



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

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Number 1

READY TO GO

The annual three months winter tour for the Cole All-Star TV Circus is scheduled to get underway on Saturday - Jan. 12th. The show, owned and managed by James M Cole, will tour the eastern states as a fund raising program for various schools and civic groups.

"We'll tour as long as we can get gasoline," says Mr. Cole. "We can't find out anything to be of help to us. It is a mess."



Featured on the show's 1974 program will be:

Miss Chano - aerial ballerina
Super Sonic Magicians
Popcorn, the Clown
The Marcelli Duo - jugglers
Miss Jessica - tight wire
Clown feature
Miss Linda Karl - aerial ladder
-- Intermission --
Miss Jessica - single trapeze
Miss Brandon and her dog revue
Popcorn, the Clown
(Continued on Page 2)

the Bad SEASON

Last year was a bad one for the Krony Circus, of Mexico, says show owner Alfredo Gonzelz. Something was going wrong all year long, he added, and even our annual Christmas party was cancelled

According to Gonzalez the show's 7 lions, a chimp and hippo all died last year. Then just before the holidays a performer was killed when a cannon accidentally went off while he was standing in front of it. (see Circus Report for Dec. 24, 1973)

Two other high wire performers spent the holidays in bed because of their injuries. One was in a hospital, while the other was in his trailer, with a cast on one leg.

An upcoming performer lost a leg when one of the big circus poles fell and crushed him into the earth. Now he gets around with the aid of crutches, doing whatever he can around the circus.

CHARLES BROS. CONTINENTAL CIRCUS

A tour along the Atlantic Coast, that will last from April to Sept., is planned for the initial tour of the Charles Bros.

Cont'l Circus. The show, which is making its debut this year, will present preview performances at West Hartford, Conn. as an indoor circus on Feb. 19-20.

For its summer tour the circus will be using a 110 ft x 150 ft big top, which is green and orange, with red and yellow trim. The side show top will be 50 ft x 70 ft. Rolling equipment includes a spool wagon, stake driver, rest rooms and other necessary items, acquired from the Circus Bertok.

Personnel for the show will include:

Charles F. Moyer - owner/gen. Agt
 Jessie C. Moyer - co-ordinator
 Felencio Segrera - slack wire
 and juggling
 Celestino Zanudio - risley and
 balancing
 Cristina Abelleira - dogs/anim.
 Les Claxton - drummer/electric.
 Stanley Penny - side show canvas
 boss/fire eater/magic

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Many Shows

The various circuses that played within the San Francisco, Calif. Bay area last year are listed below. The shows are listed in the order in which they arrived, and no attempt is made to mention those which came in for two or three occasions.

George-Matthews Circus
 Polack Bros. Circus
 Rudy Bros. Circus
 John Strong & Son Circus
 Royal International Circus
 Yerkes Continental Circus
 Miller-John Circus
 Gatti-Charles Circus
 Happytime Circus
 Allen's Petting Zoo
 Jett's Petting Zoo
 The Las Vegas Circus
 Europorama
 Ringling-Barnum Circus
 Key Bros. Circus
 Kaye Continental Circus
 De Wayne Bros. Circus
 PAL Circus
 Early American Circus
 Bechtel Circus Party
 The Hippy Circus

READY TO GO (Continued)

The Great Chandler - illusions
 The Great Roland - high wire
 Popcorn, the Clown
 The Eastwoods - teeterboard

(The show's route will be carried regularly in the route section of Circus Report)



LOUDY 74 SCENE

The energy crisis could change everyone's way of life, forcing us to plan close to home activities for our leisure time. One solution to the problem would be to bring entertainment to local communities, thereby eliminating the need for long drives in search of recreation.

Small mobile units could bring all sorts of entertainment to the local areas, playing vacant lots, shopping centers, etc. Thus small circuses would have the edge on the big shows, for they can play local communities and move on a minimum amount of gas.

According to the experts small mobile units could serve up to 200 persons at a time, while 40 individual cars might be required to get that many people to a nearby park or recreational activity.

Mobile recreation is not a new concept. It dates back to the singing minstrels and traveling troupe presentations of Shakespeare's day. In fact during the early days of America all sorts of small shows were on tour, bringing entertainment to each little hamlet.

Another possibility, the experts say, is the return of vaudeville. Such shows could be presented at every local movie theatre, offering a relatively new form of entertainment for people who no longer get out on long drives.



Xmas Show

An enthusiastic crowd turned out for the John Strong Christmas Circus at Oakland, Calif. (Dec. 21) despite a heavy rain, which was accompanied by thunder and lightning. It was the third year the North Oakland Optimist Club had sponsored the circus. Officials were pleased with the show and announced it would be back again in 1974.



The program was announced by John Strong and music was by tape recordings. The show ran 1 hr. 35 min. including an intermission for the sale of circus souvenirs.

Featured on the program were:

- Clown warm-up
- Timmy Bickmore - magic
- Ron Perry - juggler
- The Tates - trained dogs
- The Clowns - A long shirt
- Miss Jan - single trapeze
- Arthur, the trained Macaw - presented by John Strong
- Sparky - the floating cane
- The Wal-Tims - risley/acrobats
- Intermission --
- Ron Perry - slack wire
- Clowns - The Hot Dog sandwich
- The Tates - comedy bicycle
- Clowns - The Boxing Match
- Clerk Craig - "Neena" the elephant
- Santa Claus

EXTRA NOTE

Mexico's Krony Circus also reports that their elephant died and the big top burned in 1973.

routes

Cole All-Star Circus
Jan. 12 Shickshinny, Pa.
Great Moscow Circus
to Jan. 14 Christchurch, N.Z.
Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show
to Jan. 13 New York, N.Y.
Voorheis Bros. Circus
Jan. 10 Alma, Mich.
11 Open
12 Evert
World Festival of Magic
Jan. 8-13 Washington, D.C.
..... OTHER ROUTES

Fiesta Folklorico
Jan. 8 Orlando, Fla.

Holiday on Ice
Jan. 8-20 Los Angeles, Cal.
Ice Capades
Jan. 9-13 Edmonton, Alta.
Indp't. Showmen's Assoc.
Jan. 11 Gibsonton, Fla Meet'g
13 Gibsonton(Dinner)

Indiana Assoc. of Fairs
Jan. 6-8 Indianapolis, Ind.
Kansas Assoc. of Fairs
Jan. 7-9 Topeka, Kans.
Nat'l Western Stock Show
Jan. 11-20 Denver, Colo.
Peter Pan Show
Jan. 9-13 St. Louis, Mo.

PEOPLE

FAY SNYDER had her animals at the Oak Knoll Naval Hospital (Oakland, Calif.) on Dec. 22nd.

HELEN WALTERS and MARGARET McKAY hosted a New Year's party for show folks at Hugo, Okla. on Dec. 31st.

GLEN RANDALL is breaking liberty horses for Circus Vargas at Thousand Oaks, Calif.

JOHN CUNEO is wintering at the Great Western Livestock Exposition (Los Angeles, Cal) and not at Thousand Oaks as was previously reported.

PETE PEPKE reports he visited the Beatty-Cole, Sells & Gray and Hoxie Bros. Circus last year.

TOM UPTON will show his Old Time Vaudeville and Comedy films (16 mm sound) at the Oakland, Calif. Library on Jan. 11 at 2 p.m. Then on Jan 14th he show a variety of color slides at 7:30 pm.

REX WILLIAMS is wintering his elephants at Bradenton, Fla. at the Diamond S Rodeo Show winterquarters.

JOHN MURRAY, an RBEB Clown College graduate, will

be touring with the Hanford Circus this year. He is from Berkeley, Calif.

FRANK and BERNICE DEAN are readying their wild west acts (knife throwing, whips, sharpshooting and ropes) for dates this year

JANET and FRANK BURGERS's newest act "Uncle Frank's Ham & Egg Revue" features 6 pigs and three chickens.

BOB SHEETS, magician, is working at Marcos in Coronado, Calif. A few years back he was with John Strong's Circus doing magic and fire eating.

GUNTHER GEBEL-WILLIAMS and TANYA, the elephant, will receive "Entertainer of the Year" awards on CBS TV the night of Jan. 26th.

AL STENCELL, of Royal Bros. Circus, visited the Circus Memories Museum at Fryeburg, Maine, in Dec.

FRANK NOEL and family are wintering at Wichita, Kans. He plans to add a chimp with his acts for the 1974 season.

DAVE KNODERER is painting trucks for Barnes & Dailey Circus.

FOR THE KIDS

The 12th annual circus party for underprivileged and handicapped children, presented by the Paul Eagles Luncheon Club, hosted some 1,100 children at Long Beach, Cal.

on Dec. 11th. In addition to the circus program each child was provided with a balloon, cotton candy, pop corn, etc.



The circus program was presented under the De Wayne Bros. big top, donated by Jerry and Cliff Mosley. Balloons were set up by Ronald MacDiarmid, while Robert W. Babcock provided the cotton candy. The Kent Landsburg Paper Co. and Philippe's restaurant provided facilities for serving food to the youngsters. Additional assistance was provided by Allen Meyer, Special Events Director for the County Hospital.

The program, announced by Irving C. Damond, included:

- Miss Susan Mosley - ponies
- Danny Reese - juggling
- Miss Sue Morris - swing. ladder
- Prof. Wm. Patterson - magic
- Darrel Ferges Trio - trampoline
- Miss Margo - one finger stand
- Miss Suzette - Spanish web
- Miss Kari Jones - with baby elephant Tika (Smokey Jones)
- Larry and Gary Johnson with elephants Sammy and Jenny
- Harry Jenkins, Jr. with De Wayne Bros elephant Bimbo

Clowns on the show included: Twinkle (Johnny Day), Blossom. (B.

YEARS AGO

Hurlburt & Hunting's Consolidated Shows of 1886 was owned by Hurlburt and Hunting. Prof. J. E. Campbell was the band leader, while M. J. Ricardo was ring master.

The show played Rockville, Md. on Aug. 19th and offered a street parade at 10 a.m.

For the 1887 season this show was combined with Frost's and toured on rails.

Dannatt), Joey, the Clown, Jimmy Page, Frenchy the clown, Perkie, (Geo. Perkins), Live Wire (Harry Jenkins, Jr) Mr. Blossom (D. Dannatt).

The circus band was under the direction of Don Heaston, and was provided through the courtesy of the AFM. Those in the band were: Al Anderson, Sonny Anderson, Maury Castleman, Ken Olson, Geo. de Ruebens, Ronald Orse, Irving Williams, David Rice, Tracy Heaston and Jim Selover.

HOSTS were: Bill Arthur, Pat Graham, Joe Colby, Frank Dean, Val de Leon, Enoch Brafford, Harry Jenkins, Sr., Robert "Smokey" Jones, Robert Kellogg, Albert Webb Glenn Harrison, Frank Chicarello, Charles W. Ross.

HOSTESSES were: Adana De Witt, Rose Engler, Faye Feste, Jean Forsee, Gloria Friedman, Vivian Graham, Jean Hight, Gainelle Perkins, Bernice Dean, Carol Perkins, Mamie Wurzel.

rolling along

Plans for the upcoming season are moving along smoothly for the Barnes & Dailey Circus, with many people already signed to make the 1974 tour. Included among the feature attractions will be a five pony liberty drill and "Heels" the January mule. This latter animal has made two wild escapades thus far (see Circus Report for Dec. 10th, 1973). His latest escape included almost putting a hole in the mailman's car radiator.



Among those people who have signed for the 1974 tour are: Jim and Sandy Windland, who are working on wardrobe and will handle the midway; Bob Green organist; Sonny and Dot Burdette, jugglers; Diane Wilson, birds, seals and balloons, plus Ron and Willie Bacon and Cleo Latshaw, working the advance phone dates.

doing better

The most recent report from Las Vegas, Nev., indicates that former film star Johnny Weissmuller is improving, although he remains in critical condition. The 69 year old star of 18 Tarzan movies is in an intensive care unit with a cardiac condition.

Weissmuller's heart condition was diagnosed when he entered a hospital after breaking a rib in a fall at Caesar's Palace Casino

what's new . . .

Many new displays have already been prepared for the 1974 season, says Paul Horsman, owner/manager of the Circus Memories Museum at Fryeburg, Me. Among the new displays, he adds, will be Wait paper plus posters from Japan and Australia, as well as from other countries, Kelly-Miller advertising, and 8x10 photos of parades, trains and wagons.



Recently the museum acquired a P. T. Barnum & Van Amburgh stock certificate made out to Hyatt Frost and signed by P. T. Barnum in 1867. Also acquired was an 1882 Barnum & Bailey songster, and an 1892 Forepaugh puzzle book.

Plans are also underway to expand the model circus display.

COLLECTOR KIT

Jimmy Silverlake's Lewis Bros. Circus LAST CALL we're now cleaning out the advance car.

This kit contains: a large number of posters, tickets, letterhead, advance and office forms and a Lewis Bros. Ball Cap -- while they last.

Price: \$5.00, plus 35¢ for postage

Send check or Money Order
to

JIMMY SILVERLAKE
RR No. 1 - Box 197 M
Madara, Indiana 47260

Pot-Pourri

The Diamond S Rodeo has some 15 dates set for the month of Feb.

The holiday show "Scrooge", presented at the Cow Palace in San Francisco, folded at the end of its first week. The original schedule was that the show would play for three weeks.

The 10th performer to be named as a Sarasota Circus Celebrity will be honored at the Ringling Museum of the Circus (Sarasota, Fla)

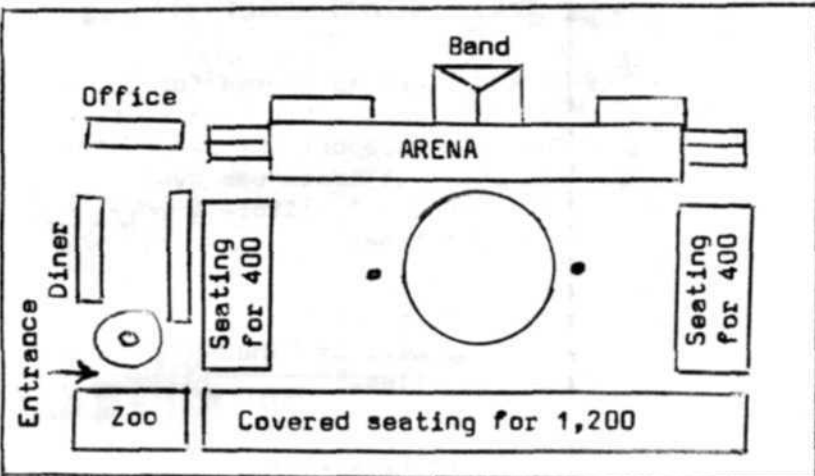
on Thursday, January 10th.

finale

Ben Beno, retired high wire artist, passed away in mid-December at Los Angeles, Calif.

C. A. "Red" Sonneberg (75) passed away at Prophetstown, Ill. on Dec. 17. He was program chairman for Ringling-Barnum for many years.

Amy De Voe Wright (77) died on Nov. 26th at Great Barrington, Mass. In her youth she performed on the New York stage and was once a bareback rider on the Barnum & Bailey Circus.



The proposed lot layout for the 1974 edition of the Royal Wild West Circus is shown above. For its best set-up the show would need a 300 ft x 200 ft lot. A pictorial background scene will be set-up on both sides of the bandstand.

CRA MEMBERS

Those shows who belong to the Circus Producers' Association are:

Robert Atterbury
 Big John Strong Circus
 Clyde Bros. Circus
 Hubert Castle Circus
 L. N. Fleckles & Associates
 William Garden
 Carden & Johnson Circus
 Gatti-Charles Circus
 George Matthews Circus
 Hamid Morton Circus
 George Hubler Enterprises
 I.M.G. Circus Corp.
 Key Bros. Circus
 Wm. Kay Productions
 M & M Productions
 Miller-Johnson Circus
 Polack Bros. Circus
 Rudy Bros. Circus

WEST COAST FAIR SET

"The Roaring 20's" will be one of the two themes for the California State Fair this year. Fair officials report the second theme is one that continues over the years - "California Heritage."

The theme for 1975, fair officials report, will be "The Gay Nineties."



This year's big State Fair, at the Cal Expo area, just north of downtown Sacramento, will be held from Aug. 23 thru Sept. 8th.

KEEP US POSTED!

The best way to assure a correct listing of your show route each week is to keep us posted. Let us know where you will be, so we can accurately list your circus under the "Routes" heading.

HARD WORK AHEAD

Plans for the new Ringling Museum of the Circus, at Sarasota, Fla. are now being finalized, under the direction of architect Sidney Wilkinson. Bids will be announced soon and work is expected to get underway sometime in March.

A repeating cannon, built by Bruno Zacchini, will become a part of the Museum's collection upon completion of the current restoration work. The cannon will be housed at the Museum on a 5 year indefinite loan agreement arranged between Mrs. Silvana Zacchini and Ringling Museum officials.