

CIRCUS REPORT

"AMERICA'S FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY"

The logo for 'Circus Report' features the title in a large, stylized, bubbly font. To the left is a circular emblem with an elephant's head and trunk. In the center is a smiling clown's face. To the right is another circular emblem with a roaring tiger's head. Below the title is a banner with the text 'AMERICA'S FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY' and decorative flourishes.

9th Year

February 11, 1980

Number 5 - 6



Joseph C. Reisinger

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Entertainment Law — Civil Trials — Immigration

For Free Consultation or Appointment

Call: 415 - 472 - 1050

I REMEMBER....

by Don Whitman

I remember that old vacant lot,
Where they built the new shopping mall.
The gang's favorite gathering spot,
For soccer and tag, or just batting the ball.

A harvest of memories, from a field of weeds
But the one that I favor, most among all,
Is of lions and tigers, and galloping steeds.
When the circus was there, and not the big mall.

The Wallendas, high on the thin silver wire,
Following the masterful Karl.
Tigers, leaping thru halos of fire
While challenging Clyde with a snarl.

May Zacchini's cannons continue to blast,
And Lord, please heed my cry.
Continue with stars, like present and past,
And don't let the circus die.

Charlie Bauman and Gunther, a clown called Lou,
Long may your kind survive.
You're part of the many, I've named just a few,
Who's art keeps the circus alive!

Mailroom

The Post Office reports they can no longer deliver Circus Reports as addressed for the following people:

Bob Owens

Joey Jordan

Richard Paska

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$15.00 per year. The overseas rate via surface mail is \$20.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES: (per issue on a first come basis) Minimum ad \$5.00; Quarter Page \$10.00; Half Page \$20.00; Full Page \$35.00

WANTED

To Lease or buy small elephant for 1980 season.

Also: Family Acts doing two or more — Please send photos and price.

TERRELL JACOBS, JR.

Box 2574

Yakima, Wash. 98907

Phone: 509 - 453 - 1353

VAUDE SHOW

The Smithsonian Institution's Division of Performing Arts is staging an old vaudeville show in Washington, DC on Feb. 1-3, and all performances were sold out by mid-January.

In assembling the program the Smithsonian desired some magic and circus acts to complete the bill. Richard Flint, of Rochester, NY, who has been employed by the Smithsonian as a consultant on the history of American popular entertainment, arranged for Herbie Weber's wire act and Jay Marshall's magic act, while all were attending the Las Vegas showmen's meetings last November.

Both Weber and Marshall are veterans of vaudeville and have been well-known in show business for many years.

TRACTOR - TRAILER

FOR SALE

1976 Ford 600 — Gas — 6 Cylinder — 4 Speed Transmission — 2 Speed Axle — 40 ft. Van with 3 Compartments — One Finished — New Motor, Transmission and Tires.

Reason for selling: Too large for our needs.

— Asking \$12,000 —

Phone:

213 - 663 - 4860

REVIEW

CIRCUS VARGAS

. by Don Covington

Circus Vargas entered California last month, beginning an extended tour of its home state. First stands were in the San Diego area with stops at La Jolla, El Cajon, and Carlsbad, with future routines expected to take the giant tent into Riverside and the greater Los Angeles area including a stint at the Hollywood Bowl (a first for the show). Almost all of the new edition's talent is aboard, with the exception of two additional acts expected by the L.A. dates.

Fans of the show will notice lots of new faces both in the performance and behind the scenes as Cliff Vargas continues to meticulously expand and refine his show. As in the past everyone and everything on the show is clean, well behaved and efficient. It's obvious Vargas runs a tight ship and the results are appreciated by the audience. Extra effort, such as the sweeping of the seats after each performance to remove the trash; uniformed, courteous ushers skilled in crowd control; uniformed grooms and prop men clean restrooms provided and maintained by the show; and the spotless concession trailer efficiently divided into separate lines for drinks, popcorn, floss and hot dogs; goes a long way to guarantee return visits and recommendations. It was interesting to see too that Bill Biggerstaff and his front door crew handed out free half-price children's tickets to the crowd as they left the big top with an invitation to pass them on to their friends who had not yet seen the show. There was lots of good publicity for the San Diego stands with TV coverage of the tent raising and promotional stunts such as an elephant race between local disc jockeys. Advance men blanketed the area with window cards and half price kid's tickets as well as newspaper, radio and TV spots. Attendance has been good with several full houses in the 5000 seat top.

The midway this year features a moon bounce, pony sweep, souvenir stand, and the concession

trailer. The menagerie with 14 elephants, horses, a zebra, dromedary camel, yak, donkey and the llamas is spotted next to the front door. Rex Williams and his crew give elephant rides within the cordoned off menagerie area before and after the show and also during intermission inside the big top.

The new pie car in the back yard was doing good business despite the fact that nearby shopping centers had lots of fast food eateries.

This year's performance is the strongest Vargas has ever fielded with enough talent to rival Ringling Brothers in quality of performance. Though the Felds still have the edge in numbers and in costuming and spectacle, this edition of CV can compete act for act with most of the big show's headliners. My personal favorites were The Knops, perch pole; the Franconi Duo, double trapeze (a silver clown winner at this year's Monte Carlo Festival); the heart stopping Zultanas, high wire act featuring Karl Wallenda's grand-daughter Delilah in a deftly executed chair balancing climax to a three person pyramid on bikes; the Espanas (direct from the Monte Carlo competition), and the Lar-Rays, flying return acts; Henry Wagner's equestrian acts; the Armon Duo, aerial cradle (last seen on RBBB); and Rex and Eva Williams, elephants, who present what has to be the fastest, slickest bull act going. The Carlos Twins close the first half and are as amazing as before.

Clown Alley this year features Billy McCabe, and David Beaver in advance. Producing clowns Paul "Paulo" Niebauer and Phil "Philippe" Shear are assisted by Dale Longmire, Danny Mason, Jeff "Blossom" Sharp, Bob Hiscox and Michael Brevig. These young funsters, most of them Ringling Clown College graduates perform some classy spots including some nice magic, a giraffe ballet, and a clever audience participation flower growing contest. At times the seven tend to get lost in the enormous big top and I missed seeing a walkaround, but overall this crew knows what

(Continued on Page 22)

Bruno Attractions

AGENCY

3410 Livingston Street
New Orleans, La. 70118

Phone:
504 - 482 - 0477

Show Dates

Circus Festival

Feb. 13-Mar. 9 Vienna, Austria

Circus Vargas

Feb. 5-7 Montclair, Calif.
8-10 Hollywood
11-14 Torrance

Hamid-Morton Circus

Feb. 13-18 Hartford, Conn.

Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus

Feb. 1 Flushing, NY

Sam T. Polack Circus

Feb. 6-10 Louisville, Ky.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit

Feb. 6-10 Jacksonville, Fla.
12-17 Greensboro, NC

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit

Feb. 6-17 Atlanta, Ga.

---- MAGIC ----

Blackstone Magic Show

Feb. 5-10 Baltimore, Md.

Cavalcade of Magic

Feb. 16-18 Los Angeles, Calif.

Andre Kole's World of Illusions

Feb. 13 Twenty-Nine Palms, Calif.
14 Pomona
17 Hollywood

Kramien the Magician

Feb. 10 Fairfield, Calif.
11 Vacaville

Leckvold the Magician

Feb. 12 Renton, Wash.
14 Edmonds
15 Issaquah
16 Enumclaw

---- OTHER DATES ----

Erik Adams - Balancing Act
to Feb. 17 Tampa, Fla.

Bugs Bunny in Space

Feb. 12-18 Oakland, Calif.

Kaye Hollywood Elephants

Feb. 15-24 Homestead, Fla.

John MacKay - Clown

Feb. 13-17 Rochester, NY

Rolling Diamonds - Roller Skaters

Feb. 13-18 Boston, Mass.

Royal Lipizzan Stallions

Jan. 30 Savannah, Ga.

Sensational Leighs - Space Wheel

Feb. 13-Mar. 9 Vienna, Austria

The Sikorskys - Jugglers

to Feb. 26 Santo Domingo, D.R.

Sports Show

Feb. 13-18 Boston, Mass.

Royal Lichtenstein Circus

Feb. 11-12 Portland, Ore.
13 Gresham
14 Oregon City
15 Cascade Locks
17 Tacoma, Wash.

Eddie Zacchini Circus

Feb. 6-17 Tampa, Fla.



HAVING BEEN inundated with letters and calls about "I Love You Honey, But The Season's Over" and about the author herself I am pleased to report that on a recent whirlwind visit to New York City for an engagement with CIRCUS ODYSSEY I had the chance to have lunch with Connie (who is also my literary agent) and can now answer so many of your questions.

First thing many wanted to know is "How does she look?" She looks GREAT, trim, slim, vital and vivacious, with a face that has lost none of its loveliness with the onslaught of middleage. Her skin is translucent, her eyes the same dazzling blue, and a smile equally as dazzling; she is all charm and graciousness, and is sincerely interested in what is happening in the circus world. Connie loves the circus but felt that she had no real talent as a performer and thus moved on to broader spheres, first television, and then publishing, and finally her extremely successful literary agency. I'm sure had Connie elected to remain in the circus she would have been a successful performer too. She is just THAT kind of courageous woman.

The book? It is out of print. Even Connie does not own a copy and she told me that as quickly as libraries stock the book it was stolen! But GOOD NEWS. The book will be republished and soon, also revised, so a whole new generation can enjoy this marvelous book anew and all of those who read it years ago can reread it for fresh enjoyment.

CONNIE admits she wasn't completely truthful at the end of the book because she DID play a second season with Ringling and was all set for a third when she changed her mind, journeyed to the West Coast, and joined the Clyde Beatty Circus when it was helmed by her good friend ART CONCELLO. Not only did Connie appear with the Beatty show, she also doubled in brass as a messenger for M.G.M.

Like all of us, her life has had its share of tragedy and not too long ago she lost one of her sons a twin to son Michael who has joined his talented mother in her new agency. She also had a serious battle with ill-health from which, happily, she has fully recovered.

WHILE in New York I spent one night with juggling star LOTTIE BRUNN and her husband TED CHIRRIK. Both are well and happy and Lottie is as busy as ever, as is Ted with his cheffing at

a nearby college. On New Year's day Bobbie and I journeyed to the East Side to spend the day with midget clown JUNE DEWSBURY, confined to a wheelchair, but exuberant in spirits, who zooms about her apartment in that chair as though she had a driver's license.

CLOSEUPS: The City of New York would not permit any of the animal acts to work at the Fun House Disco New Year's Eve, in the show produced by ED MIGLEY. Frank and Janet Burger left but the tiger act stayed, so the management could display the tigers parked along the sidewalk. Frank and Janet went to Florida where they've been busy wheeling and dealing in real estate. Janet tells me that the wild boars they're using in the pig act are damn tough animals and when I asked her why they used them she said it was because the pigs remained small. With all the problems now with chimp acts, especially in New Jersey, they're thinking of just using the pig act after this season ends. Frank was showing me his left hand which had been severely burned when a battery blew up. It looked like something out of a horror or space movie and I saw it when it was healing. . . The ROLLING DIAMONDS (Tina and John Hansen) will be playing Sports Shows. . . EMIL and DEBBIE GOETSCHI (De Mille) will open with Garden's Showtime Follies in March where they'll tour with IRIS KEPPE; ERIK ADAMS, Jr., and WES and FLORINE OLER. . . BARBARA VAN VOORDEN will be touring with TEGGE's TNT-Olympic Circus. In the meantime she is busy doing club dates near Chicago and she and her mother LONI are duetting on Gracie's dates this month. . . SATANI DEMON, who lived for a while in New York City, is now living in Wildwood, NJ. . . CFA'r FRANK ROBIE visited with me while I was at Lottie Brunn's. Lottie has been made an Honorary Member of the FELIX ADLER tent of which Robie is the head. . . JOHNNY JORDAN and daughter LISA played that Disco outside Toronto over the New Year's Holiday for two weeks. . . The new high wire act on Ringling Blue is garnering raves - a trio, but featuring a woman who does all the breakneck stuff. . . Among the acts playing the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus at Kennedy Center over Christmas were DARRELL WALLEN, SATANI DEMON, DeMILLE and CIMSE's dogs.

(Continued on Page 20)

SPECIAL**NEW CANVAS FOR BEATTY-COLE**

... by Ron Morris

Mrs. Edna Antes, long-time Secretary-Treasurer of the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus can't remember "if this is the fifteenth or seventeenth" top that Leaf Tent & Sail, Inc., of Sarasota, has supplied "The World's Largest Circus Under the Big Top".

She is positive, however, that "Leaf has furnished every bit of canvas we've ever used" since 1959 when Frank McClosky, Bob Reynolds, Walter Kernan, along with Jerry Collins, took possession of the Beatty title. Since McClosky's death in November of last year, Collins is the sole owner.

The bale ring cable top is 140 ft x 290 ft. with three 50 ft middles, a 12 ft. sidewall, and seating for 5,000. The 45,000 sq. ft. top is similar to previous Beatty tents, but one concession has been made to the show's present format of including large shopping malls on its route: overall dimensions have been down-sized 5 ft. 2 in. in order to squeeze between the light poles spotted at a standard distance on most parking areas.

A matching blue and white striped side show

plus a clown top complete the new canvas ordered. "This will be the first time," says Johnny Pugh, Beatty-Cole's veteran general manager, "that the main tent and side show will have completely matching stripes."

Leaf president Bill Winkler says "it took a good six months and close to 2,500 man-hours" from start to finish of the project. He estimates that the big top alone swallowed up 18,000 ft. of 7 x 19 galvanized aircraft cable, along with 8,200 yards of Graniteville GALA 1.10 all-cotton 12 oz. bull twin tentage.

Although Leaf builds tents for Circus Vargas, Hoxie Bros., John Strong and Florida Tent Rentals, among others, Winkler admits that Leaf Tent and the Corporation Shows as good as kicked off business life together. He recalls: "Leaf Tent was founded by Leif Osmundsen who was superintendent of the Ringling sailloft which they maintained in Sarasota. When Ringling abandoned the outdoor format, he opened a small canvas shop near the old Sarasota airport on Oriente Ave.

"His intention was to do smallish jobs and he actually turned Frank McClosky down when first asked to build the Clyde Beatty top. Mc

(Continued on Page 19)

PROMOTERS AGENTS

Northwest & Southeast
Top %

W. R. G. ENTERPRISES INC.

Most successful company in the business

YOU MUST HAVE :

- * Day and /or Night room experience....
- * A reliable car....
- * Recent references....

— Call or Write —

Paul Monville, business manager
1507 Laurel St., Sarasota, Fl. 33577
(813) 366-9282 no collects

WILLIAM AND BARBARA WOODCOCK

proudly announce

that they have purchased the renowned

Mac DONALD BABY ELEPHANTS

trained by the finest elephant trainer in the world

MACK Mac DONALD

This act will be made available in the coming year

We also have a young adult elephant available for an elephant ride at a permanent location with an option to buy.

And finally the amazing elephant Anna May, under the direction of Ben Williams, will be available for bookings after completion of the latest Burt Reynolds movie "Smokey and the Bandit #2".

All interested parties contact:

BILL WOODCOCK

Box 818

Ruskin, Florida 33570

Phone:

(813) 645-2897

REPORT

HUBERT CASTLE INT'L CIRCUS

... by James Rhoney

On Jan. 12th, I had the privilege of being in Saginaw, Mich., and attending the opening of this year's edition of the Hubert Castle International Circus.

The phrase 'All New' is often used, however, it is true here. It starts on arrival at the Civic Center where 8 blue and white trucks were neatly parked. Inside there was no question but that this is an all new show. The 3 rings were all new curbs and carpeting; new entrance at the rear 30 ft. high plus drapes wall to wall covering props, animals, performers, etc. The prop crew were in pant and jacket combinations all carrying out the blue and white theme.

There have been many rumors, this is fact: the show was announced and introduced as Hubert Castle International Circus produced by Hubert Castle and Tarzan John Zerbini - trucks, music, equipment and props all have Tarzan Zerbini Productions and/or Hubert Castle International Circus on them. It is a partnership.

The performance starts on time and opens with an upbeat Disco Production and continues that

OLD TIME VAUDEVILLE

NEEDS - BOOKING AGENT to set phone dates - Experience helpful but not mandatory - We will train you.

1 - Must have car

2 - Must be free to travel extensively

NEEDS - PHONEMEN to sell ads and/or tickets - All you labor ad men this is an easy sell - Our people earn big money as long as you are willing to work.

Live in beautiful San Francisco and earn while you learn.

NEEDS - PROMOTIONAL DIRECTORS familiar with Day and Family sales procedures.

Contact:

THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

Orpheum Theatre Building
Suite 204

San Francisco, Calif. - 94102

Phone: 415 - 552 - 9444

FOR SALE

Dog (5) and Pony (1) Act - Pony does a specialty act and is housebroken for the stage.

Trained Llama

Ring Curb - 6 Sections of seats, 5 rows high, about 2½ ft. high

5 Quartz Lights

1976 - 1 ton Chevy Special 12 ft. horse van or animal truck

1972 - 1 ton truck with 12 ft. van

1976 - 24 ft. Travel-all trailer - has compartment for props

- Will Sell Together or Separately -

LANI IRONBERG

P. O. Box 3282 - Enterprise Branch
Redding, Calif. - 96001

916-221-4079 916-221-4109

-Call Evenings After 5 p.m. -

way throughout the show ending in Circus 2001 Production featuring the Saucer with Mlle. Jacqueline and Astro Cannon with Braun Reinhold.

There is excellent balance with young, bright performers blended with seasoned, experienced troupers, all of them talented and enthusiastic about this new show they are a part of.

Wardrobe and lighting are flashy and well planned. Rigging is primarily to the front with three 40 ft. cranes holding 27 riggings with only 12 guy lines. The performance ran 2 hours and 15 minutes as planned with a 15 minute intermission and had 41 acts.

It appears from the audience and sponsor reaction that Hubert Castle International Circus is off to a winning season in 1980.

Miscellaneous

Because of complaints by citizens living in the area, the Oakland (Calif.) Zoo has dropped its expansion plans.

PHONE PROMOTERS — — PHONEMEN

For South and Midwest Area

Also can use a Booking Agent

Contact:

KEN GRIFFIN

6331 Hollywood Blvd. No. 603

Hollywood, Calif. - 90028

Or Call Houston:

713 - 729 - 7076

REPORT

FUNS-A-POPPIN CIRCUS

Betty Wendany's Funs-A-Poppin Circus played a repeat, two day, six show stand in Apache Junction, Ariz., on Jan. 25-26. The show was sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 42.

Each hour-long performance featured the opening announcement and introduction of "Betty Spaghetti" and "Silly Millie" by Fred Reed; the circus ponies were presented by Heidi; Swinging ladders and Spanish web featured the beautiful Dolores Coronado; illusions by the Great Parsoni (a young but up and coming magician); dogs presented by Heidi; birds presented by Heidi and assisted by Rachael Roth; Heidi and her high school horse "Billy Tin Gun" and an excellent comedy dog act presented by "Papa" Wendany.

The clowning of "Betty Spaghetti" and "Silly Millie" was excellent and a great crowd pleaser. All circus personnel and members of the Roland C. Butler Tent of Phoenix, were guests of Doris and Gene McDonald in their winter home, for a wonderful circus party after the last performance on the 25th.

Betty Wendany has put together an excellent, fast-paced, professional show, deserving the continued support of all circus fans.

..... Fred Reed

PEOPLE

JOHN MacKAY, clown, is the father of a baby girl — Jennifer Ann — born on Jan. 23rd at St. Louis, Mo. He reports both wife and baby are fine as he leaves for upcoming circus dates.

JOHN McCONNELL reports a TV film crew was in Florida last month filming a documentary on the Hanneford Circus. Additional footage will be shot at the show's engagements in Roanoke and White Plains.

BILLY BARTON's first "piece" in national publication has been released in the March issue of "Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine." In the mean time publication of his book has been delayed due to the economic conditions within the publishing business. Barton will resume his circus work this month, playing in Toronto for Ian Garden's Circus.

GUS THE

GREAT BOOK SALE

Yost - Buffalo Bill	\$ 17.50
Burns - Jumbo (P. B.)	5.00
Jolly - Jumbo (elephant)	12.00
Toby Sanders - How to be Com. Clown	10.00
Greenfield - Gypsies	4.00
Man On Flying Trapeze (E. Kelly)	8.00
Tom Mix, Ken Maynard, Buck Jones - (Photo Books)	Each 7.00
Chipperfield Circus and Wild Animal Books (Both)	8.00
Cavalcade of Clowns	4.00
What Happens at Circus (Beatty)	6.00
Fox - Old Time Circus Cuts	5.00
Life and Art of Andrew Ducrow ..	25.00
Autobiog. of Mrs. Tom Thurb ..	15.00
Circus Song Book (Juv.)	4.00
American Entertainment (Billb'd)	15.00

FRANK BARRY

707 So. Warnock, Philadelphia, Pa. 19147

The

PABLO RODRIGUEZ TROUPE

5 PEOPLE AERIAL BAR ACT

5 WEB GIRLS

DIELKAS SISTERS - Rolling Globes

2 CRADLE ACTS

2 HAIR HANG ACTS

1 IRON JAW ACT

- AVAILABLE -

After August 1st

Contact: EUGENE C. LAMBART
3726 Allenwood Street
Sarasota, Fla. - 33582

Phone: 813 - 366 - 2449

813 - 366 - 1576

PEOPLE

TOBY BICKMORE broke his arm when he fell while roller skating last month. He is now sporting a very colorful cast on the arm.

HARRY THOMAS and his tigers will be working several shrine circus dates, then will spend the summer at Fantasy Island Park in New York.

JACK KING has left the employ of North American Productions, **AUDREY** and **MEARL JOHNSON**, where he was bandleader, organist, arranger and choreographer for three consecutive years. He has joined **RAY WINDER** and Atlantic Southern Productions as contracting agent for Holiday Cavalcade. **MIKE MARTIN** is the star magician, and will feature his disappearing elephant illusion.

JAY MARSHALL, magician, has been signed to work at the 1980 Ventriloquist Convention at Fort Mitchell, Ky. (July 17-18).

KEN BENSON, animal trainer, plans to work all year at the zoo in Monroe, La., where he has traditionally spent the winter months.

RUSS DARR has reportedly been signed to be the bandleader for the 1980 tour of the Beatty-Cole Circus.

WALT MATTHE, 24 hour man for Circus Vargas, was hospitalized last month with pneumon-

BETTY WENDANY'S FUNS-A-POPPIN

PACKAGE SHOWS TO FIT YOUR NEEDS

Box 391, Sunland, Calif. - 91040

213-352-4277

213-352-2454

ia.

DOUG HENNING, magician, will be featured in a "World of Magic" show to be seen on NBC-TV the night of Feb. 15th. The show will originate from Las Vegas.

JEANIE ELLIS, of Sedan, Kansas, has organized a Klown Klub with 15 youngsters. The group is sponsored by the Sedan Pride Club, and its first project will be calling at homes with Singing Valentines.

MARYSE BEGARY was the featured performer with the Aerial Ballet on the Hadi Shrine Circus last fall where she did her headstand on the trapeze bar and her 'one arm swings'.

RON and **MITZI GILL** are currently working at the Paradise Island Casino, Nassau, Bahamas. The couple opened Nov. 5th and present their aerial perch act directly over the dinner tables in the production entitled "Nights of the Buccaneers".

WASHINGTON TUBBS II



Acts

The following acts have been set for performances of the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus:

Queens College, Flushing, NY - Cimse's Dogs, Santini Demon, swords, Ken Sherburne, unicycle, Scalzo & Co., magic, Alfie & Co., birds, Miss Diana, foot juggling, Zippy, chimp, The Rolling Diamonds, roller skaters, Cowboy Joe Philips, horse, Joe Philips and dog, Jules Epstein, music and Nancy Kelly, ringmistress,

Grand Junction, Colo - Wini McKay, aerialist, Chester Cable, foot juggler, Pepe Martinez, hand balancing and motorcycle on wire.

Yucca Valley, Calif. - Wini McKay, aerialist, Chester Cable, foot juggler, Heidi Wendany, dogs and ponies, Harold Johnson, camel and elephant, Pepe Martinez, hand balancing and motorcycle on wire, Princess Omar, one finger stand.

PEOPLE

JOE VINEJARD and MARTIN REEVES, clowns of the Texas Mid-Cities Clown Alley No. 85 and several Shrine Clowns worked the Boat Show in Dallas, Texas, early this month. LARRY and DARRYL "The Kuntz Brothers" of Channel 39 TV headlined the show.

On The Cover

Today's cover photo shows the concert band with the John Robinson Ten Big Shows of 1911. The names of the bandmen are not known. But the leader was Charles Gerlach.

in the NEWS

ELEPHANTS STAMPEDE

Five elephants taking part in the Cucumber Festival parade at Fort Pierce (Fla) stampeded on Jan. 19th, and ranged over a two-block stretch for about 15 minutes before their handlers and police could get them under control.

Onlookers said no one lining the parade route was hurt, and the elephants came out unscathed.

The incident began when an emergency vehicle's siren blared just momentarily to warn some youths to get off the street to clear the way for the parade. The elephants then broke loose and began loping down the street.

The stampede happened near the reviewing stand and the bleachers that flanked it, but master of ceremonies Bob Patrick managed to keep the crowd calm so it would not spook the elephants any further.

By Crane



BOOKING

NOW FOR

1981

WANTED FIRST CLASS CIRCUS ACTS

AERIAL - ANIMAL - GROUND

FOR SEASON OR SPOT DATES

Contact: EUGENE C. LAMBART
3726 Allenwood Street
Sarasota, Fla. - 33582

Phone: 813 - 366 - 2449

813 - 366 - 1576



by LLOYD E. JONES

In the 1940's, many magicians bought their books from the Fleming Book Co., because they ensured themselves of receiving the reviews then made by Paul Fleming. A college professor, his magic reviews were full, honest, factual and contained much to interest the magician. They were so widely accepted they were placed in bound form, being originally mimeographed.

Vol. 1 came out in 1944 and contained reviews 1 thru 58 and required 124 pages of a 6x9 book. Indexed and hard bound it became a reference or study book for prospective buyers and magic students.

It was followed in 1946 by Vol. 2, with its hard binding and wrapper matching the first. This one had reviews 59 thru 103.

Later reviews were issued but for many reasons did not get into bound form and the Fleming Book Co. finally closed on the death of the owner Walker Fleming and the later death of his brother, the scholarly professor, Paul.

Now, after a lapse of years, the final set has been put into the binding it deserves. This Vol. 3, was recently issued by Magic Limited and contains the reviews 104 thru 169 and is a handsome book of 202 pages, cloth bound with wrapper and matching the first two in general make-up. This issue has a forward by Jane Fleming and collectors have been avidly grabbing up the copies of this treasure.



(912) 862 - 3372

FORMERLY BEATTY BALLOONS

Route #2, Box 170
Butler, Ga. 31006

160 PAGE CATALOG AVAILABLE \$1.00

PEOPLE

SMILEY CORBIN (318 E. South St., Barnesville, Ohio 43713) is confined to his home after suffering a series of near-fatal heart attacks. He would enjoy cards and letters.

ANGELA WILNOW and her Collies will be at the Home Show in Albuquerque, NM, the week of April 7th (Booked by Entertainment Corp. of America). After that date she jumps to the Shrine Circus in Indianapolis, Ind., for the week of Apr. 21st, a date booked by Eugene Lambarts Entertainment Service, Sarasota, Fla., and the Howard Schultz Agency.

JOHN MacKAY, clown, will be working dates for both the Sam T. Polack Circus and Bill Kay Circus during the early part of the year.

The original books, 1 and 2 are still available at \$5.00 each. Vol. 3 has a \$10.00 price tag and if all three are purchased at one time an attractive price of \$15.00 is offered. Postage on either book is a minimal 59c, while the set of three carries an 81c charge. Books are available in many magic shops and the supplier is Magic Limited. All Californians are required to pay a 6% sales tax and insurance, if desired, is available at 50c extra.

WANT TO BUY Exotic Animals

WILL PAY CASH

Contact:

DAVE HALE
5-H Ranch
Drive Thru Animal Park
Route 2
Cape Girardeau, Mo. 63701

Phone:

314 - 243 - 2116 - Days
314 - 243 - 7245 - Nights

Teach Your Horse

TO SMILE - Write for detailed Instructions

- Only \$5.00 -

VANCE JERNIGAN

1424 East Page Avenue
Malvern, Ark. 72104

In Memoriam

DENNISTON BERKERY (83) a motion picture projectionist, circus fan and collector, died at Lansdowne, Pa., on Dec. 9th. He started show business with the Tompkins Wild West in 1913, then worked with Wheeler & Sautelle, Wheeler & Almond, and Berkley Bros. He also worked as a motion picture projectionist at a variety of film houses.

GEORGE MARQUIS (73) magician and mentalist, died Jan. 8th in West Hollywood, Calif. He was raised in Lima, Ohio, as George Kelly. After working for the Rogers Producing Co., he joined Rajah Raboid, a mentalist. For more than 50 yrs he toured a big magic show. He also worked with the Johnny J. Jones Shows and Thomas Shows. In recent years he did a mental act with Willa Levolo, of Hollywood. Survivors include a brother and a daughter.

ROBERT W. NELSON (85) a retired circus performer who trouped with most of the major circuses of the U.S., died in Wisconsin on Dec. 28. Survivors include his son, Harold, a brother, four sisters and several grandchildren.

MARTHA E. SMITH (71), widow of the late Don Smith, well known circus collector and model builder, died at Clinton, Mich. on Dec. 31st.

ORLO WACH (74) retired circus owner, died at a hospital in Garfield, Calif., on Jan. 11th. He retired in 1957, but continued to maintain an active interest in the circus world. Survivors include his widow, Erma, 7 children and 15 grandchildren

Available 1980

For Parks or Circus With Short Jumps

PEPPY THE CHIMP & CO.

E. P. LANGE

1623 Saemann Avenue
Sheboygan, Wisc. - 53081

Phone: 414 - 452 - 6567

Ray Hartzell

- SHOW ORGANIST -

128 Ramsey St. Las Vegas, Nev. 89107

Phone: 702 - 648 - 0778

BOOK

... by Arthur E. Stensvad

Learn the truth about Buffalo Bill by reading the new book by Nellie Snyder Yost, "Buffalo Bill, His Family, Friends, Fame, Failures and Fortunes" published by The Swallow Press, Inc. and retailing for \$17.50. It is crammed full of authentic facts about one of United States' historical characters.

This book tells of the myths about William F. Cody and then relates the actual facts as years of research and work bring it about. It is well worth the price and time to read if you are a fan of the Great Buffalo Bill.

Filled with photographs, very seldom published before, there are 500 pages of the life of Buffalo Bill, year by year.

Read about North Platte, Nebraska, where Bill Cody spent many years of his life and where he maintained a town house and a ranch on the Northwestern outskirts of the city.

Read about his life as a Army Scout, Showman and husband, father, neighbor, citizen. Read how the citizens of North Platte felt about this great character.

A book worth twice the price.

WANT

+ TRUCK DRIVERS

+ ANIMAL GROOMS

Must be able to work with elephants and tigers - Be assistants to trainers - Must be reliable and sober.

Full Season's Work - 13 weeks in one location.

JOHN CUNEO

Rte. 1, Box 32-H Grayslake, Ill. 60030

Phone: 312 - 546 - 0717

CIRCUS QUIPSby **KARL J. BISCHOFF**

THERE IS a new strain of cold that is becoming prevalent among show people that is either **POSITIVE** or **NEGATIVE**, sometimes the 'EYES' have it and sometimes the 'NOSE' has it.

EVERYONE is too old for something, but no one is too old for everything.

SURVIVAL - What is so good as a day when you're too sick to do anything, and healthy enough to enjoy it.

WHEN some showmen get too old to set a bad example, they start giving good advice.

HAVE you **HEARD** that a **WEDDING BELL** is what some show girls will ring if you give them enough **ROPE**.

SHOW ORGANIST**AVAILABLE**

- MARCH 1st -

Can Read, Fake, Do Arrangements and Orchestration - Sober - Reliable.

For the past 17 years I have had the band at Pebble Beach, Calif., and during that time have played for most of the shows that come to this area.

Have the Best Road Equipment Available - I do a top job and expect top pay.

NEIL ARMSTRONG

Drawer 88
Del Rio, Texas 78840

- For Messages Anytime Call -

806 - 795 - 8849

NEED**CONTRACTING AGENT****MALE OR FEMALE OR TEAM**

Will consider part time people, but must be free to work several weeks at a time.

Will make any reasonable financial deal and will tailor financial arrangements to meet your needs and requirements.

Will require references as to character.

If you are "looking for a home" and people who will appreciate you, this may be your opportunity.

Am on the road. Office will take your name and number or refer you to the current number, if I have one.

RAY WINDER

Atlantic Southern Productions
2621 Mall Drive
Sarasota, Florida 33581

Phone: 813 - 921 - 1387

in the NEWS**HAPPY TRAILS END**

Roy Rogers - tired of horses? So the veteran cowboy says. He'll sell his stable of 17 thoroughbreds.

Rogers started breeding and raising horses at his ranch about 75 miles east of Los Angeles with his wife and partner Dale Evans in 1963.

Now he says he just can't keep up with spiraling feeding and training costs and the lack of quality personnel to run the ranch. Says the 68-year-old Rogers, "I just don't get pleasure out of it any more."

Austin Miles Ministries

EVANGELISTIC OUTREACHES

1202 G. ST.

MILLVILLE, N.J. 08332

January 15, 1979

Dear Don,

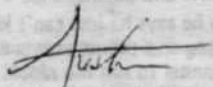
Please publish this as is including the P.S. Thanks.-----
MAILBAG

Billy Barton is a fine writer. I appreciated being mentioned in his column (CR 1/14/80) but question his use of the word 'Contrives' ".to keep one foot in both worlds.." (i.e. the ministry and show business.)

I have known Billy Barton for over 20 years, having worked with him in minstrel shows and circuses. In my book he is a great performer and one of the best troupers I've ever known. He was visibly upset when I entered the ministry and he told me so in Youngstown. My respect and admiration of him remains the same. However, I now consider it a personal goal to claim him and win him to Jesus Christ. Even if I must "Contrive" to do it. So...see YOU down the road, luv.

The Reverend Austin Miles

P.S.



Beloved artists, don't laugh at this idea until you fall off your perch poles. Bobby Yerkes once claimed me the same way and I was even more bull-headed than Mr. Sensation.

Again, the chaplain.

BEATTY-COLE CANVAS (Continued)

Closky talked him into it and put up one hundred percent of the cost in advance."

Winkler adds: "The shop was so tiny that once the big tent was underway, they couldn't open the door because of the canvas piled to the roof. Leif and the guys had to climb out of the window when it was time to go home."

Winkler took control of the company a little over three years ago, although Leif Osmundsen is much in evidence on a consulting basis. While still a small firm, Winkler feels that the Leaf combination of hand-crafted sail-making techniques coupled with the newest technical advances gives Leaf an edge over its competitors. Customer loyalty is remarkable, not least because each Leaf tent, when properly staked, is engineered to withstand winds of up to 90 m.p.h.

As Johnny Pugh puts it: "When it comes to big tops, is there any other tent but a Leaf?"

CARSON & BARNES

CIRCUS ITEMS

1. 1979 Route Book \$5.00
(Program with inserts)
2. License Plates \$5.00
3. Bumper Stickers \$1.00
4. Patches \$1.75
5. 1980 Calendars \$.50
6. "CIRCUS BABES IN THE WOODS"
A true adventure of Two Runaway
Circus Elephants \$2.00
7. 1978 Programs \$1.25
8. 1979 Programs \$1.25

— All Orders Must Be Pre-paid —

Please address all orders to:

CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS

C. R. Special

Box J

Hugo, Okla. 74743

- AT LIBERTY -

LOT SUPERINTENDENT and BOSS CANVASMAN

WIFE DOES HAND BALANCING and 1 FINGER STAND

DAUGHTER DOES BOUNDING ROPE, LADDER, WEB

ENOCH BRAFFORD

730 Glendale

Alice, Texas - 78332

BILLY BARTON (Continued)

A card from LYDIA BURKETT informs me that they will tour with Hamid-Morton thru June and will go from there to Fantasy Island for the summer. The team is now in Florida refurbishing their equipment. The Burketts spent all of last season with Circus Vargas.

TONY SMAHA, Sr. suffered severe strokes while visiting with son JENDA in Las Vegas. He was hospitalized, but at this writing his condition is improving rapidly, although he is still down and continues to be in Vegas.

ONE hears so many horror stories about the Big Apple that one is paranoid about going into the city. At the moment they've been having a lot of violence on their subways which officials are determined to correct but Bobby and I were amazed at the friendliness and courtesy of the natives, contrary to popular opinion. At a bus stop when we learned we had to have the correct change a man went around and got the change for us from other people and when we got on the bus everyone was soon talking to everyone else! We encountered this open friendliness everywhere we went. Yes! I was flabbergasted! It is to be hoped the city officials manage to quell the gangs of young toughs roaming the streets and the subways, robbing and killing people for the sheer thrill of it! And perhaps restore New York City to its full glory. After all it IS one of the greatest cities in the world!

GEORGE CORONAS writes that he and JANIE ZAMPERLA became engaged Aug. 29th during the State Fair in Syracuse and as soon as they set a wedding date he'll let me know. Meanwhile the Coronas will produce the Shrine Circus in Orlando and Daytona Beach; the Al Sihak Circus in Macon, their West Orange, NJ, annual, along with the El Jebel Shrine Circus in Denver. Featured will be their twin gyro-wheels, double motorcycle, rocket ship, and cannon acts. Most of the dates will be presented in a three ring and two stage format.

SNAPSHOTS: ELVIN BALE, who already won a Silver Clown award for his trapeze act at the Monte Carlo Circusfest, is now a double silver clown winner - this time for the space wheel. . . Word is that LLOYD MORGAN is no longer on RBBB, and DOC HENDERSON has retired. . . The indefatigable MAE WEST will branch out from radio commercials to television where she will be selling Poland Water in her own inimitable style. . . MICHELE DOBRITCH has been working in an elegant children's fashion shop in Vegas and loves it. . . The GEMINI JUGGLERS of Roseland (NJ) have put out an interesting calendar featuring the world's great jugglers, among whom are pictured are: LOTTIE BRUNN, ALBERT LUCAS, SERGE IGNATOV, DICK FRANCO, BOBBY MAY, DIETER TASSO, THE KARAMAZOV BROTHERS, MICHAEL CHIRRIK, RUDY CARDENAS and ENRICO RASTELLI. The calendar is unique in that it also features the above-mentioned artists' birthdates and, of course, since there are only 12 months in a year, not all of the superior jugglers are pictured. . . I found out that there are in New York "street entertainers", jugglers, mimes, acrobats, musicians, who perform, pass the hat, and make a sensational living doing so. I thought that went out with the last century which only goes to prove, I guess, that the more things change the more they do indeed, remain the same!

SEE you down the road, luvs.

Acts

Specialty acts currently appearing with the Harlem Globetrotters 1980 tour include: Serge Gambi, one-hand balancer; Nino Santos, juggler; The Marchitas, bicyclists; Wasil, acrobats; Steve Mills, juggler; Jean Claude, antipodiste and The Mills Duo, unicyclists.

All bookings are handled through Simone Finer Enterprises, the West Coast based theatrical agency specializing in novelty acts.

FOR SALE

CONCESSION TRAILER — Includes 2
Floss Machines, Gas Popper, Ice Machine,
Soft Drink hook-up, Water Tanks.

Phone: 918 - 437 - 6818

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Show Report**CIRCUS VARGAS PROGRAM**

Color Book pitch by clowns Paulo and Philippe
National Anthem (a giant flag is unfurled)

Opening Spec

The Knopps - perch pole

Juggling

Osmoni

Zunigas

Diablo Trio

Clowns

Vargas Menagerie

Samoyeds (end rings)

Exotics (camels, llamas, ponies)

Trapeze

Miss Najean

Miss Christina

Franconi Duo

Liberty horses - 3 rings presented by Henry

Wagner

Zaltanas - high wire

Clowns

Aerial Cradles

Armon Duo

Kniesley Duo

Venturas

Golden Carlos Twins - precision acrobatics

DEAR CIRCUS FRIENDS:**HAPPINESS IS:**

Being thought of by you all, at Christmas
time. We wish we could acknowledge all the
cards personally, but we will use Circus Re-
port, to convey our Thank You and our
Love, to each one.

Gracias Amigos

HENRY and SALLY PAYNE

2909 Preston Highway - Apt. 2

Louisville, Kentucky 40217

MAGIC TIME USA**- Wants -****SUPT. OF TRANSPORTATION**

Must be able to drive semi and do some
light mechanical work.

Contact:

STU MILLER

1917 - 14th Street, West

Bradenton, Fla. - 33505

813-746-6577

813-677-2541

Intermission

Flying return

Espanas

Lar-Rays

Wayne Ragen - lions and tigers

Clowns

Aerial Ballet

Dressage

Equestrian Acrobatics (Cossack) Miss Kathy

Cloud Swing

Robert Hocum

Miss Irene

Balance/Acrobatics

Goncovalas - rola bola

Rollans - risley

Julian and Monique - aerial motorcycle

Elephants - Rex and Eva Williams

Long Mount

..... Don Covington

AVAILABLE

FOR 1980 SEASON FROM MAY ON . .

ZAMUDIO BROS. HIGH WIRE ACT

— 3 People —

MISS LUCY — Aerial Rings

Write:

MILTON ZUMIDO

1205 Rowell Avenue

Joliet, Illinois - 60433

Phone: 815 - 723 - 2455

CIRCUS VARGAS (Continued)

they're doing and get good reactions from the crowd.

Joseph Pon returns as Ringmaster/Performance Director and he cuts an impressive figure in classic top hat and tails. His announcements are perfect for the occasion and timing of the performance is getting close to ideal, especially for this early in the season. Music director Dave Epperly is also back this year heading a four piece ensemble (organ, drums, Trumpet, trombone) which produces an amazing amount of traditional circus music for so limited an instrumentation. Dave hopes to add a second trumpet soon.

The current lighting which features eight spots will be increased to twelve, and additional lighting will be added during the Los Angeles stand.

This should help to brighten up the show which appeared a little too dark in places, even though a number of very effective moments were included (such as a magical use of all blue spots on the pure white horse, General Vargas, as he performed airs above the ground.

The latest edition to the program is a super-elaborate aerial ballet featuring six girls (some of whom recently left Ringling) on an immense aerial rigging which features chase lights, giant stars and webs. This equipment and the new lighting and wardrobe for the number necessitated the adding of another semi to Vargas' already impressive fleet of late model trucks.

Read one of the most thrilling books of the true story of a modern day fortune teller... A collector's item at \$12.95 a copy... TO: ADAM BARDY Thompson, Conn. 06277

79¢ SPECIAL

ADVENTURES OF ADAM BARDY

GONE BY DAYS, ONLY NEW WORRIES

ASON

036

CIRCUS

NOW NOW

The book many have been waiting for... "THE CIRCUS LIFE and ADVENTURES of ADAM BARDY"☆☆☆