

**Billie Gee talks with Mildred Finlon and his daughter-in-law, Pat Gee, about working in the Park and on the Boardwalk.**

**Mr. Gee:** I started cracking whips when I was a kid. It fascinated me for some reason or other. And I started cracking — I'd get a piece of cord and little by little I got enough to buy a whip. And I got a whip. And then I got two whips, then I got three whips. Then I got into it personally, and I kept it up — and I was a young boy then. And I could — anything — I put a cigarette in a person's mouth as pretty as could be.

**Mrs. Finlon:** I know. You tried to get me to do it one time, and I wasn't brave enough. And you did it.

**Pat Gee:** Oh, yes. He never struck me.

**Mr. Gee:** I've never hurt anybody.

**Mrs. Finlon:** Someone told me that you went up to the base to help them with cracking the sound barrier with your whip up at the Navy base?

**Mr. Gee:** Yes.

**Mrs. Finlon:** Mr. Grosvenor told me that you went up there and did that for them up at the Naval base.

**Mr. Gee:** I did, too. I worked at the Navy base, yes.

**Mrs. Finlon:** And when did you come to the Park?

**Mr. Gee:** When I first —

**Mrs. Finlon:** How about the old boardwalk?

**Mr. Gee:** The old boardwalk, I can remember the old board — where they come and checked with me before, I said I was going to have lunch with someone down at Stinnetts — have lunch. And they sat there and told me come over, I want you for the show. And I said, "No, I'm not working for anybody. I'm retired. I'm going to just sit here and take it easy."

"No, you're not. You're going to work for me." And I got Billy Dale, the clown.

And I said, "Billy Dale, I'd love to see Billy Dale."

"Well, you're going to work with him Sunday."

And I said, "Oh, I can do it, I guess." So, I worked for him 17 years.

**Mrs. Finlon:** You gave some shows on the old boardwalk, too; didn't you?

**Mr. Gee:** Yes, and I done a lot of whip art down there on the old boardwalk — and especially in the ballroom where they had the band in. I got a big write-up in there at Chesapeake Beach.

**Pat Gee:** What year was that, Dad; do you remember? Go back and think what year.

**Mr. Gee:** Long before I married Eva.

**Pat Gee:** And you were married to Eva, what? Thirty some years?

**Mr. Gee:** Forty years.

**Pat Gee:** Forty years. So, that made it what? The early '30's approximately?

**Mr. Gee:** Yes, it was around '30.