

# CIRCUS REPORT

"AMERICA'S FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY"

The logo for 'Circus Report' is a vibrant, stylized graphic. The title 'CIRCUS REPORT' is written in large, red, bubbly letters with a blue outline, set against a blue background. To the left of the title is a circular emblem containing a blue elephant with its trunk curled. To the right is another circular emblem containing a blue tiger with its mouth open in a roar. Below the title is a white banner with a blue border, containing the text 'AMERICA'S FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY' in blue. In the center of the banner is a white clown's face with a wide, joyful expression. The entire logo is framed by a red and white ribbon-like border.

9th Year

August 18, 1980

Number 33



# Joseph C. Reisinger

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## PEOPLE

**BOB STODDARD** and **DAVE 'Skinhead' LEWIS**, Texas Mid-Cities Clowns, visited clown friends on the Ringling show at Dallas, July 30th. They talked with **LOU JACOBS**, **JOHN RUSSELL**, **DUANE THORPE**, **FROSTIE LITTLE** and **BERNIE SPENCER**.

**TIM** and **GINA TEGGE**, of the TNT Circus have been busy on their off days, visiting the Carson & Barnes Circus, the Circus World Museum and Franzen Bros. Circus.

**JOHN RUSSELL**, RBBB Clown, holds the world's record for stilt walking at 31 feet.

**PAT WILLHORTE**, Bimbo the Clown, was the special guest of the Gladys Harrington Library at Plains, Texas on Aug. 1st. Helping him distribute free gifts to the children, as a part of Clown Week, were Piggly and Wiggly (Lori and Angi Snailum).

**POPPY BENNER**, a Texas Mid-Cities Clown and RBBB Clown Boss 'Frosty' LITTLE were among those interviewed by a Dallas TV station during 'Clown Week.' The interviews took place during a circus performance.

**LOU FLOWERS 'Honey' STODDARD**, **JAMES 'Jimbow' DECKER** and **JUANITA 'Mini Ha Ha' HOLDCRAFT**, Alley 85 Clowns, entertained at the Duncanville, Texas, Library for Clown Week activities in that area.

**PERCY** and **JOY TURNER** visited Carson & Barnes Circus and caught the Circus World Museum Parade in Baraboo as part of their vacation schedule.

**PAUL LUCKEY** is hospitalized following several severe heart attacks. He would enjoy

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ACTS - Are you listed with us ?

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## On The Cover

This week's cover painting by Robert B. Johnson features an act that was popular years ago. Called "The Act Beautiful" this number was first presented as a part of the show's spec, later it was used to introduce the dog act.

The special wagon or carriage and all the animals were white. The two girls were dressed in white and the only color was the American flag.

Pulled by two horses in tandem, the carriage carried a white horse representing the legendary Pegasus. White fully dogs walked the inside and outside of the wheel rims.

cards and letters, which can be sent to him at St. Claire Hospital, Baraboo, Wisc.

**FRED** and **FIFI REED**, CFA President, visited friends in Southern California and while there attended a meeting of the Paul Eagles Circus Luncheon Club.

**DAVE ROBINSON** and daughter **STEPHANE**, **HUNT BUSHNELL**, **WINI MCKAY**, **CHESTER CABLE**, **DUNCAN SMITH**, **SMOKEY JONES** and daughter **KARI** visited Circo Atayde during that show's engagement at Tijuana during July.

**PAUL FIDDLER & CO.**, illusionist who features a basket routine with fire and a dancing hankerchief, has been signed by the Tropicana Hotel in Las Vegas.

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## BEHIND THE BIG TOP

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— Publishers Weekly

"None of the old pros among writers of circus stories will deny to David Lewis Hammarstrom a membership in their ranks . . . He walked with his source people down a street called memory lane, and they loom large as life -- especially to readers who know them. And for the first time, I think, not only the stars of the rings, the air, and the hippodrome track, but management luminaries as well receive center-ring position in a circus book. So . . . Congratulations, David, and welcome to the club!"

— F. Beverly Kelley

... So go the verdicts . . . from Switzerland to Manhattan to St. Louis . . . from Baraboo to Bagdad to Anaheim . . . "BEHIND THE BIG TOP" is rapidly becoming Spangleland's sensational new star!

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# Show Dates

Bentley Bros. Circus  
 Aug 20 Philadelphia, Pa  
 21-22 Reading  
 23-25 Lower Merion

Carson & Barnes Circus  
 Aug 18-19 Grays Lake, Ill  
 20-24 Maywood

Hubert Castle Circus  
 Aug 19 Puyallup, Wash  
 20 Bremerton

Happytime Circus  
 Aug 15-Sep 1  
 Sacramento, Calif

Hoxie Bros. Circus  
 Aug 18 Coldwater, Mich  
 19 Jenison  
 20 Holland  
 21 South Haven  
 22 Highland, Ind  
 23 Oak Park, Ill.  
 24 Whiting, Ind.

Make-A-Circus  
 Aug 19 San Fran, Calif.  
 21 San Fran

Ringling-Barnum - Blue  
 Aug 19-26 Oakland, Cal.

Ringling-Barnum - Red  
 Aug 17-21 Toledo, Ohio  
 23-24 Kalamazoo, Mich

Royal Crown Circus  
 Aug 19-20 Englewood, Col  
 22-24 Arvada

John Strong Circus  
 July 30-31 Billings, Mont

TNT & Royal Olympic  
 Aug 20-24 Tulsa, Okla.

---- MAGIC ----

Manzini Escape Artist  
 to Sep 1 Lake George, NY

Tom Ogden - Magician  
 to Aug 24 Sheffield, Mass

---- OTHER DATES ----

Bonnie & Clyde  
 Aug 24 Andover, Mass.

Burr's Fun-O-Rama  
 Aug 18-23 Union Fair, Me

James H. Drew Exposition  
 Aug 18-23 Gray, Tenn

Foley & Burk Shows  
 Aug 19-24 Monterey, Cal

Frontier Days  
 Aug 21-24 Ukiah, Calif

Gutis Family  
 Aug 19-24 Rhinebeck, NY

Hall & Christ Attractions  
 to Aug 24 Columbus, Oh

Kaye Hollyw'd Elephants  
 Aug 20 Philadelphia, Pa  
 21-22 Reading  
 23-25 Lower Merion

Mighty Thomas Shows  
 Aug 19-24 Sioux Falls, SD  
 19-24 Douglas, Wyom

New Engl'd Clown Meet  
 Aug 23-24 E. Hartford, Conn

Peking Opera  
 to Aug 24 New York, NY

Royal American Shows  
 Aug 21-Sep 1 St. Paul, Mn

The Sikorskys - Jugglers  
 Aug 19-23 Meadville, Pa

Frank Strout - western act  
 Aug 21-23 Jonesville, La.

Tip Top Shows - Blue  
 Aug 20-24 Weyauwega, Wsc

Tip Top Shows - Green  
 Aug 21-24 Lancaster, Wsc

W. G. Wade Shows  
 Aug 18-Sep 1 Detroit, Mich

Whizzer the Clown Show  
 Aug 18 Wellington, Ohio

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Geni Garden

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## ***Enrico Wallenda Bogino***

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## **Public Notice:**

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**ENROUTE** to GRACIE's Wyandotte (Mich) date, July 21-27, I stopped over in Niles, Ohio to catch Beatty-Cole and then on my way home dropped in at Cedar Point (near Sandusky) to see Jungle Larry's Safari and to visit with MIKE and JANICE ARIA (and brother Gil). First of all Cedar Point is quite an amusement park and secondly JUNGLE LARRY has a great animal compound which attracts hordes of daily visitors. Unique is their African elephant carrying on its back a black leopard with out a pad. MIKE CECERE (on a new diet) is working a lion act in one show, a tiger act in another and is lavish in his praise of Jungle Larry and his wife and their meticulous concern over their animals.

THE ARIAS have added a new bear to the act and many new routines. It is a good bear act. The main surprise came when I watched Janice's new Golden Retriever dog act worked liberty style which is first-rate. They also showed off their new baby, Amper, now 10 months old, whom they've nicknamed Magoo.

IT WAS hot on the Beatty-Cole lot so I hopped from one air-conditioned trailer to another, foregoing the performance as it was just too uncomfortable. The show's new blue and white canvas looks picture-pretty on the lot, also exuded a cool-look which you and I know just isn't so on a torrid day with the relentless sun bearing down on an asphalt parking lot.

BEATTY-COLE closes its tent operation Sep. 28th, goes to Florida for three weeks of rehearsals and then reopens in Pittsburgh in late Oct. The show will run until mid-Dec., shutter for Christmas and trek out again in Jan., planning to remain indoors until the tent season kicks off in April. Rumors are the tent show will start off its new season in Texas which could be a mistake. That would put them on the heels of the Shrine Circuses having skimmed off the cream during Oct. and Nov., plus the Ringling unit having played there in the summer. For their sake I hope it works.

WENT to dinner with SUSAN and CEMON and managed to sandwich visits during my rush day with HARRY HAMMOND, RUSS DARR, the WELDES, LOIS and DAVE HOOVER, JIMMY JAMES (doing a great job announcing) VASHEK and KATHY, and did skip in under the sidewall to watch my "protege" BONNIE

BALE do her cloud-swing, improving each time I see it. BUT . . . mainly I finally caught up to my old flame DAWNITA BALE who has eluded me since we were a twosome on the old Howard Suez Clyde Bros. Circus. She of the bewitching eyes is as bewitching and as beautiful as ever I was happy to see!

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK: CLARK and PAULA BERTLOFF with a very nice adagio hand-balancing act. She was a production girl with RBBB and he was part of the train crew. They also were at Circus World together. They have been working with their act just a little over a year and all good luck to them.

SNAPSHOTS: LOIS and DAVE HOOVER have a new Avion. . . RUSS DARR's wife plans to open a Ballet School. . . KAREN CRISTIANI FRENCH is now doing the Wheel with ELVIN BALE in Japan while JEANETTE flew to Florida to open their new 'Cafe Continental' in Venice where NITA BALE may be the hostess. Nita told me her brother's new aerial act is such a secret even she doesn't know what it is. . . While stopping at BILL and TRUDY's, FAY ALEXANDER took to the air and practiced with the FLYING LANES. You just can't keep a good guy grounded!. . . QUASSARS will make Gracie's Rochester date next season. For the tour are booked the VASQUEZ TROUPE, ROMAN SCHMITT, DON PHILLIPS & Co., and HARRY THOMAS in his second season with M&M.

BOOM BOOM is now an apartment-dweller outside of Chicago. . . Luscious, lithesome LOU ANN JACOBS is set for 7 weeks with Circo Atayde and will go from there to M&M. . . SHANE WAINWRIGHT is talking about being a flyer. The Wainwrights, meanwhile, went to Hawaii for PAUL KAYE, there joined DINKY PATTERSON, ROMAN and EDDIE SCHMITT and BILLY WOODS with the VOLARES FLYERS. . . The WAINWRIGHTS will also do that ten day advance publicity stint which is an annual for the Hadi Temple Shrine Circus Thanksgiving Week. . . The KURSAWES (did-yaknow Freddie was once a member of the famed Freilani bike act?) headed for IAN GARDEN's dates. . . ARIAS BEARS make Wayne (Mich) for SANDY DOBRITCH and then go to Toronto to play the TV date Circus! with their dogs. (They've already played

(Continued on Page 23)

# Shrine Dates

COMPILED BY MIKE SPORRER

(Updated information - first printed in Circus Report, July 18, 1977)

## VANCOUVER, BC, Canada - Gezeh Temple

1934 - July 9-14 - Eastern States - Auditorium  
 1935 - 1937 - None  
 1938 - Apr. 25-30 - Polack - Beatty St. Drill Hall  
 1939 - 1946 - None  
 1947 - Aug. 21-23 - Polack - Queens Park Arena  
 Western New Westm'tr, B.C.

1948 - Aug 30-Sep 6 - Polack Western  
 1949 - Aug 29-Sep 5 - Polack Western  
 1950 - Aug 28-Sep 4 - Polack Western  
 1951 - Aug 22-Sep 3 - Polack Western  
 1952 - Aug 20-Sep 1 - Polack Western  
 1953 - Aug 26-Sep 7 - Polack Western  
 1954 - Aug 25-Sep 6 - Polack Western  
 1955 - Aug 24-Sep 5 - Polack Western  
 1956 - Aug 22-Sep 3 - Polack Western  
 1957 - Aug 21-Sep 3 - Polack Western  
 1958 - Aug 18-Sep 1 - Polack Bros.  
 1959 - Aug 31-Sep 7 - Polack Bros.  
 1960 - Aug 26-Sep 5 - Polack Bros.  
 1961 - Aug 25-Sep 4 - Polack Bros.  
 1962 - Aug 24-Sep 3 - Polack Bros.  
 1963 - Aug 23-Sep 2 - Polack Bros.  
 1964 - Aug 28-Sep 7 - Polack Bros.  
 1965 - Aug 27-Sep 6 - Polack Bros.  
 1966 - Aug 26-Sep 5 - Polack Bros.  
 1967 - June 29-July 3 - Hubert Castle  
 1968 - June 12-16 - Hubert Castle  
 1969 - June 17-22 - Hubert Castle  
 1970 - June 9-14 - Hubert Castle  
 1971 - June 22-27 - Hubert Castle  
 1972 - June 23-25 - Hubert Castle  
 1973 - June 15-17 - Hubert Castle  
 1974 - June 14-16 - Hubert Castle  
 1975 - June 20-22 - Hubert Castle  
 1976 - June 25-27 - Hubert Castle  
 1977 - June 17-19 - Hubert Castle  
 1978 - June 16-18 - Hubert Castle  
 1979 - June 22-24 - Hubert Castle  
 1980 - June 13-15 - Hubert Castle

*Note: Polack Bros. appeared at the annual Pacific National Exhibition 1948-1966. The Hubert Castle played at the Agrodome 1967-71, and since then has appeared at the Pacific Coliseum.*

# Summer Address

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# REPORT

## TNT & ROYAL OLYMPIC CIRCUS

BY KEN HOLEHOUSE

The TNT & Royal Olympic Circus presented a sprightly half-hour show in the center court of a big suburban shopping center in Lombard, Ill.

The 20th anniversary show opened with Tina Marie's magic compartment from which showman Earl Tegge appears. He is ringmaster for the circus. Tim Tegge's drums and his mothers organ provided the lively musical accompaniment for the acts.

Barbara Van continued the show, fresh from a tour with the Harlem Globetrotters, with a fancy display of foot juggling. Poppin and Co. closed the mini-circus with a comedy tight-wire routine. In between, a Toyland pantomime and balancing act proved entertaining ala the spirit of Shields and Yarnell and a clown's toothache was 'operated on'.

# In Memoriam

CURT BOQUIST (62) an aerial performer, died July 11th at his home in Naples, Fla. He and his wife, Melitta, presented two top acts - "The Sikorskys" an aerial perch number and "Melitta and Wicons" a ground perch act. They appeared with many major shows and toured with Polack Bros. for several years. A native of Sweden, Curt is survived by his wife, Melitta, and a daughter Anita.

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## REPORT

### A BILL KAY REPORT

Our Mobile, Ala., date for the Abba Temple Shrine Club was held Aug. 1-2.

Business for our Colorado and Idaho engagements was very good in June. The July dates for Nemesis and Osiris Temples in West Virginia and the Warren Police Circus were well ahead of the previous record-breakers.

Acts scheduled for some of our upcoming dates will be: Buckles Woodcock, elephants; Lee's Dogs; Flying Gabianos; Hans Klose; Tino Wallenda Zoppe; Herbie Weber; Olmedas; Rodriguez Troupe; Edca Schmitt's tigers; Roman Schmitt's elephants; Tony Fosset's acts; Fay Alexander; The Bertinis; Bedfren camels; Dime and Connie Wilson; and others to be named.

Visitors in Wheeling included Gunnar Amanidis, Wilson Storey, John Puh, plus Fran Conserva from P.M. Magazine who directed the filming of the show during our Albany, N.Y. engagement.

Acts featured on the Warren Police Circus program (July 23) were: Dime and Connie Wilson, balloons; Miss Tina, aerialist; Miss Cindy, aerialist; Edca Schmitt's tigers; Rolls Duo, aerialists; The Drougets, juggling; Erik and Bobbie's dogs; Rubonias, tumbling; Ma-Ho-Pin, sway pole; Onecos, tightwire; Flying Gaonas; Erik Adams, chimps; The Argentinos, perch act; Albanis, aerial motorcycle; the Mario Mad Hatters.; Roman and Jean Schmitt with elephants and zebras; Hugo Zacchini, human cannonball.

Clowns with the circus were: Dime and Connie Wilson, Joe Sherman and Carl Gray.

The show staff consisted of: William Kay, director; Patricia Kay, auditor-talent coordinator; Bill Pruyn, musical director; Sue Rice, secretary; Bob Miller, supt.; Bill Miller, lighting.

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## MAILBAG

FROM WILLIAM WOTSCH

One year when the Ice Capades played our arena they used pink pigeons in a big production number, which was "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs."

The prop man would place the pigeons on the set, then put out kernels of corn for them. This way the pigeons would be busy eating and thus stay where they were supposed to be.

The pigeons never seemed to fly away, but one night when they were packing up two of them flew up into the ceiling beams and wouldn't come down for anything.

The Ice Capades left minus two pigeons, who spent most of their time in the rafters. They came down to drink water from our ice floor during the night. Of course they were able to get something to eat by picking among the scraps left by the patrons.

About a week after Ice Capades had left, during a hockey game, the two pink pigeons fluttered down onto the ice, then started drinking some of the water that rests on top of the ice.

One of the hockey players picked them up and flashbulbs were popping everywhere. The big crowd roared with laughter.

Those two pigeons just waited until they had an audience to welcome them. Their picture was in all the papers and we released them outside. I've often wondered what the neighborhood pigeons thought when those pink pigeons joined their flock.

## Miscellaneous

### A BUSY SPOT

Tokyo is currently playing host to three major circuses - the Monte Carlo Circus and a Japanese circus, both playing under canvas, while the Moscow State Circus is playing in a building.

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# PEOPLE

G. C. CROWLEY, former owner of Crowley's United Shows of Richmond, Mo., a large mid-west truck carnival in the 1930's, has been in permanent care for 10 weeks following an operation at the Kaiser Hospital in La Mesa, Calif.

MURILLO and ULISES, balancing act, has had their contract renewed for an indefinite period of time at the Tropicana Hotel in Las Vegas. They recently taped the John Davidson TV Show which is to be aired Sept. 2nd.

CHARLES H. LIEDL, of San Mateo, Calif., recently returned home after a trip east and a visit to the Ringling show. He also reports that JERRY BOOKER's Horse Fair Show was the best ever this year.

MARVIN BUSCH, nationally known clown of Moberly, Mo., has returned home from several weeks in the hospital where he underwent a serious operation. His home address is: 401 Oak Terrace, Moberly, Mo. 65270.

PRISCILLA PRESLEY, hostess for the new TV show "Those Amazing Animals" picked up a boa constrictor during the first taping and immediately the snake wrapped itself around her and they had to pry it loose. Later that same day the co-host JIM STAFFORD was nipped by a coyote.

## Miscellaneous

The Oakland (Calif) Magic Circle has scheduled their annual Dinner and Inter-Club competition for early in September. A report about the show and its winners will appear shortly after that event.

# FOR SALE

"The Greatest Show on Earth" a First Draft for TV, Dec. 5, 1963 "Man In A Hole" property of Desilu Productions - \$10.00

"The Greatest Show on Earth" a first Draft for TV Jan. 3, 1964 "The Last of the Strong Men" property of Desilu Productions \$10

"Heaven Is A Circus" by John Bernard Kelly, spiritual director of catholic writers guild. A beautiful, small book, cover is in silver with picture of a saint and different circus folks around her, A collection of religious poems with the circus theme woven into them, beautiful color plates accompany them. This is a beautiful and unusual book, a real treasure - \$25.00

Kerr, Alex "No Bars Between" - \$20.00

"I Love You Honey, But The Season's Over" by Connie Clausen - \$15.00

Chaffee, Don, Indiana Big Top - 1st edition 1969, History of Peru winter quarters with pictures and stories by circus folks living there - \$20.00

Conklin, G. "Ways of the Circus" - \$22.50

(New) Chinese Acrobats: 106 pages of beautiful color photos of the acrobats doing unbelievable tricks, Pub. Pekin, sub-titles in English and Chinese - \$35.00

"Zirkus" Eine Zirkus Dynaste KNIE: 157 p. of B&W and color photos of circus folks and acts: large book, written in German - \$35.00

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**BEATTY-COLE BROS.****ELEPHANTS**

BY ALBERT F. HOUSE

Elephants working in the show with the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus are:

Ring 1 - presented by Alan Keunzi and Elba Walker - Konti, Ola and Bessie.

Ring 3 - presented by Walter Logan and Barbara Hunter - Debbie, Missie and Omi

Ring 2 - presented by Fred Logan and his daughters Eileen, Freida and Lillian - Pete, Helen, Sue, Frieda and Jewel.

**PEOPLE**

KIT HASKETT, RBBB Ringmaster, JIM VOGELGESANG, a Ringling clown and DAVE 'Skinhead' LEWIS, of the Texas Mid-Cities Clowns, entertained more than 250 children at a circus party at the Highland Park Presbyterian Church (Apr 28) at Dallas.

RON and JOY HOLIDAY, dancing illusionists, have ordered a 40 ft. 5th wheel trailer from Southern Truck & Body Co. of Tampa, Fla.

**NEW BOOK**

**SEAT AT THE CIRCUS** by John Skeaping. Published by Shoe String Press/Archon Books of Hamden, Conn. - \$17.50

This new volume is a revised edition of an earlier book by the author which was first published in England in 1951. It has been extensively revised for this its first U.S. publication.

The author offers stories about the legendary performers of the circus and tells about the techniques used to develop acts for the circus ring. Clowns, Jugglers, Horses, Wild Animals, Strong Men, Acrobats and Aerialists - they're all there, offering you an opportunity to understand and appreciate what they do.

Mr. Cox has one aim - to help you enjoy the circus. He calls the program, tells you why, where and how each act came to be, what its highlights are, who has done it better or differently and how it is being done today.

A Bibliography of the author's favorite books and an index are included in the volume, as well as a listing of circus jargon and what the words mean. It all adds up to an interesting book and one that you will want to add to your circus library.

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Harry James - One Finger Stand  
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The Young Troupe - Teeterboard  
The Juggling Jewels  
Wendy and Walt - Teeterboard  
The Amazing Mr. Bell - Balancing  
Adele and Gory - Comedy Gorilla  
The Hanzinis - Sword Balancing  
The Aerial Pinsons - Cradle  
Wilson's Pets - Dogs and Pony  
Philip Anthony - Liberty Horses  
The Canestrelli Family - Teeterboard  
The Riccardo Troupe - Wire  
The Quassars - Space Rocket Sensations  
Trudy's Dalmations

The Bruski's - Equilibrists on Bikes  
Andromeda - Sword Balancing  
Roman Schmitt - Elephants and Zebras  
Maryse Begary - Single Trapeze  
Benny Cristiani - Comedy Mule  
Napoleone's Roman Riders - Bareback Riding  
Janie's Dobermans  
The Zamperla Family - Cyclists  
Debbie Chapman - Single Trapeze  
Les Geraldos - Giant Wheel  
Lucio Cristiani Family - Trampoline  
Princess Gilda's Leopards  
The Great Armando - Juggling  
Diano's Elephants  
The Loyal Repensky Riders - Bareback Riding  
The Valentino Duo - Double Trapeze  
Edca Schmitt - Bengal Tigers  
The Olmedas - Bicycle-Unicycle  
The Kolmedys - Balancing and Juggling  
Jack Cook's Comedy Car  
The Winn Troupe - Skycycle and Skywalk  
The Flying Gaona's - Flying Trapeze  
Clown Alley: Dime and Connie Wilson,  
Danny Chapman and Co Co, Jr. & Co.

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# REPORT

## CIRCUS VARGAS

The newly released 1980 program book from Circus Vargas lists the following acts:

Parade of Circus Stars; The Knops, perch act; The Diabolo Trio, The Osmani Sisters and The Zunigas, jugglers; Clowns; Jan and Aly, dogs; Miss Nadine, the Franconi Duo and Miss Krystyna, trapeze artists; Henri Wagneur, liberty horses; The Capriole; General Vargas as the mythological Pegasus; The Zaltanas, high wire; Clowns; The Venturas, The Armon Duo and The Kneisleys, aerialists; The Carlos Twins in acrobatics; The Flying Espanas; The Flying Lar-Rays; Wayne Ragen, wild animals; The Vargettes, aerial ballet; Clowns; Tina Risdon, Miss Kathy and Alysoun Seacat, dressage riding; Kathy Batchelor, trick riding; Miss Irene and La Gran Rober, cloud swings; The Hugos, rola bola; The Anastasini Brothers and The Gonzalves; Julian and Monique, aerial motorcycle; Rex and Eva Williams, elephants.

The circus staff consists of: Clifford E. Vargas, president/producer; Jack Bailey, vice president; Gary Geweniger, vice president/director of marketing; Kenneth Bowersox, secretary/controller; Jerry Digney, vice president/director of marketing; Douglas Lyon, vice president of special projects and Joseph Muscarello, general manager.

Marketing Directors are: William Budrow, Paul

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The tour staff includes: Frank Pealer, logistics supt.; V. C. Arivett, canvas supt.; Joe Pon, ring master/performance director; Bill Biggerstaff, front door supt.; Lloyd Woodward, concession mgr.; Pepe Silva, prop supt.; Bud Tucker, transportation supt.; Jerry Braa, electrician; Rex Williams, elephant supt.; Henri Wagneur, horse supt.; Walt Matthie, advance logistic rep.; Mary Silva, box office mgr.; Melvin Vargas and Zelda Vargas, office mgrs.; Millie Ward, wardrobe; Ron Piddington, security supt., and Mike McCarthy, advance clown.

Program Book Credits go to: Jerry Digney and Douglas Lyons, editors; Bramson & Associates, designers; John Andrews, cover illustration; J. Daniel Sheffer, Bill Vaire and Michael Justice, photography; Bill Biggerstaff, consultant

# REPORT

## BEATTY-COLE CIRCUS

BY DON SANDMAN

The Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus opened a two day stand at the Piqua East Mall, Piqua, Ohio, On July 30-31.

The 4 pole big top of blue and white stripes can be seen from a long ways off. It is set with the sideshow and bannerline to form the midway. In addition to the two trucks which have banners there is the new ticket wagon, concession trailer, pony ride, elephant ride and a novelty stand.

Clown Alley and the prop trucks are parked across from the back door. The performer's rigs are parked along the back side.

Dave Hoover was in the hospital at Marion, Oh. so the show was missing its cat act. It was said that Dave was suffering from appendicitis and he was expected to be back before long.

The performance for the July 30th matinee ran as follows:

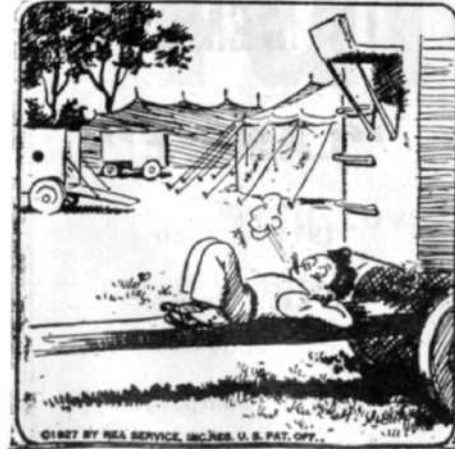
Overture directed by Russ Darr; Bonnie and Dawnita Bale, dressage; Marie Christine, trap-eze; Rita and Elba, aerial perch; Clown walk-around; the Great Vashek, inclined wire walk; The Verdus, rolling globes; Clown firefighters; Antonio & Julio and the Flores Duo, perch; Cemon's Chimps (6); Miss Bonnie, cloud swing; Irma Crystal, hair hang; Senor Valdez,

cloud swing, surrounded by 12 girls on swinging ladders; Intermission with elephant ride and clown autograph party; Dino & Anita, tightwire; The Flying Lantons; John Welde's bears (3); Clown Walkaround; Martin Trio and The Estradas, teeterboard acts; The Robertos, pole vaulting; Clowns with Reducing machine; Elephant in three rings presented by the Fred Logan Family; The Vashek Duo, aerial motor cycle; All out and over.

A side show pitch was made in the big top with three performers and the talker coming into the top for this announcement.

The show's staff includes: John W. Pugh and Tim J. Stinson, producers/directors; Jerry Collins, president; John Pugh, VP/operations, Gen. Mgr; Tim Stinson, VP/marketing; Edna Antes, secretary/treasurer; Charles Neilson, asst. secretary; Art Branning, mgr.; Jim Windland, side show mgr.; Harry Rawls, concession mgr; Fred Logan, elephant supt; Dolores Rex, cookhouse mgr; Jimmy James, ringmaster; Russell Darr, musical director; Elba Walker, aerial choreographer; Rita Ferreira, wardrobe; George Beecher, Jr., ticket agent; Maria Rawls, ticket agent.

Sorry I didn't get all the clowns names, they are listed in the program as: Mike, Elmo, Tony, Buckles, Little Mike, Sandy, Simon and G car.



By Crane

# REPORT

## CIRCUS USA

BY JACK HOGBEN

On July 26th, I drove from Walla Walla, Wash. to Umatilla, Ore., to catch a small truck circus playing at the marina on the shores of the Columbia River. None of the rolling equipment was painted circus, except for a red Chevy gas truck pulling the seat planks and poles, and a red Ford gas tractor pulling lions and tigers and some lead stock. These two trucks had a white stripe with blue stars on it, against an overall red scheme.

Since it was 104 degrees when I reached the lot and not having too much time, I didn't find out who owned the show, other than that it had wintered in Texas. The big top was a well worn 2-pole top with 7 high seats, mostly on one side. There was one low, red and white ring and the music was live, from a Hammond electric organ played by a lady.

Sidewalls were not put up which made the top much cooler. The only pit show was a snake exhibit, featuring a large reticulated python. Evidentially, they had planned to exhibit Goliath, the 3 ton white rhino, as a pit show, but it was a free attraction here along with 3 elephants. Peggy, the younger and smaller of the bulls was used for the elephant rides. The big elephant Boo, Peggy and the rhino were pulled by a fairly new Int'l diesel tractor. One concession stand was carried featuring cotton

candy, cold Pepsi, peanuts, popcorn and snow cones.

Performances were at 3 and 7 p.m. and no lights were needed although the generator was available.

The evening show started at 7:30, opening with a 5 lion act, all females. They did a rather good looking bridge, 2 cats on revolving pedestals, hurdles, jumps, with one cat crawling through the hurdles. Then 3 lions layed down together and the act concluded with a fire jump.

Next came a peanut pitch, offering prizes and then Ron Myer, assisted by a blonde girl, did a juggling act. He started with three balls, went to 4 balls, then 4 soccer balls, 3 plates and 4 hoops, 3 bowling balls, 1 bowling ball and 2 golf balls and ended with 3 butcher knives. Costumes were black with silver spangles.

The big bull "Baby Boo" with Capt. Brown was presented and swallowed a box of popcorn, then a cotton candy, then finished up by drinking from a whiskey bottle.

A high school pony was ridden by Miss Angela Escovar, followed by Miss Gigi on the swinging ladder. Jargo Giraffe was next with its trainer being the fellow who did a whip act later in the show.

A zebra was then presented on a long line by Miss Angela and this ended with a pedestal stand and a foot revolve.

(Continued on Page 27)



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### BY LLOYD E. JONES

Another book crosses the desk and of all things it's advanced work with one balloon. Written by John Mendoza of Book of John fame (\$20.00 with postage \$1.03) this is called "Rubber Wonders" and describes the techniques of Gerry Loos. It is not for the beginner or for someone who is looking for speed to turn out hundreds of animals at one session.

The balloon figures will attract attention under more casual occasions such as a party or at a bar, where time is not important. The book has 24 pages of text with drawings and fairly good photos, and starts with the easiest and moves on to the more difficult. There's such way out ones as Star Wars C-3-PO and R-2-D-2 and Popeye, complete with a pipe, all certain to attract attention and the book is fairly priced at \$4.00 with First Class postage at 41c.

How come I sometimes mention book rates and then First Class postage? Well, most small books, like the above, can be sent First Class Mail for a little more than 3rd Class and while books up to a pound go for only 59c it is a saving to send at the different rate.

One of the odd things the Post Office does is let a letter of three oz. be mailed for 41c, but a packet magazine, book, etc., of more than 2 oz and up to 4 oz costs 40c. So, why speed up delivery with first class mail when instead of the 3rd Class rate one can take a week or so longer and save.

You'll also find I send packages "Special Han-

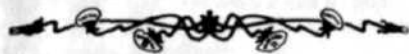
## PEOPLE

### SWINGING LADDER GIRLS

BY ALBERT F. HOUSE

Girls working swinging ladders on the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus, and their sitters are:

Iriz Verdu - Julio Estrada  
 Tina Storey - Dan Buckley  
 Eileen Logan - Raphael Menendez  
 Blanca Estrada - Antonio Estrada  
 Lillian Logan - Oscar Cooper  
 Eileen Harris - Tony Blanco  
 Mirna Verdu - Pedro Murillo  
 Nita Bale - John Kane  
 Barbara Hunter - Mike Snider  
 Narda Verdu - Otto Verdu  
 Matha Flores - Sandy Kaye  
 Freida Logan - Simon Simpleurtz



LOU FLOWERS STODDARD has some of her clown portraits and clown dolls on display at the Library in Duncanville, Texas, through Aug. 31st.

ding" when excess postage is included. Up to 10 lbs cost 70c and delivery is hastened considerably. Seems to me the Post Office just delivers 3rd or 4th Class Mail WHEN they feel like it and it has no priority. Special Handling seems to give it some and when we can we use it.

By the way, the July 1980 Reader's Digest has a 9 page article about Circus Posters with several posters reproduced in color. The story and posters are from the book "100 Years of Circus Posters."

# REPORT

## CARNY — A new movie

BY KEN HOLEHOUSE

"Carny" is a new movie that starkly shows the unglamorous day-to-day life on the road with the Great American Carnival. It's a movie filled with freaks, violence, foul language and a host of interesting characters; a film by someone fascinated with and sympathetic to the behind the scenes world of the traveling carnival.

The photography (much of the film takes place at night) and the direction takes us quickly from one ride, one hustle to another and we are drawn into this seamy life and become a fascinated observer of it.

Gary Busby plays an easy-going sap who is one half of a bozo game where he is knocked into a tub of water when a ball thrown by a player hits a target. He shares a trailer and ten years of friendship with Patch, a cunning hard-as-nails dude who is played with eyes squinting and a perpetual scowl by a gaunt, dark Robbie Robertson. Their friendship is threatened when young Jodie Foster, a girl looking to get out of her deadend boring job as a waitress as well as for some easy kicks, gets interested in Busby, leaves home and strays along with the carnival. She quickly adapts to the huckster life and Busby's bedroom.

But since two's company and three's a crowd she also drives a wedge in Busby's and Patch's friendship. And the real drama just begins to heat up from here. Day-to-day life on this show is hard because when our two friends aren't fighting each other they're fighting the mob.

A variety of interesting characters pop up too, from the old hawker at the girlie show whose farewell speech is a real tear-jerker to the 600 pound freak who lives in a trailer with a garage door at one end so he can get in and out. I highly recommend this film to people who make their living on the road because it's the one film I've seen that tries to accurately portray aspects of that life.

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# Show Report

## INTERNATIONAL FAIR TIME CIRCUS

BY ALLAN BABCOCK

The International Fair Time Circus was put together for fair dates in Illinois and Iowa, with their last date at Lincoln, Ill. From there the acts scattered off to a variety of other dates.

The show was produced by George Moffett of Variety Attractions, Inc., of Zanesville, Ohio. Lowell Tuckwiller was the director, Gary Layman was announcer and Wayne Liikala handled props and electric and clowning, while Bill Wise was the show's organist.

The program included: Clown warm-up by Wayne Liikala; Parachute Drop; National Anthem; Lilli-Ana and her Leopards; The Kolmedys, acrobatics/juggling; Jo Ann Anderson, liberty horses; Clown number; Warren Fuler, comedy mule; Fuler's Dogs; The Olmedas, bikes; Don Anderson and Jo Ann Anderson with high school horses; Clown number; Joe Horwith's Chimps; Announcements; Fuler's Funny Ford; Francarro & Estreleta, aerialists; Bill and Carol Golden, elephants.

## REPORT

### BEATTY-COLE GOING INDOORS

*(The following item is from the Pittsburgh, Pa. Post-Gazette of July 24, 1980 - a portion of a column by Jack Anderson, the paper's Entertainment Editor).*

Pittsburgh will be the premiere site of a new touring circus Oct. 29-Nov. 1, when the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus launches its first tour of arenas. Tom Scallen, who was executive producer of the Ice Follies for 12 years, will produce the circus. Eugene Connelly, who has staged the Three Rivers Circus in recent years, will be working with him locally.

The only other major circus touring indoor arenas is Ringling Bros., which quit playing the Civic Arena several years ago because the circus insisted on running its own concessions instead of using local union employees.

Scallen told the trade paper Amusement Business, "We are trying to make it different and will stay away from Ringling dates, and also the ice shows, as well as we can. We will have a different emphasis, however, with ours being on thrill acts. It will be a fast-moving show."

## BOOK

### MAJOR MAGIC BOOK PLANNED

"Yours Aye, Leslie May" is the title of a projected limited edition hard cover book that will contain the published and unpublished writings of the late Major Leslie E. May, M. B.E. Major May spent 28 years of his life in Britain's Royal Army Medical Corps. During this time he saw service in Iraq, India and Egypt. His interest in magic started with a box of tricks he received at the age of 7. His love of magic continued during his military career as he gave shows in hospitals, clinics and camps.

Elsie W. May has given permission to Craig McComb Snader, Jr., to compile and publish this unique proposed volume. Mrs. May has written: "Up to 1977 Leslie must have contributed well over 300 routines to magazines all over the world."

Snader, who in 1973 started the quarterly publication "Magic Sounds" which is dedicated to the preservation and utilization of recorded magic (audio and visual), has been in correspondence with Leslie May for close to two decades. His files include more than 300 letters from the Scot.

In looking over the material that may be included in this projected book, Snader says he is planning to spend about two years locating the writings of Leslie May. "At present some 50 published effects have been spotted, but there is much more to find." Towards this end Snader has prepared a list of the writings of Leslie May. He will gladly send updates of this to those who can help him in his search.

According to Snader some of the new material that will appear in the final publication will include unpublished effects, an annotated bibliography of Annemann's writings, reviews of effects, publications and performers as well as a piece on "Nessie."

## PEOPLE

WALLY LEE, magician, has been added to the show program for the annual day-long magic meet in Penngrove, Calif., on Labor Day.

CAROL BUCKLEY and "Baby Tarra" taped a segment for the Mike Douglas TV Show which is scheduled to be aired Sept. 15th.

GEORGE BEECHER, of the Beatty-Cole Circus, finally got rid of the Easter Lilly he purchased for the show's office staff. It is now planted in the garden of Mrs. Al House, at Oakland, NJ.

EDNA ANTES is up and getting around with the aid of a walker these days. Anyone who would like to drop her a card can write to Edna Antes, Box 1570, Winter Park, Fla.

BILL WILLIAMS (Cotton Candy the Clown) who was in Oregon made a quick trip home to appear on POPO's 80th Birthday program at Fairyland Park in Oakland, Calif. Aug. 9.

---

Bill Madsen, editor and publisher of "The New Jinx" has given permission to include all the Leslie May material including the Annemann biography that appears on the pages of his monthly magazine. Madsen is also supplying correspondence with the Scot in hopes that the unpublished material will be increased.

"Yours Aye, Leslie May" is expected to be published in 1983 by Exclusive Magical Publications, who in 1979 released 30 copies of Alex Redans' "The Contents, An Effects Index and A Contributors Index to Ed Mellon's Mental-Wise."

If you can help Snader in his quest for the Leslie May material write him at: P. O. Box 12-655, Mexico 12, D.F., Mexico.

**BILLY BARTON (Continued)**

the show with their bears). . . RICK LEGG's fall promotion is going strong with his magic unit and he has extended his tour into the fall . . . The SWAYING STARS are in a park in Japan. . . ROBIN HEIGHTSINGER is returning from Europe early. . . According to a letter from KAREN FRENCH to BARBARA KING those Japanese TV programs are Something else! . . . CAROL WAINWRIGHT is up to her old tricks - leaving the local disco in Wyandotte walking on her hands. She and WAYNE are thinking of working the Cruise Ships next winter with exhibition dancing and as dance instructors They'd be super at it. . . That brilliant cartoonist PAT DAVISON was up to his old tricks, too, in Wyandotte with not one but two cartoons appended to Gracie's office wall. This guy is a genius, no kidding!

**SURPRISE, SURPRISE!** Grace McIntosh celebrated her birthday in Wyandotte and was led into the center ring at the show's end and presented with a bouquet of roses by LEO COFFEY (The Victor Julian Little Stars) while the entire cast applauded her and TV cameras whirred away. Afterwards she was feted with a surprise party backstage - complete with the cake, buffet, and 29 CANDLES!!!

**VISITING:** In Wyandotte: The Albertis en-route back from Canada; CFA Pres. of theRIX Tent in Toledo, Tom Henrichs, who assisted WALT and BARBARA KING during the date and who said the membership is increasing. . GLORIA PEEBLES from a park in Windsor where she has a show for the summer and where she is ministering a wounded pigeon and where her ducks have adopted wild ducks (with babies) and an odd chicken or two. . . DIANE WILSON bringing her 97 yr. old father. . . The eternal HERBIE WEBER and the slimmed down MARCELLA (they went to Bill Kay's Mobile date where they are handling concessions in addition to their acts). . .

GEORGE DA DEPPO, looking fine after a prolonged illness, back in harness doing artistic special posters for the Ford Show upcoming in Las Vegas. . . ED KENYON, STANLEY BOOK and others I'm sure I missed.

Cedarpoint: MIKE CLARK (lion act) and the BERTLOFFS. . Hitting the Beatty-Cole lots were JIMMY DOUGLASS, VERN WOERNER, GRACIE McINTOSH, CHUCK MARINE and DON and ROXY ENGESSER (who day and dated the show in one town, also Circus Williams in another).

**MICHIGAN STATE FAIR:** (produced by M&M - The Zamudios (high wire/head balance trap); Bertloffs, acro-adagio; Miss Paula, loop trap; Jimmy Douglass and Co.; Tony Diano's elephants and the Don Phillips Company.

**CLOSEUPS:** Overnite jumps out of Wyandotte for the Kings to Fleckles dates and for Pat and Gwen Davison jumping to Kentucky for Big John Strong's 'Clowncapades'. . Emil and Debbie Goetschi back with Bill Garden after playing a date at the Palace Hotel in San Juan. They are on their second lap of the Showtime Follies. . . BETTY ESCALANTE is back from a trip to Las Vegas - went with a horde of Ringling people who flew in on their day off. Betty went with Bobby Johnson, of course, one of her most favorite "sons"

GEORGE HUBLER used Roberts Bros. Circus for his Maryland dates in July . . Beatty-Cole is using the old swinging ladder aerial ballet from the quarter poles and it looks good.

TWO YEARS ago I raved about the Clive Cussler book 'Raise The Titanic' which is now a movie and which is in general release. Well, believe it or not, a group of men are out there in the Atlantic now trying to do just that - raise the Titanic. Once more life imitates art.

(Continued on Page 24)

**BILLY BARTON (Continued)**

**CHANGES:** Sioux City (Iowa) Shrine date to M&M in 1981, will go from 3 rings down to 2 so as not to present a cluttered performance in the small facility, will inaugurate a new seating arrangement which cuts off all those three shows a day, once a policy of that date, and by reshuffling of the seating will allow a full scale spec with floats. So you see, those more than one day a week, three shows a day, can be eliminated if producers and the shriners just get their heads together, and especially when the producer is a former performer and remembers what it was like. A special kiss to Gracie for remembering.

**ITEMS:** Jimmy Douglass will do an all new "Circus" theme spec for '81 and has added a room to his Florida home to house those special organs he's been accumulating, until he gets that museum built. I think that I forgot

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to mention that Jimmy's mother Madeliene remarried last year. . . Kenny Dodd's mother's condition has worsened. He is devoted to her welfare even though she doesn't know who he is. It is a tragic situation and Kenny deserves everyone's admiration for the way he has sacrificed not only his life but also his career for his mother. . . Bentley Bros. Summer/Fall tour is off and running and I will report on it after I appear with the show in Philly. . . Bob Reed once with the old Dobritch org., moved his mother to Palm Springs where she spends only the winters. I stopped to see Olga recently at her Akron (Ohio) home and she told me she has very "ordinary" neighbors - Gerald and Betty Ford, Liberace, Frank Sinatra, Bob Hope Lucille Ball and Gary Morton. . . I think she should move to a better neighborhood don't you? . . . Bubba Hastings, Jr. is getting married.

**SHAKEUP:** I noticed my guyline "dancing" just before I worked the Wyandotte date and mentioned it to Gracie. Nobody was near any of the lines. First she blamed Boom Boom's drums, then people leaning against the hockey wall. Later I learned we had an earthquake which Chuck pooh-poohed. Well, next day it was all over the Detroit papers so, Chuck, what do you have to say now?

**SEE YOU** in print, luvs.

**CIRCUS QUIPS . . . . .****BY KARL J. BISCHOFF**

**A LOT OF CIRCUS PEOPLE** who complain about the manager being **DUMB** would be out of a job if the manager were any **SMARTER**.

**A CIRCUS ACT THAT WAS LOST** asked a country boy how far it was to **THE CIRCUS LOT**. He replied, "It's about 21,000 miles the way you're going **BUT IF YOU TURN AROUND IT AIN'T BUT 4 BLOCKS**."

**RHEUMATISIM** may have been natures first primitive effort to establish a weather bureau for showmen.

**MOST** show people can read four languages well . . . **ROAD MAPS . . . GASOLINE GUAGES . . . ARROWS** and **CIRCUS REPORT**.

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# CLYDE BEATTY-COLE BROS.

... by JIM PARKER

After an absence of three years of not having been on the east coast, I have eagerly anticipated visiting many mid-west/east coast shows and while enroute from advance work with Bentley Bros. Circus I was able to spend a day and a half with the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus at Newark, Ohio. They were set up on a beautiful green, grassy lot next to the Harts/Big Bear Center and their three day engagement was sponsored by the Newark Kiwanis Club.

A block away I could spot the beautiful, new blue and white striped big top with its matching menagerie/side show top, pony ride and clown alley top. All rolling equipment seemed newly painted with the show's colors of red, blue trim and yellow scroll work and lettering. A few backend pieces were not painted or lettered (cookhouse semi, mechanics/sleeper semi). The brand new office semi is white with red lettering and blue trim. The show's physical equipment has never looked better, and augmented with the kinker's private truck and trailers made it truly an impressive sight. There is nothing rag bag about the Beatty Circus.

The matinee had already begun and perhaps one of the most impressive things on the Beatty lot is their outstanding circus band. One could not help but get goose bumps as they play authentic circus tunes in comparison with a few major shows that seem to go heavily into rock rather than traditional music. Also the band has a fantastic "esprit de corps" and appears to actually enjoy their work.

Of course, being the photo nut that I am, I was busy photographing everything and fortunately both days of my visit the weather was perfect.

There are many new faces as well as old friends on the show, and in all honesty, everyone from the front end to the back really rolled out the red carpet and made me feel at home.

My first stop was at the menagerie/side show where Jim and Sandy Windland reign with the side show and Fred Logan has his bull herd. Hadn't seem Jim and Sandy since those wild days on the Vargas show and they are doing a good job as Jim is one of the last of the old-timer side show men that can turn a good tip, and Sandy is just as pretty as ever. They have a fantastic sword swallower who is

6' 11" tall and wears appropriate wardrobe that makes their bally look old-time and circusy (sorry I cannot recall his name and I failed to write it down). While on the lot I able to show Fred and Mrs. Logan photos of her parents in their full Indian regalia on the old Kelly-Miller show as the Eagleman family were well known and their girls were versatile performers. Even Freddie was thinner in those 1950 vintage photos!

Mrs. Rawls, Harry Hammond, George Beecher, Art Banning, Wilson Storey, Johnny Pugh and Tim Stinson all call the new office semi their home and I appreciated the opportunity to visit in this impressive wagon. Tim Stinson was away from the show on business and Johnny Pugh also took off on business while I was there but the others held the fort down and they have a smooth running organization. Also by chance ran into Tommy Inabinette who is listed as their National Advance Coordinator which keeps him on the run.

You might know my favorite place was clown alley and with the exception of Mike Padilla and Mike Ferreira, there were all new faces. Add Sandy Kozik, Mike Snider, John Kane, Gary Cooper, Simon Brooking, Dan Buckley, and Armando Batista and you have quite a clown alley covering a number of whiteface and auguste clowns. Two walk-arounds and two production numbers plus the "autograph party" during intermission are their responsibilities under the direction of Jimmy James. The production numbers were the clown fire house gag and the reducing machine, both done very well. The Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus always has had a reputation of having consistently good clown alleys and this is no exception.

Of course, not having Jimmy James in clown white seemed rather strange to me but he is doing a marvelous job as the big show announcer, with each and every word being understood and keeping the show moving at a fast pace. He makes an impressive appearance in the ringmaster's role.

Caught the opening night show and thoroughly enjoyed sitting through their performance as a towner, and believe me, the people got their money's worth of circus.

I won't give you a run-down of the performance as that has appeared in previous issues

(Continued on Page 26)

**SPECIAL****MISTER CLOWN**

BY BOB STODDARD

"Mister Clown" can only refer to the greatest living clown, and possibly the most popular clown that ever lived - Lou Jacobs.

He added much to this international feeling in the minds and hearts of at least fifty members of the Ed Millette Tent CFA, who attended the evening performance of Ringling-Barnum Circus on Aug. 3rd in Dallas.

On Wednesday, between shows, Lou agreed to come up and meet the CFA members if I would come by and help him get to where the seats were.

Dave (Skinhead) Lewis and I picked him up and led him to our seating area. As we passed the first rows of added seating near the arena floor, Lou asked, "Why don't you get seats down here?"

I admitted that it was a good question and explained that the seats were purchased by our tent secretary Bill Hooper.

We made it to our section and Lou was besieged by autograph seekers and hand shakers. He was very patient, obliged both groups for about 10 minutes, then had to return to the dressing room.

As we helped him down the stairs, Lou said, "People are going to think that I am a basket case, the way you are helping me."

I answered, "You heard my wife tell me not to let your clown shoes get tangled up in the narrow stairs didn't you?"

My wife, Lou Flowers Stoddard, is one of his most ardent fans and her portrait of Lou Jacobs shows him looking at a circus poster which shows the famous face, bigger than life. The poster also has a star under the face and the words "The Greatest - Lou Jacobs." It is the only portrait she has ever painted that has words on it, and it pretty well shows how she feels about the legend. Everytime the collection is on exhibit the portrait gets plenty of attention.

When she was introduced to Lou, she fought back an impulse to kiss him and settled for a handshake and an autograph.

Her exuberance may have contributed to what happened after we left to take Lou downstairs and she went back to her seat. She caught her toe in the strap of a purse or camera bag and fell down between the seats, bruising her in-

step, her knees and some scrapes on her legs wrist and shoulder.

Several clowns had planned to come up and meet the CFA members before the show, but their boss Glen (Frostie) Little had called a meeting of the clowns and so they weren't able to make it.

During intermission, clown John Russell visited us and gave many autographs. Stilt walking is very popular and John holds the world record for walking on stilts 31 ft. high.

After the show, Kit Haskett, the ringmaster stopped to say hello and goodbye.

After everyone had left Lou Stoddard discovered she couldn't walk on her injured foot. So the arena called the paramedics who taped up her foot and we think she will be fine.

With the exception of her fall, it was a great circus night and the house appeared to be full.

Someone else will probably review this performance, but I can't see how it could get much better, and a reviewer could easily cover it all in five words "The Greatest Show On Earth."

**BEATTY-COLE (Continued)**

of Circus Report. However, the day I arrived for my visit (July 25), the Flying Lantons with Raul and Sylvia and new catcher Frank Cora joined the show, replacing the Alvarez Troupe who dropped out due to injury. The Lantons had just come in from London and went right to work.

I especially want to thank Jim and Sandy Windland for a delightful dinner after the show on Friday, cutting up jackpots until the wee hours of the morning, and to Cemon and Susan for the wonderful party they threw for me at their trailer the following night, inviting all of us 'ex-Vargites' i.e. Flying Lantons, Jim and Sandy Windland, plus Mike Snider and Johnny Welde.

In closing, my visit afforded me the opportunity to visit with old friends and make new ones. Everyone, especially on the Beatty lot, is well aware of the recent tragedy regarding the Welde family. I never really knew them before this visit, but both Johnny and Johnny, Jr. were kind enough to pose for photos in brand new gypsy themed wardrobe that Danielle helped make and design. It is people like these that make you proud to be with it. The Beatty show is a happy show, so don't miss it!

## REPORT

Billy Barton signed the M&M Circus Internationale route for 1981 while appearing with that circus at Wyandotte, Mich. The route will include the Shrine Circus at Rochester (NY) in February, and a string of Shrine dates in April and early May consisting of Sioux City (Iowa), Omaha and Lincoln (Nebraska). The author-performer selected the M&M dates as a nucleus for his winter/spring tour because "Gracie is well-read and understands the publicity value. Besides, when I was writing the book I was with her and she and Omaha went all out for me then so I feel I owe it to her and to that temple in particular to return now that the book is in print."

Whether he will continue beyond May with his act is a decision to be made in 1981. "It depends upon how busy I am. One thing is for certain: the summer will not be played as my second book must be prepared for press. Promotion for that second book begins in Sept., for release Thanksgiving Week in 1981."

A tentative agreement has been reached between Bilbar Books and a new talent for a highly original and specialised coffee-table edition of a circus book scheduled for publication in late 1982.

"Nothing like this book has ever been done," remarks the publisher-author. "While we will specialize in mysteries I just have to put this book out. I realize it has a limited market and probably will just make back its publishing costs. The book, however, will be not only a sensation but also a rare and much sought-after collector's item. It will also be very expensive."

Details about the proposed book are being kept under wraps until it is on the press.

**HELEN WILSON** — Show Organist  
(own equipment) — 704 - 786 - 4563

### CIRCUS USA (Continued)

A balloon pitch followed with a free petting period for those who wanted to pet the elephant Peggy.

Miss Sheryl was next with 2 black pigmy goats and 2 long-haired small goats. They did hurdles rolling a barrel, butting the barrel, plank walk and ended with a long mount.

A balancing act was presented by Ron Myer who balanced a cup and saucer on a wand on his forehead and then a spinning plate. He balanced an aluminum ladder on his forehead, then a double-blade axe and then a machett with the point on his forehead and ended by balancing an 85 lb bar bell on his chin.

Miss Angela was next, working on the web and was followed by a whip act, cutting paper and snuffing out lighted tapes. Capt. Harry and Miss Peggy followed with a rather good single elephant act.

Running time was 1½ hours. The show was sponsored by the Umatilla Chamber of Commerce. They had played Burbank, Wash., prior to the 2 day stand with 3 shows at Umatilla. Earlier in the month they had been at Belfair, Wash., near Bremerton. Admission prices were \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children.

A llama, small donkey and 2 medium sized ponies were carried but not shown. All advertising consisted of a 2 elephant window card drawn by Ray Dirgo, printed in 2 colors. The same cards were also stapled to telephone poles in the area.

The office trailer was pulled by a late model GMC gas truck. Most of the vehicles had Oregon license plates. A Clark tractor was carried for setup and tear down