



Volume 2

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## Name Fanfare

A variety of name acts were featured with the Clyde Bros. Circus presentations at Chicago, Ill. on March 7-25. The show was sponsored by the Medinah Shrine Temple, with good crowds at each performance.

Included among the acts were:

- Miss Isabella's stallions
- Miss Gina's uncaged leopards
- The Kirby's - chimps
- The Poodles of Paris
- Tonga, the almost human gorilla
- Galla Shawn - single trapeze
- Royal Hungarians - foot jugglers

## the beginning

Late next month Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus will start work on their "Circus World" park in Florida. Official ground-breaking ceremonies will be held on April 26th.

The 600 acre facility will be built in Polk County, about 10 miles away from Disney World. It will be approximately 30 miles from Orlando.



The first portion of the park which will be completed will be the Preview Center. It will be opened this year. The entire park is scheduled for completion in 1975.

A number of top men have been hired to handle the business of creating, selling and establishing the facility. These include:

Cheppie Fox - Director of Circus

## OPENING IS SET

The third season for the Royal International Circus will get underway on May 4th, when the show opens at Santa Barbara, Calif. The circus will be touring the Pacific Coast, as well as the Northwest area.

Royal International Circus is co-owned by Al Mall and Stuart Lancaster. Mr. Mall at one time operated the Albert Bros. Circus and managed other shows. Mr. Lancaster is a former vice president of RBBB and is a grandson of Charles Ringling.

The executive staff for 1973 includes:

- Stuart Lancaster - executive producer
- Albert Mall - producer and ringmaster
- Ivy Walker - Comptroller
- Loretta Kroll - Office Manager
- Ken Richie - Band director
- Lee Noblitt - Gen. Supt.
- Zina Bethune - Producer of aerial acts
- Marvin Mall - Lighting director
- Mike Nitchie - Transportation Supt.
- Harry Ross - producing clown
- George Spelvin - General agent
- Ken Jensen - Promotional director
- George Costello - Publicity director
- Steve Williams - Advance agent
- Bickmore Acrobatic Co. - Rigging Eqpt.
- Ad Arts - Promotion material
- Bert LaClair, Westly Speech - Concess.

Town. He will do circus research and handle special events in conjunction with this portion of the park.

Harry Fronteras - is in charge of the animal compounds. He has worked with zoos and with the show "Wild Kingdom."

## one of the best

Those who have seen the Gran Circo Panamericano in Puerto Rico report the show is a good one. The circus is being presented at the city's new auditorium, which reportedly has a fantastic lighting system and good air conditioning. If there is any complaints about the building its the sound system, where problems have developed due to poor acoustics.

Despite a flu epidemic in the area, an observer reports, the show is turning people away at every performance. They seem to be coming from all over the islands to see this circus, is the report.

The show program features:

Spec - all performers  
 The Keppos and Cassidys - ladder acts  
 Tarzan - wild animals  
 Clown walkaround  
 Miss Tinha, Jaqueline and Anita - single trapeze  
 Tony Steele - sponge dive  
 The Cassidy Sisters - rolling globes  
 The Van Donwen's seals  
 Phil & Francine, The Hans Duo and The Rummel Duo - aerial cradle  
 The Zurawis, Fudi and The Kaytos - jugglers  
 Harold Rodo - leaps  
 The Rolandos -  
 Clowns - production number  
 Antonucci's chimps  
 The Gaonas and Appolos - flying acts  
 Jack Joyce - mixed animal act  
 Clowns - stop gag  
 The Brunos, The Thinis and The Hansens - trampoline  
 Guzman and Monique - aerial motorcycle  
 Rodoquel Troupe, Tokay Troupe and Francisco Troupe - teeterboard  
 Clowns - walkaround  
 Fred Logan - elephants

The show's ringmaster is Luis Viqoreaux, while the vocalist is David Lawton. Clown alley consists of seven clowns, with numbers produced by Bily McCabe.

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## everyone's a guest

Performance times at the Fisher Bros. Circus are 6 and 8 p.m., which has proved to be a winning deal. The show, now playing in Texas, hasn't had a losing day since they opened (Feb. 5) and every performance finds capacity crowds have filled the top.

The show is using a 60 ft. square end tent with one 30 ft. middle section. They have a small marquee and on the midway is a snake show and side show, which features four cages, ponies, two longhorn steers, monkeys and the former Diano hippo.

The program includes:

girl on aerial ladder  
 Clowns  
 juggling  
 Mrs. Randall - trained horse  
 Two girl tumblers  
 Aerial web number  
 Clowns  
 Two pony routine  
 Trained dogs (10)  
 Clowns  
 Mel Silverlake - trained elephant

They have a peanut pitch, with lots of prizes for everyone, plus a coloring book sale. Neither one seems to offend the customers. Even the butchers are honest, and that's something good to hear.

The show is owned by Mel Silverlake, who rolls out the red carpet for circus fans, and won't let them spend a dime. When he knows a fan is on the lot he makes them a part of the organization. Visitors get a "Fisher Bros." cap and are put to work taking tickets or handling some other job.

JOE WASHBURN

Died

March 2, 1973

Joe was a popular Chicago model builder who, with Jean LeRoy, helped create the famous Barnum & Bailey Miniature Circus which was displayed for many years. In recent years Joe operated his own Hobby Shop at McHenry, Illinois.

## toots & whistles ...by PETE PEPKE

The Florida vacation was a beauty, with thanks to Leonard and Bette Tucker. Visited with Charles Weathersby and everyone in the quarters.

Most impressed with Cliff Vargas' Miller-Johnson show. Its powerful circus and worth a long drive to see.

The Cristiani Family had a nice show at the Keys and Homestead, Fla. The whole family was there and music was provided by Tex and Marcie. Incidentally, Tex will be bandmaster for the Medinah Shrine Circus at Chicago.

Joyce and Charlie Van Buskirk played the Quebec Trade Fair on Mar. 12th with their Cyclonians act, they'll be in Bridgeport on the 24th. He will be announcer for Lordly & Dane dates in Maine and also will be with the Buckeye Circus in Ohio.

Many visitors have been catching the Jimmy Cole show. He has been named manager for the Ian Garden Circus.

Stu Miller has been doing alright with his Miller-Diaz Magic Cavalcade of Wonders in New Jersey. He's even bought new rolling stock.

Carol and David Rawls are the parents of a baby girl (Sascha) born on Feb. 22nd at Olean, N. Y. David will be concessions mgr. for the season. His father and mother, Mary and Harry are on King Bros. Circus.

Louis T. Angello Agency is now handling the Pepke's Circus Concert Band on Eastern dates. They're a regular at the Penn Laurel Motel in Warren, Pa.

Phil Chandler will be announcer on the King Show this year. Also on the show will be Shelia (Frazer) and Larry Sheffield who have been on the Cole All Star TV Circus.

Neither Paul Hudson nor Rex Williams will be on the Hoxie Bros. Circus this season. They'll open on March 26th at Miami.

John Herriott opened at the Circus Hall of Fame in Sarasota, Fla. last week.

Veteran agent Lloyd Eastman is now working out ahead of the carnival: the Zabel's Amusements.

To MARGARET WRIGHT in London  
A Graddaughter "CLARE"  
Born: Feb. 6, 1973

## lots of visitors

Circus fans from throughout Pennsylvania, including John "Tiny" Phillips (a past CFA president) and Mr. & Mrs. Ozzie Schlentz (of the Royal Ranch Circus) visited the Polack Bros. Circus during its date at Allentown, Pa.

The circus, writes Bob Good, was sponsored by the Rajah Temple at Reading on Feb. 23-25 and Allentown on Mar. 3-4. Business at Allentown was excellent with some turnaways.

The program as presented at the two towns included:

- Lili and her leopards
- Adams - dogs and chimps
- The Axelandro Duo - slack wire
- The Arturo Twins - twin trapeze
- Brickle's Poodle Fantasy
- Dresler Bros. & Hedy - aerial motorcy.
- The Esqueda Troupe - unicycle and the teeterboard
- Miss Francesca - single trapeze
- Kristensen's riding act
- Erik Acadis - balancing
- Tom and Pompom Donoho - elephants
- The Raymills - aerial gymnasts
- Les Weldons - balancing/juggling
- Don Nothdorft - illusions
- Miss Sarazochil - single trapeze
- The Great Segura - bounding rope
- The Tabak Duo - rotating perch pole

## FOR SALE

Circus Model Kits; Circus Books;  
Records and circus accessories  
in 1/4 and 1/8" scales.

Send 25¢ for list CMB 361

AL'S HOBBY SALES  
317 Windsor Highway  
New Windsor, N. Y. 12550

## Crackdown

A new law that tightens controls on charity fund drives at Seattle, Wash., went into effect last week (March 14). The law states that expenses for direct gift solicitation must not exceed 20% of the amount collected. Expenses for charity-oriented circuses, etc. are not to exceed 55% of the ticket sales, with not more than 20% of that 55% going for solicitation salaries.

The legislation was drafted by the Seattle-King County Office of Citizen's Complaints. It will now be considered at an open meeting on April 2nd by the County Council.



Investigations into the operation of charity promotions was carried out by Mrs. Carole Coe, an ombudsman for the County Council. She said that in most cases the promoter takes the lion's share of the amount collected.

According to Mrs. Coe a circus promotion in 1970, at Seattle, resulted in ticket sales of \$216,070, with the promoter taking \$162,050, while the sponsor received \$39,958 and the charity was given \$11,540.

In 1971 a circus promotion brought in some \$178,141 in ticket sales, with the promoter taking \$133,613. The sponsor got \$44,528 and the charity received \$6,080.

Another promotion in 1972 had ticket sales of \$193,840, she said. The promoter kept \$146,964, while the sponsor took \$46,876 and the charity received \$6,460.

A different promotion in 1970 resulted in sales of \$74,314, of which the sponsor took \$17,550 and the charity involved received nothing.

A donkey baseball promotion, she added, raised a total of \$10,586 in ticket sales in 1970. The sponsor for this event received \$2,709, and the mentally retarded youths, for whom the funds were supposedly being raised, received nothing.

The legislation, Mrs. Coe said, is aimed that those promoters who come in

## Happy Show

The opening performance of the Hubert Castle Circus at Portland, Oregon (March 8) drew a full house of 10,000 people, says John Wendeborn, of the Portland Oregonian. One of the popular "acts" he added, was the balloon sale. Every kid in the Memorial Coliseum must have bought one of those gas-filled balloons.

Among the feature acts mentioned in Wendeborn's review of the show was the elephant number which has a baby bull riding a tricycle. The dancing camels and the monkeys were good too, he said.

He had words of praise for Chrys Molt who juggles while hanging suspended from the ceiling by her hair. It's a gravity defying act in which she juggles clubs and balls, he added. An intriguing act was that of the Spartans, whose number ends with a maze of lights, whistles and sirens.

"As usual, the clowns were a highlight of the circus and the funnymen with the Shrine Circus were true to the cause. Besides the side-splitting antics and cannon blasts -- the sight of a clown being shot out of an enclosed box piloting a motorized bathtub while scrubbing his back with a long brush is still hilarious -- the act that got audience approval and vocal participation was the boxing match between Dirty Dan and Slim Jim."

## The Child

Fredy Knie, Jr. and his wife Marie-Jose, who were married on the Knie Circus last year, have announced the birth of their daughter Geraldine-Katharina.

This is the first girl to be born in the Knie family since 1915. That girl was Elaine, a cousin of Fredy and Rolf, Sr., who now direct the Knie Circus.

The father is well known for his outstanding animal acts which are featured on the circus.

and take the bulk of the funds and leave little or nothing for the charities. Groups such as the Salvation Army and the Girl Scouts, she added, have nothing to fear from the new law.

# ROUTES

## Hubert Castle Circus

March 22-25 Spokane, Wash.  
23-25 Los Angeles, Calif.

## King Bros. Circus

March 19 Ft. Walton Beach, Fla.  
20 Pensacola  
21 Foley, Ark.  
22 Bayou Le Betro  
23 Biloxi, Miss.  
24 Slidell, La.

## Tommy Scott-Tim McCoy Show

March 26 Brownwood, Texas

## Sells & Gray Circus

March 19 Naples, Fla.  
20 Westwood Lakes  
21 Tavernier  
22 Key West  
23 Sunrise  
24 Hallandale  
25 Dania

## John Strong Circus

March 26 Ojai, Calif.

..... FOREIGN SHOWS .....

## Circus Krone

Thru March 31 Munich, Germany

## Menschen Tiere Sensationen

March 22-31 Bremen, Germany

## Moscow State Circus

Mar. 23-Apr. 1 Dortmund, Germany

..... FAIR .....

## National Orange Show

Mar. 29-April 8 San Bernardino, Calif

# Clown alley

In all there's a total of 30 members of Ringling's Red Unit Clown Alley, with 13 of them making their first appearance this year. Productions are under the direction of Frosty Little, who also assists when Bob Dover is on the Blue Unit.

The 1973 clowns include:

Frosty Little, Lou Jacobs, Danny Chapman, Bobby Kaye, Duane Thorpe, Keith Crary, Jim Howle, Mike Padella, Jimmy Briscoe, Frank Saluto, Eric, Braun, Joey Mathewson, Manuel Berrigan, Billy Baker, Richard Mann, Tommy Adams, David Wesneski, David Nickson, Len Aclair, Ron Jarvis, Mark Buthman, Richard Hamburger, Vince Monza, Tom Kidd, Randy, Costello, Richard Papelli, Ray McGee.

# people

"SMOKEY" JONES visited the George Matthews Circus at Simi, Calif. early in March. He is training some elephants for Gene Holter.

ROZANA and FRANK FOSTER, equilibrists, will be with the Circus Knie this season.

M. L. DUPONT, of Monroe, La. will have his miniature circus displayed for the King Bros. Circus in April. He is now recovering from a heart attack.

BILL GOLDY, clown, missed only a few performances during the recent tour of the George Matthews Circus.

WILLY LENZ and his chimps have been signed to tour with the Circus Krone this summer.

CHUCK SATEJA, clown, is recovering from a back injury suffered when he was with the Disney on Parade show. He hopes to be with several Shrine shows this year.

BILLY SMART is seeking legislation that will continue to provide circus entertainment in London each holiday season.

ROLAND & MARCIA expect to become parents sometime in September.

DON NOTHDORFT is announcer and ringmaster on the Polack Show again this year. He also does illusions in the program.

BILLY GRIFFIN, will be both clown and bookkeeper on the Clark & Walters Circus this season. Last year he toured with the Fisher Bros. Circus.



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Write: Don Marcks, 525 Oak Street, El Cerrito, Calif. - 94530

Girls in the alley are: Peggy Williams, Barbara Nadel, Sandra Totman

# acts named

The program as presented by the annual Tripoli Shrine Circus at Milwaukee, Wisc. on Feb. 20-25 included:

Spec - "Circus on Parade"  
 Rejenine Duo - acrobatics  
 Zamperla's wild animals  
 The Albinis - aerial motorcycle  
 Clovers, Stevens and Bonnettes -  
 trampoline  
 Burger's animal revue  
 Kalmas and Torino Bros. - juggling  
 The Georgian Trio - high perch  
 Walt King - elephants  
 Miss Elizabeth - aerial feature  
 Joanna's Doves  
 Burger's chimps  
 Scott's Unridable Mule  
 The Jorge Troupe - high wire  
 The Flying Armors  
 Miss Vicky and Diane - trapeze  
 Berosini's Jungleland Revue  
 The Bumpy Family - acrobats  
 Amandis Troupe - teeterboard  
 Olmedas - bicycles  
 Hanneforde and Zamperla - riding  
 Pablo Rodriguez Troupe - aerial bars  
 The Amazing Alexander - High dive  
 Hugo Zacchini - human cannonball

The show's clowns featured Happy Kellum and Ed Dullum as producing directors, with Arte Williams, Jim Jim, John MacKay and Charlie Franks.

GENE HOLTER

Died

March 9, 1973

## NOTES

Contrary to an earlier report the Dixiana Trained Animal Circus will not open at Schulenberg, Texas on April 7th.

This year's Ringling Red Unit program has the autographs of all the circus folks.

The George Matthews Circus had to give several extra shows at San Rafael, Calif. early this month to accommodate all the people who came.

The "Disney on Parade" show gave ten performances at Monroe, La. starting on the evening of March 7th.

The Royal Ranch Circus will open its '73 season at Masses, Va. on April 19th.

Advertising for the Hubert Castle Circus says the show is rated "F.F.F." (Fantastic Family Fun).

The Belle City Amusement Shows will open their 1973 tour at Kenosha, Wisc. on Apr. 29

A Navy band leader in Florida was recently replaced when he played "Here Comes The Circus" for five consecutive inspections.

The Fossett's Circus (England) opens its new season early next month.