



4th Year

April 7, 1975

Number 14

New Show Doing OK

Since its opening date the new Mid-America Circus has drawn good business with some straw houses, report observers in the mid-western area. The show, owned by Parley Baer and Bob Trippe, is making its debut this year, with many acts booked through John Strong's office.

The big top is a tan canvas with red and white striped side-walls. The show expects a new top for its side show sometime before the end of the month.

The program line-up feature includes:--

Sparky, the Clown - come-in
Parley Baer - ringmaster
The Frannsteins - rolling glbes
Tex Goetsch and Ernestine
Clarke - whips
Sparky - the floating cane
Ernestine Clarke - pony drill
Harry Jenkins, Jr. - juggling
Sparky - balloon gag
Tex Goetsch - chimp

(Continued on Page 2)

Work Goes Well

Construction on Phase I of the Ringling Museum of the Circus, at Sarasota, is well ahead of schedule. Museum curator John Hurdle reports "the new building should be completed by late summer."

The roof has been finished on the 200' x 60' room that is to house the Museum's collection of old circus wagons, and they will be moved in shortly.

When the entrance gallery is completed it will be the display area for an exhibition "Circus Through the Centuries."

Miscellaneous

The Cole All Star TV Circus ended its 1975 tour with three big shows at Beacon, N.Y., on March 22nd.

The Dailey Bros. Circus hippo died during that show's engagement in Rockport, Texas, last month.

The entire staff of Franzan Bros. Circus visited Fisher Bros. at Three Rivers, Texas.

Art work on the Carson & Barnes ticket wagon is the work of "Super Dave" Knoderer. He also has a pony drill and plays the calliope for various shows.

The Beatty-Cole show is reportedly traveling with one less elephant truck this season. They still carry their hippo, a big attraction.

FOR SALE

DAILEY BROS. CIRCUS PROGRAM
-- 1950 --

This was the last year the show was out. Includes pictures of movie stars who visited the big circus.

\$ 5.00

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JACK BENNETT

Box 362

Miami, Okla. - 74354

New Show (Continued)

Harry Jenkins, Jr. - clown and balancing eggs
Miss Dale Baer - singe trapeze
-- Intermission --
Harry Jenkins, Jr. - gorilla parody
The Frannsteins - plate spin'g
Tex Goetsch - circus elephants
"Babe" and "Queen"
Harry Jenkins, Sr. - organist

PEOPLE

DON CARR is back on the Carson & Barnes Circus, working elephants and a cat act.

DIANE KELLY has taken over the late TEXAS TOMMY's dog act with Fisher Bros. Circus.

JON FRIDAY is again touring with Sells & Gray Circus after a years absence. He is the show's side show manager.

CORRECTION

The caption of the picture on Page 5, of the Feb. 24, 1975 Circus Report was in error. In that picture (l.t.r.) are: Bob Zenero, Starr De Belle and Bette Leonard.

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William Kay Circus ...JOHN GOODALL, Jr.

This year's annual Zor Temple Shrine Circus, at Madison, Wisc. (Feb. 28-Mar 2) was produced by William Kay, who also served as the show's announcer. The band was directed by John Malett.



Featured in the show program were:

Clown warm-up -
Blinko & Maran
Announcements
Musical Overture

St. Armand Troupe - trampoline
Tommy's Basketball Playing Dogs
The Nokomis Duo - balancing
Marinka Padalesko - aerialist
The Clowns
Tajana - lions and tigers
Les Medinas - aerial ladder
The Clowns
Sanger's Riding Academy

-- Intermission --

The Flying Lar-Kays
Tajana - Black leopard and an elephant
The Keppo Sisters - rolling globe
Clown number
Pachydermic projectiles
The Edwardos - cyclists
Clown number
The Hunneford Family - riding at
Sensational Stars - sway poles
Exit Marches

In Memoriam

TILLIE KEYS (74) widow of the late Chief Keys, whose Indian numbers were presented on several circuses. She died on Feb. 10 at Locust Grove, Okla. Survivors include a daughter, Mary Thorn, of Oklahoma City.

BORDER VISIT

Late last month the Circo Los Muchachos played at Reynosa (Mexico) and did very well for themselves. All their trucks are diesel units, the tent is blue and red and everything looks really great.

They have an outstanding performance, with no fill-in acts at all. The prop boys and the concession people are clean and neat and everyone is really very considerate and polite.

One thing about this show, they have no hard selling like here in the States. They have no side show, no pitches and no rip-offs.

.....Jack Bennett

New Addition

Bob and Jeanne Moore are the proud parents of a daughter -- Mollie Anne -- born on March 13th at 6:15 a.m. The new arrival weighed in at 6 lbs 12 ozs, and both she and mother are doing fine.

Bob is the son of the well-known dog trainer Dwight Moore, and is head trainer at the Nugget Casino in Sparks, Nev. He was a protege of the late Slivers Madison.

ROUTES

Allen's Pet Zoo
Apr. 9-13 Reedley, Calif.

Carson & Barnes Circus
Apr. 6 Pleasanton, Tex

Hubert Castle Circus
Apr. 7 Mitchell, S.D.
8 Chamberlain
9 Huron
10-12 Sioux Falls
13-15 Yankton

Circo Americano
Apr. 10-20 Bayamon, P.R.

Circus Vargas
Apr. 9 Escondido, Cal.
10-15 Torrence

Franzan Bros. Circus
Apr. 7 Jacksboro, Tex
8 Bridgeport
10 Nocona
12 Royse City
13 Commerce
14 Leonard

Gatti-Charles Amer. Cont'l
Apr. 12 Porterville, Cal
13 Visalia

Hamid-Morton Circus
Apr. 7-12 Harrisburg, Pa.

Hanneford Circus
Apr. 8 Rochester, NY
11-13 Morristown, NJ

Geo. Hanneford Circus
Apr. 3-9 Gainesville, Fl

Holiday Hippodrome
Apr. 7 Hubbard, Ohio
8 Cambridge
9 Marion
10 Zanesville
11 Lima
12 Findlay
13 Toledo

Hoxie Bros. Circus
Apr. 7-8 Fayetteville, NC
9 Hartville, SC
10-11 Columbia
12-13 Augusta, Ga.

Kaye Cont'l Circus
Apr 11-13 Terre Haute, Ind

King Bros. Circus
Apr. 10 Statesboro, Ga.
11 Martinez
12 Allendale, SC
13 Waterloo

Mid-America Circus
Apr. 7 Tulsa, Okla.
8 Broken Arrow
9 Lawton
10 Iowa Park, Tex

Mid-America (Continued)
Apr. 11 Denton, Texas
12-13 Hurst

Polack Bros. Circus
Apr. 10-13 Los Ang, Cal.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
Apr 10-13 Charleston, W.Va

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
to May 26 New York, NY

Royal Bros. W. W. Circus
Apr. 6 Congrers, Ga.

Sells & Gray Circus
Apr. 7 Bay St. Louis,
8 Picayune Miss
10 Amite, La.
11 Covington
12 Chalmette
13 Reserve

Bob Snowden Circus
Apr. 10-13 Manchester, NH

Wallace & Rogers Circus
Apr. 11 St. Helena, Ca.
12-13 Petaluma

.... OTHER ROUTES

Royal Lipizzan Show
Apr. 8 Ithaca, N.Y.

Longhorn Rodeo
Apr. 10-13 Detroit, Mich

Polack-produced SHRINE CIRCUS....by **TOM MORRISON**

After a two week layoff, following their Albany, N.Y., engagement, Polack Bros. came into Canton, Ohio, for a March 20-22 stand. The auditorium here seats 4,850 and the management reports show attendance amounted to:--

Thursday - 7:30 pm	3425	Saturday - 10:00 am	3993
Friday - 4:00 pm	1439	2:30 pm	3150
7:30 pm	3152	7:30 pm	3488

For this date several high school musicians, along with some local musicians, were hired for the three days. The band was directed by the high school music instructor and they were in trouble all the way. Cues were missed, the band played the wrong numbers and often while announcements were being made. Certainly Don Nothdorft had a miserable time trying to run the show.

To compound the problem, the men on the spotlights apparently never worked a circus before as they had no idea of where or when to train a light. It was a bad situation with everyone - the acts and public - suffering.

The program featured: -

The Donnert Family - clowning
The Jericos - springboard leaps



Ada Smieya - tigers and lion

In Memoriam

GEORGE E. EMERY (70) former placement official at the University of Massachusetts, and a former clown with Sells Floto Circus, died at Northampton, Mass. on March 1st.

The Appollos - cloud swing
Miss Francesca - single trapeze
La Mafalda - sword balance
The Donnerts - clown car
Brickle's Poodle Review
Don Nothdorft - trunk illusion
Pom Pom Donoho - baby elephant
Zamperla Family - trampoline
Geronimo - high dive
-- Intermission --
Segura Family - roly poly
Napoleans Bareback Riding act
De Mille - tight wire
The Donnert clowns
The Jordanas - upside down cycle
Tom Donoho - circus elephants
The Donnert clown band
Ross Martin Flying Return act

FLECKLES Annual Circus

....by JOHN GOODALL, Jr.

Residents of the Chicago (Ill.) area were treated to a real strong circus program, produced for the Medinah Temple by L. N. Fleckles for March 3-23.

The circus performance was highlighted by the appearance of the Marilee Flyers, who present a great act, ending with a double passing leap. They use some good music (fast played Aquarius and Let The Sunshine In). The act was founded by Lee Stath, one of the catchers, and features Tony Steele, who reportedly was the first person to do a 3½ somersault -- at Monterey, Mexico -- with Lee Stath catching.

The show's staff included:--

L. N. Fleckles - Exec. Director
 Dorothy Winn - Gen. Mgr/Director
 Al Youngman - musical director
 Hans Rode - prop boss
 John MacKay and Happy Kellems -
 Producing clowns

Program features were:--

Opening overture
 Guy Gossing - tigers
 La Bella Raquel -
 cloud swing
 Sensational Vino Ven-
 ito - sword balance

The Clowns

Tony Steele - dive of death

Cimsie's trained dogs

The Clowns - at the dentist

Aerial Ballet "Babes in Toyland"

featuring Rosemary Rode

Miss Joanna's doves

The Clowns - the love machine

The Marilee Flyers

-- Intermission --

The Cycling Wizzards - cycles

Bobby Berosini's Orangutans

The Palace Duo - aerial cradle

Jorge's Unpredictable Ford

Clowns - a tug of war

SHOW DATES

The Hanneford Circus was playing at Jackson, Tenn., when that area had some excessive rains, which caused the Governor to declare Tennessee a disaster area. Fortunately, the circus was playing indoors and the jump to Owensboro was by way of an interstate highway, so the trip was uneventful.

At Chapel Hill the show day and dated the Nordmark and Hood Circus and there was plenty of visiting between the two circuses. There have also been a lot of visitors recently from the Holiday Hippodrome show.

.....Hugo Marquardt

Arturo Segura - bounding rope

Clowns - the hot dog

The Young Troupe - teeterboard

Oscar Cristiani's elephants

The Rosell Troupe - high wire

Grand Finale - with all performers carrying American flags
 - Joanne Berosini as Statue of Liberty and Bobby Berosini as Uncle Sam.





ON MARCH 21st, Dorey Miller and Ted Bowman took the 1975 edition of Carson & Barnes Circus into Paris, Texas, for their opening engagement. They played to fair houses with a program that ran over two hours, even though all of the acts had not yet arrived.

On the jump to McKinney, the next day, two units blew their motors. The lot was soft and while there was plenty of help, they were all green.

Early Sunday morning, Mar. 23rd, five members of the Northeast La. Shrine Club drove some 200 miles to visit the show. The club hopes to arrange some October bookings for the circus.

We arrived at the lot during a thunder storm and were told by the local sponsor (Lions Club) that the 2 p.m. matinee wouldn't be held until 4 p.m. A quick glance revealed why - nothing was in the air, trucks were hub-deep in the mud, all over the lot and units were still coming in from the Saturday town. Only the big top stakes had been driven.

According to Dorey Miller there had been a tornado warning and he wanted to wait for some further news before getting the show up. In the meantime elephant power was used to drag the trucks to solid ground.

By 1:30 p.m. the rain had stopped and two bulls "snaked" the canvas truck across the lot. Soon the midway was being set up and by 3 p.m. the big top was almost ready to go up.



Despite the weather there were lots of spectators and lots of cars were being parked nearby in anticipation of the circus performance. Under normal conditions this would have been an ideal lot - green and firm.

Whitey Black was busy with the visiting committee, Dorey Miller was everywhere, as was Ted Bowman, finding an answer to each new problem and helping in every way possible.

What thoughts the Shrine Committee had, I don't know. They certainly saw the show under the worst possible condition -- but to an old Circus Fan like myself it brought back memories of the railroad shows of the '30s and their daily problems.

Certainly Dorey Miller and all the others deserve to be congratulated for getting the show into operation. They really worked hard that day.

..... M. L. Dupont

R - B Wins Recognition

The Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus has been granted official recognition by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration (ARBA) for its Bicentennial program which will be featured during 1975 and 1976.



In announcing the official designation, John W. Warner, Administrator of ARBA said: "The Circus has played a major role in the entertainment history of our nation. This Bicentennial program will not only provide inspiration to the millions who will see the special Bicentennial Salute from Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey, but will provide the means to rediscover this important part of our nation's heritage."

In addition to the 1975 and 1976 productions of The Greatest Show on Earth, which are entirely dedicated to the Bicentennial, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey projects include:

- * - Development of free educational materials on the history of the circus for use in schools, including an instructor's teaching guide.

- * - A 30 minute motion picture for use by schools and civic groups

- * - Over 250,000 free tickets to the circus to those who otherwise might not be able to see the patriotic show

- * - Special performances at reduced rates for senior citizens and students, and visits by performers to hospitals and nursing homes to present segments of the show to patients

Ringling-Barnum officials

PEOPLE

The VAN DONWENS and their seals will be at the Mall in Morris, N.J., the week of May 22-26.

JERRY BOOKER had his Easter Animal Show at Hillsdale Shopping Center in San Mateo, Calif. the week of March 24-29.

AL STENCIL has been busy the past few months booking his Royal Bros. Circus in Canada.

V. H. Richardson recently returned from a vacation trip to Texas where he visited with several circus friends.

GUZMAN & MONIQUE will be performing their aerial feats at Philadelphia, the Veteran's Stadium, on April 11th.

estimate the extra costs of the Bicentennial program will amount to \$2 million, which will be absorbed as a special gift to the American people.



THE FAMILIAR orange and white striped big top of Circus Vargas was set up on a rather tight lot at Vincent and Glendora in West Covina (Calif.) just south of the San Bernardino Freeway for 12 performances on Mar. 27-31. The top shows numerous patches and reportedly a new one -- solid orange -- is on order.

The midway has the ticket office and side show on the left; and the menagerie/ petting zoo, pony ride, space walk and concessions on the right. Weather was cool and surprisingly clear, thanks to some wind, but it was good circus weather and the crowds were out in full force.

The handsome program sells for \$1.00 and is left over from last year, but a new one is due out soon. Music is still provided by a two piece band (organ drums) which does a creditable job, but additional musicians would enhance the show.

The program remains pretty much unchanged (see Circus Report of Feb. 10, 1975), and the clowning is to be strengthened with the addition of more people in that department.

New to the show this year is Billy Baker who presents the liberty horses (8) in a fine drill. Semon's Chimps deserve credit for a fast-paced act, and the Clementis provide one of the best presentations of bicycle wizardry seen in a long while. The circus means elephants, and Circus Vargas has them - seven bulls, including an African under the capable guidance of Wally Ross.

Everywhere the high quality

PEOPLE

MILLIE WARD, former circus flyer, now works for Barry Ashton's costume facilities.

CHESTER SHERMAN, clown, has suffered a stroke and his condition is reported to be serious.

DAVID E. REID visited Hubert Castle when his circus played in Portland, Ore. and that area.

PAUL FITZPATRICK caught the Allen's Childrens Magic Circus during an engagement at Forest Park, Ga.

of costumes was in evidence. All in all, this show comes across as a good clean professional under canvas show.

This writer extends a special thanks to Bill Biggerstaff for his generous time and courteous considerations, despite his hectic schedule which now includes responsibility in a couple of areas, including handling the front door.

..... Herbert B. Ueckert

YEARS AGO

North Adams, Mass.
June 25-26, 1922

The Sparks World Famous Shows arrived here on a Sunday morning, coming in from Northampton.

The circus is on one train of 14 cars (4 horse cars, 6 flats, 4 sleepers) and they have some 30 wagons, 6 cages, 6 elephants, 4 camels and 8 ponies.

Their 15 tents include: a 4 pole big top; 4 pole menagerie; 4

pole No. 1 side show; 4 pole No. 2 side show; 3 pole dressing tent; 4 pole dining tent; 1 pole cookhouse; 1 pole blacksmith shop; three 5 pole horse tents; 3 small tents and a concession tent.

The dining room has 20 tables, there are two baggage horse tops and one tent for the ring stock. They have 40 red and 60 blue stringers.

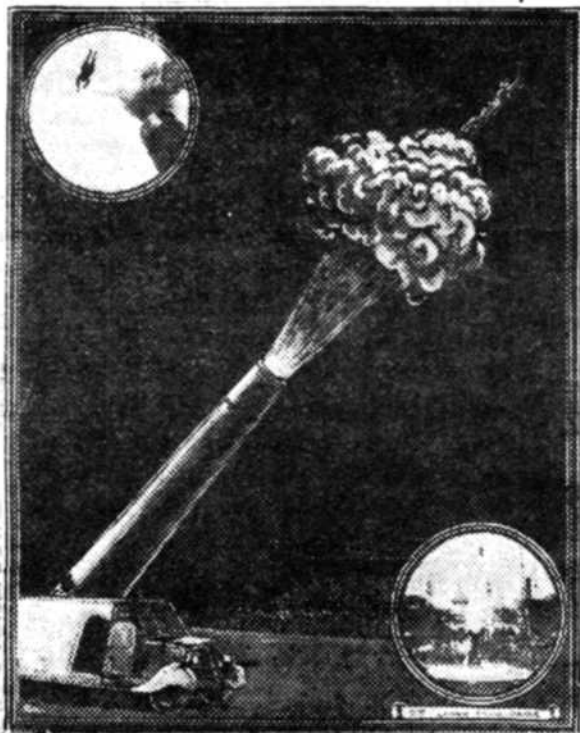
The colors are: wagons, red body with yellow wheels. The flat cars are yellow, while the stock cars and sleepers are red and yellow.

The wagons include: steam calliope, side show, side show tab, No. 2 side show, tab wagon, lights, tickets, canvas, menagerie tab, stake & chain, stake driver, poles and stringers, red planks, jacks, props, dressing room tab, water wagon, cookhouse, air calliope, blacksmith and horse tents, blue planks, blue planks and ring curbs, performing animals and six cages.

They left here on Monday night for Troy, N.Y.

HELP ! !

Tell your friends and neighbors about Circus Report. We can use more news and certainly want more readers.



VITTORIO ZACCHINI 1932
"The Human Cannon Ball"



HATING CLYDE MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE, THE TIGER RISES ON HIS HIND LEGS AND SPRINGS AT HIS TRAINER



FIRING SEVERAL BLANKS INTO SNIP'S FACE, CLYDE BACKS HIM UP TO THE CAGE.



THE OTHER TIGERS HAVE BEEN CORRALLED, AND SNIP DASHES FOR THE OPEN GATE IN THE CAGE



THAT WAS GREAT WORK, CLYDE

THANK GOODNESS NOBODY WAS HURT

ROY THUMPHREY

Hunt Show Ready

Everything is ready for the opening engagement, which is less than a month away, according to officials of the new Hunt's Circus. The show will be opening at Florence, N.J., on May 1st and plans to tour, close on Labor Day at Dover, Dela., for some 110 dates.

This will be "the most revolutionary" circus on the road today, says H. T. Hunt. "We think we have something quite unusual."

The circus will use a red, white and blue tent and its seating will be all steel folding chairs. The show will travel on 20 semi-trailer units, and its midway will be covered with a canopy to protect patrons from the sun and rain.

The circus program, consisting of 20 acts, will be directed by Louis Munoz. The canvas is in charge of Chi Chi Pierce, while the advance crew is headed by Tom Stanfield. Press and public relations are being directed by H. T. Hunt and Floyd King. Office manager is Walter Long.

As a special feature patrons will be treated to a free Punch & Judy Magic Act, presented by the Amazing Shafton, before each performance. Other special features will include a Petting Zoo & Menagerie and Emperor Haile Selassie's personal auto.