

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH ON

"DIAMOND JIM" PARKER - CIRCUS CLOWN

- Date & Place of Birth:** 9 January 1938, Hastings, Nebraska
- Home of Record:** Hastings, Nebraska
- Education:** Graduate of Hastings High School
Attended Hasting College
- Organizations:** Blue Lodge #50, Hastings, Nebraska (Masonic)
Scottish Rite Consistory, Hastings, Nebraska (Masonic)
Tehama Shrine Temple, Hastings, Nebraska (Masonic)
National Showmen's Association
American Guild of Variety Artists
Circus Historical Society
Circus Model Builders
- Appearances:** Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows
Clyde Bros. Circus
King Bros. Circus
Rudy Bros. Circus
DeWayne Bros. Circus
E. K. Fernandez Shows (Hawaii)
Vargas Circus
Wally Yee's Greater European Shows (Hawaii)
- Other Appearances:** "House of Happiness" TV Children's Show
San Diego, California
Acted as M.C./Clown on personal appearances tour of
Child movie starts - 1962, 1963, 1964 - Jon Provost
(Timmy in Lassie TV show), Flip Mark (Guestward
Ho & Fair Exchange TV show), Dianne Mountford
(Patty of Assignment Underwater TV show).
Numerous parades including the famed "Mother Goose
Parade" in San Diego, California
Publicity clown for Clyde Bros. Circus 1967 which
Involved TV, Radio and Newspaper interviews.

Hobbies:

Collector of Circusiana:

Circus Photo Collection – over 6,000 circus photos

Clown Photo Collection – over 500 clown photos

Circus Music - Records, Tapes and CD's in addition to

Circus Video's

Model Circus in "O" Scale, 1/4 " , 1/8" and HO scales

Model Carnival Shows in HO scale

First Circus Appearance: E. K. Fernandez Shows, 1960

Professional "White Faced" Clown

Career Navy Man - Broken Service and Upon

Retirement from the Navy in 1977 after serving

Twenty years as YN2505 (Intelligence) returned to the
Sawdust ring.

Graduate of Hastings High School

1973 Assistant Dean & Instructor at the Ringling Bros.
and Barnum & Bailey Clown College.

1977 – 1978 Circus Vargas as Secretary to the
President (Clifford E. Vargas), promotional clown and
Producing clown.

1978 – 1979 Office for American Continental Circus
(Gatti Corporation)

1979 – 1980 Bentley Bros. Circus as Secretary to
H. T. Bentley & Charles Clancy as well as producing
Clown.

1981 – 2002 Sergeant for the Florida Department of
Corrections, Hillsborough Correctional Institution.
Retired June 2002.

1986 – Local group of circus model builders formed a
a "ring" and named it the Diamond Jim Parker Ring
#89 of the Circus Model Builders Association of
America. (1 September 1986)

2001 – featured on Canadian TV program Weird
Homes.

2003 – In the process of being designated "A Living
Florida Folklore Artist due to his work building a
Miniature circus and carnival.

Child movie stunts – 1962, 1963, 1964 – Jon Provost

Guestward

Oxford

Jim is considered a carnival, circus and clown
Historian with over 600 photograph albums
With photos from the late 1800's plus. He has various
Appearances both locally and national as a guest

Speaker regarding the circus and clowns.

Publicity clown for Circus Bros. Circus 1967 which

greater interviews

Deceased 21 December 2003