



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

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'TIS THE SEASON

A huge crowd of employees, their families and friends, turned out for annual Bechtel Christmas Party (Dec. 9) at the Cow Palace in San Francisco. The program, again this year, was produced by Iroberg Productions and featured the Kay Bros. Circus.

The show opened with a big Christmas playlet, complete with a stage, a family home, snow and numerous Caroleers, all in old-time costumes. After the children climbed into bed their dreams became real in the form of the circus, guided over and announced by the Fairy Godmother.



The huge band was directed by Bob Greenwood, while Walt Tolleson served as master of ceremonies. Miss Donna Lee was the ringmaster and Fairy Godmother, while the playlet was directed by Lisa Bell.

The circus program featured:
(Continued on Page 6)

A Holiday Show

Northern California children are nestled snugly in their beds these nights, safe in the knowledge that Santa will soon be here. For once again the Rudy Bros Circus presentation of the "Christmas Revue" has delighted children and adults -- heralding the arrival of the Holiday Season and Santa's upcoming visit.



A week of dates were set in the San Francisco Bay Area, ending at Bakersfield on Dec. 10th. The weather throughout the tour was crisp, but clear with not a sign of rain.

The performance was backed by Don Ray's band, augmented at some stand with local musicians.

The announcing chores were handled by Howard Hardin.

The program as seen at Richmond on Dec. 8-9 featured:

The Dilly Dallies - risley
Miss Estrelita - tight wire
(Continued on Page 7)

Pot-Pourri

King Bros. Circus was featured in a Dec. 2nd TV show called "Rainbow Sunday"

The Stebbings Circus has been making dates in Florida this month.

Model Builders will be interested in the $\frac{1}{2}$ " models of a Mack truck. It sells for \$5.00 at your hobby shop.

The Dec, 1973 issue of Mademoiselle magazine has a story about Circus Kirk.

The Japanese Art of Tattooing is featured in the Dec. 1973 issue of National History magazine. It features 7 pages of color photos.

Mexico's London Palece Circus is closed for the winter months.

The James M. Cole Circus will be starting its 1974 season at Shick-shinny, Pa. on Jan. 12th.

The current issue of "Show" magazine has a photo layout on the Int'l Boys Circus from Spain.

The Miller-Johnson Variety Show played at Detroit, Mich. on Dec. 8-11, at the State Fair Coliseum.

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ready for 74

The first tour of The Circus Kingdom was not as long as was hoped, says Rev. L. David Harris, but nevertheless we had a good summer season. The circus will be back on the road in 1974, and in fact, has most of its dates already booked.

A planned 19 day tour immediately after Christmas has been cancelled since most schools have closed their gyms for outside and school events because of the present energy crisis. They don't want to use the fuel required to heat these buildings.

Showman is III

Former circus band leader, Art "Mac" Heller (Seils Sterling Circus) is confined to the Shey-boygan (Wisc) Memorial Hospital after suffering a heart attack, reports Karl Bischoff. I visited him last week, added Karl, and his wife Rose, also a former Seils Sterling Circus performer, is constantly at his bedside.

While visiting with "Mac", Percy Radamacher stopped by. Percy was a former trumpet player and a clown with the same show.

As a gift from the Hellers I received most of his personal band arrangements which were used with the Seils Sterling Circus band. I plan to donate these very fine musical arrangements to the Circus World Museum at Baraboo, Wisc.

ENERGY CRISIS

The energy crisis has caused grave concern on the part of showmen everywhere. They've been wondering what will happen to their operations and President Nixon's statements have not offered them any real relief.

The President has asked for a voluntary cutback in the use of fuel, and after asking service stations to close on Sundays he said that rationing would be a last resort.



If the situation is as bad as they say it is, then it seems that rationing is going to come. After all, in order to achieve the overall 30% reduction that has been asked for, there must be a 50% reduction in the use of fuels.

Even if the savings are realized they will only be adequate if we have a mild winter and if the Arabs begin to relax their embargo on oil exports. Neither one at this time seems likely.

Oil supplies from non-Arab countries is not going to be boosted to make up the losses. In fact both Canada and Venezuela are in the process of limiting their oil exports.

While oil can be obtained from shale rock that process is going to take several years to produce any sizeable volume. If the Arabs

SANTA ARRIVES

Santa's Rocket Ship made several appearances in the mid-western area this month, including a stop at Joplin, Mo. and Muskogee, Okla. The arrival of Santa and his assistants via this modern day machine was a source of delight and excitement for the youngsters at every stop.



Appearing with the unit are: Harry Hammond, Mr. and Mrs. Dime Wilson, Jr. and Cleo Plunkett, the rocket ship driver.

Exporting oil soon it will take us some time to get back to completely normal operations - but that is a shaky hope for the Arabs know they control the world's largest supplies of oil.

The crunch probably won't be felt until January and then most likely the economy is going to be hard-hit, bringing major layoffs.

About March we'll probably see some sort of gas rationing come into being. At this time they are talking about 10 gallons per week, per car. Probably additional gas will be available at some high price level.

No one really wants rationing, but that is probably the most likely solution. As it is we're just likely to end up with a combination of gas rationing and high prices.

ROUTES

Clyde Bros. Circus

Dec. 18 - Sarasota, Fla.

(Circus Hall of Fame)

Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus

Dec. 17 Williamsburg, Va.

Santa's Christmas Revue

Dec. 18 Visalia, Calif.

19 Tulare

21 Oakland

22 San Jose

John Strong's Int'l Circus

Dec. 18 Escondido, Calif.

19 Anaheim

20 Enroute

21 Oakland

22 San Jose

Tripoli Productions Indoor

Dec. 17 Ft. Smith, Ark.

18 Tulsa, Okla.

19-20 Okla City, Okla.

Wonderful World of Magic

Dec. 17 Pleasantville, NJ

19 Bayville

Wright's Circus

Dec. 17 Gardena, Calif.

18 Burbank

21 Pasadena

22 Compton

..... OTHER ROUTES

Ice Capades

Dec. 17-24 Xmas Vacation

An equal opportunity employer.
TELEPHONE Sales, experienced.
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MURPHY GALEMAN

Int'l Dep. Showmen's Dance
Dec. 21 Gibsonton, Fla.
Kovaz Auto Daredevils
Dec. 17 Japala, Mex.
18 Tehuacan
19 Tlaxcalo
21-31 Mexico City
Jan. 1-7 Mexico City

WHAT ANIMAL
WITH THE *Biggest*
THROAT
IN THE
WORLD
IS
ENTIRELY
WITHOUT A
Voice?

45 44 42 40 39
43 41 37
46 47 38 35 34
48 32 31 33
49 30 29 28
50 27
1 26 25
8 14 15 20 24
2 3
4 13 16 21
7 12 19
5 6 10 11 17 18 22 23



Pictured here is the White-
side Trio, who were with the
Campbell Bros. Circus in 1916
(l.t.r.) Bill and Mary Hassel
bring and Thomas F. Whiteside
Later Whiteside toured with a
trapeze, loop-the-loop and
swinging ladder act, and at
one time lived in San Fran-
cisco, Cal. The Hasselbrings
eventually quit show business

HISTORICAL FACT

Bertholomen's Great Wes-
tern Circus played Missoula,
Montana on Aug. 24, 1867.

The show was a wagon out-
fit with about 50 people,
and had a one pole top.

POWERHOUSE SHOW

by TOM MORRISON

The Hubler Int'l Circus, presented at Canton, Ohio (Dec. 1-2) for the Jay Cees was a strong and real "three ring circus." The opening parade of performers, introduced by the announcer, was impressive. Also featured was a 12 piece band under the direction of Emil Hahn, of this city.

Each of Hubler's three rings were freshly painted -- and identified as the red, yellow or green ring, instead of Ring One, Two or Three. Canvas on the ring floor is colored to match the curbs. Floor spotlights were used to good advantage and during the high acts press box spotlights were used to illuminate the acts.

The Diano elephants are worth the price of admission. "Tommy", the featured animal, has tusks extending five feet and he is an enormous bull. Although the act is quartered in Canton, this was the first time I've seen it and it is impressive.

An advance phone promotion was used for the date with Family Tickets priced at \$7.00 and Merchants tickets sold in books for \$15.00 and \$20.00. Prices at the door were \$3.50 and \$2.50.

The show, which ran two hours plus, with an intermission, included:

The Ascott Sisters - unicycles
Jose & Co. - juggling

Letters

Enclosed is my renewal check. I don't want to miss a single issue. The new format is so much nicer, easier to file.

.... Edith Johnston

If it wasn't for your paper we'd never be able to keep track of our friends. Keep up the good work.

..... Ken Robertson

Please except my Congratulations on your efforts in presenting Circus News on Time, each week, all year long. The route lists are indispensable to any active Fan.

..... Don Smith

HISTORICAL FACT

The George F. Bailey Circus and Managerie played Chicago, Ill. on July 18-20, 1864.

Baron Von Uhl - wild animals
The Adonis Duo - trapeze
The Clowns - Firecracker number
Miss Bandy - dogs (2)
Jon Laddie Co. - ladder balance
Sampion Duo - roly boly
Miss Stevani - trapeze feature
Kayletta - dove act
Clowns - The Camera gag
The Scott Family - comedy mule
Great Huberto - slide for life
-- Intermission --
Peggy & Curtis - tight wire
Los Latinos - tight wire
Clowns - The boxing match
Zoppe Family - trained monkeys
Lee Keahner - Diano's elephants
The Flying Del Steeles

People

D. R. MILLER will reportedly have 30 elephants for his 1974 Carson & Barnes Circus.

PARLEY BAER presented the eulogy at A. W. Kennard's funeral. One of the pall bearers was SMOKEY JONES.

HARRY HAMMOND is going to be back in the office on Sells & Gray during the upcoming season.

LARRY RUCKER is wintering his animals at Mission, Texas this year. He arrived there on Dec. 5th.

BOB HOFMEISTER and ZOE ANN HENRY are booking Texas dates for the Circus World on Parade show.

DORIAN, the Magician and CHUCK EISMAN's dogs were on the Mike Douglas TV Show on Dec. 13th.

HINES RUCKER will return to the Children's Magic Circus in 1974 and will again serve as its manager.

BOB and ROSA GIBBS plan to spend the holidays in Mexico.

MAC MAC DONALD is reportedly at work in Las Vegas, Nev. with his small elephant. He recently reworked the Paul Keye elephant act for BEN and CHRIS DeWAYNE.

GEORGE HANNEFORD will be presenting his various acts with the Atayde Circus in Mexico City this winter.

JAN and DON COVINGTON, of San Diego, Cal. are the proud parents of Jill Christine, who was born Nov. 18 and weighed 8 lbs 3 oz.

FAY SNYDER has a beautiful ring curb which was built and painted by



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day.....

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'TIS THE SEASON (Continued)

Pati's trained chimps (2)
The Turpin Troupe - tumblers
Silky, the Wonder pony
Dianne and Allison - webe
Walt Tolleson - the toy trumpet
Princess Julia - trained doves
Randy's dogs and ponies
Ed Steeples - Gypsy Bears
The Reminiscers - vocals
Miss Loni - rope spinning
Turner's liberty ponies
Howard's elephants (2)
The Flying Artons
Santa Claus.

Immediately following the show program Christmas gifts were distributed to the children attending the show, while candy and Gift stockings were presented to everyone.

BILL DEDRICK.

BOBBY JOHNSON was car manager on the Beatty-Cole show this past year. He was assisted by JOHNNY COUSINS, bill poster.

RAFAEL MARQUEZ, Jr. was recently married in Spain. He is the son of RAFAEL MARQUIZ, Sr., who was with the Hubert Castle Circus about two years ago.

NOW BOOKING FOR 1974

Brand new elephant act

BABY TIKA & KARI JONES

Contact:

Smokey Jones

P.O. Box 588

Bloomington, Cal. 92316

Phone: (714) 829-1856

YEARS AGO

In 1845 the Tyron's Circus played New York City, at the Bowery Amphitheatre. Their prices were 25¢ for boxes and 12½¢ in the pit. With children's tickets at half price.

Featured on the show were: Joe Pentland, clown; J. Nixon, equestrian director; D. Gardner, clown; Dan Rice, blackface clown; Walter Aymer, rider; Barney Williams, the Irish comedian; Dan Emmitt, banjo and Master Nixon, equestrian. The show's manager was John Tyron.

A HOLIDAY SHOW (Continued)

Yvette's Poodle Revue

Miss Estrelita - web act

Renee - puppet theatre

Howard Hardin - comedy juggler

Yvette - rope spinning

-- Intermission --

George, the Geni - magic

Yvette and her Critters

Whitey Roberts - comedy/belle

Russ Saunders Trio - teeterb'd

Roger's Bird Fantasy

Santa Claus Finale

finale

JAMES BORDERS, a retired Navy musician and former circus bandsman. He also toured with the John Philip Sousa band. He died Dec. 6 at a San Diego, Cal. hospital.

HARRY ENGFORD, popular showman, died at Plover, Wisc. on Dec. 1st.

JOHN STALEY, former showman, died on Dec. 1st, after losing a battle with cancer.

Xmas Party

Many CFA members and their guests, of the Melzers and Voise Tent, attended the annual Christmas Party on Dec. 2nd, at the Sweden House in Saginaw, Mich.

Special guests at the party were Buster, Jane and Ann Thomas of the Melzer family flying act. Also attending were Col. Bill Voorheis, his wife Mary and daughter Ruth. Bill told about his show and the past season, then outlined plans for the 1974 tour which gets started in January.

In addition to those named above, others attending the party were: Jim and Boots Heaton, Ed, Dot and Jan Wurdock, Rollie Waite, Clarence Hastings, Mary Wolcott, Lucille Hensey, Mylin and Marge Decker, Arthur Crampton, Lena Avery, Marge James, Kathleen James, Amelia Mack and Mary Wurdock.



SMALL SHOW

A promotional children's Christmas show, for the benefit of the blind, was produced in Redwood City, Calif. on Dec. 3-5. One show was presented each evening, to what has been described as fair attendance.

Appearing on the show program were:

Bob Emrico - clown/magic

Miss Sharon - comedy musical
and dance routines

Billy Grant - audience participation numbers

Big meeting list

Seventy Circus Fans and their guests, from Ohio, Michigan and Indiana, attended the Michigan State CFA Meeting with the Ringling-Barnum Blue Unit recently at Detroit, Mich. Following the Business Meeting there was a brunch at which Lloyd Morgan, Jr., Harold Ronk, Charlie Bauman and Prince Paul were present.

Later the fans attended the matinee performance, where they sat at ringside and were introduced to the public, by Ringmaster Harold Ronk. Among those attending were: Mel Olsen, CFA President; Herman Brandmiller, Central Vice-President and Jim Heaton, District No. 8 Director, and Past President Don F. Smith. Arrangements for the brunch and seats at the circus were made by Kenneth W. Kurtz, the Michigan State Chairman.