

CIRCUUS REPORT

Number 12

March 22, 1982

AMERICA'S
FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY
OUR 11th YEAR



LOU JACOBS

HOTLINE

Marcel Peters, wild animal trainer with the Circus Vargas, who was attacked by a tiger during a performance on Feb. 24th, is still confined to the hospital. Mail addressed to Marcel should be sent to: El Monte Community Hospital, Room 65, El Monte, Ca.

In Loving Memory

OF MY

DEAR HUSBAND, FATHER and GRANDFATHER

KARL WALLEUDA



WE WILL ALWAYS MISS YOU

Helen Wallenda and Family

SHOW DATES

Antioch Shrine Circus
Mar 28-Apr 3 Dayton, Oh

Circus Vargas
Mar 24-25 Buena Prk, Ca.
26-29 Burbank

Cole All Star TV Circus
Mar 22 Philadelphia, NY
23 La Fargeville
24 Alexandria Bay
25 Heuvelton
26 Massena
27 Potsdam

Coronas Circus
Mar 20-21 Daytona Bch,
Fla.
27-28 Orlando

Hamid-Morton Circus
Mar 25-28 Okla City, Okla

Ringling-Barnum - Blue
Mar 16-28 Baltimore, Md

Ringling-Barnum - Red
Mar 23-28 Knoxville, Ky

Royal Hanneford Circus
Mar 25-26 St. Petersburg,
27-28 Tampa Fla

Zerbini/Castle Circus
Mar 19-Apr 4 Detroit,
Mich

Zerbini/Castle Circus
Mar 11-14 Spokane, Wash
16-17 Eugene, Ore.
19-21 Seattle, Wash.
24-25 Salem, Ore.
26-28 Portland

--- OTHER DATES ---

Ice Capades
to Mar 21 Chicago, Ill.

Scott's Medicine Show
Mar 22 Lake Arthur, La.
23 Lake Charles
24 Anacoco
25 Nacogdoches, Tex
26 Rusk
27 Jacksonville
28 Henderson

--- MAGIC ---

Corky's Magic Circus
Mar 27-28 Lakeland, Fla

Pf. Miller Magic Time USA
Mar 22 Mc Rae, Ga.
23 Cocran
24 Cartersville
26 Covington
27 Gainesville
28 Summerville

HOTLINE

Marguerite Michelle Ayala, hair hang performer with the Ringling Red Unit, who was injured while performing on Feb. 20th, was scheduled to be released from the hospital on March 10th and will be at her home in Sarasota for a six month recovery program.

She suffered a broken neck as well as a fractured right arm and cheekbone, plus a severe cut on the head.

Her husband, Miguel, says Marguerite is doing quite well and has been walking in her hospital room.

Miguel, who is a noted tightwire walker on the Ringling show, along with the couple's two children, will leave that show indefinitely to be with Marguerite in Sarasota.

Cards and letters can be sent to Mrs. Ayala at: P. O. Box 4132, Sarasota, Fla. 33595.

Correction

The item under the People Column in the Circus Report of March 8, 1982, page 19 should have stated that David Tetzlaff is 19 years old.

Lou Jacobs Honored



by PHIL MOYER

The world's most famous living clown, Mr. Lou Jacobs, his wife Jean, and daughters Lou Ann and Dolly Jean were honored in the big cage during the evening performance of the Ringling "Red" Unit on Feb. 14th in Atlanta, Ga.

The newest CFA Tent, better known as the Lou Jacobs Family Tent 139, was officially

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raised in Atlanta on Valentines Day. Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick, past president of the CFA presided over the gala event with the presentation of the Bull Hook and Charter to Phil Moyer, founder and president of the new tent. The charter was then presented to the Jacobs family.

As part of the two days of events, a national Valentine mail-in was conducted. Ringling clowns brought in a large Valentine and several bags, totalling over 2,000 Valentines to Lou, the master clown. Circus goes numbering over 17,000 applauded and cheered the super star of mirth.

After the evening performance members of both the Lou Jacobs Family Tent and members of the Duggan Brothers-Arnold Maley Tent, along with the honored guests enjoyed a buffet at the home of the new President in Stone Mountain, Georgia.

Monday was officially proclaimed "Lou Jacobs Day" by the Honorable Mayor of Stone Mountain, Ga. That evening there was a straw house banquet hosted by the Duggan Brothers-Arnold Maley Tent 116 honoring the new tent and the Jacobs family.

Honors and proclamations were presented from The Governor of The Great State of Georgia, The Honorable Mayor of Atlanta, The Honorable Mayor of Stone Mountain, Ga., Mr. Irvin and Mr. Kenneth Feld, Mr. James Saunders, president of the CFA, and many other dignitaries. There was also a special presentation by Clown Alley of the Ringling show.

PEOPLE

BILL BURGER, after 18 years with Big John Strong, will be working with Chuck Kay this season on the new Kay Bros. Circus.

JOSEPH A. MYERS, will be the producing clown again this year with Roberts Bros. Circus. The show is scheduled to open on April 10th in Arcadia, Fla.

EDITH (Shrimp) JOHNSTON visited the

Chandlers (Phil, Linda and Lauren) at their home in St. Augustine, Fla., from Feb. 22 to 26th.

HARRY BLACKSTONE, magician and illusionist, was a guest on the John Davidson TV Show seen on the west coast on March 10th.

RON and PAM PERRY are doing their double wire act as well as their juggling act on Circus Vargas this season.

Speaking of . . .

BY JIM PARKER

Jackie and Elke Althoff have added another bear to their troupe, making a total of six bears. The new little female bear cub's name is Anuscka and is a living doll. Of course Elke is kept busy taking care of her and already she has grown quite a bit. Anuscka's parents are Syrian performing bears from the famed Wally Naghtin troupe. The Jackie Althoff chimps and bears are currently making dates for Tommy Hanneford and then during the latter part of June they set sail for Japan to work in a Hotel, returning home to Balm, Fla., on Dec. 23rd, at which time of course they will be available for work.

Milonga Cline (Escalante) and the Johnny Zoppe, Srs. are frequent visitors to Gibsonton from their Lakeland quarters, especially on Sundays, jackpotting at Mr. and Mrs. Don Philips' newly acquired property. Naturally, Bonnie Bonta joins the festivities and Milonga certainly keeps the stories coming. She is known as Tutor Cline back in Lakeland's school system. Bonnie is eagerly looking forward to returning to the Greater American Circus in 1982 and is currently on a diet (aren't we all!) to slim down. She can tell the stories too as she is no 'First of May' and between her and Milonga things are never dull at the bar-b-ques.

John Strong, Jr. flew in recently to attend the annual Showfolk's Extravaganza here in Gibsonton. John, Jr. is one of the youngest side show authorities around and was seen huddled with veterans Ward Hall and Jim Windland, about the last of their kind left in the circus world. John, Jr. has the drive, enthusiasm and personality that is needed in the new generation coming along in the circus world, and particularly in the side show end of it.

Unfortunately, I think he is coming along just a little too late as I am afraid that the day of the circus side show is just about over. Jim Windland had about the last of the big circus side shows that featured high quality performers, as he trouped last year on the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus; however, this year the Beatty show will no longer carry the side show and Jim, regretfully, will seek another phase of the circus business as there are just no markets for the circus side show as we knew it. The only other

pro left that I know of personally is the very capable Roger Boyd, Jr. but rumor has it Hoxie does not want a side show either, so where do you go? Here's hoping John Strong Jr. will come up with a winner in his endeavors to keep it alive and going!

The big Florida State Fair in Tampa is out and over and according to statistics it was a record breaker. Degler Amusements, out of Stuart, Fla., had the huge midway (Royal American had it for years and years) and did a terrific job of bringing in more rides and shows than they ever had. The midway sparkled and everything was immaculate, a far cry from last year's midway. But perhaps the biggest thing in the fair's favor was beautiful weather. Normally it turns cold and rains during the fair but only one afternoon of rain, opening day, marred the run.

Highlights of the fair included the under canvas circus, free to the public, that was a Eddie Zacchini production, finding each and every show standing room only. As last year the tent was spotless, with green shavings covering the track making the complete interior a show piece. Keith Killinger had the band and singer/announcer was the very capable Bill Boren. The program was: Come-in, clowns Dime and Connie Wilson, CoCo, Jr. and Danny Chapman; Opening Spec with entire cast; Ventura Duo, cradle; Jargo Giraffee with Dime and Connie Wilson, CoCo, Jr. and Danny Chapman and Peanut; the unforgettable Anna Mae with Ben Williams and Debbie Chapman (again, the most classic single elephant act in show business); Jack Cook's comedy car; Trudy's Dalmations; Clowns (Stomach Pump using Danny Chapman's piglet vice skunk or dog); Vozniak Teeterboard Troupe from Poland; The Woodcock Performing Elephants presented by Ben Williams; The Flying Larrays; The Great Wallendas, featuring the grandchildren of the late Karl Wallenda on the high wire.

This was Debbie Chapman's first public appearance with Ben Williams and Anna Mae and although she had that "opening night" jitters, Debbie came through it like a pro. Trudy's Dalmations are a unique and colorful act and very soon Trudy and Bill will have their Appy liberty horse act smoothed out and ready for the road. Once again Eddie brought a very strong show to

(Continued on Page 13)

No More Feathers

by FRANCES FISHER

Just thought I would share a funny one on an animal trainer.

And I admit beforehand that "I should have known better."

I made all new costumes for the chimpanzees this year and was particularly proud of a hot pink eyelash material complete with Tu Tu and a feather boa (white) around the neck and shoulders.

Well, Hal put the female Anita in the side car and I put the male, David, in the drivers seat. In less than a half circle he had feathers all over the place, the motorcycle was on its side and we're chasing two chimps.

We got everything set up again and what a ride. He's kicking her and standing up guiding the cycle at the same time.

Before that, when I got my hands on him to start the cycle trick again, he leaped over the cycle, dragging me flat on my stomach over the cycle.

What a laugh the audience had - and me

too - I had to laugh at myself.

When he did the finish trick, a giant swing ala Tarazan on the vines from tree to tree his mouth was full of feathers.

Needless to say, the feather boa was removed from the pink costume - but it did all look so elegant.

To clear up the "I should have known better" bit - this chimp just hates feathers of any sort.

PEOPLE

CAROL BUCKLEY and "TARRA" were in Spokane, Wash., for the Castle Show and in May will be at the Renaissance Faire, after which they go to Knotts Berry Farm for the summer season.

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From Florida

by MARJORIE J. HACKETT

Then we followed the directions the Grogans had given us to their home and drove in through the gates to their estate on the Alafia River. One word description "Charming" . . . "Serene" and "Beautiful". We located Charlie Gutis and were greeted by Heidi's three little dachshunds and Heidi's mother at the door of the Grogan's home. This has to be the most interesting house I have ever been in since living in Florida, it is a real, authentic old time Florida house built in 1907 with a center hall breezeway, screened porches, it is two stories high with a huge overhang roof. It is the kind of high ceilinged house built to catch the natural breezes, wood floors, fire places, etc. The Gutis told us that the Grogans first plan was to tear it down and build a modern house but a consultant suggested putting the money into extensive restoration. They went along with that idea with stunning results and it is not yet finished. It is much more spacious that what could be built with the prices of to-day's housing market.

Well, I am not writing an article on interior decoration but I could do one on this house and I was not too surprised to know that our TV Channel 44's P.M. Magazine is giving them a lot of air time on Feb. 19, about the home, the hangers for the helicopters, etc.

We are looking forward to that show, after getting a tour of the house with its clever updating; warm personal touches reflecting their show business life and the extreme good taste in Heidi's choice of wallpaper, furniture, etc. The wrap around veranda

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looks out on the river and the lawn slopes to the bank (they had to clear out a jungle of growth to get the view) and we enjoyed a visit with the Gutis and watched boats cruising by. They plan to stay there this coming summer while the Helicopter act goes back to Wisconsin Dells.

Oh yes, all of you who have ever tackled painting a house might like to know that it took 92 gallons of paint to bring this one to its pristine whiteness! David just shook his head as we drove away and that is why we do not live in a great big, old wood house, two or more stories high!

Gene Randow is Back

by BOB STODDARD

Friends all around the world will find this exciting circus news just that . . . Exciting!!

After a long battle with cancer of the throat and a complicated operation that successfully removed the cancer and saved his voice box, Gene's voice is coming back!

After months of not speaking at all, his voice today is not much more than a loud, raspy whisper . . . but then . . . Gene never did have a beautiful voice. The important thing is that he will have a complete recovery.

Gene visited the show folks at the Shrine Circus in Dallas through two performances on Saturday, Nov. 21st and wowed them with his funny stories.

Earl Michaels said, "He's the same old Gene Randow, and that covers it pretty well."

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you are willing to travel, will determine how long it will be before you will be able to watch this world famous clown perform again. For a lot of interested people who just happen to live in the right places, this could be very soon.

Gene's doctors say he can start up the first week in January on spot dates.

In one quick and brilliant move, the Shrine officials became the first ones on this band wagon and signed Gene for the 1982 Texas Shrine dates.

Much of the credit for his recovery goes to his long-time wife, Vivian, who helped pull him through a tough operation that only takes a day to perform, but a year to heal.

This is a promotion man's dream!

The first "free agent" in the clown world; destined to be the "comeback performer of the year;" compares to the re-entry draft in baseball.

There should be much spirited bidding for the services of this super star.

Did you see this, Johnny Carson?

SPEAKING OF (Continued)

the fair and certainly no one went away grumbling.

In addition to the circus, Jim and Heidi Grogan with Mark Peligar had their helicopter act at the fair this year and it proved to be one of the biggest and most talked about attractions. Strictly showmanship and class it is impressive and most effective at night with all the lights.

On the midway was Dean Potter's side show which is one of the finest carnival side shows on the road. The ten in one is kept immaculate and all stages and props inside are highly decorated. Dean is a veteran in the business and often has not only a side show but also a freak animal show running at the same time. Dean has high standards and when I caught his freak animal show it was just as immaculate and as highly decorated as his side show. Old time canvas bannerline front his shows and he has a strong line-up of acts. Unfortunately, I was not thinking and did not make a list of his attractions and at the present time he is out on the road so cannot contact him.

Following the State Fair in Tampa by less than two weeks, the annual Strawberry Festival in Plant City, about 50 miles east) is currently going full blast and is quite large for a county fair. Circus World sent their calliope and team of horses along with two show girls and two clowns, which not only gave them some publicity but made a colorful addition to the parade. Also on the grounds Ms. April performed her sway pole act.

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A quick, but fun-filled visit with Rudolph Delmonte (Anna and Pinky) enroute from Mexico City to Puerto Rico for Ed Migley revealed that they sure enjoyed his Mexico City engagement. After Puerto Rico comes the Dominion Republic and then back to the States for some of Ed's spring route before Tommy Bartlett's Water Show at the Wisconsin Dells.

Tour Complete

The 1982 edition of Bill Brickle's Wonderland Circus recently completed its tour of South Carolina.

Included on the show, which is adaptable for either assembly shows or full evening performances were: Bill Brickle's Poodle Fantasy; Eduardo's Gypsy Bears; Sprog & Sprockett, unicycles; Markie's Fantail Doves plus Dorian Blake, illusions and Ari's rola bola. Serving as ringmaster for the show was Dorian Blake.

The show carries its own concession and novelty items.

Cheetah Meet

A conference on Cheetahs was held recently at the Wildlife Safari Park in Winston, Ore. The three day event was attended by zoo directors, veterinarians and others interest-

ed in the future of the Cheetah.

The park has a large number of Cheetahs and just last year some 25 cubs were born there. Since the facility opened and they started their breeding program they have had 53 cheetahs born there.

Another purpose of the meeting was to decide who they would sell Cheetahs to. They had 11 for sale and with more cubs due all the time they are getting a large number of animals.

PEOPLE

AL and SUZANNE DAWLEY and Al's uncle HENRY DION visited the Hanneford Circus during the show's Savannah date after completing an engagement with Sam Polack's Circus at Pine Bluff.

Seals Released

Four harbor seals at the Washington Park Zoo in Portland, Ore., were recently released in the Pacific Ocean because zoo visitors insisted in throwing various objects into the animals water tank.

It just isn't fair to keep them, said an official, at the expense of their health. So the seals were released.

Visitors have thrown coins, flash cubes and other objects into the tank and the seals see the objects as food and eat them. As a result they suffer from a variety of ailments.

Park wins suit

A jury recently awarded \$100,600 in damages to the owners of Wild Wilderness Safari at Bentonville, Ark., because polluted water allegedly caused the death of some 143 exotic animals.

A Benton County Circuit Court Jury ruled in favor of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Wilmoth who own and operate the drive-thru park

NOTICE . . .

Contrary to all rumors being circulated, everyone who worked the Mahia Shrine Temple Circus date in Miami, Fla., for Hoxie Bros. Circus were paid in full.

in northwest Arkansas.

The jury found the defendents - David A. Calkain and Campbell Soup Co. of Fayetteville - were negligent in 1974 and 1975 by allowing decomposed turkeys to wash into a creek that formed the lake where the Wilmoth's animals got water. Calkain raised about 27,000 turkeys for Campbell Soup.

The Wilmoths said the pollution ultimately caused the deaths of 143 exotic animals, including bison and zebras, from nitrate or bacterial poisoning.

Music, Music, Music

by DON SANDMAN

From Jan. 28 thru 31st, it was Music, Music, Music at the Holiday Inn South, in Fort Mitchell, Ky. (Cincinnati, Ohio), when the Windjammers, Unlimited, Inc. held their 1982 convention.

From its Banquet Room location, the band music drifted thru the walls of the adjacent coffee shop, where diners' heads turned to look for the circus performers to come parading by. At a Windjammers Convention it is music from morning to night. On Friday, Jan. 29th the sessions went from 9 a.m. to about 10:30 p.m. with a break for lunch and another for dinner. Saturday, the 30th they were back blowing from 9 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., recording original circus music never before recorded.

On Saturday, the 30th, they did take time out to join with the members of the John Robinson/Loyal Repensky Tent, CFA, from Cincinnati for a visit to the Cincinnati Fire Museum. Though we were looking at long ago fire equipment in the museum upstairs it was all Circus, Circus, Circus, as circus films were running in the movie room and food and liquid refreshments were in abun-

dance. The Windjammers had been told the Circus Fans had been told how great all the Windjammers were and that the Fans would be ready to shake hands, and swap circus stories, especially about circus bands of old.

From the cocktail party and reception at the Fire Museum, the participants found their way back across the Ohio River to the Holiday Inn South for the evening Banquet and program. Mr. Paul Bierley was the guest speaker and his subject was John Philip Sousa.

The committee of Francis Simler, Charles Stanley and George Keller for the Windjammers and Don Sandman and Gale Ahrens gathered a large crowd for the Fire Museum. All were inspired by the fire models built by a retired fireman which were on display in the conference room upstairs from the museum. The CMB's in attendance all stated the models were truly a work of art.

The Music Sessions were conducted by Robert Hills and the following music was played and recorded during the sessions, and the CFA's enjoyed listening too. (a couple of the Windjammers said they were surprised that the Fans could sit there and listen quietly while the music was recorded) But the overflow audience in the Banquet

(Continued on Page 17)

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC (Continued)

Room enjoyed it all.

The following music and author are those numbers recorded:

Aviation Tournament - King
 Blackhawk - Cummings
 Bravura - Deeble
 Buffalo Bill's Farewell - Sweeney
 Bass Trombone - Fillmore
 Buffalo Rag - Turpin
 CFA March - Evans
 Cle Eleena Eagles - King
 Continental Congress - Rosenkraus
 Four Jacks - Losch
 Homestretch Galop - King
 Minstrel King - Sweeleg
 Pahson Trombone - Fillmore
 Petoskey March - Gill
 Pride of Glory - Jewell
 Harvest Moon Serenade
 Stop It One Step - Kaufman
 They're Off Galop - Jewell
 Trombones on Parade - Taylor
 Under Circus - Al Hages
 With the Colors - Pouella

Cariscema (So. American) - Heefer
 Zam Zam - Ceepers
 Maria Elena Waltz - Barcelata
 King Magdars Overture - Eilenberg
 Among the Lillies Waltz - Deeble
 Glow of Sunset Serenade - Cobbett
 Love Dreams - Golden
 Moonlight Melody Serenade - King
 Rippling Ruby Overture - Skaggs
 Shimmering Spangles Intermezzo - Casto

After the Cincinnati Convention most of the Windjammers proceeded to Corydon, Ind., where they participated in a concert with the Corydon Concert Band on Tuesday, Feb. 2nd.

PEOPLE

THE GRIMALDIS presented their full evening entertainment at the Roberts Arena in Sarasota on Feb. 9th for the Avion Travelcade Rally. The show was reported to be a big success and their bookings extend into 1983.

Twins Separated

A surgical team at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Md., successfully separated 5-day-old Siamese twins, on March 6th.

The twin girls which were born on March 2nd, were joined from the chest to the upper stomach.

Hospital officials reported the girls were in serious but stable condition after the six hour operation, performed by a 22 member surgical team.

Show Notes

by "Circus Joe" VALENCIANO

Jay Cochrane has been signed for the Orlando, Fla., Shrine date. He will do his 'Skywalk' in the Tangerine Bowl for the Coronas Circus Production, March 27-28. This will be the Coronas' second stand following their opening at Daytona Beach on March 20-21.

In addition to the "Motorcycle Thru Girl"

illusion, ringmaster-illusionist Sebastian will also be presenting "The Costume Trunk" as seen on NBC-TV's "Magic with the Stars."

And the Tabouret, the vanish of a girl high over the center ring, after which she re-appears at the entrance of the circus arena.

George Coronas is out of the hospital and doing just fine, after he was injured in winterquarters by an elephant this winter.

This writer and his family plan to make their first visit to the Coronas Circus at the Orlando date.

PEOPLE

THE SAXONS, unicycle and juggling team, are back at home in Sacramento, Calif., after working on the cruise ship "Rotterdam" following a South Sea cruise. They are now planning to work a series of Sport Shows.

A Studio Visit

by *BILL WOTSCH*

In Sept. 1942, while in Hollywood, I visited Republic Studios.

In one studio several children were studying their school lessons, all grouped around a table with their instructor.

In a big studio Roy Rogers and Gabby Hayes were acting out a scene for a film that was called "Riding Down the Canyon." The action took place in front of a cabin and after everyone had gone over their instructions the two stars went over their lines a few times and then it was filmed by the cameraman.

When the director yelled "cut" the action stopped and Roy came over to talk and we went up on the set and had our picture taken under those hot lights.

It was certainly fun and interesting to visit a western make believe town, and to see the saloon and learn how they staged the fights and learn about some of the special effects they use for such scenes.

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