.F.A. Gettysburg Convention, Monte Carlo Circus, P. T. Barnum Museum, Ringling-Barnum Red and Blue Units - for your subscriptions and single issues to "SOUTHERN SAWDUST" making 1979 a banner year during its 25th ANNIVERSARY SEASON.

ACCEPTING SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE 1980 SEASON - 25th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE still available \$3.50 - Other back issues \$2.50 - Better yet subscribe for the year \$9.00.

DAVID P. ORR - North East Representative - Cherry St., Sandy Hook, Conn.

MAY YOU HAVE SUNNY SKIES AND GRASSY LOTS ALL THROUGH 1980

## REPORT

MAGIC HOLIDAY FANTASY . . .

. . . . by Bob 'Smiley' Corbin

The writer had the great pleasure of catching Ron Bacon's vaudeville show playing schools and theatres in southeastern Ohio. The show was traveling on 2 equipment trailers and six pick-ups with house trailers.

The program featured very fine talent, with versatile magic and illusions presented by Dorian Blake and Janis. Billy Martin, another fine performer presented juggling on the rola bola,

pitch and balloon sculptures.

Other great acts were Cha-Cha's Captivating K-9's; Miss Victoria Lang's aerial artistry; Cha-Cha, the clown; The Remarkable Roger with plate spinning; Mongo-Bongo the almost human gorilla with Miss Vickie; the Dubois Dancing Doll (the old hit of the Ed Sullivan show); and the ever popular Lang Family on the trampoline. The Lang Family consists of Bob, Jane, David, Robbie, Vicki and Susie.

Music for the show was provided by David Miller at the organ. Ron Bacon is owner-manager; Harry Crook, contracting agent; Bob Lang, unit manager; Jane Lang, concession manager.

## By Crane

YEAH?

BUT DON'T  
TELL NOBODY.  
IT'S A SECRET.

*Best Wishes*

*For the Holiday Season and all  
Through the Coming Year*



**JIMMY JAMES**



2203 Lancaster Drive  
Columbus, Georgia - 31904

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

TO ALL CIRCUSES EVERYWHERE

from

KAY BROS. TENT No. 21, C.F.A.

Colonial Heights, Petersburg, Virginia



Aubrey Puckett  
Winifred Massie  
Bob Boyle  
Johnny Nugent  
James Nugent  
A. Hine

Ellis Vaiden  
Dean Jordan  
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**In Memoriam**

**JOHN CANOLE**, friend to people both in and out of show business, died after suffering a heart attack at his Florida home on Dec. 2nd. He helped keep performers and circuses on the road with his sales facilities for trucks, show equipment and trailers. Burial was in his home town of Allentown, Pa.

**FRANK McCLOSKEY**, part owner of the Beatty-Cole Circus, died in early November after a long illness. He started his show business career on the Ringling-Barnum Circus and worked for several shows before forming a partnership that took over the defunct Clyde Beatty Circus and brought it to the east coast.

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**DONALD (Sparky) WASHBURN**, popular circus clown, died on Dec. 1st at Sedro Wooley, Wash., as a result of injuries suffered in an accident about two months ago at Crescent City (Calif.). He was on tour with the Big John Strong Circus at the time. Burial was in his hometown of Chanute, Kans. on Dec. 6th.

*Season's Greetings***A SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

Rudy Jacobi  
 Chuck Clancy  
 Tommy Bentley

John Lewis (for booking me into the Oregon State Fair)

**BOB "Hi Fi" EMERICO**

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• "I'm sorry, Miss, there's not much demand  
for animal acts."

## SEASON'S GREETINGS

TO ONE AND ALL IN THE  
CIRCUS WORLD



BILL GREEN & RON SANFORD

Beatrice, Nebraska

## REPORT

### PAN AMERICAN MAGIC SHOW

The Pan American Magic Show, playing dates in the east, is an Allan Hill production. The show runs about 90 minutes and all performances are presented under the auspices of local sponsors.

Featured in the show are: Kay Parker Duo, musicians; Jungle Fantasy with Connie Welde's Uncaged Leopards and Jaguar; Miss Diana, foot juggling; Paulette's Peerless Puppies; Willie the weight lifter, clown gag; The Rolling Diamonds, roller skaters; Intermission; Chandler & Co., magic/illusions; Santa Claus.

The show's staff includes: Allan Hill, producer and tour director; Marc Barr, props; William Slater, producing clown.

May the Peace and Good Will of  
Christmas be with You Through All  
The New Year.

..... Tiny and Hazel Phillips



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**FRANK HERMAN (Continued)**

I used it as a running gag while emceeing a variety show. Used the zipper prop between each act a different way:

1 - While starting the show and explaining about applause, etc., I took out the banana unpeeled it, took a few bites and zipped it up without referring to it.

2 - Unpeeled banana, there was a hot dog inside, took out a packet of ketchup (like they give you at MacDonaldis) put a few daubs on hot dot, ate a few bites and then zipped up the banana. Again I did not mention the prop.

3 - Unpeeled the banana, there was a string of mini hot dogs inside (prepared by taking cocktail weenies and sewing them together) as I started to eat one, the drummer went "Woof" I broke one of the mini-weenies off the string and threw it to him. He attempted to catch it in his mouth as his foot hit the pedal of the bass drum. Rest of the band started barking and I made a big bit out of breaking weenies off the string and tossing them to them. Actually only threw about three dogs but panto'd many more.



to all our

Circus Friends, Circus Fans and  
old Carnival Friends

— \* —

FERNE & HARRY CHIPMAN

## BEST WISHES TO MY FRIENDS EVERYWHERE



JIM SWAFFORD

4 - Unpeeled banana (really unzipped this time and a bunch of jelly beans cascaded over the front of the stage and into the pit). Violin player stood up, shaking his inverted fiddle and yelled, "Keep your darn beans out of my Stradivarius"!

5 - Came out with a hot dog, unpeeled it and had a banana inside, took one bite and then exchanged it for the orchestra leader's baton.

Prop for this last bit came from a pet store. They sell a doggy toy that looks like a hot dog on a bun. With a razor blade, I cut three long slits part way down the sides so that it could be peeled like a banana. Inside I put part of a real unpeeled banana.

OK, Tee-Ko, hope we have been of help. Do you have a problem or a hint to pass along? Send routines, tricks, books or props for review to: Frank Herman, 185 - 8th St., West, Bandon, Oregon 97411.

### Miscellaneous

Three Siberian tiger cubs were born to cats on the Carden-Johnson Circus early this month.

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JOHN "Tiny" PHILLIPS and ALBERT HOUSE visited the Ringling Red show at the Nassau Coliseum on Nov. 28th, visiting with "Backdoor Dave" CAESAR, TIM HOLST, DAVE MULLANEY, SAL CONDITO, WALLY NAGHTIN, and FRED CANESTRELLI.

TOM McFAUL (Bibble the clown) put on a make-up demonstration for the "Psychological Foundations of Learning" class at St. Benedict College in St. Joseph, Minn., on Nov. 30th.

JONI and LUCKY LARABEE have been spending their off time enjoying their sailboat on the waters off Florida. They start their new season the first of the year.

TERRY O'BRIEN, juggler/wire act, is working the "Very Merry Christmas Parade" at Disney World - Dec. 15 to Jan 1st.

DAVE MULLANEY, of the Ringling Red Unit, tripped and fell during a show blackout, breaking his left arm (Nov. 23). He has continued to work even with his cast.

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1977 GMC One ton dual wheel crew cab  
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JO ANN JENNIER presented her trapeze act at the Tampa (Fla) Dog Track on Dec. 11th. The event was the Annual Greater Tampa Showman's Association Day at the Race Track.

MANY THANKS TO

MR. ROBERT L. PARKINSON

AND

MR. JOHN CUNEO

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**CAN USE HELP** in all Depts. for the 1980 season. Williams Bros. Circus, 2635 Norton Road, Kent, Ohio.

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GRIFFIN, escape artist, was featured in a special photo report on the front page of the Mountain Courier, of Crestline, Calif., on Nov. 23rd.

MARI JO COULS visited with her daughter PATTI RUCKER and other friends on the Int. All Star Circus at Ocala, Fla. The following day everyone celebrated a house warming and birthday party for LIAM, 4 year old son of TERRY and CAMILLE O'BRIEN in Kissimee, Fla.

THE WINN TROUPE, aerial motorcycle act, plus JOSE FELICIANO, will headline the entertainment at Knott's Berry Farm, in Buena Park, Calif., on New Year's Eve.

## WANTED

ELEPHANT HANDLER to work with elephants at Brookfield Zoo.

For information contact: JOE DAVIS  
(312) 485 - 0263 - Ext. 38

Or Write: Brookfield Zoo  
Brookfield, Ill. 60513

SANDY KOZIK, MIGUEL FERREIRA, DAN BUCKLEY, MIKE SNIDER, GARY "Oscar" COOPER and KEVIN BROOKINGS will return to the Beatty-Cole Circus Clown Alley for the 1980 season. ELMO GIBB will be working as the show's advance clown once again.

ADEN W. LOWRY, Kansas State CFA Chairman and a member of COA, suffered a heart attack on Nov. 26th. He reportedly was improving slowly. (You can send cards or letters to him at: 206 North Douglas, Sedan, Kansas 67361).

BRUCE ANDERSON, high act performer, has been improving steadily since his fall and reports things are going well. He spent Thanksgiving Day with his folks in Wisconsin.

*A MERRY CHRISTMAS  
and A HAPPY NEW YEAR*

FROM

**JACK BELL TENT No. 90**  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

A SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Hubert Castle International Circus  
American Continental Circus  
Circus Vargas  
Ringling-Barnum "Red" Unit Circus  
Wenatchee Youth Circus

FOR MAKING IT OUR BEST SEASON EVER

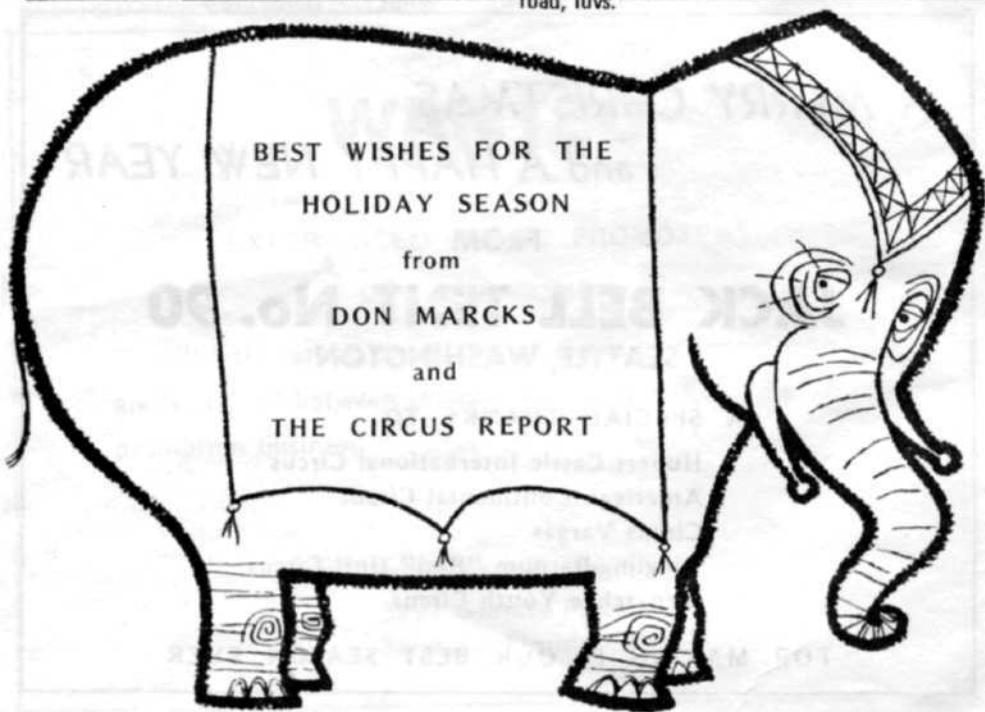
**BILLY BARTON (Continued)**

ful "I Love You Honey, But The Season Is Over". Since then I got around to reading the book. Those of you who haven't read Miss Clausen's book about her first and only season with Ringling in 1942 as a showgirl, I beseech you to begin foraging used book stores in a search that will reward you with hours of pure enjoyment. It is one of the few circus books which is not only informative but entertaining and tells the truth without all the silly sentiment. More important the book RECREATES a wonderful nostalgia and depicts an era that will never return, when the Ringling show was truly a tented miracle, a paean to teamwork and ingenuity which showcased the greatest aggregation of talent ever assembled under a big top. Naturally, the book has more significance to us than it does to the outsider. And, oh, how the names Cristiani (when they were a HUGE troupe), Elly Ardelty, Vander Barbette, Murray Anderson, Miles White, Art and Antoinette, and others evoke memories. When she writes about a "clown with a duck" we know she means the late HARRY DANN. The book was written during the war years which

adds extra spice. Do yourself a favor. Get this book and join with me in a belated ovation for a talented author whose love of the circus punctuates every sentence.

**CAPSULE CINEMA: SEXTETTE** starring MAE WEST. An hilarious take-off spoofing everything from old Hollywood musicals (where they break into song at the slightest provocation) to the Godfather; from President Carter to Mae West herself. A picture with real belly laughs, the kind you just don't see anymore. Mae, in her eighties, is clearly having a good time and throws the lines with the same old Westian punch (some of which are side-splitting). DOM DELUISE is a brilliant foil for La West, the best she's ever been teamed with. Tall, dark, and handsome TIMOTHY DALTON is endearing as frustrated husband number six. The three stars carry the film. If you're a Mae West fan, or if you just want to have fun and laugh your head off, don't miss it. SEXTETTE is irreverent, outrageous, pure camp, and the closing blockbuster scene is one you will never forget. That scene alone is worth the price admission and the Mae West Classic Line of All Time.

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- 1 - Seat Trailer - 31 feet long

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**MASTER**

... from BILL KORMPATES

I had the good fortune to see the Showfolks of Sarasota Annual Circus put on by Francis Stebins and it was by far the best I've ever seen, with one ring and John Herriott doing a fantastic job as ringmaster. He paid a tribute to Col. Trevor Bale for his Masterful Horsemanship, and the program included Harold Alzana, coming out of retirement, who got a standing ovation.

Saw and spoke with Reggie Armour and he looks great and will be back on the road soon. I also met Celeste the girl in the moon of some years back, and Klara Torina who used to do a sway pole and was on the Camel ads many years ago (she was married to the Great Eric, sway pole act who is now deceased).

Also saw Frank Perez (long-time on Ringling), Fay and Rose Alexander who were in New Jersey with the Nocks (Joe Bauer) his family, Gene Nock and family, Oresto Canestrelli and family who did teeterboard, Micki Freeman, Pete and Grace Ivanhoe, Jackie Carson, Arnosi, Chapman, Pierce, Zamudi, headstand on trapeze and does a beautiful spin revolve while in the head balance, Dolly Copeland, who gave me two Emperin tablets for a splitting headache I had during a snack at the clubhouse, and of course Dave and Marge Hackett with whom I sat with during the dinner.

**THANKS to EVERYONE**

Your patronage during the past year has been appreciated.

JOHN MCGINN

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- Ice Capades - Western Unit  
Dec. 25-Jan. 1 Spokane, Wash.
- Ice Follies  
Dec. 26-Jan. 6 Philadelphia, Pa
- Santa's Xmas Revue - Red Unit  
Dec. 17 Albuquerque, NM  
19 Phoenix, Ariz.  
21 Anaheim, Calif.  
22-23 San Bernardino
- Santa's Xmas Revue  
Dec. 18 Tulsa, Okla.  
19 Oklahoma City
- The Sikorskys - Jugglers  
Dec. 20 Baltimore, Md.  
22 York, Pa.
- Whizzer the Clown  
Dec. 23 Cambridge, Ohio
- Yabba Dabba Doo Show  
Dec. 26-Jan. 6 Philadelphia, Pa

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**CIRCUS QUIPS....**

..... by KARL J. BISCHOFF

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DON'T DECIDE on the answers to important questions when you have a bad lot and a stormy day.

THOSE WHO SAY 'you can't take it with you' never saw a performer's truck and trailer packed for the next date.

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## REPORT

### CIRCUS LUNCHEON BIRTHDAY PARTY

..... by Benzine the Clown

The Circus Luncheon Club's Birthday Party was just like the back yard of a circus. There were about 100 people there, so many I could not really count them, especially since some came in and then left early, while others stayed around.

There was a big cake, provided by the restaurant owner and an auction was handled by Dave and Judy Twomey of the Happytime Circus.

There were a lot of folks from the American Continental Circus and many old timers. Some of those I saw there were Smokey Jones and his family, Bobby Kay, Frank Dean, and such clowns as Benzine, Abe Goldstein, Rainbow, Spedo, Perky, Mr. Gwin.

## Miscellaneous

Gabriel, Rosen and Shady, accountants and auditors, have taken over the files and records of the late tax consultant Ted D. Elkort. Their address is: 4900 Merrick Road, Suite 202, Massapequa, NY 11762.





SEASON'S  
GREETINGS

from  
THE WENDANYS  
Betty — Fred — Heidi



from  
DON  
MARCKS

This is the annual Holiday issue of Circus Report which wraps up another year.

We appreciate your support and help

There's going to be a slight gap between this issue and the next one, as we need to take some time off. Holiday time seemed as if it would be the easiest time to do this and we hope you'll understand.

The next issue of Circus Report will be dated Jan. 14, 1980. If possible we will try to have an issue out a week ahead of that date.

During the next few weeks a variety of new machinery is to be installed in the shop and at the same time all of the older equipment will be given a complete overhaul or will be rebuilt.

This should result in a better paper in the future and one thing for sure it ought to be able to eliminate many of the problems of the past.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS - we'll see you in 1980!

## PEOPLE

SEBASTIAN, the "Human Target" is appearing at Circus Circus in Las Vegas on a limited basis. He catches a bullet with his teeth at each show performance.

SAD BUSTER, the Clown, worked a Dec. 8th engagement at a shopping mall in Galveston, Texas.

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