

# CIRCUS REPORT

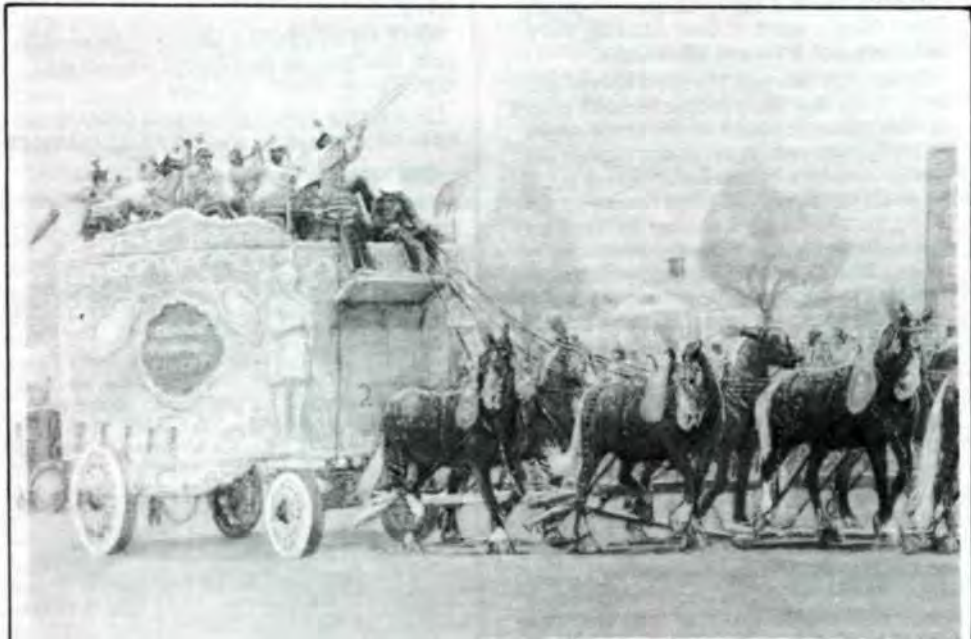
AMERICA'S FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY

The logo for 'Circus Report' is a vibrant, stylized graphic. The title 'CIRCUS REPORT' is written in large, bold, red letters with a blue outline, set against a blue background with white floral patterns. The word 'CIRCUS' is on the top line and 'REPORT' is on the bottom line. To the left of the text is a circular emblem containing a blue elephant. To the right is another circular emblem containing a blue tiger. In the center, below the text, is a blue and white illustration of a clown's face with a wide, open-mouthed smile. Below the main title is a red and white banner with the text 'AMERICA'S FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY' in blue capital letters.

9th Year

April 7, 1980

Number 14



**HAVE FOR SALE CHIMP CAGES**

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**REPORT****HUBERT CASTLE CIRCUS**

... by Ralph Henderson

The new partnership of Hubert Castle and Tarzan Zerbini brought a truly bigger and better than ever Shrine Circus to Spokane for nine performances in four days (Mar. 13-16).

The show staff included: Bob Dunham, personnel director; Prof. Toca, band leader; Rick Aldrich, prop boss and Lucky Larabee, ringmaster. Clown Alley consists of Gene Randow, Toby Ballantine, Lee Marx and Bill Vaughn.

Following the overture, the show opened with a flashy Spage Age Disco production with special lighting effects, followed by ten Space Angels on the Spanish web. A girl-to-lion illusion was used to introduce Tarzan Zerbini's cage act, after which the clowns did a lion careing bit assisted by Tarzan. An aerial number followed with Miss Stella and Miss Lilia on the pump-over trapeze; Miss Maya and Miss Debby on single trapeze; The Brauns, cradle act and the Berans on the balancing trapeze; Next came a dog act (one of the best and cutest I've seen for a long time) Marie France and her Yorkies.

Jorge Rosell and his Unpredictable Car followed, after which came three rings of animals - Gary Thomas and a small elephant, the Marhal camels and llamas and a Lipizzan stallion ridden by Miss Patty.

The clowns returned, then came three rings of equilibrists - Becky and Maya, Martin Lamberti and Les Michels. This was followed by a display with three head balancing trapeze stars - Senor Juan, Felipe and Venico. Then there were three rings of jugglers with Ray, Michele and Yolanda, Sampion and Lamberti. The first half came to a close with a Voo Doo Jungle Fantasy featuring five girls and Garry Thomas with the five circus

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**Crashing Off the Press Line an Evans Fanfare  
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Is Coming

**CIRCUS QUIPS . . .**

... by KARL J. BISCHOFF

THERE is a new title going around for show people working the FRONT DOOR - it's known as TRUST OFFICER.

Sometimes a WARDROBE MISTRESS feels that she could use half of the hands of the "700 FUSSY TAILORS!"

SINCE the trend is to rebates, it might be better to change the term of HOLDBACK to REBATE.

SOME SHOW PEOPLE who never do anything extra than they get paid for will NEVER GET PAID for any MORE than they do.

LIKE a good JEWELER - a good CIRCUS will make customers enjoy the RINGS OF QUALITY

elephants.

The second half opened with the Zercoffs Comedy Voltige riding, followed by the Flying Vasquez (3). The clowns came on with the washer-woman gag, and a display of perch acts with the Diones and Dynamic Berans followed. The Riding Zerbini Family followed (during the Friday evening show the young man that does the horse to horse somersault fell and landed on the ring curb). Tarzan filled in for the balance of the engagement, doing a good job of riding and clowning.

The next display was an Outer Space Production featuring Mlle. Jacqueline and her single trapeze act below a flying saucer. The Outer Space theme was carried out with a walk-around of "Creatures of the Universe" while the net was being set for the Finale, Captain Circus' Rocket Cannon number.

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# REVIEW

## HANNEFORD AT GREENVILLE, S. C.

... by Ron Morris

No one can say that the 1980 Royal Hanneford Shrine Circus produced for the Hejaz Temple on March 7-9 didn't start with a bang.

The spotlight opened on the singing ringmaster, Ernie McClean who reminded the darkened house of the many past achievements of America leading up to the first moon landing. Co-ringmaster Philip Morris, then broke in with a Cape Canaveral count-down.

A rocket hissed upward to a pedestal where wire walker Herbie Weber waited in the blackout. Explosion. The spotlight zeroed in on Herbie, dressed in silver, simulating the first landing on the moon in a backward slide for life. A bigger explosion, then came the house lights and Old Glory fluttering everywhere. Then followed the Grand Parade of "space maidens and moon cadets" extolling America.

The Philip Morris designed and choreographed spec received a warm audience response. Meanwhile as the parade continued, Tajana (Struppi Hanneford) guided her mixed Bengal and Siberian tigers to their positions. At the close of the spec the cats were already in place and the act commenced without pause. The smooth sophistication of the opening number prevailed throughout the entire length of the Hanneford program.

Other high lights of the first half included the Castro Bros. working on a 30 ft. high wire with out a net, the Estrada Teeterboard (Julio and Antonio), Belinda Maynard and four web girls in an aerial number which began with a beautiful calypso theme. Gaylord Maynard's drunken horse routine was great as always. The Olmeda's bicycle number and the Hanneford Riding Act with nine people including Mrs. George Hanneford (now 93 years old), Cindy and Heidi Herriott, Gary and Terri Bolstrem, and featuring Mark Karoly.

Another attractive addition in the program was the Hollywood Horses presented by Philip Anthony. This liberty troupe, recently purchased by Philip from Ian Garden, has been booked for the Monte Carlo Circus tour of Japan. The half closed with an Alice in Wonderland spec, again designed by Philip Morris, and featuring a motorized hippo, a ditto birthday cake, and Nellie Hanneford as Alice who presented her fantail dove fantasy.

The second half kicked off with the Flying Gagnas (Arturo, Julio and David, plus Cindy Herriott) with 12 year old David consistently performing a two-and-a-half. Mark Anthony's comedy car followed, and then came a real show stopper, a western number with menage horses including Mark Karoly, Brad Frank and Gaylord Maynard.

The three ring dressage staged by Maynard included a hindleg walk down the complete hipodrome track by Brad Frank, a capreol in the saddle by Mark Karoly, a rocking forehand by Maynard, and concluded with a Texas Skip by Brad Frank "bringing back the Tom Mix days in the Thirties" according to producer Tommy Hanneford.

Closing acts were: the four Hanneford elephants worked by Tommy and featuring Mark Karoly who does a backward somersault propelled by elephant power; The Nerveless Nocks, whose four sway poles practically touched the auditorium ceiling; and a God Bless America finale featuring an 18 ft. vinyl globe which inflated during the number and blazed forth with an exaggerated outline of America in red, white and blue.

Key personnel were: Tommy Hanneford, producer; Glenn Parkins, executive director and producer, Dwight Hanson, prop boss with a crew of five, Meg Hansen, lighting director, Mark Anthony and Tina (Tiny Tina) Scotts, producing clowns, Kenny Heller, concessions, Philip Morris, costumes and choreography.

# Show Dates

## Beatty-Cole Circus

Apr. 7-8 Lumberton, NC  
9-10 Myrtle Beach, SC  
11-13 Wilmington, NC

## Carden-Johnson Circus

Apr. 7-9 Bismarck, ND  
10 Jamestown  
11-13 Fargo  
7-13 Springfield, Mo.  
9-13 Green Bay, Wisc.

## Hubert Castle Circus

Apr. 8-13 Sioux City, Iowa  
10-19 Columbus, Ohio

## Circus Vargas

Apr. 7-10 Thousand Oaks, C

## Coronas Thrill Circus

Apr. 11-13 Macon, Ga.

## Dobritch Int'l Circus

Apr. 12-13 New Orleans, La.

## Fiesta de Circo

Apr. 12 Manteca, Calif.

## Garden Bros. Circus

Apr. 8-13 St. Paul, Minn.

## Hamid-Morton Circus

Apr. 12-13 Asbury, Park, NJ

## Hoxie Bros. Circus

Apr. 7 Merritt Island, Fla.  
8 St. Cloud  
9 Orlando  
10 Groveland  
11 DeLand  
12 St. Augustine  
13 Fernandina Beach

## Hubler Int'l Circus

Apr. 7-12 Wilkes-Barre, Pa.  
12-13 Steubenville, Ohio

## Wm. Kay Circus

Apr. 11-13 Syracuse, NY

## Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus

Apr. 11 Hanover, N.H.

## Oram Temple Shrine Circus

Apr. 7-12 Kingston, Pa.

## Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit

to June 1 New York, NY

## Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit

Apr. 10-13 Charleston, W. Va.

## Roberts Bros. Circus

Apr. 11 Hawthorne, Fla.  
12 Lake Butler

## Royal Lichtenstein Circus

Apr. 7-8 Flint, Mich.  
- 9 Detroit  
10 Warren  
11 Detroit  
12 Flint

## Shrine Circus

Apr. 9-13 Madison, Wisc.

---- MAGIC ----

## Amazing Conklins

Apr. 7 Golud, SD  
8 Taylor  
9 Glen Ullin  
10 Montpelier  
12-24 New Orleans

## Berwin & Brewster

Apr. 7-12 Ripley, Tenn.

## Blackstone Magic Show

Apr. 8-27 Boston, Mass.

## Prf. Miller's Magic Time USA

Apr. 7 Chambersburg, Pa.  
8 Carlisle  
9 Inwood  
11 McConnellsburg  
12 Columbia  
13 Meyersdale

---- OTHER DATES ----

## Babes In Toyland

Apr. 11-13 Atlanta, Ga.

## The Bisbini Family

Apr. 11-13 Canton, Ohio

## Billy Burr's Fun-O-Rama

Apr. 7-12 Dover, N.H.

## Dondi, the Elephant

Apr. 8-12 Merritt Island, Fla.

## James H. Drew Exposition

Apr. 7-12 Lincolnton, NC

## Tony Fossett Family

Apr. 11-13 Syracuse, NY

## Gund Western Collection

to Apr. 20 Fresno, Calif.

## Gutis Family - Jungle Parody

Apr. 11-13 Syracuse, NY

## Kaye Hollywood Elephants

Apr. 10-19 Columbus, Ohio

## The Kursawes - Bicycle Act

Apr. 7-12 Springfield, Mo.

## Rick Legg - Clown

Apr. 11-13 New Orleans, La.

## Los Latinos - Wire Act

to Apr. 12 Atlanta, Ga.

## John MacKay - Clown

Apr. 12-13 New Orleans, La.

## Tommy Scott's Medicine Show

Apr. 7 Warren, Ark.  
8 Camden  
9 Hope  
10 Texarkana, Texas  
11 Paris  
12 Longview  
13 Mt. Pleasant

## Mr. Sensation - Aerialist

Apr. 7-12 Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

## Dieter Tasso - Juggler

Apr. 9-13 Madison, Wisc.

## Harry Thomas - Tigers

Apr. 7-13 Springfield, Mo.

## White House in Miniature

Apr. 10-15 Wichita, Kans.

## Angela Wilnow and Her Collies

Apr. 7-13 Albuquerque, N.M.

## The Winn Troupe - High Wire

Apr. 8-13 St. Paul, Minn.

## Roman Schmitt's Animals

Apr. 7-12 Wilkes-Barre, Pa.



**NICK VANOFF**, producer of the defunct Hollywood Palace Show, got his new variety series off the ground, televised Mar. 4th, for the first show of its kind to hit the airways in years. It was an uneven production with some good acts, good ideas, and intermittently successful comedy spots. Ice and water segments were spliced with dance and comedy routines and solo star turns. Some missed the mark, others hit. It seems that the ice skating and water ballet numbers were all too brief and not terribly inspired. A shame as a lot could be done here in the spacious Goldwyn Studios where the show is taped. Hopefully the series will click if only to give novelty performers a showcase.

Talked with **JIMMY DOUGLASS** in early March he was up to his neck getting props and clown wardrobe ready for the Beatty show. Jimmy rented four circus wagons, uniforms, and a gorilla suit to Great Adventure and will furnish one more clown for the season.

**VIOLA MacLEOD**, long time staffer with Polack Bros. was brought from Chicago to the Castle produced Flint Shrine date by **HENRY BARRETT** and Shriners from the Elf Kurafeh Temple. She sat next to **HUBERT CASTLE** and seemed to enjoy every minute of the show and her visit.

**CLOSEUPS:** **JON FRIDAY** visited the Hanneford produced Medinah Temple Shrine Circus in Chicago, the Eastern Company of Ice Capades that same night. Then he visited the Lansing date produced by **HAROLD VOISE**. The following week he caught the Hanneford opener in Detroit. He tells me **JOHN H. TOWSEN**, author of the book "The Clowns" is not a former clown-juggler-acrobat as the hardcover book jacket reveals, but is actively performing now with a group called **Towsen, Yockers and Peterhoff**. The group played Flint and Dayton as well as other dates on the Castle route. . . New producer **RON KELROY** is busy setting fair dates for this season. . . **CHUCK CLANCY** is back in California after an extended trip to the east where he set the show's fall route. Meanwhile partner **TOMMY BENTLEY** has been overseeing promotions in Northern California where the show opens in May for a three week run. . . Tommy sez he is still on a weight-loss kick but the whole routine is beginning to bore him. . . **ARIAS** bears and Golden Retrievers are

set for the summer with **JUNGLE LARRY** at Sandusky (OH). A nice set up. Two shows a day and one day a week off. Prior to opening at the Ohio Park they will play Kennywood Park in Pittsburgh. The Sandusky booking was effected through **BETTER BOOKING** of Boston.

**CIRCUS VARGAS** raised its 6 pole big top recently in California and rumors are growing the mammoth tent will be on rails in 1981. . Look for a major shake-up in Shrine Circus producers in 1981 and the combining of two shows. Sorry, can't give any more at this time. . . **GEORGE HUBLER** will again produce a series of Shrine sponsored events in Maryland in July. . . He will also replay last year's fall dates. . . **JOE** and **ELIZABETH BAUER** left Sarafra to resume housekeeping in New Jersey. They open at Great Adventure next month. . . **ED MIGLEY's** father underwent a successful eye operation in late Feb. . . **LILLIANA** will make the Cape Cod Shrine date for Circus Odyssey, ditto the **RODRIGUEZ TROUPE**. . . **LUIS MUNOZ** was prop boss for the Hanneford Chicago date where **TINA** also appeared with her upsidedown walk. . . Other acts included: Moore's Mongrel Revue, Zoppe Arabian Riders, Flying Valentines, Chris James, The Plunketts, Misses Loni and Barbara, the Tangiers Arabian Troupe, Jorge Barreda, Pamela's Chimps, ringmaster Senor Rai and Lee Maloney, musical director. . . **JOHNNY JORDAN's** Motorcycle Globe of Death preemed during the AUT MORI GROTTO Circus. The act features his 12 year old son, **JODY**. . . Glamorous **LOU ANN JACOBS** added chaser lights to the side guylines of her rigging, makes a dramatic entrance to great music wearing a full-length white mink! . . . **ANN HUBLER**, forever involved in civic and artistic pursuits, is now heading up a Children's Theatre in Dayton, called **FANTASY EXPRESS**. It's "theatre-in-the-round" and is underwritten by Federal Grants . . . **GEORGE HUBLER's** Buffalo Shrine Date was ahead in grosses from last year, broke records. 75,000 paid admissions.

**MARSHA HUNT** phoned in that their baby elephant **DOLLY** is dead. The animal was found laying on its side by **HARRY HUNT**, still alive, but barely. Autopsy reports indicate the elephant died from Leukemia. Marsha is crushed

(Continued on Page 24)

# REPORT

## ENGLISH TENTING SEASON STARTS

... by Jack Niblett

After a mild winter which permitted Gerry Cottle and the Hoffman Brothers to put on tented circuses at Christmas, England has a mild spring and by the end of March, all of our tenting circuses will be out on the road once again. Despite the usual crop of "end of season rumors" this year's line-up is as complete as ever and there are even two new shows to add to the company.

First out was Gerry Cottle with a stand at Jersey in the Channel Islands; Austen Brothers, the Hoffman Brothers who are fielding two units this season; Sir Robert Fossett's, and the Robert Brothers have all taken to the road again with good traditional programs.

Smaller family circus such as James Bros., and Fossett Bros. are due to start out soon. The three Chipperfield circuses - Richard Chipperfield, Jimmy Chipperfield and Sally Chipperfield - are all out again, boasting of plenty of animal acts, and there is even a fourth Chipperfield-associated circus to be seen on our lots this year. This one is owned and operated by Tommy Chipperfield (the late John's son) and Tommy Fossett a clown/juggler and will be known as Fossefields Circus. The polare and black bear act from Richard's Circus will be seen at Blackpool Tower Circus this season, a venue for many Chipperfield animal acts in recent years.

The other new show is Circus Hassani, owned by the directors of the Hassani Troupe, Arab acrobats which have been seen in the U.S. with Circus Vargas and other shows. Circus Hassani has in its company, Sasha Coco, brother-in-law to

## Surrender to The Inevitable! BEHIND THE BIG TOP Is Coming

### Acts

Acts appearing at the Hyatt House in Sarasota, Fla., for a recent Amandis Agency engagement were: The Rolling Diamonds, roller skaters, Diana, foot juggler, Harry Dubsky, leopards, John Dubsky, dogs, Frank & Estreleta, aerial, Dieter Tasso, juggler, Pietro Canestrelli family, teeterboard, Morgan Ashton, comedy risley, Dubsky, one finger stand, The Bertinis, bicycles, Martha, contortionist, the Roberts Bros. Circus elephant and Florine Oler, organist.

Acts appearing at the Sport Show in Lexington, Ky (Feb. 29-Mar. 2) booked by Amandis Agency were: Diana, foot juggler, Satani Demon, sword/fire, The Rolling Diamonds, skaters and an air bag dive by Hollywood stuntman B. J. Davis.

Hassani and second son of the late famous British clown Coco, and who is using his father's make-up as "Coco II", has caused some controversy by announcing there will be no animals in its program.

By announcing this policy, Circus Hassani has managed to get several City Council-owned lots which are not leased to circuses with performing animals. English circus owners are not quarreling with Hassani's policy, but they are angry over statements put out by this circus in which they denigrate performing animal acts, calling them "degrading", thus sparking off argument, and giving much support to the Animal protection societies which regularly harass our circuses.



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**April 15-16-17th - Santa Fe, New Mexico**

**Week of April 21st - Shrine Circus, Indianapolis, Ind.**  
**Booked: Eugene C. Lambart and  
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**April 29 - BOZO TV SHOW, Chicago, Ill.**  
**Booked: Howard Schultz Agency**

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## PEOPLE

THE NEW DOLLYS, bicycle act, is featured in the Harrah's Tahoe show "Hotter and Hotter" as are the 7 ALEXANDERS, tumbling and comedy act.

MARJI LANGIN continues to add new school dates to her route for either clown, puppet or magic shows. Dr. HANK E. PANKY has been guesting on this circuit this past month.

DAVID DOUGLAS, magician, LORRI LEE, singer and DANNY GANNS, impressionist, are appearing in the afternoon show "Palace Playmates Revue" at the Nevada Palace in Las Vegas.

RON SHAVER, of the Ice Capades, does a tribute to Emmett Kelly called "Send In the Clowns" and a slide of Emmett Kelly is projected on the backdrop.

BUSKERS PUPPETEERS were booked for a third annual visit at the Medieval Fair at the Ringling Museum (Mar. 15-16) where the 425 performers played to 25,000 visitors.

BILL BIRCHFIELD, former press agent for Big John Strong Circus, was recently signed as road manager for Mimes Shields & Yarnell and for magician David Copperfield. Bill's traveling is in addition to his work as lighting director for John Ascuagis' Nugget in Sparks, Nevada.

SUSAN SHERYLL's Royal Afghans; DAVIDE

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LADDIE's Unsupported Ladder, and JOHNNY ZOPPE's Rhesus Monkey Revue will be appearing at the Stoneboro, Pa., Fair, Aug. 29 thru Sept. 1st.

HAL HAVILAND will have his dog and pony numbers at Enchanted Forest, Old Forge, NY for the summer season starting May 24th. Also appearing at the park will be REX HORTON's Bears. The booking was handled by the Tibor Alexander Agency.

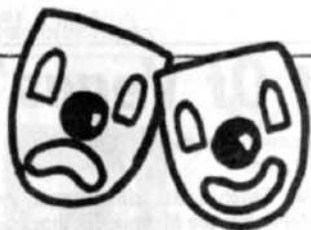
THE NICCOLINI BROTHERS Chimpanzee act is currently touring with the Max Schumann Circus in Denmark. They plan to be back in the U. S.A. in 1981.

JAMES HALL, of the Kassie Bears, and a daughter of PETER LUVAS, were married at Kountze, Texas, on March 16th.

NOEL and RICH STRELAK have the Main Stage Productions in the Chicago area, where they teach Clown Classes and arrange for clown shows.

PHILIP ANTHONY and his Hollywood Liberty Horses are enroute to Japan where they will be appearing with the Ringling-Barnum Monte Carlo Circus unit.

DEON and BEVERLY HOGAN AUMAIR, circus clowns, will leave soon for an extended engagement in the Orient. They are currently in California at: 22725 Woodlake Road, El Toro, Calif. 92630.



# Cipollo Productions

Contact: Phil Schacht, 5013 Stonehedge Drive, Santa Rosa, Calif. - 95405

## DONDI the ELEPHANT . . . . . 1980 SCHEDULE

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Jan. 24-27 - Columbus, Ga. (Mall)                     | May 1 - Uvalde, Texas " "                             |
| Jan. 30-Feb. 2 - Greenwood, S. C.<br>(Mall)           | May 2 - Seguin, Texas " "                             |
| Mar. 12 - San Antonio, Texas<br>(Convention)          | May 3-4 - Austin, Texas (Circus)                      |
| Mar. 16-23 - Dallas, Texas (Sport<br>Show)            | May 6-10 - Greenville, Miss. (Mall)                   |
| April 1 - Hickory, N.C.<br>(Convention)               | May 22-25 - Wilmington, Dela. (Circus)                |
| April 2 - Virginia Beach, Va. (700<br>Club - TV Show) | June 18-21 - Du Bois, Pa. (Mall)                      |
| April 8-12 - Merritt Island, Fla. (Mall)              | June 30-July 5 - Charlotte, N. C.<br>(P.T.L. TV Show) |
| April 26 - Harlingen, Texas (Magic Show)              | July 14-30 - Baltimore, Md. (Circus)                  |
| April 27 - Weslaco, Texas " "                         | Aug. 2 - Chicago, Ill. (Club Date)                    |
| April 28 - Brownsville, Texas " "                     | Aug. 12-16 - Jackson, Miss. (Mall)                    |
| April 29-30 - McAllen, Texas " "                      | Aug. 26-31 - Lake Grove, Long Island,<br>N. Y. (Mall) |

## REPORT

### NEW IMPORT CENTER

The U. S. Dept. of Agriculture's new animal import center at Newburgh, N.Y. was dedicated on March 21st.

The facility will be used for receiving livestock, poultry, exotic birds and zoo animals from overseas for health tests, examinations and quarantine procedures to make sure they are free of contagious foreign diseases.

James O. Lee, acting administrator of the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, says the facility replaces the 77 year old import center at Clifton, N.J.

Lee said the import center provides isolation barns, areas for examination, dipping and disinfection as well as environmentally safe waste disposal systems.

## 'Best Of Vegas'

Specialty acts nominated for the "Best of Vegas" awards include:

The Argentinian Gauchos, Berosini Chimps, the Fercos, magic/animals, the Marquis Chimps, Siegfried & Roy, illusionists, Pete Barbutti, lounge performer, Wayland Flowers & Madame, puppet, Jackie Gayle, Irish Show Band, Rip Taylor, comedy, plus show production or revue principals - Barbara Beverly, Trisha Lee, Heather Victorson, Marlene Vincente, Carl Wallace, Alan Clancy, Maureen Owen, Heidi Page, David Shepard, Linda Spinks; county-western star of the year, Roy Clark, Willie Nelson, Ray Price, Rogers and Mel Tillis.

Voting was by people in the entertainment industry and the show was scheduled to have been filmed for TV last week, but will be shown at a later date.



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## PEOPLE

**GEORGE "Slim" LEWIS** has been giving lectures and a slide show for zoos and animal parks. The topic is "The Elephant in the American Circus and Zoo."

**LEON PINTER**, organist and magician is touring with the Harry Beck Jr. Circorama Show.

**BARRIE SLOAN**, stilt walker, has completed a successful tour with Circus Knie in Switzerland and is returning to Great Adventure Park in New Jersey for Joe Bauer.

**TRUDY LUVAS** and her Poodle Revue were a part of the Shrine Circus in New Orleans, for April 4-6.

**TOM HENRICKS** was in Decatur, Ill., with the **ALBERT RIX** bear act on March 29-30. He also reports the Zenobia Shrine Circus at Toledo was held on April 1-4.

**DOUG HENNING** had his magic show at the Pantages Theatre in Hollywood, Calif., on March 17-23rd.

## Acts

Acts appearing with the recent appearances of the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus include:

Mar. 2 - Grand Junction, Colo. - The Turnos, trampoline; Bill Rivers, chimp; Dino Martinez, hand balance; Bill Rivers and Silver Mist the horse; Wini McKay, trapeze; Tony's Trio, rola bola; Guy Sherrill, with "Frosty" the brahama bull; Chester Cable, foot juggler; Princess Omar, one finger stand/balance; Les Martinez, motorcycle on wire, plus Nancy Kelly, ringmistress; Chester Cable, prop boss and Will Smith, band.

Mar. 8 - Yucca Valley, Calif. - The Turnos, trampoline; Billy the camel and Frank Matejha; Emmett and Want More; Dino Martinez, hand balance; Miss Heidi and her dogs; Emmett and the Hankie; Wini McKay, trapeze; Intermission; Chester Cable, foot juggler; Emmett and magic; Tony's Trio, rola bola; Miss Heidi and Ten Gun, the horse; Princess Omar, one finger stand/balance; Emmett standing on hands; Les Martinos, motorcycle on wire; plus Nancy Kelly, ringmistress; Chester Cable, prop boss and Virginia Lue Fenton, music.

# REPORT

## THE 1980 CENTRAL FLORIDA FAIR

... by Len Humphries

The 1980 Central Florida Fair celebrated its new location, as well as a popular new attraction during its Feb. 26-Mar. 8 run in Orlando.

The biggest success of the fair was credited to the feature under the big top, the Hanneford Family Circus, owned and produced by George Hanneford.

The program featured: The Bounding Kays, on trampoline; George Hanneford, liberty ponies; Princess Morning Star, upside down walk; Galla Shawn, head balance trapeze; Sally Ashton, web and trapeze; Catherine and Diana, canine revue; Mr. Bell, hand balancing; Ramon Espana, rola bola; Hanneford's Exotic Animal Revue; Doug Ashton, musical comedy; Ramon Espano, comedy golliwog; Walt and Wendy Patterson, teeterboard/hand vaulting; Hanneford Family Bareback Riding Act featuring George Hanneford III and the Hanneford elephants presented by George Hanneford. Doug Ashton was the producing clown.

The show's staff consisted of: Len Humphries, front office and personnel manager; Col. E. T. Bale, equestrian director; Tex and Marcie Maynard, musical co-ordinators; Jerry Swartz, busi-

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ness manager/general agent; Victoria Hanneford, legal adjuster; Ms. Irene Bell, public relations; Buzzy Cuttin, concession manager; Ben De Wayne, elephant ride; Diane Hanneford, supt. of elephants and ring stock, assisted by Bud Dillner; Bob (Cowboy) Moyer, prop boss and rigging; Walter Patterson, bit top boss and maintenance by Radar.

Visitors to the circus included: Directors of *Disney World*, and directors of *Circus World*; plus officials from Beatty-Cole and Hoxie Bros., as well as Whitey Black, Pete and Dorm Cristiani, the Stevenson Family, Houdi Ashton, and his family, Joe McMahon and family, Ron and Sandy Severini, Tommy Baker, Fred Logan and family, James E. Strates, Ben Burnstein, Stanley Gill, Dave Merrifield, the Broward County Fair Committee, Jackie Gleason and Burt Reynolds. While at the Fair, George Hanneford was on location at the Burt Reynolds ranch with his elephants for the filming of the upcoming motion picture "Smokey and the Bandit, Part 2."

## WASHINGTON TUBBS II



# PEOPLE

**DOUG HENNING**, illusionist, was a guest on the Mike Douglas TV Show which was aired the afternoon of March 30th.

**SHELAGH YELDING**, a former circus aerialist, now works as a Savings Counselor for the Coast Federal Savings in Sarasota.

**THE ROLLING DIAMONDS**, skating act and **DIANA**, foot juggler will be with the April 10-14 Shrine Circus at Manchester, Maine.

**THE SUPER LOCOS**, knock-about act, is featured with the "Hotter and Hotter" Show at Harrah's Tahoe Club in Nevada.

**KATHERINE ROSS** has been signed to star in the CBS-TV movie "Rodeo Girl" which is about the all-girl rodeo circuit.

**MELL HALL** visited friends with the Carden-Johnson Circus when that show played Lake Charles, La. on March 18th.

**JAMES "Jimbow" DECKER** clowning at the "Circus On Parade" celebration at the First Baptist Church of Dallas on March 14th.

**SIEGFRID & ROY**, illusionists, introduced their white tiger cub "White Gold" on a recent show in Las Vegas. The young animal was born on Dec; 23rd.

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**JOHN McPEAK**, juggler, is one of the stars appearing in the show "Burlesque 80" at the Nevada Palace in Las Vegas. Also appearing in the show are **VINCENT**, singer and **APRIL MAITLAND**, exotic.

**BOB** and **LOU FLOWERS STODDARD** each have two paintings in the Annual Invitational Art Exhibition sponsored by the Oak Cliff Society of Fine Arts in Dallas, Texas. The exhibit runs thru April 19th. Lou's portraits of Emmett Kelly and Jo Jo Jingles are featured.

**DAVID COPPERFIELD**, illusionist, was featured on the Mike Douglas TV Show aired the afternoon of April 2nd.

**GEORGE HUBLER** had trouble getting into the building where his show was underway at Poughkeepsie, NY. The security guard didn't recognize him and he had to recite the flashlight "Pitch" before he was allowed to pass through the gate.

## By Crane



## REPORT

### SHOW FOLKS AT TRAILER PARK

... by "Circus Joe" Valenciano

This reporter has some good friends nearby, Tony and Elaine Lyle, who own a trailer park here in Tampa.

A number of show people stayed there during the winter, including: David Raymond and his family, The Diaz Family, the Billy Gunga Family, Jimmy and Judy Devine, Doug and Jeanie Hackett.

The Glenwood Mobile Home Park is located on U. S. 41 South, between Tampa and Gibsonton. Located directly behind the park, across a side street is a big winter quarters type fenced in lot, where a lot of show people stay, this is owned

by Mario Zacchini.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle attended the Olympic International Circus produced by Eddie Zacchini at the State Fair. Their daughter, Tonya, who rides show horses, recently visited Ringling-Barnum's Circus World Park.

The Lyles own a large motorhome and last fall took a six week vacation tour of the mid-west, ending up in Las Vegas where they saw Circus Vargas before heading back to Florida.

## HOTLINE

The Shrine Club in Detroit, Mich., has announced that they have signed the Royal Hanneford Circus for a repeat engagement in 1981. They call this year's show "the best they have ever seen."

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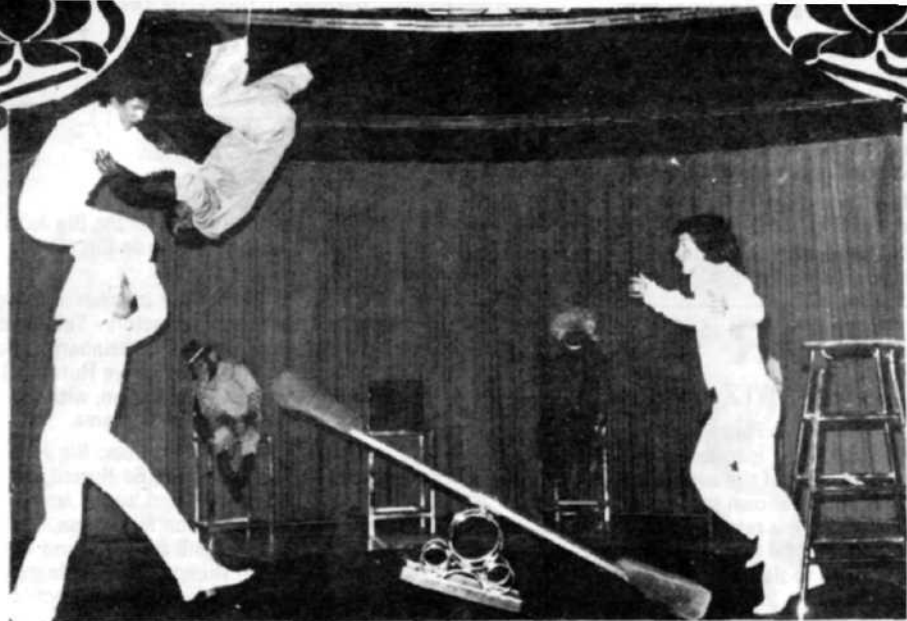
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*References furnished upon request*





When, as an artiste, one succeeds in winning the "SILVER CLOWN" title at the annual Circus Festival in Monaco whose protector is Prince Rainier, one can maintain at the same time that this year at least there was only one act the judges found better. In December 1975 the Nicolini Brothers represented Circus Benneweis at this grand Gala Festival which every year attracts virtually everything there is in the way of top circus acts in the western world. Nicolini's chimpanzees - well let us include the brothers as well - combine everything that is crazy, uproariously funny, mad and charming - necessary ingredients if you are to go down in circus history. And that's exactly what the entire troupe did a few months ago - together with a SILVER CLOWN.

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1978 - Night Club Le Jardin des Champs Elisees, Paris

1979 - Circus Season with Gbruders Knie in Switzerland

1980 - Max Schumann Circus touring Denmark.

## On The Cover

This week's cover picture, another painting by Robert B. Johnson, is titled "The Bandwagon" and shows a highly carved circus wagon with the side show band on top in a traditional circus parade. The wagon is drawn by a team of eight matched horses with special harness.

Unfortunately, this painting seems to have faded, possibly because of its use of water colors. The colors here are predominantly green, with the wagon featuring gold scroll and carvings.

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### WIZ FLASH

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Presented on the Cabaret Show at recent Hollywood Cavalcade of Magic. The act received a standing ovation.

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## REPORT

### FIESTA DE CIRCO

The show and operating staff for the Big John Strong & Son's all new "Fiesta de Circo" tent show includes:

**Advance Crew:** Robert (Red) Johnson in charge of all advance marketing directors - Toby and Laurie Twist, Jay Evans, Mike Weinberger, Bob Kammer, Charles Kammer, Bettye Hutton, Dee Hughes, Virginia Hale, Ray Solano, with Al Buchanan handling the mid-west area.

The staff on the tent show includes: Big John Strong, owner/general agent; Ed Russell, general manager; Enoch Brafford, supt.; James Wallentin, concessions; Don McLennon, supt. of animals, assisted by Bill Schreiber and Ron Pace; Ron Perry, pit show; Chris Kennington and Pam Perry, office; Paul Woolen, electrician

Carlos Rivera, inside stand; Chris Kennington, novelties; Rose Douglas and Phil Kavanaugh, daily press; "Doc" Harold de Valcount, seats, and assisted by Tom Caravello.

(A list of the show performers will appear in an early issue).

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Opening: Aug. 1st - in St. Louis with "Clowncapades"

Opening: Oct. 20th - in Salt Lake City with the Max Hapner Show

We can still use some High Class Acts. Please send color photos. Acts that have worked for Bill and Ian Garden, Jimmy Cole, Jim Nordmark, Stu Miller and Earl Tegge given preference.

Neil Armstrong, organist, can use a drummer

P. S. Mario, if you are not with Floyd call me. Pat and Gwen, John Dubsky and Willy Walters - why haven't you answered my letters?

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Are all magic books expensive? No, many paper back ones can be found in stores anywhere, but the best ones are in magic shops. The card expert can choose from virtually hundreds, while other specialty fields like the cups and balls, linking rings, mental magic, etc., have a lesser but nonetheless wide selection to choose from.

Two fine low-priced books on magical performers are: "Famous Magicians of the World" and "Great Magic Shows." Written by a world traveler, they describe the shows as they would be seen by a person seated in the audience, and are loaded with pictures (each 40 pages, 8½x11).

Priced at only \$3.00 old timers can relive the big shows they may have seen, such as Carter, Dante, Houdini, Sorcar, Kalanag, Virgil, etc., while the youngsters can get an idea of what a big show in the golden era of magic was all about.

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## In Memoriam

GEORGE AL ARMSTRONG, known as Ding-A-Ling the Clown, died of a heart attack in his home in Dallas, Texas, on March 22nd. He was a member of the Mid-Cities Clown Alley No. 85 and served as Sargeant-at-Arms in 1979, and was elected recently as a Trustee of that organization.

He won first place in the White Face Clown competition at the Clown Day festivities at the 1979 State Fair of Texas.

MARCO WOLFE (87) died recently in Beverly Hills, Calif. He and his late sister Fanchon were founders with the late M. D. "Doc" Howe of the famed Fanchon and Marco Stage Shows, Inc. a circuit of the 1930's. They and their general manager "Doc" Howe once had over 100 separate stage show units touring nationally all year round. Each show featured a star of the screen or radio and utilized the Fanchon and Marco lines of chorus girls, plus many circus acts. They also had a large fair unit that booked acts into the nation's top fairs, which had been originally established by "Doc" Howe, their partner. (His son is Eddie Howe, former circus press agent). In 1939, they leased the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus train and equipment and toured the "Great American Circus" that year. Marco's daughter, who lives in Beverly Hills, survives.

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# REMEMBER

... by William Wotsch

The Al Sirat Grotto Circus was held in Feb. of 1940 at the Cleveland, Ohio, Arena. The ring-master was Fred Bradna, who wore a black top hat, red blazer and with that whistle hanging from around his neck.

On the west end of the floor, just off center, the Wallendas had their high wire rigging set up. The wire was across the floor, with the main wire tied in to an iron beam in the front part of our lobby. The other side was tied in to an iron beam in the back lobby, not far from where we had the elephants.

There were four Wallendas, Karl, Helen, Herman and Joe Geiger. Joe did the part of a staggering guy in an evening suit and top hat. I recall talking to him and the rest of the troupe on many occasions.

Also appearing in the show was the Hanneford Riding act with the famous Poodles Hanneford. Their horses were kept in the north-east tunnel, not far from where Terrell Jacobs had his lions. The Pallenberg bears were kept in a room in the south-east tunnel.

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**BILLY BARTON (Continued)**

by the tragedy, said they never dreamed anything was even wrong with Dolly. Marsha and her husband are now operating a highly individual and profitable concession, which keeps them busy but which she prefers not to publicize.

Star-studded program for the Youngstown Aut Mori Circus, week of March 18 thru 23, featured: Harry Thomas, tigers, the Bertinis, Hanging perch, Fay Alexander, comedy car, Trudy's Dalmatians, Lou Ann Jacobs, aerialist, James Zoppe Riders, Ron and Joy Holiday, Tino Wallenda, Erma's Chimps, the Flying Lanes, Johnny Herriott (horse), the Garza Brothers, living statues, Roman Schmitt's elephants, Johnny Jordan and son, Globe of Death, Ringmaster was Austin Miles, musical director Book Boom Browning.

**ODDS and ENDS:** The Grand Rapids Saladin Shrine Circus got a second cage act with ALBERT and JEANETTE RIX and their Polar Bears. They worked in Tarzan's new mesh cable arena which rises from the center ring curb. Also on the date was CHRIS BRUNO's Break-away sway pole. . . JACKIE ZERBINI had debuted her new "flying saucer". It enters the arena under its own power and is then hoisted 60 feet. Naturally Jackie performs her daring half-twisting bare-foot heel catches while the saucer revolves, supported by one electric hoist

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. . . Grand Rapids was extended to ten days this year, grossed more than \$90,000, played to 13,000 more patrons than during any of the previous 49 years. . . The Flint Shrine date moved to the new I.M.A. Sports Arena. It is an outlying area and seats an additional 1,000 people. The old I.M.A. Auditorium sits abandoned. The show did the greatest business ever, with turnaways and sold out houses being the norm. . . Color scheme for the new Castle show is white and blue. . . Center ring has fancy logo and chaser lights. . . I'm told that nearly eighty grand was invested in show wardrobe. . . JANET BALLANTINE is the wardrobe mistress. . . Aerial acts, other than Jackie, are: Flying Vasquez, and the cannon, are suspended from three 40 foot crane bars. The riggings have rubber wheels attached so they can be wheeled into semi trailers. . . Unique is that web girls are hoisted aloft simultaneously (the webs attached to electric winches). . . TARZAN's and JACKIE's daughters SYLVIA and PATRICIA are featured in the web number with their newly devised double-web, performed similar to a hanging perch. . . All pitches on the Castle show are made only at intermission. . . The show is fast-paced with minimal announcements. CLEM TOCA created an entire score for the show - most of it (if not all) original music.

I am indebted to JON FRIDAY for the above information. There is more in his lengthy letter Unfortunately, a deadline approaches and I haven't time to sift it all. Will add the rest in a future column.

SEE YOU down the road, luvs.

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**Familiar Faces**


... by Mike Naughton

The Gutis Family will be spot-dating with their Jungleland Parody on Wm. Kay's Circus, the Ed Migley Circus and the Maine Shrine dates.

Tom Sink, clowning on Ron Bacon's spring tour of Ohio. Maddy Sink has the concession dept., and magician Joe Smiley (Bobby Kaye's brother) is also with the show.

Clown Mike Naughton and aerialist De Lisa Jordan were guests on an hour radio show in Albany (NY) to promote the 27th annual Cyprus Shrine Circus which was produced by Bill Kay. The circus enjoyed sell outs on March 8-9.

John and Jody Jordan open June 1st in Circus Circus with their motorcycles inside the globe, a real thriller. Jody, only 12 years old, is successfully performing complete revolutions inside the globe after a few weeks of hard work.

The Flying Lanes worked Albany, NY, for Bill Kay, Montreal for Ian Garden and Youngstown for George Hubler.

Lottie Brun, The Gutis, Tino and Olinka Zop-

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pe, the Rix Family, Sir Victor Julian's Pets presented by Leo Coffey and Prof. Hardy worked Poughkeepsie for George Hubler, where Jessie Griffiths provided the music. Harry Mills had the concession and novelty stand.

The busy lady on the keyboard, Jessie Griffiths worked the Boston Sports Show, Hubler's New York date, Youngstown, Ohio, then headed for Amarillo, Texas.

Tino Zoppe set a new world's record by walking backwards up the inclined wire without a pole. His wife, Olinka, also set a world's record by successfully walking upside down using 30 loops. Both feats were taped for the Business Games in Hollywood. Tino also did a "sky cross" over 100 feet high between two buildings in Houston.

Agent Tibor Alexander was busy chatting with performers during the Albany Shrine date. Louis Stern, former owner of Polack Bros. Circus, also visited the show.

Al and Joyce Vidbel, Mike Naughton, Joe Sherman, John MacKay, The Bubskeys, Hugo Zaccini and Tony Fossett will be among the line-up for Bill Kay's Syracuse date.

Tajana, in a super hero costume, won tremendous ovations from youngsters attending the circus at White Plains, NY.

Senor Rai, "the Million Dollar Ringmaster" currently is in his fifth year with the Royal Hanneford Circus.

Tiny Phillips was visiting circuses all over the east coast, from upstate New York to West Virginia.

Pat Bissonette worked school shows in the mid west, with Mary working the front with novelties and concessions. She even has time to get in a game of Bingo.

## Miscellaneous

The Royal Hanneford Circus was filmed while in White Plains, NY by two separate film crews. One for an upcoming television commercial and the other for part of a documentary on Tommy Hanneford, by Brian McConnell, of the Pratt University, in Brooklyn, NY.

**REPORT****BEATTY-COLE CIRCUS**

... by J. H. (Jim) Banks

This writer visited the Beatty-Cole Circus on its opening day at DeLand, Fla., on March 15th. It was a sad start when it was learned that Edna Antes suffered a broken leg in a fall, even so she had the red carpet out for Mary-Jo Couls and this writer.

Many new faces and a beautiful new ticket wagon are on the show. I have never seen this circus look better and each department is very strong. They have an eight piece band, with its director being Russell Darr.

The talent line-up includes: Dave Hoover, Marie Christine, Rita and Elba, The Great Vashek,

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---

The Verdus, Antonia and Julio, Dino and Anita, the Flores Duo, Cemon's Chimps, Bonnie Bale, Irma Cristal, Senor Valdez, the Alvarez Troupe, Johnny Welde, Fred Logan and Jimmy James, the ringmaster.

I visited with my friend Buckles, clown and his friends in the alley. They have nice and lively numbers.

Many folks from the Hoxie Bros. Circus were on the lot to visit friends and see the performance.