

CIRCUUS REPORT

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Our 10th Year

Number 4

January 26, 1981



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REPORT

PROMOTER PLEADS GUILTY

A phony charitable organization called "A Better Start" has come to a bitter end.

Federal prosecutors said William L. Wilkins, of Santa Ana, Calif., collected approximately \$30,000 in contributions, supposedly for underprivileged and handicapped children, but kept the money himself.

Wilkins, 32, was indicted by a federal grand jury in Los Angeles. He pleaded guilty to two fraud counts.

The government said Wilkins had telephoned solicitors in Irvine (Calif) who called Orange County business firms and falsely represented themselves as doctors who were donating their time to collect funds for "A Better Start."

Assistant U. S. Attorney Richard E. Drooyan, who prosecuted the case, said none of the money was used for charitable organizations, although his solicitors apparently thought it would be.

Miscellaneous

According to reports, the Chicago Bozo TV Show started using a new format as of Jan. 15th. Henceforth they will no longer use live acts and instead will be using tapes and such. The band that had worked with the show for some 21 years has been let go.

CIRCUS REPORT is published and edited each week by Don Marcks, 525 Oak Street, El Cerrito, Calif. 94530. (415) 525-3332.

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Miscellaneous

Bal-Mar Productions is planning to promote and tour a special show in the mid-west and east during the summer months. It is said that the show is one which will appeal to both young and old alike.

The Danskin Factory Outlet stores in York, Reading and Orlando, have recently mailed out a brochure which advertises a 50% off feature on all purchases of their products.

Canada's Circus Tivoli has been running ads in Canadian papers offering jobs to prospective employees for positions as Educational Directors and Engagement Directors.

New York's Broadway shows now sell posters, concessions and other specialties as a part of their new "merchandising" operation to increase theatre income.

The Frame House Gallery of Louisville, Ky. is offering a series of animal paintings by noted authors. A most recent advertised special was a painting of a Jaguar by artist Charles Frace, who studied the animals at Robert Baudy's Rare Feline Breeding Compound.

An attractive ad has been appearing in Sarasota papers for the Continental Cafe, owned and operated by Elvin Bale and Jeanette Williams.

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Ringling-Barnum - Blue
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Ringling-Barnum - Red
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--- MAGIC ---

David Copperfield
Jan 29-Feb 11 Lake Tahoe
Nevada

50th Magic Fest
Jan 29-31 Columbus, Ohio

--- OTHER DATES ---

Billy Barton
to Feb 4 Mexico City

Globetrotters
Jan 27-28 Anaheim, Cal.

Joey Jordan
Jan 28 Toronto, Canada

Poco Plus . . .
to Feb 2 Mexico City

SAMANTHA



One of the really great things about being with the circus is working way up here in the air - on the trapeze. You just feel so free and light that it is truly as if you were flying.

Of course, a girl doesn't have to worry too much when you have a big, handsome catcher there to help you. He's really nice and helps me look better than I really am. Besides that he's kinda cute on the ground too, if you know what I mean.

By the way, have you renewed your subscription to Circus Report? Even better, get a friend to subscribe with you and then we can all enjoy each other's company.

HOTLINE

Dec. — - Enroute to Muskogee, Okla. - The Dr. Kay Magic Spectacular Stage Show broke a wheel on a semi which caused the total destruction of the trailer and its contents and also killing several birds and animals. The show is now being rebuilt in Hugo, Okla.

Dr. Kay plans to reopen his show in Feb. at Pryor, Okla. He normally carries 12 major illusions and 5 people and plays the mid-western states. Prior to taking out his own show Dr. Kay traveled with the Kelly Bros. Circus and the former James Bros. Circus.

REPORT

FEDS CHECK DOG ACTS

Performing dog acts have suddenly become of great interest to the Federal Animal and Humane Society officials, as they branch out into new areas to push their inspection procedures.

Such acts are currently being sought out and then investigated and inspection teams are expanded and increased. Performers are being reprimanded, fined and ordered to change their ways. The inspection teams are concerned about housing provided for the dogs, as well as their grooming, feeding and personal care.

It has been said that in some cases the inspectors are comparing performing dogs and their facilities with the requirements laid down for laboratory operations.

Inspection teams are checking on known locations of dog acts, as well as checking advertising on the part of such acts seeking work, and they also secure information about the performers by talking with other performers who can give them the residence locations for such acts.

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Notice

NEW OVERSEAS RATE . . .

Postal rates for all overseas mailings were increased on the 1st of January. At the same time the new regulations require that mail such as Circus Report must be sent in sealed envelopes.

Because of the added cost of mailing CR to foreign destinations we are forced to increase the subscription cost. Effective immediately, all foreign subscriptions will be priced at \$25.00 per year.

Rates to Mexico and Canada continue to be the same as the U. S. rate and will not be increased until the other postal increases are announced.



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DON'T MISS

PARADE IN CHICAGO

An authentic, turn-of-the-century circus parade, complete with colorful parade wagons, hundreds of horses, wild animals, costumed performers and circus music will roll along the streets of Chicago during Memorial Day weekend, according to Mayor Jane Byrne.

"It will be an historic circus parade - just like those seen by our grandparents 75 years ago," the Mayor added.

The parade, sponsored by the City of Chicago, will consist of circus museum masterpieces from the Circus World Museum of Baraboo. The wagons, equipment and animals for the parade will be on display at the Navy Pier several days prior to the event.

The parade will begin at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 24th and will move along a 4.5 mile course including Michigan Avenue. In case of rain, the parade will be held on Monday, May 25, Memorial Day.

"The parade will have all the color, splendor and excitement of the circus parades of yesterday," Mayor Byrne said. "The parade

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and the exhibits will be absolutely free to the public. We expect thousands of circus and history buffs to travel to Chicago to see it."

The parade will be made up of more than 40 colorful ornately-carved circus parade wagons drawn by 250 horses, a steam calliope, mounted musicians, flags, banners, circus trappings, clowns, costumed performers and circus animals.

Mounted trumpeteers will lead the parade and the mighty "America" steam calliope will bring up the rear. Intwined throughout the parade will be costumed riders on horses, herds of performing elephants, camels, llamas, lions and tigers, giant reptiles and an army of clowns.

"Big Tommy" at 5 tons, the largest performing elephant in the world will be a feature of the parade.

William L. Schultz, director of the Circus World Museum, says the parade will be authentic in every detail.

"Every wagon and unit in the Chicago parade will be authentic to the period just after the turn of the century, when the circus

(Continued on Page 10)



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PARADE IN CHICAGO (Continued)

parade was in its heyday of glory," Schultz said. "It will be our museum masterpiece spread out over the streets of Chicago."

The event will be staged for the City of Chicago by Festivals, Inc., which also produces ChicagoFest, Taste of Chicago and Autumn Fair.

The gorgeous circus wagons, part of the world's largest collection at Circus World Museum, will arrive in Chicago on the Museum's circus train on Tuesday, May 19th at the Clinton Street yards of the Chicago and Northwestern Transportation Co. They will be on display to the public at Navy Pier from 12 noon to 9 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, May 21 - 23.

The parade on May 24, will be assembled at Navy Pier and will start at 2 p.m. along Michigan Avenue. It is estimated that the parade will take about an hour and a half to pass any given point along the route.

A colorful brochure about the parade, showing the route and parade order, is available. Please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to ChicagoFest, 600 E. Grand Ave., Chicago, Ill - 60611.

REPORT

SOMETHING SPECIAL ...

Selling tiger dung has become a booming business in Canton, Red China, as a result of rising demand for a "dog-repellent" among would-be escapees.

The existence of the new trade came to light recently, after security authorities in Canton discovered a group of youths stealing tiger's dung from the city zoo. An interrogation of the youths led to the discovery that they had also been obtaining tiger's dung from friends and relatives in Hunan and Kwangsi.

The thriving business started about six months ago in Canton when a young couple were plotting an escape. While pondering the problem of getting past bloodhounds used by the border guards to track down fugitives, they suddenly thought of tiger's dung.

They tested their theory in a successful dash for freedom. After reaching Hong Kong, they spread the good news that pursuing dogs can be effectively scared off by the smell of the dung. Before long, tiger dung vending became a prosperous business.

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in the NEWS

ELEPHANT'S LEG IS MENDING

About twelve weeks ago, a 12 year old African elephant at the San Diego Wild Animal Park suffered a broken leg after falling into the moat. Today she is improving rapidly and getting about with a walking cast. "We think that we are getting excellent results in the healing of the fracture," says a park veterinarian Dr. Lester Nelson.

The elephant, named Mendavu, broke her leg when she fell into the moat. Subsequently, a 17 member medical team pinned the large lower leg bone and fitted a sophisticated fiberglass cast to the leg in a unique three-hour operation.

Nelson says that if all goes well, Mendavu should be able to rejoin her mate, Chico, and several female juvenile elephants in a few weeks.

In the meantime zoo officials are wondering if Mendavu is pregnant as she had been mating with Chico prior to the fall. They figure it will be at least June before they know for sure.

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ACTS

The following acts were set by Rose Adair, artists' representative in New York City.

Cimse's Russian Wolfhounds and Pomeranians.

Circus Odyssey:

Jan 14-Feb 10 - Mexico City
Feb 12-15 - Monterey, Mexico
Feb 27-Mar 15 - San Juan, P.R.
Mar 20-29 - Malaguez, P. R.
Apr. 20-26 - Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Apr 28-May 3 Wilmington, Mass
May 7-10 - Providence, R.I.

Charles Merrill - Illusions

December and January Club dates

Fanfare - Puppet Revue

December and January Club dates

Miscellaneous

The Circus World Park in Florida has acquired the two Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus wagons which were owned by Jerry Booker of San Mateo, Calif.

Loews Hotel in Washington, DC, featured clown/acrobat Peter Hoff as part of its New Years Eve Party.

PEOPLE

DOUG and **SALLY ASHTON** recently finished work on a circus sequence for the TV series "Foul Play." They'll be touring with the American Continental Circus this year.

HARRY CHIPMAN, retired circus press advance man, has been hospitalized for an operation and would enjoy cards. Write him at: 221-C W. Fairview, San Gabriel, Calif. 91776.

LINDA and **TIM HOLST**, of the Ringling Red Unit, are expecting their second child in May.

R. D. KOHLRIESER's animal acts and his juggling son, **MIKE**, will be touring with the Great American Circus this season.

DOROTHY LAMOUR will reportedly be attending the second world premiere showing of the film "The Greatest Show on Earth" in Florida on Jan. 26th.

MIKE PIKE, bandleader/announcer, is program director at Radio Station KWFT in Wichita Falls, Texas. Mike will also conduct the Stebbing Royal European Circus band at the South Florida Fair in West Palm Beach.

JACKIE ALTHOFF's bears will be featured with the Hamid-Morton Circus for the 1981 season.

RALPH and **DORIS HORTON** spent the holi-

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days in Mexico, visiting circuses there as well as their many friends in that country.

KARIN DAVIS writes that the "Ottawa Journal" closed its doors the day **GAYLORD MAYNARD's** picture was on its front page.

TONY EVERETT reports he caught the new edition of the Ringling Red Unit at its preview performance the show was great. He also notes that **RICHARD MANN** has returned to the show's Clown Alley.

JOHNNY FULGHUM visited the Bill Karlton Magic Show, which played Richmond, Va., during the holidays.

LEE STEVENS (The Stevens Duo) has purchased a new sword-to-sword rigging from **CARLOS FARFAN**, which he picked up in a recent trip to Las Vegas.

DOUG HENNING, magician, will bring his full stage magic show to San Francisco this March, when he will play an extended engagement at the Opera House.

WASHINGTON TUBBS II



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NEW SHOW FOR '81

Park Towne Productions, owned and operated by Steve Knotts and Jerry Miller of Parkersburg, W. Va., have announced that they are producing a second unit to be known as "Expo 81". The new unit will be handled exclusively by Bel-Mar Productions, owned by David Ashley.

Due to the increased number of dates provided by Bel-Mar, it has been deemed necessary to produce this second unit, Knotts reports. "Expo 81" will carry all major illusions as is the case with Expo's sister unit "A Magical Odyssey," which Park Towne Productions has produced for the past several years.

Both units feature a 90 minute, major illusion show complete, with ten to twelve large stage illusions, with lots of feathers and sequins for flash and color. The shows pack into an 18 ft. custom built trailer and will be seen traveling in West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia and Indiana.

LOOK

WHAT I JUST BOUGHT!

Ira Stull's stored away and forgotten misc. collection of show items.

Large full color wall poster for National Calliope Co. - \$6.00

Tangley calliope catalog - 36 pages (a reprint) - \$5.00

Deagon musical instruments catalog - (Una-phones, swiss bells, etc) (reprint) - \$4.50

Old time Spillman carousel catalog - illustrated (reprint) - \$3.50

A few Mexican movie posters, interesting, but very tender - Each \$3.50

Col. Smiley Corbin's "Life Time in Show Business" profusely illustrated, soft cover, 1st edition (now out of print) - \$5.00

Earl Carroll's Vanities (the Body Merchant) History of Broadway's "Oh La La" boldest girlie revues, out of print, illustrated, mint - \$9.50

Assorted theatre lobby pictures - \$1.00 each - 12 for \$10.00

Grand Ole Opry, 400 pages, filled with photos, many in color, mint \$25.00 - (add \$2.00 for shipping)

"The Two" the biography of the Siamese twins, mint, illustrated - \$12.95

"The Fabulous Showman" (life of P. T. Barnum) - Used, OK except dust cover soiled, pub. 1959, illus. scarce \$9.00

Country Music Encyclopedia, hundreds of photos, many in color, soft cover - \$13.50

Heres to the Friars, illustrated - \$7.95
(Please give 2nd choice)

ART "Doc" MILLER
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NOTICE...

The California State University at Carson, Ca. is interested in having elephant rides as part of their upcoming April anniversary. interested parties should contact Jack Adams, Professor of Animal Behavior, California State University, by calling (213) 516-3427 during the day or (714) 897-8990 in the evening.

SPECIAL**ANIMALS HAVE RIGHTS, TOO . . .**

What happens if a commercial dog breeder raises animals in filth? What if an animal trainer lets a lion run loose? What if a research institution does not report on the pain relief it provides for animals in experiments? What if an airline lets a dog get sick or die from improper care while traveling?

All these problems involve the "rights" of animals - rights that are protected under the Animal Welfare Act. This law, which is administered by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, regulates animal care in four basic areas: the pet trade, zoos and circuses, research laboratories, and transportation. These businesses have to be licensed or registered with the USDA in order to keep regulated animals.

"Animal rights" are spelled out in standards of care and treatment, which cover housing, shelter, ventilation, sanitation, feeding and watering, separation of incompatible species, handling, transportation and veterinary care. Premises where regulated animals are housed are inspected on a continuing basis to make sure they are being treated according to the standards as established.

In most cases where APHIS inspectors point out deficiencies, the owner quickly corrects the problems. However, when corrections

aren't made within a reasonable period - or when there are glaring inadequacies - inspectors seek a remedy through administrative procedures.

These procedures are carried out under the direction of administrative law judges, who have independent status within the federal government. As part of their authority, they can levy fines, suspend or revoke licenses of dealers and exhibitors, and issue cease-and-desist orders - legally binding orders against future violations.

Administrative action to protect animal rights starts with the filing of a formal complaint against a license holder or registrant. The complaint specifies the deficiencies involved and asks the judge to impose one or more of the penalties provided by the Animal Welfare Act. The person being charged is immediately informed of the complaint by certified mail. A prompt response is required.

The person charged with violation usually has the option to accept a penalty and correct deficiencies without admitting or denying that violation has occurred. If the person decides to present a defense, he can request a formal hearing. An administrative law judge generally holds this hearing in a local courtroom near the place where the charged person lives. The person can retain a lawyer and call witnesses to help with his defense. AP-

(Continued on Page 16)

By Crane



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ANIMAL RIGHTS (Continued)

HIS is always represented by a lawyer and also calls witnesses to support its charges. In any case, the judge considers all available evidence and issues a decision in writing, which is delivered to the person charged by means of a certified letter. If he or the officials who brought the complaint are dissatisfied with the decision, they can appeal it to the USDA judicial officer. If the person charged is dissatisfied with the judicial officer's opinion, he can appeal the case further to the federal courts.

Administrative law judges can levy fines up to \$1,000 per violation, and they can suspend or revoke licenses. Suspension lasts a specified time or until lifted by a subsequent order of the administrative law judge. Revocation prohibits the former licensee from doing business until an entirely new license application is made and accepted. USDA does not accept an application until one year after a revocation takes effect, and the

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application is granted only if the applicant can then demonstrate that he will provide proper care and treatment for his animals. In almost every case where an administrative law judge finds that a violation has occurred, he issues a cease-and-desist order to prevent further violations. This order has the force of a permanent injunction, and it remains in effect even if a license is revoked and later reissued. Violations of the order can be referred to a federal district court and carry a penalty of up to \$500 for each day that a violation continues.

Notice

PAULA LARGE is trying to locate circus performer CARLOS SANCHEZ who was or is appearing with a show in Ecuador or Columbia. Anyone who can assist her can contact her at: P. O. Box 364, Haines City Fla. 33844 or phone 813-422-1344.

PEOPLE

JIM RAAB, RON BACON and ALAN A. MEREDITH, will be working out ahead of the Great American Circus this season.

THE PLUNKETT FAMILY was working a sport show in Chicago this month.

DR. ATKINSON, of Guelph University and MICHAEL K. HACKENBERGER recently completed a study of the digestive processes of African and Asian elephants. Their work is to be published in a research journal later this year.

REPORT

NEW SHOW PLANNED

Plans for a new magic illusion show have been announced by Joe Schmitt, Jr. The show, to be titled "Joseph and Kimberly's Wonders of Magic" is presently being framed in Hurst, Texas.

It is expected that the show will feature six large illusions, a clown, and some smaller magical effects. A novelty act will be added on occasion. Music will be on tape and the show will carry its own sound system.

Plans call for the show to be booked into school auditoriums and as a promotional

BOOKING FOR 1981

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feature for shopping malls. A smaller version of the program will be available as an act for circus dates, holiday shows, parks and such.

Schmitt, who toured last season as a clown and announcer with the A. G. Clark Circus, will continue to perform in that capacity until the opening of the magic show which is scheduled for early October.

Miscellaneous

The new photostory book on "Hoot Gibson" includes some photos and reproductions of circus posters which featured Hoot in addition to a complete listing of his films. The volume was compiled by Mario DeMarco.

The NBC-TV show "Chips" which will be aired on Jan. 25th, will feature a basketball game between the police officers and the King Charles Troupe, of the Ringling-Barnum Circus.



MAGIC LIMITED - LLOYD E. JONES - 4064 39TH AVE., OAKLAND, CA 94619

BY LLOYD E. JONES

The Society of American Magicians now has some 28 film programs which can be rented by clubs. That's quite an increase in recent years and the programs vary a great deal. Interested groups should write: Pete Petrashek, 3409 South 89th St., Omaha, Nebr. 68124, about rental charges, etc. This could make for an interesting meeting.

The advertising booklet which we liked so much last year has now been made available by Magic Inc., of Chicago for \$4.00 (post. 41c) with 18 p of text. This is an outright plug for an advertising company but can be defended because it gives so many ideas and uses of material for the entertainer. Having used such things as wooden nickels, big bills and such myself, I can vouch for the great use of these gimmicks which bring your name and slogan, etc., to the sponsors and possible prospects. The wide variety of material is just hinted at and no prices are given, but a copy of "The Magic of Custom Advertising" by Larry Schalk will furnish some excellent ideas that you can put to good use.

One of the big bargains around is still Senator Crandall's book on "How to Stack Dice" which is a mere \$2.00 (post. 28c). It was written as our beloved friend was ailing and it is humorous, wise and practical. The drawings make the text easy to follow and the book is loaded with additional moves, ideas and patter. Your local magic shop

should have it, and like our Fitzkee Trilogy and the Fleming Books this small one can be considered a "classic."

"Crandall's Comments" by the way are still being read and re-read by those who knew or have heard of the great one. Started in 1974, it ran for six issues before he passed away and it was my sad duty to publish issue No. 7. Now, all 7 sell for \$5.00 (p.p.) and are a wealth of humor, frankness, honesty and braveness. All done as he lay dying, his will to live, his thoughts of others and his humor and philosophy make these issues real gems. Senator Crandall's long period at the Magic Castle, his days in Chicago as a night club entertainer, his frequent appearances at the Abbott affairs and friendships thereby will be long remembered. I repeat, these are gems. Lift your spirit - enjoy. Long live the memory of "Senator" Charles Crandall.

A local magic shop ran out of the "Mark Wilson Course In Magic" over the holidays and found no more were available at that time. We have and still have this best course of recent years in the basic form, that is without apparatus and for \$34.95 (postage \$1.25, Ins. 85c and Calif. sales tax \$2.10) It was written by many, mainly Walter B. Gibson, and is wonderfully illustrated, covers 472 pages, almost 9x11 and some 300 tricks in many sections which explain cards, sleights, manipulations and even illusions. It is a treasure for a beginner to open and a pleasure for the student to study, with even magic one can build at home. For coverage, instruction, reasonable price and value you can rank this one a high one.

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MAILBAG

FROM "CIRCUS JOE" VALENCIANO
 WEDDING ANNIVERSARY . .

"Bumpy" and Eva Anthony will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Jan. 29th.

"Bumpy" a former clown, who has been clowning since 1916, up 'til some years ago before retiring. The Anthonys now live in St. Augustine, where Bumpy relaxes and goes fishing.

Bumpy, known as the original "Sad Sack" has trouped with a number of shows, large and small. They include: Yankee Robinson Circus, Howes Great London, Sparks, Walter L. Main, Sells Floto, Kay Bros., Robbins Bros., Tom Mix, Cole Bros., Cole Bros.-Clyde Beatty, Ringling-Barnum, Paul A. Miller, the Beers-Barnes Circus, Hoxie Bros. and the Circus Hall of Fame.

As you can see by the list of shows, Bumpy is really an old time circus clown, as well as being a nice man. Bumpy has a warm heart for children and a good sense of humor, as a clown should have.

The Anthonys are certainly nice people as we learned when we trouped with them for two seasons on Beers-Barnes and Hoxie Bros. in 1965-66.

Also Bumpy used to work in vaudeville and he has appeared with many shrine circuses all across the country.

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REPORT**WINDJAMMERS' CONVENTION**

The Windjammers Unlimited is holding their 9th annual convention in Sarasota (Fla) this week - Jan. 29-Feb. 1st. Headquarters for the event will be at the Holiday Inn, 8221 North Tamiami Trail.

Dr. Fred Dettman, Robert Peckham and Jack Stagg are co-chairman for the convention which will honor veteran circus bandmaster Merle Evans. Several other famous musicians will also be honored during the four day event.

The purpose of the Windjammers is to record for posterity circus music not previously recorded. Several recording sessions will be scheduled during the convention.

Miscellaneous

A recent review of the book "A History of the Circus" makes specific mention that the author writes mainly about British shows, and quickly passes over America's contribution to the circus. The 216 page volume has 150 pages on British shows and just 40 pages on American shows.

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