

My Most Treasured Photo
By Ardelle "Dingbelle" Walker



One day during the June 3-9, 1989 program it was announced we could have our picture taken by Roger Grant. The photos would be taken in the North Hall center court (a glassed in open air inner garden area) with both Lou Jacobs and Mark Anthony. That I must have. Nothing was more important for me that day. I went without breakfast and some sleep so as to be the first in line. I was one and a half hours early for the great once-in-a-lifetime photo. It became dark with thunderstorms threatening. However, my prayers were answered when my photo was taken.

Another memory event was trying out for **Clown College**. Steve Smith put us through our paces of instant commands of character. We had exercises with eye contact, wearing a hat, and hand shakes. My partner was Stan Tokarz, the accordion man. We had to fill out a form and the last question, on the last page was 'age'. It was something like "23" as the maximum. I

was presently 73, so needless to say both my partner and I missed it by many years. The heart and energy was eager and ready, but the added years held us back for circus days-but not Clown Camp®.
(Ardelle Walker, Maryland)