

# THE CIRCUS REPORT

AMERICA'S  
FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY

OUR 11th YEAR

Number 21

May 24, 1982



THE THREE KOZAKS

## Ford Bros.

by JOHN W. BEARD

Ford Bros. Circus has a weekly route card and a new red and white striped tent. The small lots see a conventional four pole top. Three square middle pieces are inserted between the two side sections for a European type effect. A center pole (push) peaks each of the three middles. The quarter poles are bale ring, and the conventional top is bale ring.

A flying act is used. The cat act comes from a truck in the end of the top, with cats stepping directly into the arena. No moving of props, the arena is permanent. There are three rings.

The front end has bulls, moon bounce, snakes, games and pony ride.

Staff includes: Supt., Jack Gobble; Office Ken Swain and Whitey Black; Big Show tickets, Gigi Null; Elephants (3 male and 1 female), Tom Pincher; 24 hr. man, Turtle Benson; Snake show, Chris Culp; Cats, bears and elephant ride, Harry Locker; Clown Alley, Joe Schmitt; acts: Flying Lunas, Chona, Patti Antalek, dressage, Elephant finale, a nice variety.

Top gives show a very flashy and photogenic appearance on the lot. Driving stakes here was a challenge on a lot situated over bed rock.

Visitors on the lot included Fred Icke, Enoch Brafford, Spike Hansen and Doc Hartman.

## Happy Birthday

### MAMA

(WE LOVE YOU THIS MUCH!)

RASTUS

AND

TOBY

MAY 30th

## PEOPLE

SUSAN "Little Dot" HUGULEY and JAMES "Jimbow" DECKER visited with BOBBY and ROSA GIBBS when the Carson & Barnes Circus played Paris, Texas.

THE VIDBEL'S Liberty Ponies, which have been working for 25 years, gave their last performance at Manchester, NH, during the month of April. They are all the original ponies, except one.

JOHN and MARY RUTH HERRIOTT recently spent several days visiting the Beaty-Cole Circus where their daughters are working horse acts in the performance.

THE FLYING ROBINS, currently at Circus World, Inc., in Orlando, Fla., were featured on TV's "You Asked For It", aired on May 18th.

TIM TEGGE, clown, is working dates in Southern California for WALDON WEBB'S "All American Circus."

**SHOW DATES****Beatty-Cole Circus**

May 24-25 Vineland, NJ  
 26-27 Hammonton  
 28-30 Willingboro

**Carson & Barnes Circus**

May 16 Pawhuska, Okla  
 17 Coffeyville, Kan  
 18 Arkansas City  
 May 19 Wellington  
 20 El Dorado  
 21 Parsons  
 22 Nevada, Mo.

**Circus Vargas**

May 21-23 Santa Barbara  
 Calif.  
 24-25 Santa Monica  
 26-27 San Luis Obis.

**Coronas Circus**

May 28-30 Shreveport, La

**Franzen Bros. Circus**

May 25 Plano, Ill.  
 26 Dundee  
 27-28 Villa Park  
 29-30 Bowling Brch

**Hamid-Morton Circus**

May 25-30 Pittsburgh, Pa

**Hubler's Int. Circus**

May 28-30 Cedar Rapids,  
 Iowa

**M & M Circus**

May 26-29 Hastings, Neb.

**Martin & Downs Circus**

May 24 Grimsby, Ont.  
 25 Ridgeway  
 26 Thorold  
 27 Stoney Creek  
 28 Caledonia  
 29 Cayuga  
 30 Waterford

**Nur Temple Shrine Circus**

May 27-30 Wilmington,  
 Dela.

**Pickle Family Circus**

May 29-31 San Fran, Ca.

**Ringling-Barnum - Blue**

to May 31 New York, NY

**Ringling-Barnum - Red**

May 25-30 Providence, RI

**Roberts Bros. Circus**

May 24 Richwood, Ohio  
 25 Millersburg  
 26 Windham  
 27 New Philadelphia  
 28 Cambridge  
 29 Pickerington  
 30 Coschocton

**Wondercade**

May 24-26 Panama City,  
 Fla.  
 27-31 Ft. Myers Bch

**Zerbini/Castle Circus**

May 24-28 Calgary, Albta  
 31 Grande Prairie

## - - - OTHER DATES - - -

**James H. Drew Exposition**

May 24-29 Marmet, W. Va

**Elliott Amusement Co.**

May 25-31 Southgate, Mich

**Great Wallendas**

May 28-30 Ottawa, Can.

**Sesame Street**

May 26-30 Oakland, Ca.

**Tip Top Shows**

May 26-31 Milwaukee, Wisc

## - - - MAGIC - - -

**The Grand One**

May 28-30 Grand Rapids,  
 Mich

**Pf. Miller-Magic Time USA**

May 24 Coraopolis, Pa.  
 25 Aliqueppa  
 28 Olean, NY  
 29 Dansville

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## Reid Bros.

by RALPH HENDERSON

On a beautiful spring Sunday afternoon Reid Bros. Circus played to two straw houses in Couer d'Alene, Idaho, on May 2nd.

John and Betty Reid are presenting their strongest show yet. The music was provided by Neil Armstrong on organ and Rick Jones on drums. Richard Wright is concession manager, Chester Cable is unit manager and Scott Reid is prop boss. Bob Emérico is producing clown, assisted by Wm. Francis, while Kim Dixon is the very capable ringmaster.

After a circus overture and the National Anthem, the show opened with Jovia working Bengal Tigers. Due to an accident four days before, he worked the act on crutches and did an amazing job.

A three aerial act display followed featuring Wini McKay on her circular rigging, Miss Leona on single traps and Anna and Jim, double trap act. Dressage was next

with Miss Tina on a white Arabian and Count Napoleon on a Lippizan. The clowns then did a motor scooter bit ending with the long shirt gag.

Roberto Torres did a very good slack wire act, followed by a very pretty act, Miss Cinderella and her "Birds of Paradise." The Zamperla Family unicycle act followed and then came Chester Cable's foot juggling, better than ever. A beautiful act was Dubsky's Las Vegas Poodle Fashion Show and did the kids love this one. Kim Dixon and the clowns ended the first half with a coloring book pitch and then elephant rides were sold during intermission.

The Segrera Flying act got the second half off to a good start. Herman and Constanza presented a leopard and two jaguars uncaged, one of the jaguars was the largest I've ever seen.

Tony and Company's comedy magic act ended with a whole flock of Barnyard animals in a hilarious manner. The Napoleon Roman Riding Act started very impressive.

(Continued on Page 27)

# JULES & BECK COMBINED CIRCUS WANTS FOR 1982 SEASON

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## A SOUTH AFRICAN CIRCUS FAMILY

by L. WILSON POARCH

The circus knows no geographical bounds. It is truly an International Institution. The information contained herein came to us from a well-known circus family in South Africa and illustrates our point. The family would love to tour the United States with an American circus.



Collette Kozak on the Aerial Web

The Kozaks Family recently completed a tour on a major circus in South Africa and are currently playing a string of school dates with their own smaller circus. The family is composed of the father, the mother and their talented daughter, Collette, who, incidentally, was born on Doyle's Circus in South Africa. Believe it or not, this troupe performs a full-fledged "Western Act" - an act of the kind one might expect to find on an American Wild West Show.

The Kozaks' act begins with whip-cracking by all three members and is followed by a remarkable demonstration of sharp shooting by Collette's father. Placing an inflated balloon on a milk bottle, from which the bottom has been removed, he proceeds to break the balloon by shooting through the neck of the bottle and leaving

the bottle unharmed. He follows this by puncturing two balloons simultaneously with one bullet by splitting the bullet on the edge of an axe.

The expert use of whips comes back into play when Collette's father takes a cigarette from his wife's mouth. The "Wheel of Death" is next and this finds Collette's shapely form spread-eagle on the revolving wheel while her father outlines her body with knives. The wheel revolves at the rate of 45 rpm's.

In addition to her appearance in the family act, attractive Collette is seen in an exacting and exciting web turn. This talented Miss has also trained and presented her own pigeon act and is now working on another act with French Poodles. Her energy seems to know no bounds as she has aspirations to become an adept rough rider and an aerialist on the Flying Trapeze.

There would certainly seem to be room



Collette Kozak on the "Wheel of Death"

in the circus scene here for such an experienced and talented trio.

Photos accompanying this article were made on Circus Robero in South Africa and were made available by Ms. Collette Kozak.

# English Season

by JACK NIBLETT

The English tenting season has opened with fewer shows on the road than in any of the post-war years.

Notable absentees are Dick (The Original) Chipperfield and Gerry Cottle, these one-time rivals having combined their resources and mounted a terrifically successful circus in Hong Kong, a show which has run for nearly four months, occasionally four shows a day, and with the possibility of further venues in the Far East.

The Robert Bros., probably our largest circus has divided the show, Bobby's Senior and Junior taking out on unit, titled, "Circus Bonanza and Wild West Spectacular", while Tommy with his son Johnny has his unit "The Spanish National Circus" (Johnny has a Spanish wife).

Both shows have good animal acts, Bob's with liberty horses, elephants, tigers, ponies and football dogs, while Tom has elephants, horses, chimpanzees, lions and camels.

Family acts are included in both shows, while specialties include a Hungarian equestrian act, Barry Walls (fire eater, fakir), Pam Enos (Corde Lisse) and the Biasini Family with their cycling and tumbling acts. The "Bonanza" unit goes to the Great Yarmouth Hippodrome Circus in mid-June for the annual summer season at this venerable building.

The Austen Bros., retaining the "Jimmy Chipperfield Circus World" title for the second year has been out since early Mar. steadily heading northward and eventually into Scotland. A good traditional show

with their own animal acts (elephants, liberty horses, lions and an exotic group of mixed animals). Specialty acts include Duo Everic (aerialists), Mike Austin and Soapy (comedy car and run-in clowning), Carlos Michelli (plate spinning), The Salvadors (rolling globe and pigeon acts), Jounita Austin (revolving trapeze), and a family western act, with riding, lariats and whip cracking, by members of the Austin family.

Sir Robert Fossett's Circus, our oldest circus, opened in Cambridge in March with a good traditional program. A new lion/tiger group trained by proprietor Bailey Fossett was promised. The show's elephants presented by Robert Fossett V., likewise the horses and ponies in the usual Fossett style, while the usual aerial, clowning and ground acts were in evidence, mostly supplied by this talented family. The Al Verlaine family, who were with Circo Atayde in Mexico in 1980 and part of 1981 are with the show this year, presenting animal acts and some of their own specialties.

Gandey's International, now a medium sized family show was the first of our shows to take to the road, starting out in late February. Gandey's has animals from Mary Chipperfield's resources - elephants, camels, bears and exotic animals. The program comes mostly from family sources, plus old-timer musical clown, Alex Halls.

Sally Chipperfield's Circus will not be tenting this season, but will be fully operational, as the show is booked for the summer season at Clacton-on-Sea, in a Pier Pavilion in this East Coast seaside-resort.

James Bros., a small family show is somewhat reduced in size this year, notably by

(Continued on Page 25)

# Beatty-Cole

by GENE KIRKMAN

On April 19th, the Clyde Beatty-Cole Br. Circus came into Hickory, NC, at the fairgrounds, for a two day stand, then moved to Burlington, NC, for two days (Apr. 21-22). Business at Hickory was not too strong plus a lot of people on the show picked up a flu virus, but as always the show went on.

In Burlington, after an overnight down-pour the site was moved from the soggy Alamance County Fairgrounds to the old Fairfield Airport. After a lot of hard advance work by Donna Lewis, the show was in town and the tent was going up, sponsored by the Holly Hill Mall. Part of the publicity was an elephant race, with the Mayors of Burlington and Graham (two adjoining towns) and a pretty lady who is the Alamance Clerk of Court participating.

Arriving on the lot early Wednesday, the first person I saw was Johnny Pugh out front over-seeing his new "baby." It is new, but it is using the old name "Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus", there may be a new holding corporation, but thats for business purposes, not show business. In the past where we saw red and blue, you will now see a white and red front that is clean and bright. The cookhouse is in the new white theme. Kathy Rex is a new addition in the cookhouse and said, "I may run away to find a home."

With such super people as: The Herriott Sisters (3), Freddie Logan Family, Jimmy James, Dave Hoover, Johnny Welde and Son, The Alvarez Troupe and the Verdus

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Sisters, with John Pugh, plus many others, this show will and must go on. Just keep up the good work folks.

# PEOPLE

DON and ROXY ENGESSER recently had a house-warming party for BILLY POWELL, and GEE GEE and his mother flew in for the occasion.

## Garden Bros.

by *GEORGE C. BINGAMAN*

Reading's Rajah Temple sponsored 12 performances of Garden Bros. Circus on successive weekends in Allentown's Muhlenberg College Field House, March 12 to 14, and Reading's Rajah Theatre, March 19 to 21.

Ian Garden presented a succession of sparkling acts displaying seven fine animal numbers (cats, ponies, dogs, chimps, bears, horse, bulls), outstanding acrobatic skills, three boisterous clowns, a lavish spectacular and rousing circus music.

Eight musicians - bass, baritone, drums, trombone, sax, three trumpets - provided the music under the direction of Charles Schlarbaum following a rousing overture.

The program of displays continued as follows: Wayne and Ingrid Ragen, six lions, five tigers in the big cage; Double Cradle by the Gemini Duo; Two rings of liberty ponies and dogs presented by Ian A. Garden, Jr. and Lisa; Clown Horse Race by Rumpy, Coco and Coconut; Whirling Wheels, unicycle by the Hall Duo; Jerry Lipko's Chimps; Roger Prystanski's production of A Salute to Broadway, featuring eight aerialists with vocals by Mickey Garden. Trampoline Guys and Gals, titillating teeterboard, Tom Bolean, Rick O'Shay, Lisa Penstone; Jimmy Hall's Kassel Bears; Intermission.

Two rings. The Kardelli Sisters (Elizabeth,

Diana and Angelina Rodriguez) triple hair hang and the Claudia Sisters (Graciela, Isabel and Tocio Gomez) triple iron jaw; Ian A. Garden, Jr., up on Pretty Boy, dressage; Clown Wash Machine; Two rings, rolling globes, Diekabl Sisters Trio (Gomez) and the Chelley Sisters trio (Rodriguez); Captain Bones Craig, presents two ponderous pachyderms; Clown Sleep Walk and dancing on stilts by Coco; Double Flying Trapeze, America's only double wide rigging, two catchers, six flyers, The Rodriguez Troupe; Finale.

All-in-all, an outstanding Shrine circus with congratulations to Ian A. Garden for a better-than-ever '82 edition.

It would be unfair to single out an outstanding act inasmuch as all displays were superior. A well balanced show.

The photos shown here, taken on Garden Bros. Circus (Mar. 14-21) by George C. Bingaman, are identified as:

- 1 - A Salute to Broadway, Mickey Garden, vocalist, A Roger Prystanski Production.
- 2 - The Flying Rodriguez Troupe
- 3 - Trampoline Guys and Gals, Tom Bolean, Rick O'Shay, Lisa Penstone
- 4 - Garden Bros. Circus Clowns - I.t.r.: Coconut, Rumples, Coco
- 5 - Lions and Tigers, Wayne and Ingrid Ragen.



## PEOPLE

JOHN CALVERT, ALBERT GOSHIN, HOWARD SCHWARMAN, BOB LITTLE, PAUL DIAMOND, FANTIASIO, CHUCK WINDLEY and several other magicians will headline the "Convention of Magic" at Charlotte, NC, May 27-30. PHILIP MORRIS is the convention chairman.

DOLLIE COPELAND (former RBBB performer from the Jahn family) is becoming very well-known as an artist, exhibiting and winning prizes all over Florida.



## Re-union in Georgia

by MARJORIE J. HACKETT

When Harris Reynolds called our house from Georgia one Sunday and invited us to come to a re-union of our act "The Young Nelsons", I thought he was playing a joke on us; but he called again to say "who" was coming to his home on Apr. 3rd, a Saturday, and so we made plans to attend.

A follow-up note from him told us that other performers who had worked with him in various tight wire acts (most of whom were trained by the late Mayme Butters) were also planning to be his guests. The more I thought about this party, the more exciting it sounded and it turned out to be just that, exciting and fun!

Springtime in Atlanta (Ga) is gorgeous with dogwood and azalea in bloom, mere words cannot describe their beauty which we recorded in our mind's eye, seeing them at the peak of their blooming as by Saturday afternoon the wind started blowing the blossoms away!

We wrote to our dear Circus Fan friends, Lucille and Bill Lane, College Park, which is a suburb of Atlanta, to ask if we could stay with them and they said "Yes." We left our Florida home on Thursday evening and got into College Park early Friday afternoon. Harris lives in adjacent Forest Park and other guests were staying in his three bedroom home, while one family drove up in their own motorhome, from near St. Augustine, Fla.

Lucille and Bill were entertaining their son and daughter and all their grandkids on that Friday evening, so David and I drove to Harris' home and had dinner with the following: Doug and Avis Hart, Marie Mahon, Harris and Bobby Kay Smiley. Of this group the only one I had ever met was Avis, who is the daughter of Mrs. "Red" Floyd, who was "Babe" Guice of the Riding Guices (bareback act) of many years ago. Mrs. Floyd makes her home with Avis and Doug in Elkton, Fla., a suburb of St. Augustine.

Marie Nelson (who is the widow of the late Charles "Chuck" Mahon) and a non-professional, flew in from Phoenix. Chuck was a wire walker and we were really surprised to find out that they were both born

in Minnesota and married in St. Paul, as were David and I.

Harris' sister Virgie Hansen flew in from Beverly Hills (she prepared all the food) and of course, the one and only Bobby Kay, who flew in from Long Beach, and he provided the "bar" - wish you all could have seen the gorgeous "hor d'oeuvres" and the drinks of all varieties, that were to be had at the Saturday affair. We all had a lot of "catching up" to do, and also getting acquainted with the guests whom we had not previously met.

Paul Nelson and wife Cathy had been invited from Owensboro, Ky., but could not come; as had Bobby Gordon (Hodgson), wife Caroline (Hodgini) and daughter Carol from Valrico, Fla. However, Bobby Gordon called on Friday evening to talk with us. We had just visited with them at Tampa Shrine Circus the previous week. Thru the years of the "Young Nelsons" many of us have kept in contact with each other, one member died two years ago and some of the others just do not communicate. The wire walkers seemed to do better as the only one of them invited that did not show was Eddie Hendricks from Arizona.

Saturday dawned bright and beautiful, windy, but still shirt sleeve weather and at 2 o'clock the guests began arriving at Harris Reynolds' "re-union" party. Lucille Lane who is a District Director for CFA, is a member of the Duggan Bros.-Arnold Maley Tent No. 16 CFA, as are Ann and Mercer Sullivan, Decatur, Ga. (formerly of Peru, Ind.) and David and I who are CFA members of Adam Forepaugh Top. No. 8, of Minnesota and Hoxie Tucket Tent No. 137 in Florida, represented Circus Fans/performers as I was a performer and David trained chimpanzees.

Members of Harris' family (all originally from Macon, Ga.) also included besides his sister Virgie Hansen; sister Belle Dorsy, College Park and sister Evelyn Day and husband Bill, Eastpoint, as well as nephews Bill Day, Jonesboro, Tenn. and Lyle and Michael Hunnicott, Atlanta and niece Nancy Todd, Knoxville, Tenn. How much fun it was to meet so many members of our host's family after knowing him for so many years.

Everybody was looking at old scrapbooks,

(Continued on Page 19)

# **CIRCUS AFRICA**

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### **NOTICE**

As a firm believer in the free enterprise system I am now entertaining inquiries for my services which may be available in early fall of 1982. I can be contacted at the above address.

## RE-UNION IN GEORGIA (Continued)

po-eters and swapping reminiscences! Taking photos and just having a wonderful time. Lucille had brought some old circus films taken by CFA member Marian (Tormey) Darbo's late father, Dr. Tormey of Madison (wsc). Nothing is perfect but Allah, so alas the projector gave out after 1½ reels but not before we had seen some 1938 footage of the A. G. Barnes and Sells Floto Circus as well as shots of RBBB and we could identify Felix Adler, Frank Buck, Gargantua the Gorilla, the Cristianis and Theol Nelson.

Mercer Sullivan had microphone and tape recorder and he suggested that I interview each of the guests, which I did, asking them about their years on shows and what they did now and if they had children, seems most of us did and grandkids now too. He has promised to get copies of these interviews for each of us and we are eagerly looking forward to that, as well as copies of photos snapped that eventful day.

Neighbors who stopped in were Jeff and Kathy Demme and Phil Eggleton. Kathy's mother who now operates a small carnival out of Tampa was Ivone "The Imp in the Clouds" and also was one of the Five Arleys.

Avis and Marie assisted Virgie in the sumptuous dinner that was served after the afternoon's festivities and it was delicious. The talk went on and on until we all said "Good night", albeit, reluctantly.

Ann Sullivan taught school in Peru, Ind., and had pupils with such famous names as Beatty, Kelly and Hodgins, just to name a few.

Among you readers there should be a few of you who might have seen us perform so in conclusion; here are a few credits:

Doug and Avis Hart were with the Avalons and Mayme Butters Troupe and later appeared with their children, Doug, Avis and The Hart Family.

Harris Reynolds "King Reynolds on the Silver Strand, Mighty Haag, Downie Bros., Cole Bros. and many parks and fairs doing wire, risley and juggling with his late wife, Denise (Wathon) of the famed Juggling Jewels.

The late "Chuck" Mahon was with the

Butters Troupe and The 3 Reynolds. He, Harris and Avis.

Bobby Kay Smiley, who is best known as a clown, has been with Downie Bros., Hagenbeck-Wallace, Russell Bros., Barnett Bros., Lewis Bros. (where he joined the Nelsons), Hunt Bros., Cole Bros.-Clyde Beatty and of course his long stint on RB BB, plus many foreign tours.

David Hackett, who with his late wife, Beverly, had "Hackett's Chimpanzees" playing fairs, celebrations, parks, mostly in the Mid-west, plus ice shows which featured their ice skating chimp "Suzy."

Marjorie Hackett was with Fanchon-Marco ice shows, Lewis Bros., Hubert Dyer & Co. for Orrin Davenport, Hunt Bros., Cole Bros.-Clyde Beatty, Polack Bros., Russell Bros.-Clyde Beatty and RBBB as well as fairs, parks, vaudeville and night clubs.

In looking back, I guess we all played anywhere the rigging and equipment would fit. I also know that none of us ever remembered the "bad" days, only the "good" ones and the "good" times. How great it was!

## The Acts

Acts appearing in the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus at Highland Community College in Freeport, Ill. (May 4) were:

Mr. "B", juggling; Killer Willard, Boxing Kangaroo; Emmett and Want More?; Francarro's foot juggling; Emmett and Stand on Hands; Chris Albertis poodle revue; Emmett and rope; Mr. "B", unicycles; Fossett Chimps; Emmett and Magic; Giovanni's Plate Spinning; Emmett and finger; Irene, & Tonga & Co.; Frank and Estrelita, cradle act; Emmett and Nancy say Goodbye; The show's ringmistress was Nancy Kelly.

Acts working the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus date at Skylight Concourse, Union Station Terminal Tower, Cleveland, Ohio (May 15) were:

The Fabulous Darnells, magic; The Francaros, foot juggling; Frank & Estrelita, cradle; Miss Carol, trapeze; The Wainwrights on trampoline; The Davidsons, rola bola; The Patricks, juggling; The Tanzier Troupe, acrobatics; Nancy Kelly, ringmistress and Emmett Kelly, Jr., clown.

## Big Apple Circus

The Big Apple Circus, New York's one and only resident circus, which recently celebrated its debut engagement at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, will bring its new show to four of New York's boroughs this summer.

Now in its fifth season, the Big Apple Circus presents its intimate, European style one ring show in a 1600 seat traditional big top tent. The action of the acrobats, jugglers, aerialists, animals and clowns unfolds no more than 30 feet from any spectator.

The schedule for the Big Apple Circus this season is: May 19-31, Prospect Park, Brooklyn; June 5-13, Cunningham Park, Queens; June 18-27, Snug Harbor, Staten Island; July 2-5, Woodstock, New York and July 17-26 Fordham University, The Bronx.

The acts which are set for the Big Apple Circus' summer season include some of the greatest of Europe, as well as exciting American acts trained by the Circus School. The New York School for Circus Arts.

Anna Mae the elephant, one of the famed Woodcock elephants, the best single elephant act in the country; Anna Mae is trained and presented by Bennie Williams.

Mary Ruth and John Herriott, acclaimed animal trainer from Sarasota, representing generations of circus history, appearing with their famed horse and dog acts.

The Flying Tarralbas, two men, two women and the flying trapeze.

David Muller, of Switzerland on the low wire.

Sacha Pavlata and his daring cloud swing.

Paul and Michael, the juggling clowns of "Sesame Street" fame.

The Bertinis, a family of spectacular unicyclists and acrobats from Czechoslovakia, representing generations of circus experience.

The Back Street Flyers, six young men from Harlem, trained at the New York School for Circus Arts, who were awarded the silver medal at the International Circus School Competition in Paris in 1980 for their extraordinary rebound acrobatic routines.

The beautiful Tisha Tinsman on the web

and her husband, Jim Tinsman, with his incredible balancing act.

Clown Barry Lubin and ringmaster Carlo Pelligrini.

Concurrent with its summer engagement, The Big Apple Circus will celebrate its screen debut when the long-awaited movie version of "Annie" bows on May 21st. The Big Apple Circus provided the circus party finale for the movie.

Founded in 1977 by Paul Binder to introduce Americans to the oldest performing tradition in the world, one ring circus, The Big Apple Circus is New York's first resident circus since 1904.

The Big Apple Circus tours regularly to all five boroughs of New York and has also performed in such places as the Philadelphia Zoo, the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco and pitched its tent at Baltimore Harbor Place for the 1981 international Theatre Festival as well as at Damrosch Park, where the Big Apple Circus made history last winter at the first circus to play Lincoln Center

Over the years hundreds of thousands of people have seen The Big Apple Circus. Its school, the New York School for Circus Arts, has grown to become a valuable resource to the city of New York. The school has trained hundreds of thousands of inner city children in acrobatics and other circus arts, the stars and casts of the Broadway, national and London companies of "Bar-num" as well as several professional acts for The Big Apple Circus.

Judith Friedlaender is producer of the circus and the show is directed by Paul Binder.

## PEOPLE

RONN LUCAS, ventriloquist, is featured in the TV series "Comedy Tonight" now being aired on the PBS stations.

KATIE and TERRY WOLF are with the "Texas Safari" Park in Clifton, Texas. BUCKY STEELE will have elephant rides and a bear show at the park this summer, where he will also be displaying baby 'Shoney'.



**CARLA WALLEDA'S CIRCUS UNIT** is taking on new life with added summer showings in New England arranged by the alliterative Better Booking Bureau of Buzzards Bay thru Billy Burr. My clown pony act will augment Carla & Co., at Pawtucket, R. I., the full week of May 17th thru 23rd and also at Lowell, Mass. May 25-31.

Typographical gremlins again in the Don Marcks' office: I insist my columns are accurate when mailed out!

Here are 2 corrections, for the record, for my last two contributions - Lucy Snowden is concession manager for circus producer Bob Snowden. And, 10 year old Seth Bartlett is Seth the Sensational in the classic Cesareo Pelaez production **LE GRAND DAVID**.

Speaking of talented child stars in circus, magic and variety show work: Chris and

Jereme Bachaud are showing unusual talent and plate spinning skills in many of the promotional events of their grandfather Dwight Damon, who runs New Hampshire's enterprising Entertainment Unlimited Agency.

Northeast corner round-up: Cyclist-juggler Ken Sherburne, Hager's Chimp, Davis' Dogs, magician Jerry Fields, announcer Charlie Slavin, mentalist Tommy Tucker, illusionist Leone & Co., plus lots of others are active with casual work.

Pittsburgh magician Harry Albacker is booked for the Marshfield, Mass. Fair, Roberts Bros. Circus will tent in New Hampshire, so will the Beatty show which also has 17 days scheduled for Connecticut under canvas, too.

There will be lots of outdoor show activity in New England this summer.

## Hubler Int. Circus

by J. SCOTT PYLES

The George Hubler International Circus played the St. Johns Arena at Steubenville (Ohio) for 3 shows on Saturday and Sunday, May 1 and 2.

They had a real nice turn-out and warm sunny weather, although the nights are still a bit cool. Harry Mills had concessions.

The program: Wayne and Inge Ragen, cat act (6 lions, 5 tigers); Tino Wallenda Zoppe and Olinka; Pablo Rodriguez Fam-

ily, 8 person double wide flying act; Abigail with 'Sundance' equestrian act; Dilkas Sisters, rolling globes; The Drouette Trio, juggling; Don Giovanni, sway pole; El Diablos, 3 girl hair hang; Bones Craig, elephants; Douglas MacValley, Globe of Death; Brenda Casey Dancers, local dancers; Charles Schlarbaum, musical director. Clowning was by Rumpy.

## PEOPLE

**DONNIE JOHNSON** and son, **SHANE**, made a 10 day visit to Hong Kong to see his wife, **GAINER**, of **THE FLYING CARROLLS**, as well as sister and brother-in-law **GENE** and **ELEANOR MENDEZ**, high wire stars, who are working with the Chipperfield Circus.

**MARC CHRISTOPHER FALCONE's** film "Facing the Big Cats" a documentary about **DAVE HOOVER** was premiered at Columbia University on May 26th.

## NOTICE

To: **ANDRE SKARBECKIE** and His Lions.

Have not heard from you or seen you in over a year. Please call me at:

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Or Write to me at:

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"Westy"

## Budget Cuts

*(The following information is reprinted from the "Animal Care Matters" publication of USDA-APHIS for March 1982).*

### PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS

The 1983 budget for the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture calls for cutting \$3.4 million from funds appropriated for animal welfare enforcement, as part of a \$50 million cut in all APHIS programs for fiscal year 1983. (Fiscal 1983 runs from Oct. 1, 1982 to Sept. 30, 1982). The animal welfare program would be funded only for investigating complaints and prosecuting any violations that are found.

The budget proposal suggests that surveillance of regulated persons should be assumed totally by State agencies, industry groups, humane societies, and concerned individuals. APHIS would no longer conduct compliance inspections on a regular basis, although licensees and registrants still would be bound by existing Federal standards for the humane care and hand-

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ling of animals.

### UNQUALIFIED EXHIBITORS

By law, APHIS cannot require license applicants to prove that they have the needed training, experience, and education to handle wild animals. Licenses must be granted if Federal standards are met at the facilities of applicants, regardless of their personal qualifications for handling animals.

APHIS officials would like readers to express their opinion as to what standards may be needed to evaluate an exhibitor's expertise, how these standards should be developed, and how they should be enforced.

One possibility would be to develop an industry code under an existing organization, such as the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums.

Send your suggestions to: Animal Care Staff, USDA, APHIS, VS, 770 Federal Building, Hyattsville, Md - 20782.

## Show Visits

by DR. PAUL E. FITZPATRICK

It has been a busy time here in Georgia and just recently I was able to catch the following shows.

Int'l All Star, a Jim Nordmark show, was a superb show, especially the DeMille tight wire act and Gaylord Maynard's drunk horse act.

On Apr. 10th, I saw the Coronas Circus at the building in Marietta, Ga. This was followed on Apr. 12th with a visit to the Hoxie Bros. Circus, who has the best band I have heard this year. Charles Moyer and the Reynolds family are superb.

On Apr. 13th, I saw the Beatty-Cole Circus at Athens, Ga. They have a superb performance, the equipment is spotless and the paint job and lettering by Roger Boyd is a work of art. Dave Hoover wasn't able to perform here because of the small, bad lot at a shopping center.

The real jewel of a show I have seen thus far is Franzen Bros. Circus which I visited on Apr. 18th at Morrow, Ga. It is a small show, but with class. They had the worst lot of any of the above shows, but the best performance. The fellow who does the announcing and plays trumpet is really great.

I was physician to personnel on Ringling Red, Hoxie, Int'l All Star and Beatty-Cole and so I was kept busy.

Accolades go to Jimmy James, Wayne Franzen, Johnny Pugh, and John Lewis and especially to Charles Moyer.



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## PEOPLE

DON ENGESSER recently bought a new 1982, 40 ft. 5th wheel Kountry Aire trailer and has moved his three workmen into his old Winnebago.

ELENA BULGARU, a former circus performer, designs and sells clown post cards, which are popular with fans and tourists

**ENGLISH SEASON (Continued)**

the loss of the two big elephants which perished during the exceptionally cold winter months. This show is being re-titled "Jimmy Fossett's Circus."

The Circus Hoffman, together with its subsidiary Circus Holiday has spent all winter showing in Ireland, but it is expected that one of its units will return this summer, probably to Scotland.

The Circus Hassani, which boasts of having no animal acts will, once again, spend the summer at Chessington Zoo (near London) where it will provide a free attraction, two or three times daily.

A small circus run by a former high wire artist, "Circus Cimarro" has made its appearance; I understand that "Weight's Circus", another family unit will soon be out again, and I expect that one or two little family shows will surface during the summer season.

The Circus Pinder, an honorable British circus name was revived by the family a few years ago, more or less successfully,

**PEOPLE**

CARL and RUTH CARLSON will be seen in bit parts in the show "One From the Heart." Carl plays the part of an irrate circus father.

BARBARA DANISH spent Memorial Day visiting friends SERGE and STEVIE CORONAS in Shreveport, La. Barbara reports her weight has dropped from 272 lbs. to 172 lbs. and she hopes to still lose several additional pounds, for the promised reward of riding an elephant in the Coronas Circus Spec.

but will not be tenting this year. Most of the family will be working with other shows.

So while the quantity of our traveling shows is reduced, the quality remains and customers can expect to see good traditional circuses, free of gimmicks and special effects.

## Wild Man Found

A news report from Nairobi, Kenya, dated early this month, stated that a wild man with monkey-like habits had been captured and was being held for observation at a local hospital. The man, believed to be about 26, was found on the shore of Lake Victoria, and is believed to have been abandoned when quite young and developed monkey-like habits through contact with animals in the wild.

The man, called "John" by hospital staff members, communicates with grunts, quick animal-like gestures and a few sounds that seem to be related to languages of tribes in the area.

"John" reportedly prefers to eat meat on the bone, unpeeled bananas and leaves, he eats and drinks from a squat position and drinks from a bowl which he rotates to ensure that he drinks from all sides.

## REID BROS. (Continued)

ly and ended with a horse-to-horse back somersault.

The clowns came on to do their Indian Snake Dance and then Herman and Dillard, the boxing kangaroo, went a fast three rounds, followed by the Johnson elephants, worked by Anna Pike, bringing a good two hour show to a close.

It was the first time in several years that I've seen a circus where the sidewall had to be spread on the ground to hold the overflow audience, as it had been for both performances.

The weather and a happy crowd combined to make it a perfect circus day.

## PEOPLE

HUGO ZACCHINI, the Human Cannonball, was featured in a special story report in the April 25th issue of the Chronicle & Examiner of Duluth, Minn.

# Shrine Date

by JOE STEPHENS

The 32nd annual Aladdin Shrine Circus which ran April 16 thru 25, in Columbus, Ohio, was produced by Tarzan Zerbini, with musical director Gregory Toca and ringmaster Col. Lucky Larabee.

The evening began with the Shrine Band and the Shrine Clowns. Then came the elephant races, two local personalities were each mounted on an elephant which were guided by Tarzan Zerbini and Gary Thomas. They both ran around the track in opposite directions.

The program opened with the National Anthem and was followed by a double slide-for-life by Miss Roverta and Miss Michelle. Then came the circus overture, the Spec and a fantastic light show.

Next came the twin aerial motorcycle acts featuring Les Astros and the Meteors; Tarzan Zerbini's lions and tigers; Jorges' comedy car; a unique aerial ballet display with Miss Michelle, Miss Roverta, Miss Tami, Miss Tracy and featuring Miss Sylvia on single traps; Scott's Unrideable Mule; Mike and Carl, chair balancing; Young elephants Baby Bunny, Baby Tony and Baby Marie; The Plunketts, trampoline; Clowns; Burgers dogs and pony; Marie France's dogs; Vivian's football dogs; a unique ladder display; Los Navahos, Los Apaches, Los Comanches, juggling; Los Gauchos; Intermission.

Uncle Frank's Pork Chop Revue; the Flying Ibarra, flying act; Clowns; Mattah Camels and Llamas; Berger's Chimps; Christopher James, wire; Jurgin's sword balance; Les Castros, perch; Diano's elephants with Col. Lee Keenar; Tarzan's elephants with Gary Thomas; Johnny Luxem's Wheel of Destiny; Grand Finale.



**BIG JOHN STRONG** - Doing what he enjoys most - developing new talent. John is shown here with Kelly and Shannon Weller who are on tour with him as an acrobatic and balancing act.

The entire arena had been decorated with a blue theme, including ring curbs and mats. Most of the props, the track and walkways were covered with blue carpet, the entire seating of the arena had blue and silver streamers from one side of the building to the other. The prop crew even wore blue blazers with bowties and occasionally you would see blue costumes.

Tarzen has been resigned to return next year, along with ringmaster Col. Lucky Larabee, to produce another spectacular show.

## Circus World Park

The 24th annual season at Circus World in Baraboo, Wisc., got underway on May 8th, with a show that is billed as "the greatest in Circus World's history."

Museum Director, William L. Schultz, promises adults as well as children a true experience of reliving circus history with the spectacle, flash and excitement of the high-flying aerialists, fun-loving clowns, roaring tigers and lions, glorious parade wagons, melodious calliopes, thrilling rides, prancing Percherons and performing pachyderms.

Schultz notes that the Circus World Museum features a Big Top Show of European, Mexican and American circus stars. We are very pleased to present the very creative elephant trainer, William 'Buckles' Woodcock and his performing elephants, coming to us from the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. Performing with him at each show is the very talented performer with spangled tradition, Barbara Woodcock and the Woodcock children.

In a day when gymnastics and acrobatics are at their highest level of ability and competition, the Circus World Museum has discovered a family of gifted performers of olympian skill direct from the big circuses of Mexico, the Flores Troupe. The versatile aerialists present heart-stopping acrobatic feats high in the dome of the big top and special daily performances in the high wire and trapeze over the Baraboo River.

Another feature for the 1982 show is Ada Smieya, a Polish born wild animal trainer, who has toured with the circuses of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union before being a headline performer with the Ringling show. Smieya is being featured at Circus World with 8 Bengal tigers and two African lions and is assisted by her 17 yr. old son, Brunon, the youngest wild animal trainer in the world today.

Veteran clown and clever illusionist Jimmy Williams, as "Happy the Clown" is back along with the circus instrumentalist playing the many circus musical instrument oddities, including the steam calliope.

A big sound emanates throughout the Museum grounds as Circus World's musical director Rick Percy plays the old-time circus melodies with a new circus band.

Circus World is located on a 33 acre site that served as the winter quarters for Ringling Bros. Circus at the turn-of-the-century. The Museum is owned by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Barns on the site that once housed the exotic animals of the Ringling show have been refurbished and used to cleverly display the fabulous collections of circus pictures, posters, lithographs, parade wagons, musical instruments and costumes that are unparalleled anywhere.

Schultz promises that this year's show is "the big show of the year" for the quarter million visitors expected. A show that provides the old-time thrills and the old-time excitement of the circuses of yesterday. Each day there is a colorful circus parade reminiscent of the street processions staged a half century ago and demonstrations of loading circus wagons on train flatcars with magnificent draft horses. For added enjoyment, there is a wild animal menagerie, petting zoo, elephant ride, animal training demonstration, special clown show and rides on the old Eli ferris wheel and 1908 carousel.

Circus World is designed for the enjoyment of adults as well as "kids" and operates on a pay-one-price admission, with no charge for children 4 and under. A new family admission plan is available for large families. Senior citizen discounts are available.

## Show Acts

The program presented for the Maine Shrine Circus dates, produced by Wayne McCary (Apr. 16-May 8) featured:

Shrine Circus Overture; Grand Entry Parade; National Anthem; Lilli-Ana (cage act with 7 spotted leopards, 1 black leopard); Clowns; Chapman Sisters, balancing ladder; The Cyclonians, unicyclists; Clowns; Darnells & Co., magic with doves and dogs; The Venturas, aerial cradle; Wendy & Walt, teeterboard hand vaulting; Intermission.

The Flying Larrays, flying act; Clowns; Philip Anthony's Hollywood Liberty Horses; Mr. Bell, chair balancing; Cook's comedy car; Vidbel's elephants; Finale.

# Elephants

by Dr. JOHN M. JOHNSON

Alcoholism among elephants has been known for years and there are thousands of stories related to this subject.

It has often been remarked they show an almost human enjoyment. Nearly every elephant (captive or wild) has a passion for alcohol. There has been evidence of an elephant that could draw a cork from a bottle of claret and drink the contents without spilling a drop.

Elephants do drink any alcoholic substance that we do. This passion is acquired to a certain extent and continues to be a craving and addiction.

Wild elephants (both Asian and African) during the summer season do travel long distances in the forest interior for the fruit of the Umganu tree, of which they are passionately fond, and doubtless come in search of. This fruit is capable of being

made into a strong intoxicating drink and the elephants, after eating it become quite tipsy, staggering about, playing huge antics, screaming - so as to be heard for miles off, and often having tremendous fights.

Indian elephants have a passion for some particular fruits that cause a festive mood. Both male and female get a kick for sexual arousalment while under intoxication. As sex is forbidden for younger calves, so intoxication is also forbidden to the very young. That is the elephantine way.

(Reference R. Currington).

## PEOPLE

CHARLIE REYNOLDS will serve as magic consultant for a murder mystery play about a retired magician which is scheduled to open on Broadway about Oct. 24th.

## Mattel Report

*(The following information has been taken at random from the Mattel Annual Report to Shareholders for the year ended January 30, 1982. To fully understand the Mattel position one should read the entire report).*

"... The operating loss from entertainment operations is attributable to increased operating costs and lower attendance levels. The Entertainment segment reported slightly lower revenues and a \$1,100,000 operating loss combined with an operating profit of \$2,300,000 last year.

"... Subsequent to the end of the fiscal year, the Company sold Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows, Inc., including its Ice Follies and Holiday on Ice subsidiary for \$22,000,000 cash (approximately net book value) to a company organized by the senior management of Ringling Bros. Mattel's Circus World Florida theme park operation was not included in the sale. The sale had no effect on reported results for the 1982 fiscal year."

"... During the fiscal year ended January 30, 1982, Mattel's entertainment operations included Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows, Inc., Ice Follies and Holiday on Ice, Inc., and Circus World Florida theme park. These operations accounted for 7% of Mattel's revenues in fiscal 1982. Revenues totaled \$77.3 million and operations produced a loss of \$1.1 million in 1982 versus an operating profit of \$2.3 million in the previous year.

"... Subsequent to the end of the fiscal year, Mattel, Inc., sold Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows, Inc., and Ice Follies and Holiday on Ice, Inc.

"... Mattel, Inc., retains ownership of Circus World Florida theme park, the 110 acre entertainment center near Orlando, Florida.

"... Circus World, A Whole Day of Family Fun, offers an exciting "World of Circuses." Among the more than 100 rides, shows and attractions is the Circus Spectacular show recreating the nostalgia and thrills of the circus coming to town. There's also Be-A-Star Circus where guests are invi-

ted to "join the circus" - fly the trapeze, walk the highwire or learn to juggle; the Aqua Circus featuring a variety of acrobatic and comedy diving; and many thrill rides, exhibits, exotic animals and acts to delight young and old alike.

"... Tourism in Central Florida declined in fiscal 1982, adversely affecting attendance at Circus World. The theme park was not profitable in fiscal 1982."

"... Revenues of \$77.3 million in fiscal 1982 were 5.5% below the fiscal 1981 level of \$81.8 million. Each one of the operations which comprise this segment suffered a decline in attendance. Revenues were also negatively impacted by the absence of the Monte Carlo circus foreign tour which was discontinued on completion of the foreign tour in fiscal 1981. Revenues in fiscal 1981 were \$7.4 million higher than in the preceding year primarily due to inclusion of a full year of operation of the Ice Shows.

"... The operating loss in fiscal 1982 was \$1.1 million versus a \$2.3 million operating profit in fiscal 1981 as a result of the unfavorable factors mentioned above. Operating profit in fiscal 1980 was \$4.1 million. The lower operating profit in fiscal 1981 versus fiscal 1980 was principally attributable to the Ice Show operations.

"... Subsequent to January 30, 1982, the Company sold the traveling circuses and ice shows. The Florida theme park was not included in the sale."

"... Subsequent to January 30, 1982, the Company sold Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows, Inc. (Ringling) for \$22,800,000 cash to a company organized by former senior management of Ringling. The sale price approximated book value including intangible assets of \$11,300,000 (\$4,000,000 acquired prior to 1970). The Company used part of the proceeds to reduce outstanding indebtedness. The results of operations of Ringling and its wholly-owned subsidiary Ice Follies and Holiday on Ice, Inc., are not material to the consolidated results of operations."

The Mt. Sinai Medical Center, Young President's Club, of Miami, Fla., is looking for performers for its Dec. 11th annual ball. Those interested can contact the Center by phoning: 305-431-6142.