

Big Top Oral History Project

Interview Log

LOC Filename: afc2012003_00288_ms02
Interviewee: Lucy Loyal
Interview Date: September 19, 2011

Minute Mark Topics presented in order of discussion on recording

00:00:00	Introduction
00:00:54	Simple work in the show as a child
00:01:30	Practicing riding act
00:03:06	Working Al G. Kelly Miller and Carson & Barnes Circuses
00:04:26	1956, started performing in show
00:05:29	Considered bareback rider
00:05:39	Other work performed with animals, aerial acts
00:07:03	On juggling, dislike for
00:07:37	On bareback riding act
00:08:25	Breaking horses, father
00:09:35	Father, as smart man
00:10:24	Lessons father passed on
00:13:24	On a typical performance bareback riding
00:17:46	Developed riding comedy routine
00:22:30	Working Ronald McDonald Circus, comedy routine
00:23:56	Performed comedy routine, 1985 through 2002
00:24:39	Teaching family how to ride
00:26:08	Importance of passing on knowledge
00:27:49	Other aspects of circus involved with, outside of performing
00:27:57	Cookhouse
00:28:04	Billposting
00:28:16	Posting arrows
00:30:13	Booking
00:30:42	Favorite circus jobs
00:31:36	On breaking animals
00:33:43	Unbreakable animals
00:34:49	Smart animals
00:37:26	Favorite breed of horse to train
00:38:27	Career span of a horse
00:39:24	Old horses, taking care of
00:40:53	Feeding horses on the road
00:41:41	Baby elephants into the country
00:42:36	Best feed, Amish country
00:43:23	Favorite venue to perform comedy act
00:44:45	More on comedy act with other family members
00:48:12	Work/traveling to foreign countries
00:49:00	Raising a family on the circus
00:50:41	Wanting children, grandchildren to have best of both lives
00:51:27	Typical day on the road with family
00:53:46	Circus kids as street smart

00:55:09 Kids getting in trouble on the lot
00:56:31 Living together on the circus, living together in Hugo
00:57:17 Parties on the show, sports activities
00:58:37 Relations in show business, aunts versus blood aunts
00:59:16 Trip to Oklahoma City with Aunt Torchy
01:02:31 Working Texas dates at age thirteen
01:03:59 Spending time broken down on side of road
01:05:48 About the circus mechanic shop
01:08:12 Meals on the road
01:09:03 B.K.'s cookhouse on Fisher Brothers Circus
01:13:03 First time Lucy met B.K. Silverlake
01:14:51 Sunday movies on Fisher Brothers Circus
01:16:44 Aspirations of going on the road
01:17:47 The draw for going on the road
01:20:35 What Lucy misses most from being on the road
01:20:58 Smell of the lot
01:21:47 On the audience
01:23:44 Walking into the ring
01:24:13 On riding horses, pads
01:29:39 Falling off the horse during a performance
1:30:47 Injury to knee during practice
01:33:45 Visiting son at circus
01:34:32 On watching circus performances today
01:36:46 Cirque du Soleil
01:37:56 On the future of the circus
01:40:28 First exposure of exotic animals to kids in small towns
01:42:48 On remembering Lucy Loyal
01:43:09 Horses getting loose
01:44:23 Lucy's brother
01:46:08 Playing as kids
01:47:42 Wouldn't trade experiences for anything
01:50:39 Looking back on people met as a child
01:52:36 Knowing how to survive without water
01:54:14 Kids swimming in barrels on the road
01:55:52 End of interview