



7th Year

June 12, 1978

Number 24

C&B for CFA

Members of the Circus Fans Association of America will hold their 1978 annual convention at Dearborn, Mich., July 2-5, with registration starting early on Sunday afternoon, July 2nd, at the Dearborn Inn, opposite Greenfield Village. Later in the afternoon CFA's will gather on the lawn of the Inn to renew old acquaintances and make new ones, while partaking of hot popcorn served from a restored Model T popcorn wagon owned by fan Doug Sowle. An air calliope will provide a musical background.

Following the Monday morning business session and lunch, members will visit Greenfield Village, whose exhibits of Americana include the John Robinson Circus steam calliope and Tom Thumb's carriage. Then members will travel by either paddle wheel boat Swanee or steam train to an ox roast. The Plymouth Community Concert Band, trained by Merle Evans, will be an entertainment highlight of the Koo Koo Club activities, also featuring Jay Marshall, master of legerdemain, and a rundown of old time circus grift by Ward Hall.

Fourth of July will begin with a service conducted by Rev. Robert Dagwell, of McGehee, Ark., in memory of James A. Bailey, born in Detroit on July 4th. Fans will meet, question and chat with circus

greats at a morning symposium, followed by a visit to the Detroit Zoo, a scenic ride thru Detroit to Stroh's brewery, for a meal of German food, along with Stroh's beer, and circus entertainment. The return trip will include views of the Renaissance Center and Cobo Hall.

Carson & Barnes, billed as America's largest
(Continued on Page 30)

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ON ROAD BACK

Word has been received from Roland Tiebor, Sr., retired world famous sea lion trainer, that Andre the sea lion made it in record time this year, swimming from Marblehead, Mass., along the Atlantic coast to his home in Rockport, Maine.

Many folks waited for hours to welcome the sea lion on his return and a prize was given to the person guessing the nearest time of Andre's arrival. In the fall of each year Andre is taken back to the Boston Aquarium for the winter months, then in the spring he is turned loose and each year he swims back to Rockport.

Roland Tiebor, Sr., who had his seal acts for many years on Ringling-Barnum and other circuses including Bertram Mills in England, now resides in Palmetto, Fla., and makes occasional trips to visit his son, Roland, Jr., and his sea lions, at the Benson Wild Animal Farm in Hudson, N.H. where Roland, Jr., has been presenting his stage and water act for the past 15 years.



A. WHITNEY BROWN, juggler and his trained dog have been working San Francisco area dates over the recent holiday.

MIKE STRAKA, former office manager for Circus Kirk, has joined the Staff of PHILIP MORRIS and the World of Fantasy Players, which is headquartered in Charlotte, N.C. Other Circus Kirk people who have joined the Morris organization are DAVID SCOTT and DORIAN GOSSLER.



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TEX and MARCY MAYNARD, musical combo of organ and drums, are at home in Sarasota, Fla. where Tex is working as a Security Guard for the United 1st Federal Bank. Last year they had the music on King Bros. and they are now providing music for the Showfolks Club.

ROBERT LANDERS, of Chicago, recently visited the Hoxie Bros. Circus and reports they had a good show and that everything is clean and neat. He was made Honorary Ringmaster for the day at Palentine, Ill. on May 22nd.

GRACIE HANNEFORD has her trained dogs at Frontier Town in North Hudson, N.Y., for the summer season.

BILL KORMPATES, high act, is working dates in New England. Also working the dates is MARC houseman (Darrell, the Clown).

ALLEN LEONARD, road manager for the circus production dept. of Morris Costumes will tour with the Hanneford Circus when it opens its fall tour on Sept. 8th. He will also serve as vocalist for the show.

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June 3-5 Belleville, Ill.
7-9 Granite City
- Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus
June 12-15 Totowa, N. J.
16-18 Pittsfield, Mass.
- Big Apple Circus
to Sept. 10 New York, N. Y.
- Big John Strong Circus
June 13-14 Kansas City, Kans.
15 St. Louis, Mo.
17 Mascoutah
18 St. Louis, Ill.
- Carden-Johnson Circus
to June 14 Denver, Colo.
- Carson & Barnes Circus - No. 1
June 12 Zanesville, Ohio
13 Cambridge
14 Bellaire
15 Morgantown, W. Va.
16 Oakland, Md.
17 Cumberland
18 Emmitsburg
- Hubert Castle Circus
June 12 Vernon, B. C.
13 Kelowna
14 Penticton
15 Chilliwack
16-18 Vancouver
- Circus Odyssey
June 15-18 Providence, R. I.

- Circus Vargas
June Sacramento, Calif.
- Europorama
June 12 Albany, Oregon
13 Grants Pass
14 Medford
15 Redding, Calif.
- L. N. Fleckles Circus
June 15-18 St. Louis, Mo.
- Hoxie Bros. Circus
June 12 Findlay, Ohio
13 Circleville
14 Chillicothe
15 Waverly
16 Wellston
17 Greenup, Ky.
- Pickle Family Circus
June 17-18 Sacramento, Calif.
- Sam T. Polack Circus
June 16-17 Salt Lake City, Utah
- Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
to June 18 Philadelphia, Pa.
- Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
June 9-11 Huntsville, Ala.
13-14 Little Rock, Ark.
16-18 Memphis, Tenn.
- Wenatchee Youth Circus
June 17 Portland, Oregon
- Wonderful World of Circus
June 14-17 Altoona, Pa.

(More Show Dates on
Several other pages)



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IN A SEASON peppered with accident and tragedy, the gruesome death of dear friend **ELOISE BERCHTOLD** was certainly the most horrifying! I was in Toledo when it happened. For two years Eloise had been featured at the Toledo Zoo, was also a native of Ohio (Cincy) — consequently her death was front-paged and widely discussed by Shriners, CFA members and townspeople who knew her and liked her. Perhaps the person showing the most emotional shock was **PAT ANTHONY** and Pat is not known for a display of emotion, one way or the other; but we were all shocked, and **SANDRA (Pettus) FULBRIGHT** (whose late father was one of the best bull men around) commented: "We were afraid this would happen. We warned Eloise about working male elephants. They are the MOST dangerous. When one comes into 'must' it's uncontrollable. My daddy wouldn't have owned or worked one for anything."

TOM HENDRICKS made and set-up at the back door, a huge memorial poster board bearing a collage of clippings and photos tracing Eloise's start with Cuneo to the present death headlines which were viewed solemnly by performers and public all day Sunday, May 7th.

NEWS: **FRANK PEALER**, Supt. of Circus Vargas, who was away from that show for a while, is now back. . . **SVEN KRISTENSEN** was clawed by a leopard (no facts, at this writing). . . **LOU ANN JACOBS** will appear at the Monte Carlo Circus festival this fall. . . **GEORGE HANNEFORD, Jr.**, is back on the road, but not working. . . It's been reported that **BOB JOHNSON** sold his elephants to **GOPHER DAVENPORT** (no confirmation). . . **ZANITA (Anita Keppo)** has been on the Gatti show subbing for injured **MARTHA SUAREZ** (no details).

SANDRA FULBRIGHT and **RUTH CLARK** described the birthday party **PHIL** and **FRANCINE** tossed for "Baby Dondi", complete with a chocolate cake (decorated with an elephant, naturally), which Dondi scooped up and swallowed in very un-lady-like fashion. Attending were all performers on the date, bearing gifts for Dondi. Kindly tell me **WHAT** sort of gifts does one bring an elephant???

SNAPSHOTS: Hanneford ringmaster **SENROR RAI**, looking like a 1930's Hollywood Russian Cossack, swirled into Toledo to visit the **Barton-Jennier** troupe with an entourage including **Lou Ann Jacobs**, **Pancho Magana**, **Sharon Ward**, **Elaine**, **Mark Karoly** and **Belinda Amandis** who is engaged to marry **GAYLORD MAYNARD**. After the show we departed enmasse for the **Pizza Inn** which will never recover from its frontal assault. . . Sor-

ry to hear **SIR VICTOR JULIAN** is ailing. . . The **WAINWRIGHTS** are doing a new comedy act called the **WIDGETS**. . . **JENNY POLACK** and **SUE DAWLEY** made hospital visits in Toledo, Jen for a bronchial condition, Sue for a nasty knot on her shinbone. . . Word is that **FRED** and **LONI VAN VOORDEN** are no longer with **Circus Vargas**. . . **SAM T. POLACK** became a member of the **Zenobia Shrine Temple** in Toledo. . . Visiting the show were **George DaDeppo**, **Gene** and **Barbara Holmes** and **Patti Rucker**. . . **TOMMY PETTUS** is in England, the rigger for a major rock group, the **QUEENS**.

VICKI UNIS is practicing cloud swing (that's just what we need - one more!), and having a break-away sway pole built at **G&G Metals**. . . 15 months prior to the lead article in **CR (May 8)**, **RON KELLROY** released a front page interview to the **Milwaukee Sentinel** warning of the dangers now facing animal acts crossing the **US/Canadian borders**. . . **JOY HOLIDAY** has recovered from her injury sustained this spring. She and **RON** and have developed an entirely new routine, involving a sensational fire illusion, which they'll unveil at the **Calgary Stampede** in July. After that the pair go to the **Plantation Dinner Theatre** in **St. Louis** for a 15 week run. . . The gal who assisted **SATANI DEMON** became the bride of **ALFREDO LANUS** at the home of **CHUCK** and **MARQUEEN SCHLARBAUM** in March. . . That full page spread on **BARBARA WOODCOCK** in **US** magazine was **Hollywood Glamorpus** ALL the way! . . Each time **BILL STRONG** takes **TRUDY** to the laundromat their pickup breaks down. Now she has to walk, ride a bike, hitch a ride, or hail a cab. . . **WES OLER** booked **VASHEK** and **Ms APRIL** into the **Baltimore Fair (July 6-16)** and set **DON PHILIPS** on a 4 week tour with **Kentucky Rural Electric** the same month. . . **TOM (Popcorn) SINK** played a practical joke on **BEV** and **JIM ROYAL** during their illusion number on **Hoxie Bros. Circus**. They described it to me in detail but I can't figure out how to get it past the censor in **El Cerrito (Sorry about that)**. . . **RUTHIE CLARK's** new cooker just wouldn't get hot, which chagrined the lady no end and tied poor **Frank's** stomach in knots waiting hours to eat. Develops she forgot to turn it on! . . A new cannon act is being built at **G&G Metals** which is rumored to belong to **Tommy Hanneford**. Now everyone is speculating as to **WHO** will be the cannonball.

EVERYTHING you've heard about the **FLYING ESPANAS** is true: It's one of the most outstanding flying acts in the **USA** today, will soon be-

(Continued on Page 28)

TNT & ROYAL OLYMPIC

On Sunday, May 28th, the TNT & Royal Olympic Circus held a "hit the road party" for family and friends at its winter quarters in Garden Grove, Calif.

Acts were not in, but will report to the opening date at Merced, Calif. (June 16-18) another new spot for the show's tour. The event was arranged to check out the new equipment for what is to be the show's longest tour of its 18 year history.

The usual red and white color scheme, together with the silver and red lame drapes and back drop give the set-up an impressive appearance, and will delight the show's many fans and friends. Several other novel twists will be revealed at the opening engagement.

In addition to owner Earl Tegge and family, the party included Mike Sonntag, the show's winter quarters construction supt., and family, plus Carol Peterson, west coast secretary and family; Chuck and Bambi Burnes and their sons Chip and Rick, and other friends and relatives.

The "flag" went up on the cookhouse about 5:30 and plenty of food and drink was available to satisfy the appetites of all present.

PEOPLE

BOBBY KAYE, who is with the Ringling-Barnum Red Unit recently celebrated his 70th birthday, with a party hosted by all the show folks.

The ARWOODS, LYDIA BURKETT, JOYCE RICE, SAUL SHAFTON, the ARMSTRONGS and the OBANDOS TROUPE were all recent visitors on the Hoxie Bros. Circus lot.

The KEHAIQVI TROUPE of teeterboard artists on Ringling-Barnum's Blue Unit is featuring a 7 man high routine. The top mounter is 15 yr. old SYLVIO LASKO, while third from the top is GEORGE KEHAIQVI's daughter DESSIE.

IVAN VLADMIROV, a member of the Bulgarian riding troupe on Ringling-Barnum's Blue Unit is now doing a somersault over two pair of horses and landing on the fourth horse.

JACKIE GLEASON, comedian, appearing in Chicago in the play "Sly Fox" was hospitalized several times and as this paper goes to press he was said to be scheduled for open heart surgery.



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KELLY BROS. CIRCUS

by Bill Green

Kelly Bros. Circus was to have played Beatrice, Nebr. on May 8th, sponsored by the Jaycees. But due to heavy rains throughout the week it was impossible to put up the tent and no suitable indoor location was available at that time. As a result the show was cancelled and the sponsors were promised they would be back when an indoor location could be obtained.

Later an announcement in the paper stated the circus would play in the National Guard Armory on May 18th. No advertising for the new date was used, other than on the local radio station. Because the Armory was not equipped for the show's rigging, etc., the program was curtailed and ran just over an hour.

Dean Cocorod provided the music on his organ and the announcing was handled by Jon Friday. The program here featured: The Bounding Kays (Dianne, Kathy and George) on the trampoline; Hanneford and Little Bobby; Zapepo with clown number; Dianne Hanneford on web; Ron Perry, slack wire; George, Kathy and Dianne Hanneford, riding act; Dianne and Kathy Hanneford, dogs and ponies; Zapepo, the clown; Chuck Kay, illusions; Ron Perry, juggling; the Hanneford elephant act (4).

Attendance at the afternoon show was light, but the night show was well attended. More advertising probably would have helped get people out as many folks didn't know the circus was here.

Everyone was friendly and I enjoyed visiting with them all before leaving. The elder Mr. Hanneford had recently been released from the hospital and was unable to take part in the show.

- * -

(The following notes came from Missouri fans) Kelly Bros. Circus played Sedalia (Mo) after having a blowdown in Chillicothe (Mo) and playing Marshall (Mo) with sidewalls only.

The Sedalia date on May 13th was presented for good crowds considering the fact there was rain and gusty winds of up to 35 m.p.h. No tent was used as the show was in the "Show Me" arena on the fair grounds.

PEOPLE

DIANA HARTZELL and children visited Circus Vargas at Napa, Calif., late last month. Husband JOHN is building trailer units in Santa Rosa, Cal - for carnival people.

JUNGLE WONDERS CIRCUS

by Robert G. Goff

The Jungle Wonders Circus which is currently playing dates in the Pacific Northwest area now features the following program:

Single trapeze act in all three rings, finishing with a neck loop in the center ring; Bob Emrico, circus clown with the giraffe Jargo; Single elephant in each ring; Peanut sales pitch with prizes being offered; Miss Knowles with menage act in center ring; Knowles girl and Ken Benson, juggling; Gopher Davenport with zebra in center ring; Camel in center ring, presented by Gopher Davenport; Clown Bob Emrico with Chicken Plucker gag; Web girls over ring 1 and 3; Ken Benson with trained chimp and an advertisement for Levi overalls; Mrs. Stevenson with 5 trained dogs; A clown Mule act, boy from audience riding it; Gopher Davenport, presenting trained llama; Emrico the clown with fire cracker gag; Ken Benson, whips and ropes in ring 2 and rope act in ring 2; Mrs. Stevenson in center ring with the wonder pony, followed by Miss Knowles with 3 elephants in the center ring.

Aerialist Hurt

Diana Terdick, aerialist, fell about 30 feet while doing an iron jaw number in New York City as a publicity feature on June 1st.

She had just performed 100 ft. above the ground and was being lowered when she apparently lost her grip and fell. She suffered some broken bones and other injuries.

During an evening performance of the King Bros. Circus at Zanesville, Ohio (May 23-24) Sonya and Myrtle Campa fell from the highwire. Local circus fan Edward Jones took them to the hospital where it was discovered they suffered only bruises. They were back performing again at Lancaster on May 26.

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SPECIAL

by Pittsburgh Mike and his favorite side-kick Wilma.

AS THE GOOD BOOK SAYS "She who swings up high for three decades shall never perish, but be discussed in this report."

Karla Wallenda, currently with Dubsy's Royal Palace Circus, wants to continue her SLIDE FOR HER LIFE.

Karla is looking forward to playing at Rockford, Ill., where there is to be a reunion of the Wallenda family.

Mario and Reatta, two of Karla's children, are still carrying on Karl's act. Touring with them are Stephanie, doing the booking and Helen, overseeing as usual.

Ricky has the Wallenda bloodstream, but somehow slid down the wire to become a missionary in Africa. Karla gleams because she believes strongly that Ricky will return to the Wallenda tradition.

The newest attraction in Karla's family is 8 year old Valarie. She is gorgeous and has the Wallenda charisma. She looks much like Liz Taylor's daughter, Liza Todd.

Karla's love is still the next booking, the next town, and the next clapping of hands.

So long as Karla can grill a steak and climb a pole, we circus nuts will still have the joy of seeing one of our dearest.

As a favor to us, if anyone sees Karla down the road, please give her our love and be the first to give her a copy of this article.

We thank God and Karla for this precious interview.



EGYPT LOWRY BURDEN, of Lancaster, Calif., reports her recent surgery was all benign. Egypt is the daughter of ADEN and VELMA LOWRY and back in her high school days was featured in Ripley's "Believe It Or Not" for her amazing ability for contortion work.

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Show Report

by Jim Swafford

EMMETT KELLY, Jr. CIRCUS

The Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus played here in Los Angeles (Calif) the week of May 15-19, presenting two shows each day at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. It was an outside event at the Music Center and was free, with children from all over bussed in for the performances.

The program on the last day included: Nancy Kelly, ringmistress; Emmett, walking a wire on the ground; Sebestyen, poodles; Emmett standing on his hands; Dresto, juggling; Emmett with magic; Fawcett's chimps; Ruth Ann, 40 ft. sponge dive; DeMille, tightwire; Carol Buckley, elephant; Les Geraldos, space wheel; Finale with all show performers. They also had 3 clowns and a 6 piece band.

GREAT Y CIRCUS

On Saturday, May 20th, I caught the Great Y Circus at Redlands, Calif. and they present a super fine circus in a professional manner. The show is featured in the May issue of Sunset magazine.

JOHN STRONG CIRCUS

Over the weekend I also caught the Big John Strong Circus and really enjoyed it. They have a nice show, with just a few people.

Their program featured: The Bickmore Family, risley; Sandy Strong, aerial web; Bill Schrieber, liberty ponies (4); Sandy Strong, birds; Clown and partner; Bill Schrieber, dogs; the Clown boxing match; Color Book Sales; Chris and another girl on swinging ladders, clown follows with a comedy routine on the swinging ladder; Wally and wife on the balancing ladder; Swami Amazo on the bed of nails and eating fire, followed by Chris and the elephant Neena.

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**DES MOINES SHRINE CIRCUS**

by Charley Van Buskirk

the 28th annual Za-Ga-Zig Shrine Circus played the Des Moines, Iowa, Veterans Memorial Auditorium on May 12 to 14. All six performances drew good crowds.

The show was produced by Ralph Zarnow, assisted by his brother, Paul. Musical director was James "Shorty" Selland; lighting was directed by Ray Gulick, with Bill Hildreth in charge of the props and Charley Van Buskirk, ringmaster. Many of the acts were provided by Howard Schultz of Chicago.

The program included: Spec, with all performers plus the Betty Hill dancers and Shrine clowns; Maya Zerbini, single trapeze; Alberti's Poodles; Arwood's Acropups; Jac Cook's comedy car; the Nocks on low wire; the Cyclonians, unicycle; the Shrine Clown gag; the Great Vashek, wire walk; Zerbini riding act; the Reynoso Brothers, aerial; Intermission.

Carzaki (Zerbini), teeterboard; John Nock, balancing; Chase & Park, comedy trampoline; Victor Julian and his Little Stars; the Vashek Duo, motorcycle on cable; Col. Lee and Jeannette Keener, with the Diano elephants; the Nerveless Nocks, swaypoles.

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Acts Named

The program presented by the Hubert Castle Circus at Calgary (May 22-28) featured:

Ronritas, space wheel; Tarzan Zerbini, wild animals; Clowns; Shermans, Paulos and Davids, aerial perch; Carl Li, ares, poodles; Randy & Sylvia, ladders; Ms. Jacqueline, trapeze; Doug Ashton; The Carlos Twins; Roman Schmitt, rhino and elephant; Gary Thomas, elephants; Intermission.

Susan Sheryll's Royal Afghans; the Rock Smith Flyers; "Boomer" boxing kangaroo; the aerial ballet featuring Robin Medina; Johnny Zoppe's Rhesus monkeys; Clowns; the Hernandez Troupe, on teeterboard; Clowns and the Smith-Friel cannon.

Acts featured on the recent New England Magic Show, presented at Boston, include: Walt Cummings, Kohl & Co., Manny Williams, Cha-Nin, Ken Sherburne, Hager & Wanda, Howard Flint (MC) and DeLage and Margaret.



KEN MILLER (Rosko, the Clown) is working a series of dates for the Kodak Co., booked by Paul V. Kaye.

VINCE CARMEN and **PHILIP MORRIS** have produced the magic production "Space Wars" for the theme park "Magic Harbor" for the summer of 1978. Magician **PETER STURGIS** will star in the show.



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New Book

by Bill Green

I have just finished reading "The Ringmaster" by Darryl Poniscan.

Of late the trend of authors of circus books has been to "tell it like it is", but Mr. Poniscan's book hits a new low level in circus fiction.

The writer has been a visitor on over a hundred circuses, from the largest to the smallest, and never have I heard circus people use the foal language which Mr. Poniscan portrays them using in this book. One can hardly find a page in which four-letter words (and worse) are used in conversation with everyone from the owner, band men and performers. And, of course, the roustabouts.

Anyone who has been around circuses knows that this element is inclined to be on the tough side. That is expected. But even they don't talk as bad as the writer has them talking.

One time when my wife and I were watching a large show spreading the canvas, one of the men shouted something obscene to another. One of them walked up to him and tapped him on the shoulder, "Watch your language, Mister," he said pointing to my wife. "There's a lady present."

ROUTES

Circus Vargas

June 12-14 Fremont, Calif.
15-19 Citrus Heights

That ended any bad language around us. So there is a sense of decency among the work crew, too.

I have a great many friends among circus people and I consider it nothing more than an insult to a wonderful group of people that I love and admire.

The circus has done much to educate the general public of it's integrity as a clean, wholesome form of entertainment for the entire family and it is deplorable that a book of this nature should give them the wrong impression of the circus and its people.

Story-wise, the book is quite good. It relates to all of the ups and downs that a circus must undergo in order to keep going and minus all of the filth could be an excellent circus book.

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April 17th thru May 14th - Circus California - Enroute California
May 15th thru 26th - Bentley Bros. Circus - Enroute California
June 3rd thru 5th - Ainad Shrine Circus - Belleville, Illinois
June 7th thru 9th - Ainad Shrine Circus - Granite City, Illinois
June 14th - Kansas City Rodeo Parade - Kansas City, Missouri

OPEN - June 5th thru 21st - OPEN

June 22nd thru 25th - Police Circus - Wheaton, Illinois
July 1st - Grundy County Fair - Morris, Illinois

OPEN - July 2nd thru 23rd - OPEN

July 24th & 25th - Tebala Shrine Circus - Mendota, Illinois
July 27th thru 30th - Tebala Shrine Circus - Pecatonica, Illinois

OPEN - July 31st thru August 8th - OPEN

August 9th - Great Jones County Fair - Monticello, Iowa
August 10th thru 20th - Wisconsin State Fair - Milwaukee, Wisc.
August 21st - Loraine County Fair - Wellington, Ohio
August 26th thru September 4th - Colorado State Fair - Pueblo, Colo.

OPEN - September 5th thru October 15th - OPEN

October 16th thru 21st - South Alabama State Fair - Montgomery, Ala.

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**AMERICAN CONTINENTAL CIRCUS**

by George N. Bukota

The Gatti's American Continental Circus played five shows in two days (May 18-19) at Yakima, Wash. The shows were sponsored by the Yakima County Deputy Sheriff's Association.

The clear, strong singing voice of ringmaster John A. Miller was ably backed by a three-piece band, directed by Herb Miller on brass, and featuring Wilma Wrench at the organ and Dennis Sherman on drums.

"The crowds have been good," said John Miller following the Thursday evening show. "They've been real warm. The weather's been good, too. It was a little windy this afternoon, but tonight was all we could ask for."

The three ring show played in the Yakima Speedway and featured the following acts: Bucky Steeles with lions and tigers, assisted by Barbara Tata; the Hargitas, juggling; the Young Duo, cradle; Lemke's Chimps; Clowns with the camera gag; Miss Martha and Muffet, contortionists; the Cris-

MORE WOES

The Musicians Union and ASCAP have started an active campaign to tabulate the use of musical numbers used by various circuses for which royalties are due. They are also making an extensive investigation into the handling of circus bands and their use of non-union and union members.

tinos, contortionist and balance; the Guerreos, high wire; Bill Brickle's poodles; Intermission and color book sales.

The Coconuts, table tumbling; Miss Kathy, single trapeze; Congo, the almost human gorilla; the Knops, perch pole; Clowns and sharpshooting; the Charles Troupe and the Jurandos, teeterboard; the Flying Wilastons; Buckey Steel and Barbara Tata and the elephants.

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BIG JOHN STRONG CIRCUS

by Robert McCall

The Big John Strong Circus played a two day engagement at Tempe, Ariz., the first such stand of its first eight weeks on the road. Crowds ranged from a half house at one night show to a straw house for an afternoon show. Crowds were enthusiastic at all performances.

Bill Schreiber, performance director, opened the show by introducing John Strong, who made his usual entrance through the audience welcoming those in attendance. Then he took over the ringmaster's job.

The program included: the Balancing Bickmores, risley; Chris Burrell or Marsha Kennington, web; Bill Schreiber, liberty ponies; Evil Bollweevil, the clowns; Sandy Strong, birds; Marsha Kennington and Lu J. Griep, comedy knock-about; Sandy and Bill, dogs; the Clown Boxing Match; Chris Burrell and Marsha Kennington, swinging ladders, followed by a clown on the ladder; color book sale; the Acro-Bics, revolving ladder; Clown with balloon; Swami Amazo, fire eating, sword swallowing and bed of nails; Neena the elephant presented by Chris Burrell.

Pete Moss and Leo Griep were the performing clowns and both did a great job.

The show jumped in from Yuma on the opening day and all were very tired. However, they all got a good night sleep here.

Griep, in addition to his clowning activities, does the Swami Amazo performance, and then conducts a 20 minute side show performance after the main show.

Members of the Roland C. Butler Tent CFA were very active during the show's date here. Members assisted the show personnel during the day and then served dinner to all following the first day's show. A supply of paperback books was also given to the show.

Seen on the lot were: Robert McCall, tent president and wife, Carol; Fred and Fifi Reed; Carl and Giny Helbing; Pete and Sherry Bush; June Curry; Ed Rogers; Joe Rettinger; Mary Rockwell; Phoebe Lou Reed; Herb and Gertie Neuser and Rod Morrison.

Show Dates

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June 16-18 Merced, Calif.

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SPECIAL

The Bumpy Family of young acrobats, who gave up the business at the end of 1977, are living and enjoying "private life". Sandy and her new husband are living in Waukesha (Wisc) and recently visited her sister on the Castle Circus. Steven and his new wife have bought a home in the same state and Jon and his wife are also scouting property in the area.

"Bumpy" the only unmarried member of the family, has been moved to Saddlebag Lake in Lake Wales (Fla) where he is working for his father.

..... Billy Barton

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NEW STAR

Claude Crumley III, the son of Claude and Jeanne Crumley, has at the age of 15 years become a circus star in his own right, doing juggling and rolling globe acts.

He has appeared in his father's dog act since he was 7 years old.

When his father, while appearing with Borger Bros. Circus, became ill in October 1976, at only 13, he presented the Arwood Acro K-9's by himself and made his debut with his juggling act, which has become one of the highlights of the Borger Bros. Circus performances.

He continues to appear with the Arwood Acro K-9's and the Kelly roly boly acts in addition to doing his own act.

FRANK NOELS

FRANK NOELS and wife visited with VELMA and ADEN LOWRY in Kansas enroute to a few days vacation in the Ozarks.

BOBBY BEROSINI has his orangutan working in the upcoming CLINT EASTWOOD movie "Every Which Way But Loose". After the film work is finished they will return to the Las Vegas scene.

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**WENATCHEE YOUTH CIRCUS**

by Anne K. Worl

The Wenatchee Youth Circus opened its 1978 season in Billings, Mon., on May 20th. This is their 26th season and Paul Pugh said they were planning this as their most outstanding year and they certainly lived up to that comment.

Two shows were presented in the Shrine Auditorium and both were straw houses, sponsored by the Sheriff's Reserve.

The performers really did a bang-up job and won plenty of applause from the audience. I hope that everyone who gets a chance to see this show will do so. The band plays circus music for 15 minutes before the program starts and it is a "circusy" band all the way.

Tickets were sold on a family basis at \$9.50 for 2 adults and 3 children or 6 children. The Sheriff's Reserve wanted new radios and were pleased with this, their first venture, and they got the radios they wanted.

This was the first visit if the Wenatchee Circus to Billings and they will certainly be well received anytime they want to return. Paul does a marvelous job and can't be praised enough for what he is doing for the youth of this country.

I don't think it would be fair to single out any one act for praise, for all of them were too good.

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Program

Bad weather conditions in the Chicago area, hampered operations for Berger Bros. Circus during January and February. Some of the dates were rescheduled to March and April (one date was changed three times).

Among the acts appearing on the winter dates were: Joyce Rice, batons and whips; John Armstrong, appearing as Hard Luck Harpo and Johnny Joker; The Giovanni's, plate spinning; Chris Alberti's poodles; the Kelleys, rola bola; the Arrowood Acro K-9's; Claude Crumley III, juggling; Freddie the Clown (Fred Crumley); the Kursawes, (new act with Fred Kursawe and Sylvia Alberti) unicycles and bicycles; Leon and Luba, unsupported ladders and the Karpis Trio, risley.



JIM and SANDY WINDLAND, formerly with Circus Vargas, have joined the No. 2 Unit of Carson & Barnes Circus, which is now playing in the Pacific Northwest. Also joining Carson & Barnes in the Northwest were **KEN "Turtle" BENSON** and **MARK PILGER**.

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— (Died May 1969) —



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Rose Ann
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David

SPECIAL

A news item in the Washington Star of May 31 reports that a car ran into a string of tiger cages as the animals were being moved from the Capital Centre Arena to the show train. None of the animals escaped, and there were no injuries.

Police said the cages were being towed by a pick up truck when the accident occurred at about 11 p.m. The cages, they said, were not equipped with tail lights and the car's driver did not see the cages until he was right on top of them.

When the car's driver did see the cages he slammed on his brakes which caused the car to jump up and off the median strip, swing around in a circle and into the pick-up truck.

PEOPLE

HAROLD and JUDY COATES, trampoline act, recently worked a Sacramento, Calif., date where comedy star MARTY ALLEN was featured. They will be in Sweden next month, doing the trampoline act and Judy will do her high dive.

JOHN STRONG visited with RALPH HARTMAN at San Antonio, Texas, during his show's engagement in that city.

MAILBAG

A letter in the May 29 issue of Circus Report leads one to doubt the ability of Franz Tisch, the elephant trainer at the San Diego Wild Animal Park.

It is a shame that elephant trainers don't get credit for the work involved in breaking animals. How many elephants have been broken by Mac McDonald, Smokey Jones or Hugo Schmitt and are now worked by others? When you work with animals that have a long life span you must expect that they will have several keepers and trainers. Buckles Woodcock has worked elephants started by all the above trainers, yet who would say he's not a great trainer.

Franz is working Sonita, Carol, Jeannie and Tomai (the male), plus Connie and a small African that he trained. I saw Mr. McLennan's show and it was certainly most professional. Mr. Tisch's show is also very good and quite different from Mr. McLennan's. To imply that Franz Tisch is some herd worker who got a lucky break is an injustice to his work and talent.

... Jim Alexander

• THANK YOU •

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Billy Barton (Continued)

come one of the greatest in the world. Two brothers and two sisters perform the act. The girls are excellent leapers, one does a double, one a terrific forward. The act has flair, style, youth, beauty, and gorgeous costuming. HARRY MILLS who manages the act, told me they will go to Europe this fall. If they do, we won't see them here for years!

ODDS N' ENDS: The KLEMENTIS did a one day stint for Hanneford in Ohio in mid-May. . . HARRY MILLS is suffering from a torn tendon in the shoulder. . . The last of the "red-hot-bug" men MURRAY FINE had his chamelions in Toledo, was spotted cutting up jackpots with ETHEL JENNIER in the backyard - they were on Ringling together. . . HERTA CUNEO was seen on the West Coast in late April. . . Hob-nobbing backstage during the Gatti L.A. engagement were PARLEY and ERNESTINE BAER, SIMMONE FINNER, RAUL PRADA, BOB KELLOGG and RBBB wirewalker DANIEL ACOSTA, now walking with the aid of a cane. . . DAVID CHABIRA is VERY unhappy over the "friend" who charged \$300 worth of telephone call's to David's home number, some of were overseas' calls. The phone company let "Da-

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IN MEMORIAM

GERALD F. (Jerry) BANGS (74), retired designer of clown ideas, died at Hanover, N.H., on May 9th. He joined Ringling-Barnum in 1930 and then spent some 20 years on that show producing various clown gags and features. Later he worked on Shrine circuses and independent dates, finally retiring to Lisbon, N.H. At the time of his death he was working on a book about his life in circus business. Survivors include a sister, an aunt, nephew, neice and cousin.

vid "off the hook" but insisted David's mother swear out a complaint against the "friend" . . .

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED THIS WINTER IN MILWAUKEE: RON KELROY was forklifting rolls of rubber matting to the prop truck when an edge of the mat hit the truck causing the truck to slide forward on the ice in the loading dock. Ron did a perfect EVEL KNEIVEL. . . He AND the fork lift failed to make the jump!
See you down the road, luvs.

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PEOPLE

JOE SCHMITT, Jr., clown, and comedian AVERY SCHREIBER, of the Doritos TV commercials, were featured at a recent Frito-Lay picnic in Texas. Joe also worked a May 27th date at the Dallas Northwood Club.

PAM and RALPH RUCKER are expecting an addition to the family in November.

HELEN FERGUSON and her "Flapdoodle Puppets" were recently featured at a shopping mall in Woonsocket, R. I.

THE FLYING PADILLAS, one of several groups recently let go by the King Bros. Circus, are returning to Mexico where it is hoped they can

make connections for an engagement with a show in Europe. Their cousins are currently with Circus Sarrasani.

ANNA FRITZ keeps busy working on wardrobe for Circus Vargas. She recently completed a new blanket for the zebra, and several horses.

Show Dates

Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
June 12-18 Burlington, Iowa

Century 21 Shows - Red Unit
June 12-18 Keokuk, Iowa

James H. Drew Expo Shows
June 12-17 Oakwood, Va.

Doug Henning Show (Magic)
June 13-14 St. Louis, Mo.
16-18 Indianapolis, Ind.

Bob Jones Pet Zoo
June 13-17 Williamsport, Pa.

Kaye Hollywood Elephants
June 14 Kansas City, Mo.

King Arthur the Lion
June 13-17 Waterbury, Conn.

Lin-Rich Animal Circus
June 12-18 Mentor, Ohio

Little Lion Land
June 13-17 Lexington, Ky.

Magic Time USA (Prof. Miller)
June 14 Peoria, Ill.

15 LaSalle/Peru
16 Aurora
18 Crestwood

Rucker's Animals
June 12 Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
13 Lehighton
14 Bangor
15 Hecktown
16 Flemington, N.J.
17 Huntington, N. Y.

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More Info

The recently proposed ban on private ownership of cat animals in California may soon become a law, according to officials in the State's Sacramento office. The bill - AB 2840 - was introduced by Assemblyman Henry Mello in April and if passed would become effective on Jan. 1, 1980.

Assemblyman Mello says his bill would protect both animals and the public. He states that he does not believe animals should be kept caged, but rather that they should be allowed to roam free in their native environment.

Plans for consideration and concern for circus cat acts have brought some response from the Assemblyman's office. A statement was issued about a week ago that the bill was directed at those people who own cat animals and keep them at their homes. There was never any intention to disrupt the normal activity of circuses, parks and zoos, the Assemblyman said.

Just last week Assemblyman Mello's office reported they were making progress on the bill and they were hopeful of its early passage.

At the present time it is expected that circus acts will be exempt from the bill, however, both the animal trainer and the circus will be required to

C&B for CFA (Continued)

wild animal circus, will provide the evening's entertainment, challenging Fans to keep up with the goings on in five rings. The show's 1978 daily program and magazine carries a full page on the Circus Fans Association and other "Friends of the Circus," pegged to the fact that it is this year's CFA Convention show. Also cited are pertinent facts about the Circus Historical Society, Circus Model Builders and Windjammers Unlimited.

Wednesday, July 5th, the final day of the Convention, will begin with a business session. Charles Boas, of Circus Kirk, will be the guest speaker at the banquet at Dearborn Inn.

obtain a state license for their work within the State of California.

"Something has to be worked out," the Assemblyman said, "so just anyone cannot call themselves a circus act, but we don't want to stop circuses and circus acts."

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Turn Down

The U. S. Dept. of Interior, Fish & Wildlife Service, recently refused to grant several applications for importing chimpanzees.

Two sets of laws apply to the chimpanzee, the U. S. Endangered Species Act and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. Both of these laws have their own regulations and requirements regarding the importation of chimpanzees. The U.S. law lists the chimpanzee as a "threatened species" and the other law places the chimpanzee in a similar classification to "endangered" but it only applies when the animal crosses our national boundaries.

The applications for importation of chimpanzees were denied for (1) the primary reason for wanting to import the chimpanzee is to retain the animal for exhibit in an entertainment act or program. The laws do not provide for entertainment as a purpose acceptable or consistent with the regulations. Removal of the chimpanzees from the wild for entertainment is not justified under the laws.

(2) Even though a chimpanzee may eventually be

sent to a colony upon retirement, there is insufficient evidence that this would result in the production of young chimpanzees or that this action will lessen the demand for young chimps from the wild. In addition, there is contrary evidence that indicates these chimps are not able to adjust to a breeding program when they have been raised by humans.

(3) Even though the training and exhibition of chimpanzees is considered by some to be educational, in this case it is not considered conservation education in that this type of education does not enhance the survival of the species in the wild. It does not promote the principles of sound conservation for this species by educating the public on the ecological role or conservation needs of chimpanzees.

(4) The laws prohibit the importation of chimpanzees for primarily commercial purposes. The primary reason for importing chimpanzees is for entertainment and that is considered a commercial activity.



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