

1981-82

# THE CIRCUS REPORT

AMERICA'S  
FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY  
Season's Greetings

Number 51-52

December 21, 1981



**BOB BROWN & BRENDA**

## SHOW DATES

Big Apple Circus

Dec 4 to Jan 3

New York, NY

No Elephant Circus

Dec 20 New York, NY

26-27 Viena, Va.

31 New York, NY

--- MAGIC ---

Tom Ogden

Dec 28-31 Bradenton, Fla

Jan 2-3 Bradenton

--- OTHER DATES ---

Disney World on Ice

Dec 22-Jan. 3

Philadelphia, Pa.

Holiday on Ice/Ice Follies

Dec 22-27 Anaheim, Ca.

29-Jan 3 Long Beach



Hi, everybody! I just wanted to take a moment and say "Merry Christmas" and wish you all the best for the coming year.

By the way, I am expecting to come back on on a full time basis in 1982.

# THE LANCELOT LINK CHIMPS



JOE AND BETTY NAUD  
AND "THE BOYS"

MOOCHO  
HANS  
AND  
CHARLEY

## Speaking of . . .

by JIM PARKER

The Sunshine State Band conducted by Charles J. Schlarbaum, is fulfilling the long existing cultural void in the South Florida area. This is the absence of a well-rounded professional concert band to perform for municipalities, recreation departments, community concerts, patriotic observances and concerts sponsored by local fraternal and civic groups.

Maestro Schlarbaum was born in Vinton, Iowa, on Jan. 9, 1938. His family moved to Portland, Ore., where he completed school. He then served three years with the U. S. Army Bands in Europe. Upon discharge from the Army, he came to Florida and was engaged as the principal trumpet with the Cristiani Bros. Circus Band. Since that time, for more than two decades, he has conducted, composed and arranged music for stage shows, TV, recordings, big bands, state fairs and circuses throughout the U.S. Canada and the Carribean.

TV credits include The Mike Douglas

Show and the George Plimpton Special, "Man on the Flying Trapeze." Recordings include the "Heritage of the March" series, produced by Mr. Bob Hope.

State Fairs include New York, Minnesota, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Central Florida, as well as a host of county fairs.

Circuses include Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros., Ringling Bros. and all the major Shrine dates east of the Mississippi. During the Shrine Circus season, he is currently employed as musical director for Garden Bros. Circus. This circus is the largest in Canada and is the producer of such major Shrine dates as Toronto, Montreal, Buffalo, St. Paul, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and Atlanta. It is also the producer of the syndicated Canadian TV production "Circus."

Mr. Schlarbaum's composition for band, "La Sentimentale," was recently premiered at the University of Georgia and was performed by "The Classic City Band."

After living in Sarasota and Lakeland, Fla., Mr. Schlarbaum has been a resident of Key Biscayne, Fla., since 1971.

The Sunshine State Band membership is comprised of the highest quality professional musicians to be found in South Florida, and includes music teachers from universities and public schools. These people certainly belong in a showcase such as South Florida's finest and only fully professional concert band.

Another segment of their purpose is to preserve and present to the public the fine traditional band works that they have not been able to hear for such a long time.

The musical library for this band dates from the 1870's to the present time. It contains comprehensive representations of all the old masters and the new "Beethoven to Bernstein with Sousa in the Middle."

Charlie Schlarbaum is without question one of America's foremost circus musicians and anyone that has heard him conduct the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus Band cannot help but be thrilled with his arrangements and choice of music for under the big top. Incidentally, I personally will have to disagree with an earlier article this year in Circus Report in which an author takes the current Beatty band apart, as I heard it at the

(Continued on Page 35)

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# Report

The circus produced by Paul V. Kaye for the Hadi Shrine Temple in Evansville, Ind., Nov. 26-29, and presented at Roberts Stadium Arena, featured the following acts.

Hadi Temple Color Guard; Circus overture directed by Jack Cervone; "Circus on Parade" spec; Mr. Sensation, cloud swing, Billy Barton; Maryse Begary, single trapeze; Josip Marcan's lions and tigers (19); The Dolly Sisters, triple wide aerial cradel; Clowns; The Claytons, Pancho Magana and Joyce Rice, rope and whip display; The Julian Duo, aerial motorcycle; Trudy's Liberty Dalmations; Kastle's Bears; Bertini's Chimpanzees; Clowns; Rudolph Del Monte, Classic contortionist; Mr. Rythm, the horse presented by Darrell Wallen; Aerial Ballet featuring Lou Ann Jacobs; Benny Williams

## Merry Christmas



*It's  
time  
again to  
wish you  
a very Merry  
Christmas and  
a most happy and  
prosperous New Year!  
May God's blessings flow  
to you and those you hold  
dear and may you find peace  
and fulfillment in all that you  
do throughout the coming year!*



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## SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all



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WOOD - FIBERGLASS - NYLON

Duo, elephant/leopard/adagio; Los Gauchos, Argentine Dance Trio; Intermission.

The Flying Valencias; Clowns; The Woodcock Elephants; The Albulat Bros., high wire duo; The Superlokos (6) comedy acrobats; Sonny Shroyer, Enos of the TV Show Dukes of Hazard; The Quassars, Spaceship sensation; Salute to the Stars and Stripes.

The show's staff included:

Paul V. Kaye, executive producer and director; Jon Friday, ringmaster/announcer; Jack Cervone, musical director; Vern Barnhart, rigging supt.; Brad Barnhart, prop boss; William Strong, special effects; Terry Shepherd, Transportation supt., and Dulia Valencia and Trudy Strong, wardrobe.

## PEOPLE

BOB OWEN (Spiff the Clown) was featured in a photo story in the New Hampshire Sunday News (Manchester, N.H.) on Nov. 29th.

AUSTIN MILES, author of the book "The Real Ringmaster" has been signed by Grace McIntosh for the Rochester Shrine date on Feb. 16-21.

BOBBY FAIRCHILD and SONYA CAMPA are planning to be married on Jan. 16th in Sarasota, Fla. They will be touring with the Roberts Bros. Circus next season.

DONALD "Rusty" RUST's portrait of the late EMMETT KELLY has been selected to hang in the National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. The portrait shows Kelly without makeup standing in front of his Weary Willie character.

## Fans Meet

by GEORGE LEHMANN

On Saturday evening, Dec. 5th, some 24 members of the Gollmar-Moeller-Ringling Tent, Circus Fans, met for their annual Christmas Get together in Baraboo, Wisc., at the Pierce Supper Club. Distant fans included Chuck and Mrs. Brinckley and Walter B. Hohenadel, of White Tops fame, all from Illinois.

Ralph Pierce and his kitchen corps, well trained in the art of culinary, served a most delightful meal which was enjoyed by all.

We shared a table with the Honorable John H. Wilson, better known as the Mayor of Ripon. John is along in years, and in his younger days was a flyer of great renown. John is a daily visitor to the Circus World Museum during the summer season, and it is always most interesting to sit and chat with him. He enjoys reminiscing of his days under the big top with both the Hagenbeck-Wallace and the Seils Sterling shows. He even tossed in a few of his World War

## Who is Santa Claus?

I'm surprised!

He stands so close, right by your side!  
He's every kind deed everywhere; He's every good thought, every prayer.

He's man's best self, the year around;  
He's love wherever love is found;  
He's every gift on every tree;  
He's every joyous melody.

He's the warm handclasp of a friend;  
He's Christmas cheer that has no end;  
He's faith, He's hope, a dream come true,  
Santa Claus?

Why he could be you.

.... Rae Cross

II experiences.

After a super Circus Quiz Game originated by that Master of Entertainment, James L. Kieffer, the group engaged in general conversation. A most enjoyable evening was had by all.

## Reliable Promoters

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\*

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No Advances - No Collects

## Show Performances

The No Elephant Circus, a New York City based entertainment company, presented three performances of its newest production "Klowns" at the Wolftrap Center for the Performing Arts, Dec. 26-27.

The show featured Robert Daraio, Lenny Wright and Tony Duncan in a one hour program of juggling, fire eating, unicycling, pantomime, puppets, tightrope and clowning.

This was the company's first appearance at Wolftrap, a major cultural center in the Washington, DC area.

## ATTENTION

from "Doc" MILLER

I am unable to have my book "Little 'Ol Show" ready to ship on Dec. 1st as expected. That was the date promised by the printers, however, they have had an unexpected set-back due to plant problems and as a result the release date has been moved back to January.

## Ringling Blue

by JOHN J. BOGORAE

Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey Blue Unit closed out the 1981 season with fine houses at Pittsburgh's Civic Arena with performances from Nov. 10 thru Nov. 15.

It was the first time since 1977 the big one appeared at the Civic Arena because the former management, rather than the circus, insisted they handle all concessions, and so there was no circus there.

The Pittsburgh Civic Arena is now owned by the Edward J. DeBartolo Co., of Youngstown, Ohio, also owners of the Pittsburgh Penquin Hockey team as well as the National Football League's San Francisco Forty-Niners football team.

The Pittsburgh performances marked the 25th anniversary of the Greatest Show on Earth under canvas, also in Pittsburgh, at the Heidelberg Raceway in 1956.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

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# Report

Acts featured in the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus which presented two shows at the Mt. Lebanon, Pa., Recreation Center on Nov. 21st were:

Nancy Kelly, ringmistress; Al Delenia, musical director; The Perrys, juggling; Emmett and Want More; Philippe Versen, trapeze; Alberto Zoppe, uncaged lion; Emmett and hanky; Lady Pamela, trapeze; Intermission.

Christine Glover, swords and rolling globe; Emmett and magic; Alberto Zoppe, Riding Academy; Thank the Band and Emmett stands on hands; Les Chrissens, cradle act; Zoppe Family, animal fantasy; Emmett and Nancy say Goodbye.

Don Bridwell (Whizzer the clown) was to work come-in and spots in the show as well as serving as prop boss. His car broke down and he was unable to make the date.

A show truck, a diesel tractor, lost its rear end (bearings burned out) at Columbus, Oh., and a rental truck was acquired to bring in the ring curb and ring mat.

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# HOTLINE

Dec. 10 - New York City - A fire broke out in a circus tent in Lincoln Center, killing a dancing horse and forcing officials to destroy a badly burned performing pony. Officials suspect arson and said the fire was discovered about 5:15 a.m. at the Big Apple Circus in Damrosch Park at the performing arts complex on Manhattan's Upper West Side.

## Book

"Elephants: The Vanishing Giants" by Dan Freeman (published by Putnam at \$20.00) is a comprehensive, well-illustrated account of the relationship between elephants and men and the threatened environment in which the elephants live - a visual treat for elephant lovers.

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## Sarasota Circus

by BILL KORMPATE

Attended the Annual Circus of Sarasota, which was held at Roberts Arena. Acts on the bill were:

The Drouettes, juggling; Mary Ruth and her Canine Capers; Clowns; The Del Morales, perch pole; Maria and Monica, aerial perch; John Herriott riding 'American Jubilee'; Clowning by Alfredo Landon & Co.; Ben Williams and Mickey McDowell and the elephant Anna May; Intermission.

John Welde & Co., Russian bears; Miss Heidi Herriott, single trapeze; A Mexican troupe on Teeterboard; Max Chamberty, dog act; Loyal-Repensky Troupe of Justino Loyal, riding act; The Great Wallendas, high wire; Woodcock's elephants, followed by an introduction of acts in a finale.

John Herriott was the ringmaster; Keith Killinger was musical director and the show was produced by The Showfolks of Sarasota.

Clowns were: Alfredo Landon, Mike Padilla, Balila, Dan Chapman and Jim Parker.

**HELEN WILSON** -- Show Organist (own equipment) 704 - 786 - 4563 Box 1167, Concord, NC - 28025.

Performance director was John Herriott, assisted by Ralph Schappacher.

Following the riding act, John Herriott introduced three riding act performers, The Hannefords, Davisio and Oscar Cristiani, and Justino Loyal.

Also mentioned were Merle Evans, Helen Wallenda and Jerry Collins (owner of the Beatty-Cole Circus).

Wire walking was No. 6 on the program by John Nock, Jr. (10 or 11 years old)

## PEOPLE

W. W. O'BRIEN, of Tucson, Ariz., reports he was in Las Vegas for the S. L. A. Convention and while there he visited with BILLY BURR and ERNIE BURCH. Incidentally Ernie has been working as Santa Claus.

IN MEMORY

OF

HOWARD SUESZ

Died December 12, 1981





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Miguel Pidilla  
Sandy Kaye  
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Michael Jaye  
Chuck Crespo  
Thomas Weiss  
Elmo Gibb  
Little Mike Ferreira  
Rita Ferreira  
Dennis & Elba Walker  
Chris Price  
Clarke Weigle  
Goonbau & Bo

## People

**JAMES "Dutch" CRAWFORD** has reportedly joined Circus Vargas as Ring Stock Supt., and liberty horse trainer and performer. Last year Dutch toured with Hoxie Bros. Circus.

**MEL HALL** recently visited the Carson & Barnes Circus as a guest of D. R. Miller and also visited the Shrine Circus in Dallas, as a guest of Bob Atterbury, Bobby Huber and Mr. and Mrs. Ernie McLanes.

**BRENT SWANEY**, 9 years of age, was named "Junior Magician of the Year" by the Omaha (Nebr) Magical Society (S.A.M. Assembly) at a competition held Nov. 28th at Omaha's Orpheum Theatre.

**BOB-O THE CLOWN** (Robert E. Hitson) was recently hospitalized for the amputation of his leg, following lengthy problems. He would enjoy cards and letters which can be sent to him at: 7621 Sunset Ave., Fair Oaks, Calif. 95628.

## AVAILABLE

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**CLANCEY the CLOWN**, who toured with the Carden-Johnson Circus last year, was married to **CINDY MIDDLETON** on Oct. 31st.

**CURLY** (Lee Lloyd) and **KOTO** (Ralph Henderson) clowns in Spokane, Wash., are keeping busy doing shows at two or three nursing homes in the area each week. Their programs are highly praised by directors of nursing homes and hospitals.

## Charges Filed

Wien Air Alaska, Inc., of Anchorage, and a licensed animal dealer who used the airline to ship reindeer, have both been charged with violating transportation standards of the Animal Welfare Act, a U. S. Dept. of Agriculture official reports.

The charges involve a shipment of 17 reindeer from Nome, Alaska, to Denver, Colo., on July 2, 1980, in substandard crates. According to Dr. Dale Schwindsman, senior staff veterinarian for USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, 11 of the reindeer died before reaching their destination.

The dealer, Robert Troumbly, in business as Northland Wildlife at Bovey, Minn., is charged with offering the reindeer for shipment in crates lacking adequate ventilation and projecting rims or spacer devices to keep ventilation openings from being blocked. Also, the crates had no handholds or other devices so they could be moved without tilting the animals. Finally, there were no written feeding and watering instructions for the

reindeer and the crates did not have the required markings to indicate that live animals were being shipped. The airline is charged with accepting the reindeer in these defective crates.

Schwindsman said that under the Animal Welfare Act, both dealers who present animals for shipment and common carriers that accept live animal shipments must provide humane handling, care and treatment.

Both parties have an opportunity to respond to the APHIS charges and can request a hearing before an administrative law judge. Failure to respond constitutes admission of the charges. Possible penalties are a civil fine and an order to cease and desist from future violations.

The Animal Welfare Act and its licensing requirements provide for the humane care and treatment of certain warm-blooded animals used for research, exhibition and for sale as pets at the wholesale level. Standards under the Act cover housing, sanitation, shelter, ventilation, feeding, watering, veterinary care, handling, transportation and separation of incompatible animals.

# SEASON'S GREETINGS

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## Leora Gollmar Dies

from MELVIN A. HINTZ

In a recent Carroll College Bulletin I noted that Leora Gollmar Phillips died May 13, in Dayton, Ohio. She was a daughter of Ben Gollmar, one of the founders of Gollmar Bros. Circus.

Miss Gollmar was an English instructor when I was a student at Carroll College. She also was acting Dean of Women one year when Dr. Degler was on leave.

## SPEAKING OF (Continued)

beginning of the 1981 season and I still think it is one of the top circus bands in the nation. The Beatty band, the Carson & Barnes Circus Band and the Circus World Band in Orlando are just fantastic and it would be very hard to choose between the three as to which is the best band, from those I have personally heard this season. I sure wish the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus Band or the Carson & Barnes Circus Band would cut a record as it has been a long time since any new circus albums have been put on the market and if one was made from an actual performance I think it would sell like hot cakes.

## Misc.

The Wall Street Journal dated Dec. 4, 1981, carried an advertising which offered the big Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus for sale. It stated the show's owner wanted to devote his time to other business interests.

In another news report a major circus owner is reportedly looking at railroad equipment which is available in the east. There was no indication as to what sort of plans are in the offering.

---

Help support Circus Report - Renew your subscription now and order one for a friend.

## From Florida

by MARJORIE HACKETT

The most gala show of the year has to be the Benefit Circus done by the performers for the Showfolks Scholarship program, the audience is as exciting as the performance, filled to the rafters with circus fans, former performers and present performers and their friends and families "at home" for the holiday season.

Old rivalries are forgotten as the great, big family of the circus world meets and greets each other at the Arena and later at the Showfolks Club.

Remember the cocktail party that Audrey Hepburn had in the movie "Breakfast at Tiffanys", well, if you do, that is just what the Club looked like as folks crowded in one after another on this auspicious occasion, just think of a famous circus family name and maybe you'd see three generations of them on this night.

Wish you all could have been there, you who love the circus or are part of it.

## HOLIDAY GREETINGS

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Circus Moves by Rail (Signed) . . \$ 35.00  
Behind the Big Top - 1st edition \$20.00  
(Signed)  
Book of Clowns - Spaeight . . . \$ 18.00  
Robinson Circus Route Book . \$ 35.00  
(1901)  
Barnum by Benton - 1901 . . . \$ 30.00  
Buffalo Bill - Yost - Signed . . \$ 17.50  
Careers With Circus - Castle . . \$ 6.00  
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- Many others - Send Wants -

FRANK BARRY

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## Florida Notes

by 'Circus Joe' VALENCIANO

Eugene and Aurelia Nock came to visit the Valencianos prior to their Kansas City date of Nov. 4-8, where they were featured as 'The Nerveless Nocks' swaypole thriller act, as part of the Coronas Circus.

Ringling-Barnum Circus World near Orlando, had a Soap Circus weekend, Oct. 24-25, as TV soap opera stars made special appearances at the park.

Senior Citizens get a special rate at the Circus World Park thru Dec. 19th. For all of those who are 55 and over there is a 30% discount on the admission price.

I had the pleasure of meeting Rex Horton of the Horton Wonder Bears, for the first time. They played dates for the Coronas Circus this past season.

On Oct. 1st, the Mike Douglas Show had a different kind of plate spinning act on the show. The Carlsons appeared with their spinning 'bowls.'



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The Magic Kingdom of 'Walt Disney World' in Orlando, is celebrating its 10th birthday with a series of special events.

The crew of Disney magic makers are not through yet. For their 11th year, Oct. 1st, 1982, they plan to open the newest phase, EPCOT Center. Already under construction when completed it will be twice the size of the current Disney park. It will be a look into the future, on a large scale.

This winter, the Festival International Du Cirque of Monte Carlo will be held Dec. 1-14th.

I'd like to close this column by saying that here on 51st Street, you can certainly see that another season has come to a close. By the dozens of big rigs rolling back into the Mighty Blue Grass Shows winterquarters.

## Misc.

The Circus Vargas elephant herd will take part in the annual Tournament of Roses parade in Pasadena, Calif., on New Years Day. They will be pulling a huge bandwagon float.

## COMING -

There are several special features already scheduled for the coming year, so be sure to keep your CR subscription up.

Among the many things planned is a report on the English Tenting Season for 1981 by Jack Niblett; a report on Circus Althoff by Jack Franklin, the Shrine Circus in Dallas by Bob Stoddard, a report on The Circus Championships staged in London (Nov. 19-20) by David Jamieson and a Look Back at the winter season of the mid-1940's by Pat Bissonette.

You'll also find a story about Bert Grimm the Tattooed Man, plus numerous other reports and stories, all coming in future issues of Circus Report.

Readers will also be happy to learn that Billy Barton plans to resume his CR column next year, but he will not write on a regular weekly basis because of his other commitments and work schedule. He will however, send in occasional reports on shows and offer his column on an occasional basis.

Another feature offered on an occasional

basis throughout the year will be the magic pages that comprise 'Bat Droppings' by Lloyd E. Jones.

So, keep reading CR each week and tell a friend. There should be something to interest everyone as the weeks come along.



MERRY CHRISTMAS  
and  
A HAPPY NEW YEAR  
TO ALL OUR CIRCUS FRIENDS

HARRY and  
ROWENA THOMAS