



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

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Giraffe Deaths Probed in L.A. New Protests

A citizen's group has asked for an investigation into the deaths of two giraffes at the Los Angeles, Calif. zoo.

A spokesman said slippery floors in the giraffe house may have been responsible for the deaths. Answering the charge, assistant zoo director Ralph Crane said, "we just don't go along with that theory."

A male and female Angola giraffe valued at \$9,000 each, died early this summer from effects of a tranquilizer after they fell in their stall and were unable to get up.

The Unjustified Raid

A group of carnival workers went on a rampage during a rock concert (Aug. 29) firing guns and beating up those in attendance. The workers were at the Harrison County fairgrounds in Missouri to set up a carnival for the opening of the fair.

About 40 police were called in to stop the riot, which ended with the arrest of four men.

Sheriff Smith said he would ask the courts for an injunction to see

Rodeo events are not a tradition of the Old West, says a recent Humane Society report. "Most of the events have been developed solely for the purpose of entertainment," the Society said.

After a two year study of rodeos, the Society states the animals are injured. Calves when roped are subject to ruptured blood vessels, neck hemorrhaging and inflammation of the larynx. In steer busting the contestant has an advantage if the animal is temporarily knocked unconscious when it hits the ground. Bucking horses and bulls, they said are reacting to pressure caused by the cinch strap on its flanks.

The Society urged its members to protest rodeos scheduled in the communities where they live. Public officials should "prohibit performances of rodeos that permit roping of animals and the use of devices to make animals react violently," they said.

that the men were moved out of town and also asked that the carnival be stopped.

The Master Entertainer

When Irene Jones wrote her review of the Ringling Blue Unit at Salt Lake City, Utah, she had nothing but praise for the entire show. Her review appeared in that city's Tribune shortly after the circus arrived for its Aug. 22-28 stand.

The Flying Gaonas were grand, she said, and their trampoline act even drew more applause than their triple somersault.

Most of the acts were rated as being "excellent" by the reviewer. You have to see Pablo Noel and Charley Baumann to believe them, she added, as well as Michu, the Hungarian midget.

Closing the Door

Last week the Contra Costa County (Calif.) District Attorney's office asked the courts for a permanent injunction to stop the sale of circus tickets. Earlier Judge Thomas McBride had issued a temporary restraining order against a promotional firm which was selling tickets for the State Forestry Firefighters, who are sponsoring the circus.

District Attorney William O'Malley charged that phone salesmen failed to comply with state laws requiring ticket sellers to explain to potential buyers what percentage of the purchase price goes to spon-

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The Monster Sun

Both Harry Kingston and I saw Clyde Bros. Circus at Beaumont, Texas on Aug. 26th. The show was presented in the rodeo arena on the fairgrounds, and temperatures were well above 95 degrees.

Animals and performers were all suffering from the heat, but still gave a good performance. Lucky Larabee is a good announcer and works hard as performance director.

Lou Regan opened the show with his 7 tigers and about halfway thru the act suffered a heat stroke. He held onto a prop and managed to remain in a standing position until the cage boys could get the cats back to their dens. Then he had to be carried from the arena.

The show pulled about a 3/4 house for the matinee, with a smaller crowd for the night show. During the latter show it rained.

. . . H. T. Dreyfus

sors. He said the promoter's contract gives "only 50% of the net" to the sponsor. From past experience, he added, we know the sponsor usually ends up with only 5% after expenses are deducted.

The circus has been scheduled to play at Antioch on Sept. 25-26.

CRYSTAL UPTON
Died
Aug. 30, 1973

CIRCUS Show

The Ringling Museum of Art at Sarasota, Fla. will feature an exhibit called "The Circus Through The Centuries" on Dec. 13-Jan. 27th. It will include a display of rare and historical material of prints, engravings, lithos, photos, films and illustrations concerning the progress of the circus from Rome to the present time.

YEARS AGO

Christy Bros. Circus 1922 - Some of the performers traveling with this show that season were:

Jerry D. Martin, aerialist; Kinko contortion clown; Ray O'Wesney, a horse trainer; Ray Wood; Josephine Martin; Mabel James; Harry James, well-known trumpet player; Charles Nelson and Shorty Evans.

Barnum & Bailey Circus 1891 - The show's No. 2 billing car carried a crew of 14 men. The group was a fighting crew that worked against opposition, often jumping long distances to get up show paper.

NOTE Due to last minute non-renewal of contract option with Miller-Johnson Circus, Bob Gibbs has open time between Sept. 8th and December, offering performing elephants, ponies and dogs.

Write: Bob Gibbs, Route 4, Box 550, Mission, Texas - 78572

JUST NOT SO

Two rodeo groups have denied charges recently made by the Humane Society concerning cruelty of animals in rodeos. Both the Int'l Rodeo Assoc., and the Longhorn Rodeo have stated there is no proof to the charges.

The Society condemned rodeos as cruel to animals and urged its members to oppose any such events in their areas.

An easy guide

Manufacturers of motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment, other than tires, may be required to use an identification code in order to fulfill their identification, certification and labeling responsibilities, if the Federal government accepts a proposal by the National Highway Safety Administration, a division of the Dept. of Transportation.

In a notice of proposed rule making, the NHTSA advocated an organized code numbering system of identification which would be more suitable for computer applications, and would aid the retrieval of identification data for defect notification.

The proposed code would consist of one letter and four non-significant numbers. Each manufacturer would make written application for such code numbers to the Associate Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Washington, DC.

ROUTES

Beatty-Cole Circus
 Sept. 10 Phoenix City, Ala.
 11 Albany
 12 Tallahassee, Fla.
 13 Panama City
 14-15 Pensacola
 16-17 Mobile, Ala.

Canadian Circus
 Sept. 10-12 Kitchener, Ont.
 13-16 Toronto

Hubert Castle Circus
 Sept. 11-12 Allegan, Mich.
 15-17 Minot, S. D.

Clyde Bros. Circus
 Sept. 10 Big Springs, Tex.
 11 Sweetwater
 14-16 Alexandria, Va.

Diamond "S" Wild West
 Sept. 12 Elgin, Mich.
 14 Waukegan, Ill.
 15 Pekin

George Matthews Circus
 Sept. 10 Brandon, Canada
 12 Regina
 13 Moose Jaw
 14 Swift Current
 15 Medicine Hat
 16 Lethridge

Happytime Circus
 Sept. 14-19 Paso Robles, Cal.

Los Muchachos Circus
 Sept. 11-16 New York, N.Y.

Miller Johnson Circus
 to Sept. 15 New York, N.Y.

Ringling's Blue Unit
 Sept. 12-16 Portland, Oreg.

Ringling's Red Unit
 Sept. 11-16 San Diego, Cal.

Tommy Scott-Tim McCoy Show
 Sept. 10 Fairmont, Minn.
 11 Windom
 12 St. James
 13 New Ulm
 14 Montevideo
 15 Marshall

Wallace & Rogers Circus
 Sept. 10-11 St. Helens, Ore.
 13 Lincoln City
 14 Florence

..... OTHER ROUTES

Bugs Bunny Show
 Sept. 10 Trenton, N.J.

Disney on Parade
 Sept. 11-16 Syracuse, N.Y.

Central State Shows
 Sep. 13-15 Beaver, Okla.

Cumberland Valley Shows
 Sep. 10-15 McMinnville, Tenn.

Diamond State Shows
 Sep. 10-15 Calhoun, Ga.

James H. Drew Shows
 Sep. 10-15 Carrollton, Ga.

Farrow Amusement Co.
 Sep. 10-15 Monticello, Ark.

Fun Fair Amusements
 Sep. 10-15 Stuart, Va.

Wm. Griffith Shows
 Sep. 10-15 Emporia, Va.

Bob Hammond Shows
 Sep. 10-15 Texarkana, Tex.

Key City Shows
 Sep. 10-15 Lexington, Tenn.

King Reid Shows
 Sep. 14-23 W. Springfield, Mass.

Kissel Bros. Amusements
 Sep. 11-15 Munfordville, Ky.

Link Shows
 Sep. 10-15 Tupelo, Miss.

Louden Amusement Co.
 Sep. 10-15 Yancyville, N.C.

Mid-South Shows
 Sep. 10-15 Conyers, Ga.

Mighty Thomas Shows
 Sep. 8-15 Spencer, Iowa

Mississippi Valley Shows
 Sep. 10-15 Columbina, Ala.

Moore's Greater Shows
 Sep. 13-15 Hobart, Okla.
 12-15 Duncan

Murphy Bros. Exposition
 Sep. 15-23 Muskogee, Okla.
 15-22 Fayetteville, Ark.

Myers Shows
 Sep. 11-15 Mt. Home, Ark.

John Shows
 Sep. 10-15 Hohenwald, Tenn.

Razorback Amusements
 Sep. 10-15 Hamburg, Ark.

Rose City Rides
 Sep. 10-15 Sullivan, Mo.

Royal Amusements
 Sep. 10-15 Pittsboro, N.C.

W. D. Stanley Shows
 Sep. 12-16 Benton, Ark.

Thompson Bros. Amusements
 Sep. 12-15 McClure, Pa.

Wall Shows
 Sep. 10-15 Warren, Ark.

Ralph Wagner Shows
 Sep. 11-16 Brenham, Texas

Who's Who

RAY HARRIS recently returned from Guatemala where he visited the Jack Blunders Circus.

MICHAEL SPORRER visited RBBB's Red Unit in San Francisco, Cal. last week

A. W. KENNARD, husband of DOROTHY HERBERT, is in Valley Hospital at Van Nuys, Cal. following surgery.

LARRY LEWIS, a 106 year old former circus trouper was guest ringmaster for the RBBB show in San Francisco.

CHARLES COX, former circus announcer, is now Public Relations Director for the Safari Park in Puerto Rico.

LINDA KARL and PHIL CHANDLER (King Bros. Circus) will be married on Nov. 24th.

GERARD SOULES is working his poodle review on the Holiday on Ice Show this year.

BOB MATTHEWS, well known showman and a past president of the Paul Eagles Circus Luncheon Club, has been confined to Hollywood Community Hospital after suffering a heart attack.

TIM HOLST, RBBB ringmaster, is a native of Logan, Utah.

MEL OLSEN, editor of The White Tops magazine, has been elected president of the CFA

OSCAR CRISTIANI left the Miller-Johnson Circus last week for free lance work.

THE WENDANY FAMILY has joined the John Strong Circus for the remainder of the season.

DAVE TWOMEY reports he visited the RBBB Blue Unit at Portland, Oregon during some off time.

BILL BURGER recently visited with CHARLES HILL (Tom-

14 Florence

..... OTHER ROUTES

Bugs Bunny Show

Sep. 10 Trenton, N.J.

Disney on Parade

Sep. 11-16 Syracuse, N.Y.

Holiday on Ice

Sep. 13-22 Salt Lake City

Holiday on Ice (Int'l

Sep. 12-16 Utica, N.Y.

Ice Capades

Sep. 6-12 Dallas, Texas

14-19 San Antonio

Ice Classic

Sep. 12-14 Aurora, Colo.

Indian Rodeo

Sep. 14-16 San Fran, Cal.

Nat'l Air Races

Sep. 14-16 Reno, Nev.

Renaissance Fair

Sep. 14-16 Novato, Cal.

..... CARNIVALS

Jay Belle Amusements

Sep. 10-15 Tarboro, N.C.

Bella City Amusements

Sep. 10-15 Cedartown, Ga.

Capell Bros. Shows

Sep. 13-22 Salt Lake City

Thompson Bros. Amusements

Sep. 12-15 McClure, Pa.

Well Shows

Sep. 10-15 Warren, Ark.

Ralph Wagner Shows

Sep. 11-16 Brenham, Texas

NOTE

Four different circus business forms for just \$1.00. Write to: Circus Memories Museum, Fryeburg, Me. 04037

This ad was used in San Francisco, Calif. in 1938

4 Days THU. 28
Comm. APR.

TWICE DAILY — 2 & 8 P.M.



DAVE TWOMEY reports he visited the RBBB Blue Unit at Portland, Oregon during some off time.

BILL BURGER recently visited with CHARLES HILL (Tommy Burke) former circus man who is gate keeper at White Rock hunting preserve in Carmel Valley, Calif.

FOY & FAYE, juggling unicycles, worked the Farmers Fair at Hemet, Calif. last week.

IRVIN FELD, RBBB president and producer, will be a guest speaker at the Emmett Kelly'CFA Tent's 30th anniversary on Oct. 20th.

W. T. RANDOLPH, of Dallas Texas, visited the Paul Eagles Circus Luncheon Club recently.

CRAIG RYAL, magician and clown, was featured at the Susenville, Cal. fair.

CIRCUS FESTIVAL

by WARREN C. WOOD

During my visit to the Circus City Festival, at Peru, Ind., I found that trainer Joe Anderson is well suited for his work. He is a wrestling teacher and coach at the local high school and works extremely well with the youngsters, who love and admire him. Incidentally, he was trained by Paul Pugh of the Wenatchee Youth Circus.



Practice for the show is started in April. About 300 apply for participation in the circus and 120 are accepted. There is no charge and costume needs are taken care of, but they must work hard to perfect their numbers.

The circus program is presented in a large building, which seats 2,200 people. The seats are bleacher style and prices vary from 50¢ to \$3.00. A 46 page pictorial program book is also available.

Eventually banners will be put up alongside the building. At the moment there is the ticket office, rest rooms, museum and some circus wagons. Across the alley is a big building which houses a work shop, dressing rooms, first aid room, clown alley, prop storage, etc. In the arena is a balcony for the big band. This band, consisting of 40 or more members, is directed by high school teacher Tom Gustin.

The show opened with an over-

ature, a high school drill team and introduction of the circus king and queen. The first act was a casting number, highlighted when two kids did a back flip from the same bar at the same time, they are caught on a bar held by a catcher and then return.

Unicycles and rolling globes followed, then came a large group of clowns, after which three single trapeze acts were presented, along with a hanging perch number. This latter act finished with a double iron jaw spin. A Roman ladder act on the track and a clown walk-around followed.

High wire, tighterwire and a bounding rope number were then presented at the same time. The high wire act was very good - they did unicycles, bicycles, stilt walking and a pyramid. Four trampoline acts followed and each closed with a double somersault.

After intermission an exciting high casting act was presented. A clown walk-around followed and then came three single trapeze numbers - all synchronized.

Tumbling on the track followed and then roustabouts carried in a huge shoe that housed 12 girls who did web numbers. This number ended with a giant whirl in the center ring.

Juggling and a whip act were next and the show closed with a flying act (a 12 yr. old did a triple) and a parade of all the performers, to a standing ovation.

Pot-Pourri

The American Horseman magazine for Sept. 1973 has a story "Horses and the Big Top" by Georgia Rogers.

Emmett Kelly Jr's Circus played at Shelby, Mich. on Aug 31-Sep. 2.

The Paul Eagles Circus Luncheon Club will celebrate its birthday on Sept. 26th. The organization was founded in 1961.

During its San Francisco, Cal., engagement the RBBB Red Unit held auditions for show girls, who had dancing experience.

Key Bros. Circus played the Nevada State Fair at Reno on Sept. 5-9.

Rumor has it that the Ringling show will bring a great many new foreign acts to its two units for the 1974 season.

The Lakeport, Calif. Fair (Aug. 30-Sep. 2) used the theme "Greatest Show on Earth". Their midway attractions were provided by the Butler Amusement Co.

A group dedicated to saving the carousel will hold an organizational meeting in Mass., on Oct. 20-22.

THE CIRCUS REPORT is good reading no matter where you are. Keep on the bright side, order a copy now.

Send \$10.00 to:
Don Mercks,
525 Oak Street
El Cerrito, Calif

In Their Own Defense

Late last week the Oakland (Ca) Police Officers Assoc. issued a statement expressing its "shock and disbelief" at charges the organization had illegally solicited patrons for a benefit show on Sep. 2nd.

The OPOA said the country music show was being presented in good faith and that a business license had been obtained. Advice from an attorney had been obtained in advance, they added, and the whole operation had been reviewed with the district attorney.

The city attorney reports that two of the six purposes for which the solicitation was being made are charitable. Two others reportedly involved "substantial misrepresentations."

The OPOA has acknowledged that some solicitors had acted improperly, but said they had been fired.

The two purposes for the show which were questioned had to do with providing sickness and injury assistance for officers and legal fees in suits brought against them.

The OPOA statement said: "Efforts of the city attorney's office to cast a shadow of doubt on the integrity of these brave men will not be successful."

HISTORICAL FACT

In 1935 Allen King was a half-owner of the Rice Bros.-Allen King Circus. He also presented his big wild animal act at every performance of the circus



The Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus pitched its tents in Sheboygan, Wisc. for two shows on Aug. 24. Some 3,000 people turned out to see the thrilling performances, sponsored by the "Accents for Sheboygan" group.

As usual Wayne Bolz was in the thick of things, helping the sponsor and circus. He has devoted many hours helping to promote circus events in this area. He and his family attended the matinee and his two children even got to ride an elephant.

FRED LOGAN

Fred was born in Winnipeg, Canada and came to the U.S. in 1941. Before becoming an elephant trainer he worked with lion acts. Fred credits the late Terrell Jacobs with help and guidance during his early days in show business.

MANAGER SEWS

There was some delay in getting the big 150 x 300 ft. top into the air because the spool truck had tipped over on its way in. When the wagon was righted and the canvas spread out it was discovered there were several holes in the tent. Those who could, even manager Paul Pugh, sewed up the tears so the top could be set-up.

LES BLOCKS

Visited with Les Block, who organized the famous high wire act that bears his name. This spine-tingling act consists of five performers -- Les, Alan, Gerard, Rita and Gilda. Les, whose given name is Gerhardt, was born in Germany and has been performing on the high wire since he was 11 yrs. old. He was in East Germany with the Circus Zerbini in 1945, then came to the U.S. in 1968, where his act first worked on the Hamid Morton Circus. They have been on the Beatty-Cole show for the past five years.

THE OSCARIONS

It is always nice to visit with Ramos Oscarion and his risley troupe. This is their fourth year on the circus and they have a real center ring number.

OTHERS

Boss canvasman Andrew Smallwood has been on the show for five years. He was appointed to his current position just this year.

The ten cavorting clowns add immensely to the performance and work well under the direction of Kenneth Dodd. The band plays great music, which is a credit to Charles Schlerbaum, the director. A calliope offers some nostalgic treats for the circus-goers.

For several years Robert D. Qline and Robert E. Kline (not related) have worked the elephants who assist in getting the tent into the air. They also assist in the performance, guiding their pachyderms through their paces.

On Top Down Under

The widely advertised "Circus Circus 1973 Extravaganza", which recently played Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney (Australia) was a merged presentation by Ashton's Circus and Circus Royal. The shows are now going their separate ways for the remainder of the season.

A carnival midway filled the entranceway to the circus. Behind it was the big top and a two pole menagerie tent.

A large stage extended across one full side of the tent, while a standard circus ring was placed in the center. Box-style seating extended down to the ring curb, with traditional circus seating in the back. The stage was surrounded by colorful circus posters and a colorwheel played continuously on the stage curtains prior to the performance. Music was provided by Albert Gerbes at the organ and "Happy" Gill on the drums.

Following an announcement by Iyllis Ashton, the circus program started with a parade of all acts. As they exited three girls remained to do single trapeze numbers. Ringmaster Joe Buchal then introduced the rest of the show, which featured the followings:

Los Tenaris - balancing
Clowns - a comedy car
Lorraine Ashton - liberty horse
Jan Ashton - bareback rider
The Grants - rolling globes
Clowns - the flaming sword
Fraspa - single trapeze
Ten girl dancers on stage followed five girls on web

people

ALAIN ZERBINI will add a balance feat to his act next season.

BILL BIGGERSTAFF has returned to Southern California after vacationing with Miller Johnson Circus.

THE BARETIS, sway pole act, were featured at the Shasta, Calif. fair last week.

CLIFF VARGAS, owner of Miller Johnson Circus, and program director PARLEY BAER visited the RBBB show at Anaheim, Calif. and also viewed the model circus displays there.

GLENN HARRISON, CFA secretary in Southern California attended the recent CFA convention in Seattle.

ALBERT LUCAS, juggler, is working with the Ice Capades this year.

Fanny Espinosa - lions
Ionaas & Gaye - iron jaw
Mervyn Ashton - slack wire
Renarto - camels and pony
Lorraine Ashton - whips
Frank Gasser - plate spinning
Stefan Krajcik - elephants
The Zacchini Trio - clowns
The Flying Ashtons and Flying Fernandos
Finale - Entire company

The two flying acts worked side by side, thus competing for attention with each trick. The lion act is from Spain and quite good, with one cat walking a tightrope.

Backstage staff for the show includes: Margaret Drake, stage manager; Paul Firman, stage director; Frank Gerard, electrician, while publicity was handled by: Kevin, Trevor and Annette Young.

SHOW BOWS

A new circus bowed last month (Aug. 25) in the Los Angeles, Cal., area. The show was organized by Lee Noblitt and George Bruno, and is currently being called "Royal European Circus."

The date at Carson, a suburb of Los Angeles, was presented in the High School Athletic Field. The weather was warm and business was "Quite good."

The program, as reported by Bill Dedrick, included:

- Miss Astra - Sponge dive
- May Kover - leashed leopards (3)
- Aerial web - (2)
- Clowns - George Perkins and Jack McAfee
- Yvette's Poodles
- David & Irena - cradle
- The Clowns
- Tom Johnson and elephant "Spot"
- Yvette's Critters - mixed animals
- The Flying Braytons
- The Clowns
- The Noblitts - trampoline
- Princess Nahama - riding horse
"White Cloud"

Staff for the show includes:

- George Bruno - producer and equestrian director
- Lee Noblitt - co-producer
- Tony O'Hara - comptroller
- Betty Escalante - musical director
- Lee Noblitt - general supt.
- Sol Lightner - electrician
- Arthur Longover - transp. supt.
- George Perkins - producing clown
- Jack McAfee - assistant prod. cln
- Henry Cruvell - supt. of props
- Lew Foresite - general agent