



7th Year

September 18, 1978

Number 38

New Show Due

Plans for the debut of a new arena show based on the Hanna-Barbere cartoon characters was announced at the Louisville (Ky) Convention of Auditorium Managers.

The new show which is tentatively titled "Abba-Dabba-Doo" will be produced by Sarnoff International Enterprises.

The world premiere of the new show will take place at Perth, Australia, on Jan. 1, 1979, and is to be followed by a tour of Australia. In July the show will open in Mexico and it is now scheduled to start its U. S. tour at Corpus Christi, Texas, on Sept. 2nd.

A TV Special will be filmed on the show during its Australian debut. This will be screened in the U. S. on NBC-TV, probably about Easter of next year.

Thomas W. Sarnoff, former NBC executive who was with the NBC Entertainment Corp., which presented "Disney on Parade" is head of the Sarnoff Int'l Enterprises. Jack Sidney, who was also a former "Disney on Parade" official has been appointed the new show's marketing director and tour supervisor.

Other people connected with the new

show are: George M. Cahan, producer/director; Tom Hansen, choreographer, with Corinne Pederson, assisting with costumes. The costumes and sets will be by Steve Ehlers and Bill Evans; Dominic Frontieri will be in charge of the music and Corinne Sidney will handle advertising, promotion and publicity.

The show will carry its own wood floor and will move on about 7 trucks. A cast of 50 is contemplated.

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PEOPLE

THE AMAZING ELLIOTT, magician, is appearing with the **HELEN FORRESTT** show at the "Silver Dollar Showroom" in Reno, Nev.

FRANK and **BERNICE DEAN** visited the Lancaster (Calif.) Fair where **CHARLIE ALLEN** was featured with his Petting Zoo.

RON and **SANDY SEVERINI**, advance clowns for the RBBB Blue Unit, are expecting an addition to their family sometime in late October.

BOB and **SANDY MOMYER** (Roberto & Alexandra) had their magic and illusion act at the Allentown State Fair as part of the Stebbings Royal European Circus, the show appeared as a grandstand feature on Aug. 28-29.

THE HIYABUSA BROS. who are both tumblers and comedians, are appearing with the "Naughty But Nice" show at the Nugget Casino in Sparks, Nev.

MALFALDA and **JIMMY ZOPPE** are reportedly expecting an addition to the family sometime late this year.

DeLAGE and **MARGARET** were one of the feature acts at the Hemisphere Beauty and Talent Contest held in Philadelphia.

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KARL WINN and Family, who worked in Honolulu with the **PAUL V. KAYE** produced circus last month jumped overnight to Hongkong and worked there as typhoon Elaine whipped through the area.

MARIO MANZINI, escape artist, worked at New York's Storytown Circus in Lake George during the summer. He escaped from the local police handcuffs and offered \$1,000 reward for failure to escape from any police cuffs. On Aug. 25th he escaped from a strait-jacket and cuffs while suspended by a burning rope from a helicopter.

TERRY FINNY, elephant man on Carson & Barnes No. 2 Unit left last month to join the American Continental Circus for the remainder of the season.

STEVE CHURCH, a performer on the No. 2 Unit of Carson & Barnes Circus is now working with **VICTOR** and **LINDA FLORES**.

ADA SMEDYA and her tigers are reportedly signed to be featured at the Circus World Museum in Baraboo, Wisc., in 1979.

THE CIRCUS REPORT is published each week by Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Calif. - 94530. Phone: (415) 525-3332.

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SHOW DATES

- Bentley Bros. Circus
Sep. 22-24 Dubuque, Iowa
- Circus Vargas
Sep. 19-21 Ft. Collins, Colo.
22-24 Colorado Sprgs.
- Great American Circus
Sep. 18 Maysville, Ky.
19 Brooksville
20 Owenton
21 Versailles
22 Fort Knox
- Happytime Circus
Sep. 21-30 Bakersfield, Calif
- Hoxie Bros. Circus
Sep. 18 Crofton, Md.
19 Oxen Hill
20 Charlottesville, Va.
21 Lynchburg
23 Statesboro, Ga.
24 Charleston AFB, SC
- Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
Sep. 19-24 Seattle, Wash.
- Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
Sep. 20-24 Toledo, Ohio
- Royal Hanneford Circus
Sep. 23-24 Middletown, Oh.
- Shrine Circus
Sep. 22 Farmington, N.M.
23 Gallup
- TNT & Royal Olympic Circus
Sep. 20-24 Joliet, Ill.



1935 - - -

- June 5 - Downie Bros. Circus
at North Adams, Mass.
- June 29 - Milliken Bros. Cir-
cus at Copake, N. Y.
- July 6 - Ringling-Barnum Cir-
cus at Pittsfield, Mass.
- July 19 - Hagenbeck-Wallace
Circus at No. Adams, Mass
- Oct. 19-26 - Frank Wirth's
Circus at Pittsfield, Mass.

---- OTHER DATES ----

- Al's Lemon-Zeen Comedy Car
Sep. 18-23 Muscle Shoals, Ala.
- Barton-Jennier Fair Unit
Sep. 18-23 Goldsboro, N.C.
- Blackstone, Jr., the Magician
Sep. 18 El Paso, Texas
19-20 Albuquerque, NM
21-23 Tulsa, Okla.
- Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
Sep. 18-23 Columbus, Miss.
- Century 21 Shows - Red Unit
Sep. 18-23 Rome, Ga.
- James H. Drew Expo Shows
Sep. 18-23 Marietta, Ga.
- Fantasy On Ice
Sep. 20-23 Muncy, Pa.
- Ice Capades - Eastern Unit
to Sep. 24 Pittsburgh, Pa.
- Ice Capades - Western Unit
Sep. 22-27 Okla City, Okla.
- Kaye's Hollywood Elephants
Sep. 23-24 Dubuque, Iowa
- Los Latinos - wire act
Sep. 23-24 Dubuque, Iowa
- Magic Time USA - Pf. Miller
Sep. 18 Blackfoot, Idaho
19 Ruppert
20 Rexburg
- Pedrero's Attractions
to Sep. 24 Albuquerque, NM
- Royal American Shows
Sep. 20-25 Lawton, Okla.
- The Sikorskys - Jugglers
Sep. 22 Norristown, Pa.
23 Baltimore, Md.
24 Columbia
- Tales of Hoffman - Opera
Sep. 22-23 Duluth, Minn.
- Tip Top Shows
Sep. 22-24 LaCrescent, Wisc.



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In Memoriam

WILLIAM H. KASISKA, a charter member of the CHS, died in Baraboo, Wisc. on June 7th. He was well known to show folks and fans and was an avid collector of circus letterheads.



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JOINING THE "BREAKDOWN BRIGADE" is AL DAWLEY whose radiator blew 80 miles from the Springfield (Mo) Fair. Al made it in on a dribble and a drab, pouring water in every few miles. Adding insult to injury, upon arrival at 9 a.m., Al spent TWO hours trying to talk his way through one of the gates, finally had to produce his contract to prove he was part of the Kool Aid Circus. When he got in he had only 10 minutes in which to dress and get ready to announce the first show.

I can't understand WHY performers are hassled so much and at SO many fairs by gate guards. An act breaks its neck to arrive on time, pulls up to the gate with out-of-state tags, loaded obviously with show equipment, and then gets the runaround — is sent from gate to gate or is held up for hours by officious little men exerting their "once-a-year" authority. I know this is the case because it has happened to me several times this season on fair dates.

Appearing at the Kool Aid Circus in Springfield (Mo) were: the Ramon Twins, Lipko's Chimps, Al's Lemon-zeen, The Gutis, Arturo Segura, Cristiani's elephants, The Espanas, and the Sensational Leighs. At Springfield (Ill): The Ricardo Trio, Moore's Monkeys, Norbu, Canestrelli Family, Moore's Comedy Mules (2), Tony Diano's elephants, The Flying Vasquez and the Great Bruno.

ERNIE BURCH pens he has been in touch with the State Dept. and with Pres. Carter in an effort to send an American Circus to the Republic of China as a Cultural Exchange Program. He says the latest letter he received was "very encouraging."

Negotiations have been underway since early spring to take a very well known circus to Saudi Arabia in Jan. These negotiations are still underway, gaining momentum in fact; although I am not at liberty to disclose the name of the show OR the producer at this moment.

It would appear that CLIFFORD VARGAS is making "sweeping changes" in his show for '79. Not only will the format be altered but mostly new acts and personnel will be in evidence as the greatest part of the "old guard" leaves or is replaced. Reports are HARRY THOMAS returns with his tiger act; ditto the CARLOS TWINS, currently with Castle.

RON & JOY HOLIDAY introduced their new "fire illusion" at the Calgary Stampede to excellent results. The Dazzling Duo also garnered plenty of newsprint. Ron and Joy are currently at the Plantation Club in St. Louis winding up a lengthy

run. . . HUGO ZACCHINI was also featured at Calgary in a production Finale built around his cannon act.

LONI and BARBARA VAN VOORDEN are dueting on dates nowadays. Barbara has learned to drive and the two foot jugglers go out together working either as a team or single-o. Freddie has decided to stay off the road. Meanwhile plans are afoot to build a house and rid themselves of all that big equipment. The girls plan to tour with just a car and motel-it. LONI and BARBARA are already signed to spot-date with CASTLE and SAM T. POLACK in 1979.

JACK SAMPSON is the new Director for CIRCUS! MICHAEL STEELE, who directed the first few episodes, did so as a favor to producer BILL HARTLEY. Mike is busy producing his own hit series for CTV "Stars on Ice", which has been running for several seasons and is also syndicated on the European Market.

JENNY WALLEDA's daughter TAMMY burned her hand badly when a red-hot frying pan slipped spewing sizzling sugar all over. TAMMY, incidentally, was the stunt gal for the Fall of the Seven in the Wallenda flick. . . JANICE ARIA was bitten on the hand by one of their bears on opening day at Storytown in July. The hand is a-okay now.

JIM SWAFFORD visited CWM at Baraboo and the Circusfest in Peru. Took a long weekend which involved flying East out of Calif., on a Thursday night and being back at work in L.A. on Monday morning.

SNAPSHOTS: MICHAEL CHIRRIK is appearing in the "Foxy" show at Reno's Sahara. . . Along with SIEGFRIED & ROY at the Vegas Stardust are KRIS KREMO, juggler and FRED ROBY & ANGELA with the remote control acrobatics of a dummy on the horizontal bars. . . HELEN WALLEDA hosted a party closing night of the Wallenda tour. . . GUNTHER WALLEDA also on the tour. . . CARLA WALLEDA's son, RICKEY, is still in England. . . JOSE BISBINI was hospitalized with pneumonia in Aug. . . JEAN-PAUL ARNOSI went to Mexico to spend time with TABOC, was there a week, got homesick and returned. . .

CHUCK CLANCEY has been in Calif., setting up Xmas dates for the Bentley Combine. . . HERBIE WEBER and MARCELLA were guests at WALLY JONES' birthday party held on the Hanneford Circus in August. . . The fabulous LA NORMA keeps occupied teaching trapeze and hand-making those fantastic dolls. . . I saw Norma several times this

(Continued on Page 16)

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Show Folks

by CLAYTON WOOD

Mexico City was the scene, during the winter, of the wedding of Irene Alvarado and Fernando Bautista. The couple have worked together in the Flying Bautistas, juggling and hand balance acts for some time. The Bautistas spent the entire winter season at Old Chicago a year ago. They are with Carson & Barnes No. 1 unit this summer.

For those who believe in signs and superstitions (who doesn't) an interesting thing happened to Venio Venito and Lupe Rodriguez (the couple are engaged). A photo of Venio performing, assisted by Lupe, shows a bright star over his heart (a light reflection of a stone in his costume). A couple of weeks later in a photograph of Pablo Rodriguez high bar act there is an identical star over Lupe's heart (Venio was standing by while the photo was taken). Lupe pointed out both photos had been taken by the Clayton Studio. To Lupe and Venio this is a meaningful sign. Do you suppose cupid created those stars?

Old Chicago will begin a shorter week after Labor Day. The park will close on Monday and Tuesday. The Rodriguez troupe and Lee Merritt (Rolls Duo and Great Wizbini) closed Sept. 4th. The Ibberra family with their flying act, trampoline, web, etc open after Labor Day. Billy Bishop, talent co-ordinator at the park reports a good summer season, much better than 1977.

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IN MEMORIAM

L. N. FLECKLES, circus producer, died in Chicago, Ill., on Sept. 2nd, after a long illness. Prior to entering the circus field he had produced and worked with ice shows and fairs.

JOHN JOSEPH HENEY (75) a former member of many touring bands, a bandmaster and teacher, died on Sept. 1st at DeLand, Fla. A native of San Francisco, he started his musical career in 1921 playing drums for the Sells Floto Circus. Later he toured with Ringling-Barnum, the Royal Scotch Highlanders and the John Phillip Sousa Band.

Mr. Heney taught and worked with school bands in Florida. He also wrote 23 band compositions, mostly between 1939 and 1941.

Joyce Rice, The Arwoods, The Kellys and Bruce Newton were seen recently at "Elburn Days" an annual affair at a small town west of Chicago. Joyce is spot-dating and went from there to La Grange, Texas, then to Atlanta.

The Farfans, flying act on Ringling, are breaking a new act for 1979. They are using all Doberman dogs with one miniature and it promises to be one of the better dog acts.



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Program

EMMETT KELLY, JR. CIRCUS

Louisville, Ky. - Aug. 17-27

The circus played the Kentucky State Fair, with a three ring show under canvas. An opening day parade was featured at the fairgrounds.

The 10 piece band was directed by Virginia Lee Fenton, while Nancy Kelly served as ringmistress. Props were handled by Judy Satterwhite and Ronnie McGuire.

The program featured: Lilli-Ana's leopards; The Berens, trapeze; Whizzer the Clown (Don Bridwell) weight lifting; Veno Venito, swords; Michelle and Rene (LeMoyné), slide for life; Whizzer in Pulling Teeth; Wm. Rodger's Bird Fantasy; Emmett Kelly, Jr., rope walking; The Claytons, whips and ropes; Teresa and Teddy, acro balance; Kim Kristensen, long rein dressage; The LeMoyné's, aerial motorcycle; Emmett and Nancy bid goodbye.

Aurora, Ill. - Aug. 29-Sept. 4

The circus played on the stage of the Paramount Theatre, and presented a downtown circus parade

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on Sept. 4th.

Virginia Lee Fenton directed the band, Nancy Kelly was the ringmistress and props were handled by Judy Satterwhite and Ronnie McGuire.

The program featured: Lillia-Ana's leopards; Whizzer with balloon animals; The Kents, balancing; Emmet and a Hanky; Kim Kristensen, long rein dressage; Emmett with magic; The Aerial Pinsons, cradle act; Whizzer the strong man; Teresa and Teddy, acro balance; Intermission.

The second half included: The Pinson's Canine Revue; Emmett, standing on hands; Veno Venito, swords; Emmett, walking a rope; The Claytons, whips and ropes; The Berens, trapeze; Whizzer balloon gag; The Pinson's elephants; Finale with the entire company.



HAL HAVILAND worked the Woodstock (Conn) Fair with his dogs and pony on Sept. 2-4. Also appearing there were the ALMIROS DUO, juggling plus a local balancing act and MC.

DON BRIDWELL (Whizzer the Clown) had to run from the Kentucky State Fair to Daybrook, W.Va.

due to a previous commitment, then back to Louisville for the closing day on Aug. 27th. In all it was a 1,000 mile drive, says Don.

DANNY ROGERS and his partner CARL SCHMIT will be at the Texas State Fair in Dallas, presenting their "Swaying Bilros" high swaypole act.



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SPECIAL

by Billy Barton

Late November will find Mike Polakov (Co-Co, renowned stiltwalker) with his wife, Hazel, daughter Michelle and son, Coconut, flying to London for two TV appearances with the Billy Smart Circus, both appearances in honor of Mike's late, famed father, the original Co-Co.

Co-Co the First, passed away in 1974. Prior to his demise he was awarded the prestigious OBE (Order of the British Empire) by the Queen of England.

An interesting sidelight to this honor is that the original Co-Co would have been knighted had he been a British subject. His birthright was Russian.

Mike's scheduled arrival in London has created an extraordinary advance clamor by press and public, who positively idolized the Original Co-Co (his fame in Europe was extremely widespread) and Mike Polakov's imminent appearance is already being hailed as "The Return of Co-Co".

Mike's first USA appearance was in 1953 when he and his family were imported from England by the Mills Bros. Circus. At the close of that season the troupe returned to England and, in 1958 Mike signed with Mills again, this time solo, played two seasons,

Visitors

Visitors to the Beeur-Hall Kiddleland Circus at the Michigan State Fair in Detroit (Aug. 29-Sept. 4) included: Grace MacIntosh, Chuck Marine, George Da Deppo, Art Barrett, Rex and Sandy Young, Don Gilcrest, Ione Stevens, Jerri Pressley, Donny MacIntosh, Alberto Zoppe and family, Mr. and Mrs. Irv Romig, Pete the Tramp, and Charles Schlarbaum, plus many CFA people.

ACTS

A Labor Day Variety Show, produced by M&M Productions, was presented by the Merchants of River Rouge (Mich) on Sept. 4th. The 7:30 p.m. show included: Arwood's Dogs; Maryse Begary, one arm swings; the Widgets, comedy; The Kellys, rola bola; Irv Romig, M.C. and the Wainwrights, trampoline.

then signed with Ringling in 1960 where he remained 11 years, through 1971.

To clear up any confusion as regards the Co-Co title, Mike was called Co-Co, Jr. while his father was alive and performing. With his father's death Mike became Co-Co and his son, Graham, currently on tour with Nordmark's Int'l All Star Circus, is Co-Co, Jr.

Any other clowns using this title are using it fraudulently and laying themselves open to litigation.

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Friends

by Earl Tegge

It started in March, when the TNT & Royal Olympic Circus played Mesquite, Texas. The Ed Millette Tent of the CFA hosted the entire personnel of the show to a buffet supper at the home of William Hooper and family.

In July when the show played Dallas, the same group held their annual picnic with TNT's employees as their guests once again. A picnic supper was served at a nearby park.

The show continued to move East, into Iowa, and the Tegge's were the guest of John Holley in Cedar Falls. A visit with the Holleys is always a delightful experience.

In Austin, Minn., the Al Tietles, the Gary Davisons and many others visited. TNT day-and-dated Carson & Barnes in Austin, and many visits were exchanged by personnel from each show.

The show moved to Mt. Prospect, Ill., after some of the TNT personnel visited in Baraboo and the Circus World Museum on July 31st. Many friends and their families visited in Mt. Prospect, as well

as many performers passing through the area, the John Albertis, Fred Kursawe, Don Philips

Harold and Barbara Stekly and members of the John L. Davenport Tent in Chicago played host to the show's cast for a buffet supper and evening of enjoyable conversation.

The show then moved to Aurora (Denver) Colo., where the Gerry Pearsons and many others were on hand to visit.

In Peoria, Ill., the following week the show was visited by many, including Frank Upp who says he will revisit at Davenport, Iowa the week of Sept. 6

Toledo, Ohio (Aug. 23-27), the 5th year the TNT Circus played there, brought out many visitors including Clarence Hastings, Neil Cockerline, Tom Henricks, Don and Grace Sandman, Al Conover, plus Tom Snyder, Terry and Mary Henricks.

The Tegges have said, "All this travel is worth it, when you have all these wonderful friends waiting for you to arrive at a location close enough to catch the show."

To those who haven't seen the show yet, please do. It's worth it, and be sure to stop and introduce yourself.

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A New Jersey man, James Wickliff, may soon lose his pet chimpanzee, because according to Ms. Joanne Frier, a zoologist with the State Division of Fish, Game and Shellfisheries, he "has illegally owned the male chimpanzee the past four and half years."

"The state does not issue a permit for someone to have a chimpanzee as a pet," she said. Such an animal must be housed in a secure, heated cage separate from the house.

Wickliff obtained his pet "Bambi" when he operated a pet shop. He treats it more as a child than an animal and says "I'm not afraid to say he sleeps on the foot of my bed."

Wickliff doesn't plan to give his pet up without a fight, and he plans to hire a lawyer to place a restraining order on the state. Ms. Frier says Wickliff has been in violation of the law, and this could just delay the process. He is entitled to a hearing, she added, but he will be denied a permit.

Ms. Frier says she has been in contact with various zoos to see which ones will have space for Bambi. "I like to be able to give the owners a choice of where to send their pet," she said.



There's no better time than right now to order your own copy of Circus Report - you can keep up on what's new and gain some insights as to things that are coming up for the 1979 season.

Order your subscription today, it's just \$15.00 for a year.

Write to: Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Calif. 94530

Russell Bros. Circus, of 1935, opened its season at Rolla, Mo., on April 12th and played throughout the mid-west, closing at Hutchinson, Kansas on Oct. 3rd.

Ms. Frier, who studied primates in captivity for her master's degree, said Bambi should be placed among his own kind as soon as possible so he will be able to adjust.

Wickliff, who obtained Bambi when he was eight weeks old, asks "Why are they trying to take him away now?" "I knew I'd have to give him up someday, but they aren't even giving me a chance."

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REVIEW

THE CONKLIN'S SHOWS

by L. A. Sadler

For those tasing for yesteryear, Jimmie Conklin's 1928 vintage midway at the Canadian National Exposition goes a long way to satisfy that want. In celebration of the CNE's 100th year he has gone to extremes for detail in stepping back to the Conklin & Garrett Shows of that year.

The midway sports a red marquee entrance at one end and a banner line front with bally grinder at the other. The 10c admission is paid at a ticket box that contains the old cupcake tins holding change. On entering one end you find an air caliope playing from an old fire engine with the show's name. Inside the entrance at the other end is spotted the beautiful band organ from Germany's Black Forest. The wagon is some 20 ft. long with the animated figures moving to the mellow tones of the organ. This huge organ is additionally enhanced by hundreds of small light bulbs mounted within the carved scrolls.

Eight major and four kiddie rides each have their history described on signs mounted for easy reading. They are the 1928 "Lindy Loop", a Mangels "Whip" and "Ferris Wheel", a Spillman "Ridee-O" "Caterpillar", Dangler "Flying Swings", an 1896 English "Merry-go-round" and a huge English import, the "Coronation Arc".

These alone bring back the memories, let alone the 10c cup of coffee in the midway cookhouse. The "High Striker" and mit camp are also on the midway with the usual gypsy reading palms from her wagon. And speaking of wagons, you'll find the old hard rubber tire carney wagons, each labeled such as "Girl Show", "Wrestling Show" and etc.

Seven banner lines front the "Athletic Show", "Arcade", "Garden of Allah" (girl show), "Mermaid in Fish Bowl", "Guillotine" (headless girl), "Spidora" (girl with many legs) and an old time carney "General Store". All the show front balleys contain talkers dressed as in the roaring '20s with megaphones. No P.A. systems. There was the broad chested wrestler in long black tights calling for all comers with no holds barred at a dollar a minute for staying in the ring, the girls on the bally swaying beneath colored veils as "Little Eg-

FLASH

King Bros. Circus closed its 1978 season at Athens, Ga., on Sept. 8th and went back into quarters in Florida. Its future plans are indefinite.

TNT & ROYAL OLYMPIC CIRCUS

by Don Sandman

The TNT & Royal Olympic Circus made its annual visit to Toledo, Ohio, playing at the Southwyk Mall Aug. 23-27. The show is owned and produced by Earl W. Tegge, with Timothy N. Tegge, co-producer and musical director. Louise T. Tegge is treasurer and show organist.

The show as presented at Southwyk featured: The Cyclonians, wizards on wheels; The Patricks, rola bola; Clowns and Growing Hair; Myna Moon, on single trapeze; the Clowns and Sharpshooters.

Clowning is handled by Tim "Twinkles" Tegge and Laura Hase. Tim, incidentally, did the new program.

Visitors at the show included Al Conover, Grace and Don Sandman and Tom Henricks.

PEOPLE

GENE McDONALD reports he visited Circus Vargas in the Pacific Northwest and got put to work on the show's front gate. He also caught the Big John Strong Circus at Enumclaw, Wash. on Sept. 6th.

MAX A. HARRIS, Jr., a flyer with the FSU Circus, of Florida, recently achieved the triple somersault during a performance at Callaway Gardens, near Pine Mountain, Ga.

ypt" and even young boys with caps and knickers at the popcorn cart.

Additional detail included the office tent as in the Conklin & Garrett days, with windows cut in the canvas sidewalls. No office wagon then. With some 35 concessions, some sporting games of yesteryear the midway was well balanced and if as a page out of Joe McKennon's Pictorial History of the American Carnival.

2

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The Circus

PICKLE FAMILY CIRCUS

by Mike Sporrer

Under a covered-restored shed at the Gas Works Park, the Pickle Family Circus presented a mini-performance at Seattle, Wash., on Aug. 23rd. Upcoming dates that were announced are Aug. 26-27 Langley and Sept. 1-4 Bumpershoot at the Seattle Camp Grounds.

Using 5 sections of ring curb and a neat canvas back drop with the show's title and a circus design, the one hour performance was presented to a nice crowd. The show included a fine juggling act, showing skill not seen on many big shows.

The main clown number, a suitcase routine, was especially good and a well thought out feature. Sandy Counts on the tightrope did a chair balance and the entire program was backed by a 5 piece band.



VALENTIO, high wire star, recently worked for a film special and stopped the show with his act at the Anaheim Stadium with the Electric Light Orchestra, an event attended by some 55,000 people.

PAUL V. KAYE, circus producer, visited with ALAN and PAULINE REIDER in Las Vegas last month. Pauline is the sister of famed circus animal man MANUEL KING and the mother of popular Las Vegas ventriloquist SAMMY KING.

Billy Barton (Continued)

past winter and she looks wonderful. . . The DO-BRITCH CIRCUS, at Busch Gardens in Virginia, punctuates its season Oct. 1st. . . RBBB Circus World secured a \$29,000,000 loan at 9.5% interest for a five year deal. The loan has been guaranteed by the circus world's parent company Mattel, backed up by capital stock and certain personal property, of the park complex.

IRENE YOUNG advises me they've removed the mirror from above their famed blue velvet round bed . . . which leaves me so many openings for some campy cracks that I've decided to make it "no comment."

See you down the road, luvs.

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Miscellaneous

A bridge on the Ohio Turnpike (Between Exit 11 and Exit 12) has been closed due to an accident and fire which involved a fuel truck. Officials report the bridge will be closed thru December and possibly longer.

The Los Angeles (Calif.) County Fair which is at Pomona, Calif., will have the Canadian Mounted Police Show as its feature this year. This is the first time in 20 years the fair has not included a circus among its attractions.

The cast and crew of the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus held a backstage party at Aurora, Ill. during the show's date there (Aug. 29-Sept. 4). Plenty of food and drink was available for everyone.

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GERARD and MARY JO ZERBINI are parents of a baby "Giulio Joseph Felix Zerbin" born July 18th at Niagara Falls, N.Y. The new arrival's grand-parents are LOUIS and MARY ROSE ZERBINI and FRED and ORA LOGAN.

BILL GALLOWAY reports he visited with KATHY and VASHEK recently. Their little boy is becoming a big boy now, he adds.

DON and CAROL PHILLIPS and family visited the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus while enroute to join the Garden Show. Other recent visitors were JOE FRISCO and Family and agent MARC SCHULTZ, of the Howard Schultz Agency.

BRUCE ANDERSON, a former aerialist, is looking for an aerial rigging. Contact him at: 1420 North Seward St., Los Angeles, Calif. - 90028.

MIKE MARTIN, magician, is working dates in Texas for producer RAY WINDER.

WAYNE McCARY produced the Royal Int'l Circus for the Big E Expo in West Springfield, Mass., which ran Sept. 13-17.

CHARLES LIEDL recently made a trip to Alaska and reports that he saw posters advertising a circus coming into Ketchikan on June 26th.

HARRY R. WEILER-LUVAS, former circus aerialist now lives in West Germany. He is the son of TRUDY LUVAS and a brother to PETER LUVAS, of the Dixiana Circus.

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Miscellaneous

There are more jugglers per square mile in the South Seas island kingdom of Tonga than anywhere else on earth, and the jugglers are all girls. It's a tradition that goes back many centuries, a combination of chanting and juggling, that only girls participate in.

Everywhere you go in Tonga you'll see girls juggling - along dusty back roads, at school, in the villages, on the beaches - both day and night.

The girls juggle limes and Tui Tui nuts (a kind of chestnut) and frequently they engage in contests which go on for hours and hours, with no one missing a toss. Some of the girls will juggle as many as seven of the limes or nuts.

PEOPLE

BOBBY GIBBS is now handling the announcing on Carson & Barnes No. 2 Unit, replacing MANUEL KING who has left for previous commitments.

Show Report

Some of the talent inked for the M&M Circus Int'l tour in 1979 includes George Barreda, lions; The James Zoppe Royale Resinback Riders; Princess Mafalda; Ethel Jennier's Greyhounds; Aerialta, trapeze; Joselito, high wire; Jo Ann & Sunny, seal act; Mister Sensation, breakaway aerial act; Jimmy Douglass with Spec, Clown Alley and Ringmaster. Dates set are: Rochester (NY) Fe. 14-18; Omaha (Nebr) Apr. 17-22; Lincoln (Nebr) Apr. 24-29; Mt. Clemens (Mich) June 1-3.

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SPECIAL

The Ohio State "Sells Bros. Top" will hold its annual convention and Fun Fest on Friday and Saturday (Sept. 29-30) at the Holiday Inn West, in Springfield, Ohio. All CFA's are welcome to attend

Show Report

THRILL CIRCUS - 1978 New York State Fair
by Bill Galloway

The following acts were presented by Circus Coordinator Gunnar Amandis at the 1978 New York State Fair at Syracuse, Aug. 26-Sept. 4. Gunnar was the show's announcer.

The Swaying Bilros (Danny Rogers and Carl Schmidt); Fire Dive by John Carney; Johnny Luxem and his Wheel of Destiny; Rocket Car (Rassini), The Great Oscar; Barry Sloane, stilt walker and the Vashek Duo, aerial motorcycle.

Miscellaneous

Rex, the Wonder Lion, has found an eternal resting place in the town of Waukon, Iowa.

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