



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

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## NEW SHOW TO BOW

The all-new Barnes & Dailey Combined Circus, owned by Jim and Marilyn Silverlake, has been scheduled for a mid-April opening in Indiana. The show is the fourth circus to come out of Mendota, Ind. The others were: Clark & Walters, Fisher Bros and Lewis Bros.



The new circus is expected to move on five trucks, and will carry a number of horses and ponies, plus an elephant (Babe) and a llama. The big top will be a 90 x60, with seating for 1,000 people.

The show's staff includes:

Jim Silverlake - owner  
Billy Griffin - manager  
Marlyn Silverlake - sec/treas.  
Jim Windland - side show  
Bobby Grene - musical director  
Jim Silverlake - agent

## It's A New One

A brand new circus made its debut early this month (Dec. 8) with two performances at Berkeley, Calif. The show, produced and presented by students from the University of California, is expected to be in full operation early next year.

The performance follows the pattern of two "hippy" type shows that appeared on the West Coast in 1972. The program featured juggling, tumblers, a single trapeze, clowns, tightwire and a 5 piece band.

Those with the show report the circus will be playing college campus areas on the west coast. Donations will be solicited for the performance in an effort to meet expenses and move to the show to a new stand.

(Continued on the last page)

# Seasons Greetings

## A WINNER FOR WEST COAST SHOW

by GUS TURNER

It has been a solid series of winning dates, with big crowds for every performance, for the John Strong Int'l Circus holiday tour. If there was a bad day it must have been at Irving, Texas (Dec. 8) but even then good crowds were on hand, despite a last minute change in locations. The real drawback was the fact that school officials wouldn't allow any animals inside the auditorium.

The program and staff of the holiday tour includes:-

Warm-Up - featured Steve Baker, clown, Gary Ray, juggling and Timmy Bickmore, magic.

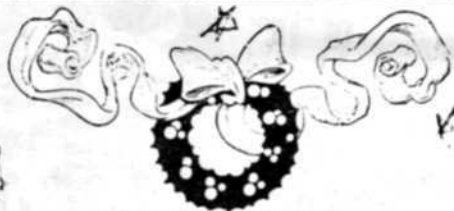
This was followed by an opening announcement, an overture and the introduction of Big John.

The program features:

Bobby Rawls - tight wire  
 Ron Perry - juggling  
 Canestrelli Kids - tumbling  
 Clowns - The Long Shirt  
 Dan Carey - hand balancing  
 Clark Craig - trained chimp  
 Clowns - Dog Pie Number  
 Jan Bickmore - single trapeze ↗

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

from

Yerkes Productions

## A Show Tragedy

A 16 year old circus performer, practicing for his debut as a trapeze artist, was accidentally killed at Aguascalientes, Mexico, on Dec. 10th.

The boy, Oscar Osorio, touched a cable that set off a cannon while he was standing in front of it. The cannon was to have been a part of his act.

Clowns - Blowing up a balloon  
 Dan Carey and Pietro Canestrelli on the rola bola

-- Intermission --

Ron Perry - slack wire  
 The Canestrellis - unsupported ladders

The Maxton Duo - trampoline  
 Bill Birchfield - magic

Clowns - The boxing match

The Wal-Tims - risley

Big John's closing announcement

The staff includes: Herman Apple, organ/director; Bob Gardner, drums; John Pugh, trumpet.

Gene Holloway is producing the show; Ole Carlson served as press agent and Steve Baker was producing clown.

## SPECIAL NOTE

TAD TOSKY, retired clown, is confined to a Chicago, Illinois, hospital with a fractured right shoulder. He wishes everyone a Happy Holiday Season, and reports he was unable to send out cards this year.

to all of our Circus Friends and especially those clowns who recently visited Hawaii and made us so welcome on the circus.



We appreciate your kindness and it was lots of fun.

JUNE TAGLIAFERRO  
BLOSSOM KAOPINKI

## xmas party

Two well attended variety show programs were presented for employees and their friends by the Caterpillar Tractor Co. on Sunday Dec. 16th. The show, booked by the Haimen Agency, of San Francisco, Calif., was presented at the Bancroft Jr. High School in San Leandro.

Featured on the show were:

Bob Schmidt - master of ceremonies  
Jack Fisher - piano  
The Saxons - juggling/unicycle  
Bert Hansen - Punch & Judy Show  
Dwight Moore's Mongrel Review  
Ray Newsome - Santa Claus



and Happy 1974  
to all Circus Fans and Friends  
from  
RUDY BROS. CIRCUS

## show for vets

"This is my way of doing my bit for humanity," says Fred Anderson (an Oakland, Calif. printer) who donates his time as chairman of

Holiday entertainment for three Veterans Hospitals in the San Francisco area. Each year Anderson lines up talent for the hospitals at Martinez, Oakland and Livermore, and this year is working on a \$7,000 budget.

The Dec. 18-20 program will be featuring:

Sharon Layne - dancer/contort.  
Homestead Act - western singers  
Sabah - belly dancer  
The Snyder Bros. - comedy  
Hoosier Hotshots - musical  
Glenn Haywood - magic/vent/MC

# ROUTES

- Dicken's Christmas Fair  
to Dec. 30 San Fran, Cal.
- Holiday on Ice (Int'l)  
Dec. 26-31 Rock Island, Ill
- Holiday on Ice (Nat'l)  
Dec. 25-30 San Diego, Cal.
- Ice Capades  
Dec. 25-31 Spokane, Wash.
- Int'l Christmas Faire  
Dec. 20-23 San Fran, Cal.
- Int'l Showmen's Assoc.  
Dec. 28 Gibsonton, Fla.
- Kovaz Auto Daredevils  
to Jan. 7 Mexico City, Mex.
- Scrooge Stage Show  
Dec. 17-30 San Fran, Cal.
- World Festival of Magic  
to Dec. 30 New York, N.Y.
- Wrestling  
Dec. 29 San Francisco, Cal.

## LOOKING BACK .....

The "White & Markowitz Big City One Ring 10¢ Circus" of 1889 featured the following show folks:

Al Sylvester; George Austin, tight wires; Lottie and Ed McGinley, double trapeze, single trapeze and slide for life; The Three Redford Bros.

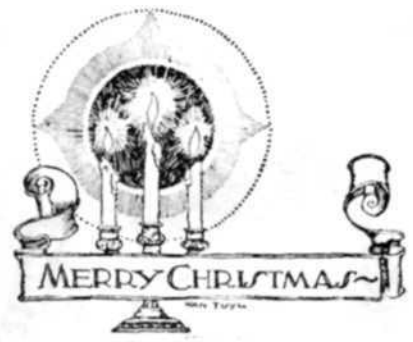
Wishing You  
A  
HAPPY



acrobats; Harry Zelle, contortionist; Clark Gibbs, the talking clown and Llewellyn Kern, on the horizontal bars.

The "Whitney Family Circus" of 1884 was a wagon show traveling in the Michigan area. They used three wagons for the advance.

George Whitney was the owner/manager; Col. M. Gillette was agent; Lacke & Tony, acrobats; with a variety of other performers,



from  
EDYTHE and LLOYD HARMS



and HOLIDAY GREETINGS  
to  
Circus Folks and Circus Fans  
from  
TINY and HAZEL PHILLIPS

most of whom did two or three numbers, and some participated in the Minstrel portion for the program, even doing blackface.

# Christmas Memories

.....by Art "Doc" Miller

I recall one Christmas season of my youth that was well blessed with circus atmosphere. Indoor dates back then were few and far between and at least in my home town, unheard of.

Some one booked a date in our local Armory for New Years week, and the acts all arrived two weeks or so in advance. We had horses, ponies, dogs, bears, lions and what not in every livery stable in the city.

The John Robinson Military elephants were housed at the rear of a building where Izard's, the city's largest department store now stands. I used to swipe cookies and bread from home and on my way to school would stop off to feed the elephants.

One day they were backed up so I could easily walk in front of the bulls to feed the poor critter at the far end, who always got gyped out of my treats. So I rushed right in front of the three foremost bulls and was horrified to see them lean forward, three trunks almost pinning me against the wall. I was really petrified and the bull man decided to let me learn a valuable lesson. When he decided I'd had enough he hooked them back, and ghost-white I oozed out of there. It was a lesson well learned, though many years later, Bud Anderson's bull 'Eva' unloosened her chain and came within an inch of beheading me (she tore the top of my hat off at the brim).

All in all that circus scattered around town was a grand treat,

and falling heir to the trouper's discarded issues of "The Billboard", opened up an entire new world to me. Just think, for a paltry 15¢, one got an average of 165 pages of show news every week.

To add whipped cream to the circus treat, our vaudeville house made an effort to outsmart the circus by running a film of P. T. Barnum's great freaks. On the circusy herald they had old Zip, Baby Doll and a few other freaks pictured. Actually the film was just a series of pictures of old still photos of some old-time freaks. The big draw was a trio of baby tigers in the lobby, plugged as Miss Mabel Stark's tiger cubs. Naturally I cherished my herald about this attraction and some 30 years later had Mabel autograph it for me.

I could write of Christmases with very scant meals, a tree so bare it didn't exist, and of family sadness, but to me my school days Christmas season of that circus in Elmira was a never to be forgotten extra special gift.



# Sawdust Trail

.....by M. L. Dupont

CLIFF DAY, who has been in the office and on advance for Fisher Bros. Circus is visiting at Donna, Texas. Many show folks are in that area.

CHARLES KOELHER, owner of Dixiana Circus, based in New Orleans, reports he visited King Bros., the Beatty-Cole and Hoxie circuses in the month of November. He also was able to see the Wallenda Shrine Circus at New Orleans.

JON FRIDAY, side show manager and announcer for Sells & Gray in 1973 says he caught ten carnivals in one week after the circus closed for the season. He also caught several shows in the Detroit area.

CHARLES GARDINER, drummer with King Bros. Circus, spent a few days in Arizona with his parents before joining a unit of the John Strong Circus.

GENE CHRISTIAN, advance agent for Royson Bros. Circus has sent this reporter some old circus letterheads.

THE NEW '74 Schlitz Calendar, sold by the Circus World Museum at Baraboo, Wisc. features parade photos taken this year, including the 40 horse hitch.

DO DO, the Clown, worked a parade at Monroe, La. and a Christmas party on Dec. 15th for Continental Can Corp.

WATCH for "Circus Vargas" in



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Feliz Navidad

from

BOBBY AND ROSA GIBBS

Circus World on Parade

Rte. 4 - Box 550

Mission, Texas

78572

Watch for us in '74

## SHOW VISITORS

Many show folks visited the Hoxie Bros. Circus during its engagement at Daytona Beach, Fla. on Dec. 2nd.

The visitors included: James Cole, of the James Cole Circus; Ayres & Key Davies, from the Ayres & Key Davies Circus; Bernice Morris, from Kelly-Morris Circus; Mr. & Mrs. Robert Burns of Circus Boss and Mari Jo Couls, formerly on Famous Cole Circus and now the office manager of King Bros.

1974. The word is that they are fully booked for a long season.

THANKS to all those who have sent in news this past year. Don't forget "Circus Report" is the only true Circus Weekly news published today -- to continue it needs news and subscriptions. Why not give a subscription to a friend as a gift for '74?

## PRE-CHRISTMAS SHOW

A pre-Christmas Circus program sponsored by the Chicago Ass'n for Retarded Children was presented on Dec. 7th, at the Lane Tech. High School, Chicago, Ill.



Presented before a large crowd, the program featured Chris Alberti's - rolling globes

Carmen Del Moreno - wire act  
 Rene Chandler - performing dogs  
 Juan and Hulio - clowns  
 Hunkie Johnson - bears  
 The Tumbling Fenton Kids  
 Gus, Ursule and Don - juggling  
 Phil Chandler - magic  
 Miss Murray - roman rings  
 Emil Henn - organist

HOLIDAY GREETINGS  
 from  
 BIG JOHN STRONG  
 and  
 WHOLE CIRCUS GANG



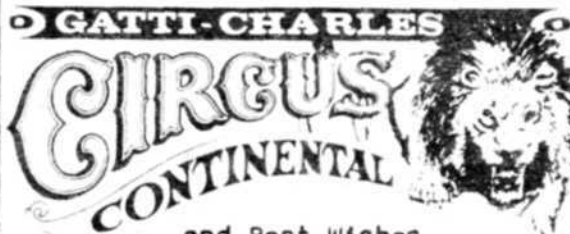
MERRY CHRISTMAS  
 and a  
 Happy 1974  
 Circus Season  
 from  
 ART STENSVAD



(Am always interested in securing taped programs of circus music. Write: 811 East 3rd St., North Platte, Nebraska - 69101).

## Season's Greetings

To Friends and Fans Everywhere  
 from the



and Best Wishes  
 for 1974

## SHOW Folks

For the sixth consecutive year Bing Crosby and his family have brought a bit of Christmas to patients at the Laguna Honda Hospital in San Francisco. On Dec. 13 Crosby, his wife Kathryn and their sons Harry and Nathaniel, presented a Christmas Variety Show, for the enjoyment of the 2,000 plus residents of the west coast hospital.



Other performers appearing on the show program were:-

The Mason Kahn Dancers  
 Hank Seiman - ventriloquist  
 The Wheelers - marimbas  
 Scotty Plumber - vocals/banjo  
 Arthur Duncan - dancer/vocals  
 Jack Fisher and his orchestra

and Best Wishes  
 from  
 the  
 HAPPYTIME CIRCUS



# people

DON KIRBY, clown, visited with ROY KABAT in Oregon early this month enroute to his home in Southern California.

CHARLES F. MOYER is working as general agent for the Charles Bros. Circus. He was formerly the bandmaster on the Royal Wild West Circus.

DAR ROBINSON, stuntman, was featured on the Johnny Carson TV Show Dec. 11th. The show was offered films of his recent 127 ft. dive.

HARRY ROSS, clown, has sent out Christmas cards signed by Otto, his faithful dog.

RAY CHANDLER is breaking camels at Louis Goebel's farm in Thousand Oaks, Calif., while his daughter JANICE is working with JOHNNY CLINE.



from the

## Paul Eagles Circus Luncheon Club

\*\*\*\*\* Inc. \*\*\*\*\*

Meetings Held Every Monday Noon  
Rain or Shine at

PHILIPPE'S RESTAURANT  
1001 North Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012  
Phone A/C 213 628-3781

For information contact:

PERRY LUTH, Secretary

FOR THOSE WHO LOVE THE CIRCUS AND  
ARE "WITH IT" AND "FOR IT".



BUCKY and GEE GEE STEELE have sold their lions and tigers to DOREY MILLER. They are spending the holidays in Florida.

FELIX ADANOS, juggler, has been showing his circus exhibit at department stores in Germany.

THE FLYING DEL STEELES will be with the Atayde Circus in Mexico City for some five weeks.

GENE HOLLOWAY has been traveling with the John Strong Circus during this holiday season tour.

GERALDO, the Clown, recently returned from Europe where he made a TV commercial for Coca Cola in Paris

THE WAL-TIMS have signed to tour with the George Matthews Circus in 1974.

DWIGHT and SYD MOORE worked their dog acts at the same time during the Texas Shrine dates.



Wishing Everyone  
 HAPPY HOLIDAYS  
 from  
 RALPH DUKE  
 and Family

## AN OPEN LETTER

I would like to say a few words about Producers who contact acts in regards to possible work.

It is unfair that Producers, even after talks break down, will go ahead and list those acts as a part of their program. They also use the acts to advantage for their own publicity purposes.

When such instances occur it should be a necessity that the Producer must retract all such publicity. There should also be some way of charging the Producer for using an act's name in publicity when they are not on the payroll.

Such action can and does cause a loss of business for the acts so named.

..... May Kovar



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL MY FRIENDS  
 Wherever They Are

GLENN HART (Seacow)

Box 2316

Phoenix, Arz-85002

*Holiday  
 Greetings*

from

**ANIMAL  
 ACTORS  
 REVUE**



ROY G. KABAT  
 PRODUCER

Eddie Steeples  
 Jerry Campeilli  
 Randy Turner  
 Paula Scherling  
 Jane Scherling  
 Robert Hall  
 John Nutter

13260 Highway 238, Jacksonville, Ore.

## heavy on talent

A strong line-up of acts was featured on the John Strong's Int. Circus for its engagement at St. Louis, Mo. (Dec. 5), where attendance was reportedly very good.

Included among the acts appearing on the show were:

Murray Hill - elephants, etc.  
 Bucky Steele - bulls/bears/cats  
 Gee Gee - Alaskan huskies  
 Hunky Johnson - bears  
 The Berosini Troupe  
 The Fenton Kids  
 The Canestrelli Family

## NOTES

Carson & Barnes Circus will be seen on the ABC-TV program "Make a Wish" on Sunday, Dec. 30th.

Animals belonging to John Cuneo, Circus Vargas and other acts are all wintering at Thousand Oaks, Calif.

The National Phone Promoters Assc will hold its convention meeting in Oklahoma City, Okla. on Jan. 5-6.

The Ice Follies and Peggy Fleming Ice Show are both playing hotels at Las Vegas, Nev.

The Morelos Bros. Circus of Mexico has recently been playing at Reynosa.

Some 42 people attended the Dec. 1st Christmas Party of the Joseph A. Rowe CFA tent in Los Angeles, Calif.

The Charles Bros. Continental Circus is now booking 1974 dates along the Atlantic coast.

The Hammer & Wentworth Bros. Miniature Circus received several write ups in papers in the Los Angeles, Cal area during October and November.

The Circus Kingdom is advertising for 1974 and plans a coast-to-coast tour.

Santa's Xmas Revue (a John Strong unit) played Campbell, Cal. Dec. 15.

A 5,000 seat multi-purpose building will be opened at Jamestown, N. D. in March 1974.

A \$16 million coliseum is under construction at Cincinnati, Ohio, and will be opened in late 1975.



Best Wishes  
For the Holidays  
from

PERRY LUTH

C.F.A.

C.M.B.

C.H.S.

## NEW TOUR DATE

The all new, 104th edition of "The Greatest Show on Earth" is going to be premiered at Venice, Fla. during a three day stand (Jan 4-6). At the conclusion of this date the show will embark on its eleven month tour of the U. S. and Canada.



Happy Holidays to all  
and Best Wishes for  
the coming year . . .

from

LYLE F. SCOTT

## HISTORICAL NOTE . . . .

Bandmen on the Charlie Bertine Wagon Show of 1898 included: Doc Dawson, baritone; Harry Wright, trombone; H. Thurman, cornet; Tom Uhlman, bass and Ted Bertine, drums



HOLIDAY GREETINGS

from

TURNER BROS. CIRCUS

Percy Turner  
and  
Family

where  
will you be?

No need to keep  
it a secret --  
keep us informed  
about your  
route so we can  
list it right.



from

MARTHA & DON F. SMITH  
Past President, C.F.A.

## A VARIETY SHOW

An early holiday Variety program was presented to good crowds at the Lane Tech. High School in Chicago, Ill. for four days (Nov. 22-25).

Acts featured on the program included:

The Austins - trampoline  
Rodger's Bird Fantasy  
Kelly's dogs  
The Arwoods - rola bola  
Bob Trent - Ventriloquist/M.C.  
The Boginos - juggling/risley  
Ray Grant - illusions  
Gerry, the Elf - musical comedy  
Ray Grant - puppets  
Florine Oller - organist



BEST WISHES FOR A  
HAPPY HOLIDAY TIME

from

Smokey Jones  
and Family  
Tika too



From

PROFESSOR MILLER

and his "Wonderful World of Magic"

## tv special

The annual "Highlight of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus" TV presentation will be sponsored again in 1974 by the Bell System. Comedian Flip Wilson will host the one hour event, presenting some of the feature acts with the show's 104th edition.

The TV special will be filmed at St. Petersburg, Fla. (Jan. 16) shortly after the show goes on tour. the program will be seen nationwide on the NBC-TV network the evening of Thursday, Feb. 14th.



to every one  
from

TAD TOSKY

Author of "Clowning from 6 to 60"



The Best of Everything for  
the Holiday Season .....

from

ONALEE & BILL WILLIAMS  
"Cotton Candy," the clown

MERRY CHRISTMAS

to every one

from

JAY BEARDSLEY



from

BOB EMRICO

Clown

and

Magician

HAPPY HOLIDAYS .....

to everyone

from

THE CIRCUS REPORT

Don Marcks, Editor



IT'S A NEW ONE (Continued)

Neither of last year's hippy type circuses toured in 1973. Members of both shows complained about the difficulties of having to book dates, move the show and then perform too. Basically those connected with the shows were or wanted to be performers.

A lack of financial backing, the fact there was no readily available equipment (on a loan basis) and poor income at the door was also blamed for the closing of the two circuses.