

1940'S CHOW CIRCUS ACT



PHILIPPI
A. B. COLLEGE
FIELD

AFTERNOON AND NIGHT
ONE DAY ONLY

MONDAY
AUG. 26

2:00 & 8:00 P. M.

NO RESERVED SEATS

SPONSORED BY PHILIPPI ATHLETIC ASSN.

Sarasota **CIRCUS**

1940's CHOW CIRCUS ACT
at the Sarasota Circus

In the private collection of Sandra Miller



This has got to be the most incredible chow collectibles of all time. When I spotted this circus act poster at auction I couldn't help myself. ...what a find and what a visual thinking of all those chows on high wires and ladders!!!

OK.....Multiple chows doing ANYTHING more than once because you ask them to???? I THINK NOT!!! I had such a laugh at the text on the poster ONE DAY ONLY and only 2 shows . My first thoughts....did the chows actually put out for that 8:00 PM performance.???

Well keep reading....I have a feeling they may have played the "chow card" and maybe now

MR. PAUL LEWIS

is thinking twice about his "trained chow act" ??



I had been actively searching for a full month looking for ANY information regarding this chow act.....even contacting the circus historical society for clues.. Finally with a stroke of

luck and the perfect Google search in Billboard magazine , I struck a gold mine tonight!!

FOR SALE
Fine Working Dog Art, fine **Clown** Shows, two
Sinks, a real money maker. Great **Art**—Milk
para white Angus Mountain Goats, easy to han-
dle and go out big returns. Also like new,
Pony Saddles, English and Western Saddles, va-
rious small Riggers, Saddle Traps, Double Traps,
Trotter Board Riggers, Revolving Balancing Lad-
der including Carrots, Ground Cradle Rigger
for Rings and Travers Bar, Mosch Grind Bar,
Ball Beating Rolling Bar, Street Lights, Floral
Lights, Popcorn Machine, Monkey Horse **Circus**
for Miss **Circus**, Trotter Trotter for Animal Act;
Rolling Globe, 24 inch, for Animals Only; Port-
able Dog Cart; Rucking Mule, fine worker and
beautiful male. We have a barn full of odds and
ends, not going out of business, just cutting down.
PAUL M. LEWIS, Fox Road, Jackson, Mich.

With magnifier in hand and eyes running from serious
eyestrain, I managed to make out the text.

I FOUND MY MISSING LINK!!!!

SOURCE: Billboard Magazine October 11 1947

FOR SALE

Fine Working Dog Act. Five Chow Chows, two Spitz, a real money maker. Goat Act---Eight pure white Angora Mountain Goats, easy to ??? and go over big every where. Also like new, Pony Saddles, English and Western Saddles, Various small Rigging, Revolving Balancing Ladder including Uprights, Ground Cradle Rigging for rings and trapeze bar, muscle grind bar lights, Popcorn Machine, Mickey Mouse Circus for Mice Circus, Teeter Totter for Animal Acts, Rolling Globe, 24 ?????,, for Animals Only: Portable Dog Cages: Rucking Mule, fine worker and beautiful mule. We have a bath full of odds and ends, not going out of business, just cutting down.

PAUL M. LEWIS, Fox Road , Jackson, Mich.

Then as luck would have it , I found a second Billboard Magazine article from April 6, 1946 to back up the first article. I'm sooooo thrilled!!!!!!

Sparks Offers Nifty Program



SARASOTA, Fla., March 30.—
Sparks **Circus** took the road from
here with a nifty, fast-moving pro-
gram.

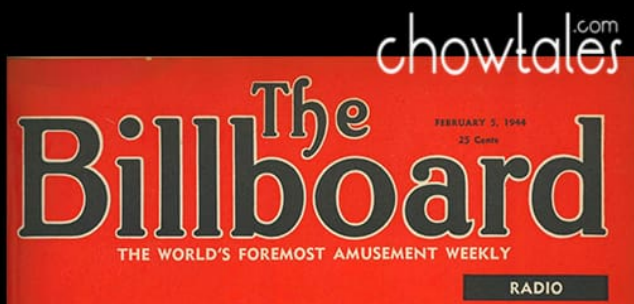
As presented at the opening in Ar-
cadia, Fla., March 22, the program
ran two hours and included:

The former Albert Court wild ani-
mal act, presented by Damoo Dhotre;
Paul Lewis stock, including Liberty
horses, ponies, **chow** and spitz dogs
and mountain goats, presented by
Mae Lewis and Kenneth Poley; Al-
bert Fleet's chimpanzees; Delbosq's
horses; elephants presented by
Whitey Haven and Jerrul Deane; Lil-
lian and Gil Wilson's dogs; the Es-
queda flying act and acrobats; the
Ibarra Family, bars and tumbling;
Jose Fernandez and Anna Mendoza,
the latter doing whirls suspended by
her hair; wire acts of Ray Goody.



Above is a typical circus dog trailer of the day...note the
boxers in the rear doors

BELOW IS A NEW FIND ADDED TO THE ARCHIVE DECEMBER 2016



WE WANT TO BUY

Elephants, Horses and Ponies already broke to work; Young Working Dogs; Chow Dogs, green or broke; Rigging for High Acts.

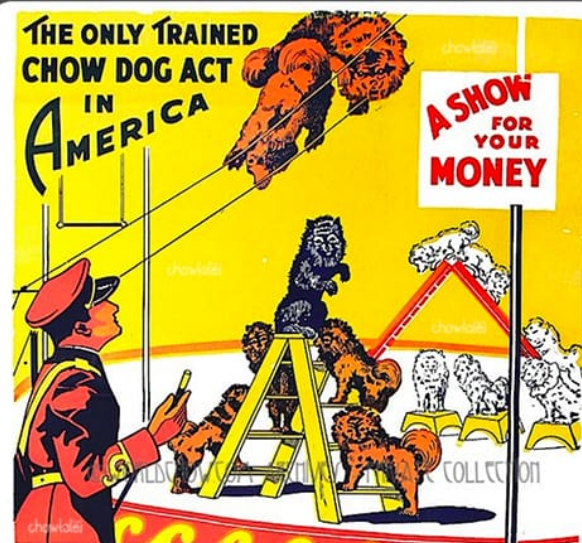
Lewis Bros.' Circus
JACKSON, MICHIGAN

Circa 1944
Billboard Magazine

Want Ad looking to buy
chow dogs (gree or broke)

I love these surprises that show up when you least expect them.

I had written about this rare poster in my collection a few years ago, and today found this advertisement that corresponds with the same decade as the poster. I wonder if it is the same chow dog act?



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