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Animals Rescued By Texas Zoo

After months of searching, Ralph Emerson, owner of Emerson's Wild Animal Farm, in Newington, Conn., reports he has found a new home for his animals. The collection of animals, valued at \$20,000, have been given to Centex Zoo at Waco, Texas, where says Emerson, "I know they will have good homes and good care."



Not long ago the State of Connecticut acquired Emerson's farm for part of a proposed highway system. He has been unable to find a new site with the proper zoning so he could keep the animals, which includes an elephant, hippo, tiger, lions, monkey and chimps.

The collection was offered to a local zoo, but they didn't have the space or money that it would take to build the necessary homes. As a result Emerson placed an advertisement in a zoo magazine, offering the animals to the best home.

Officials at Waco were interested and didn't wait to send a letter. Instead they called Emerson on his unlisted phone. They were told they were first in line, but that Emerson wanted a little time to think the idea over. (Continued on Back Page)

Financial Problems

Oregon's only drive-through wild animal park -- World Wildlife Safari -- near Winston, is having financial problems and may be forced to close. The parent company, Walker & Lee, of Anaheim, Calif., has ordered the park to cut back on expenses and establish a restrictive operation.

A company spokesman said last week that a major decision will be made next month, con- (Continued on Page 7)



PEOPLE

JOHN LAZZARI, organist and STEVE RICE, drummer, handled music for the Gatti-Charles Circus during its final weeks on the West Coast.

BETTY HUBER serves as assistant wardrobe mistress for the Texas Shrine Circus dates.

JIMMY DEAN is currently sharing the stage with elephants "Tina" and "Bertha" at the Nugget Casino (Sparks, Nev.)

JACKIE ALTHOFF was bitten by one of his grizzly bears on Oct. 4th. He was with the Emmett Kelly Jr. Circus.

JOHNNY ROVENTINI, the man who has paged Philip Morris cigarettes for 41 years is retiring this year. He's just 4'3" in height.

JERRY BOOKER had a circus exhibit at Orinda, Calif. for two days this past week.

TOM UPTON was busy showing his movies at Gilroy, Calif. on Oct. 26th.

L. WILSON POARCH, editor of "Southern Sawdust" entered Sarasota Memorial Hospital on Oct. 21st for a hernia repair operation.



REVAMPING

Have surplus trained stock for sale. Also animal oddities for Side Show.

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Fund Drive Gets Underway

The National Congress of Animal Trainers has begun a fund-raising drive by asking more than 100 U.S. circus producers and owners to donate extra or unused circus materials that could be sold to circus fans and collectors. The circus owners and producers have been asked to donate extra posters, window cards, pictures stationary, bill sheets, programs, etc.

The circus items would be advertised and sold in the early part of 1975, with the NCAT receiving the proceeds.

The fund drive by NCAT comes as an effort to continue printing its newsletter and also to help expand its legal counseling services for trainers.

NCAT trustee, Rev. L. David Harris, of Washington, DC., noted, "There has been a lot of talk about doing something about changing laws that hurt circuses and animal acts, but the NCAT has gone beyond talk -- we've tried to do something."

The Rev. Mr. Harris said, so far, in its six-month existence, the NCAT has:

+ - Worked to change interpretations of the Marine Mammal Act so that sea lion acts may continue.

+ - Worked with the Dept. of Commerce in drawing up guidelines which will be "reasonable" in enforcing the Marine Mammal Act.

+ - Testified in the U. S. Senate, urging changes of the present Dept. of Interior Law which has to do with transport-

ing endangered species across state lines.

+ - Helped pay legal funds for attorney Carl Shipley, lawyer for Hal Haviland in a suit challenging the Constitutionality of parts of the Animal Welfare Act.

The NCAT also publishes a regular newsletter which keeps its members informed as to new or changing federal regulations affecting animal trainers or circuses.

The NCAT was founded by animal trainers Tom Wilds and Roger Smith, and is now a non-profit incorporated entity.

Contributions of circus materials will be greatly appreciated by NCAT and may be sent to Rev. Mr. Harris, 421 Seward Sq., S.E., Washington, DC - 20003.

Special features are coming in our future issues.

ROUTES

Allen's Pet Zoo
Oct 30-Nov 3 Pomona, Cal.

Beatty-Cole Circus
Oct. 28 Gulfport, Miss.
29 Mobile, Ala.
30 Hattiesburg, Miss
31 Meridian
Nov. 1 Columbus

Carson & Barnes Circus
Oct. 27 Mt. Pleasant, Tex
-- End of Tour--

Hubert Castle Circus
Oct. 23-26 Utica, N.Y.

Circus Vargas
Oct. 28 Odessa, Tex.
29-30 Enroute
31-1 Albuquerque, NM

Early American Circus
Oct 25-27 Half Moon Bay,
Cal.

Fisher Bros. Circus
Oct. 24 Winfield, La.

George-Matthews Circus
Oct 28-29 Tulsa, Okla
30-31 Oklahoma City
Nov. 1-2 Enroute
3 Hobbs, N.M.

Holiday Hippodrome
Nov. 2 Wilkes-Barre, Pa

Olympic Int'l Circus
Nov. 1-3 Monroe, La.

Polack Bros. Circus
Oct 29-Nov 2 Baltimore, Md

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
Oct 29-Nov 3 Quebec City

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
Oct 29-Nov 3 Pittsburgh, Pa

Royal Lipizzan Show
Nov. 2-3 Charlotte, N. C.

Wallenda-Leontini Circus
Oct. 19-20 Harvey, Ill.

OTHER

ROUTES

Century 21 Shows
to Nov. 2 Mobile, Ala.

James H. Drew Shows
Oct 28-Nov 2 Augusta, Ga

Expo Winter '74
Oct 31-Nov 3 Chicago, Ill.

Golden State Rodeo
to Nov 3 San Francisco, Cal

Grand Nationals
to Nov 3 San Francisco, Cal

Ice Capades
Oct 29-Nov 3 Tucson, Ariz

Kramien's Magic-Capades
Oct. 28 Tacoma, Wash.
31 Port Angeles

Royal Swedish Ballet
Oct. 29 Cupertino, Cal.

Shower of Stars - Western
Nov. 3 Canton, Ohio

Frank Sinatra Show
Oct. 28 Houston, Texas
29 Dallas

The Welsh Guards
Oct. 30 Oakland, Calif.



But you let those other kids bring their pets to school.

MATTEL TROUBLE

Recent news reports indicated that Mattel, Inc., the parent firm of Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey Circus, has discovered information that could indicate some of its financial statements were in error. As a result the company has asked that all trading of its stock be discontinued until the facts are verified.

The problem could be connected with issues raised in a law suit by former RBBB stockholders. The circus was purchased in 1941.

A \$40 million lawsuit filed in Los Angeles Superior Court charges that Mattel overstated its earnings and concealed losses in proxy material given to the circus stockholders.

Not long ago Mattel settled a civil fraud suit with the SEC, who charged the company issued false press releases and financial statements for 1971 and 1972.

Early this year the SEC asked the courts to appoint two directors to Mattel's Board because the company was releasing false reports. Just this month the SEC asked that the courts appoint a complete Board of Directors who could take over the company because of false reports that had been issued.

YEARS AGO

The Cape Girardeau (Mo.) Southeast Missourian, dated for Sept. 28, 1924 reads:

"John Robinson Circus arrived, unloads in the rain, despite which early onlookers along Broadway get the unfailing 'circus thrill' as the heavy wagons, drawn by big horses and bigger elephants, lumber from the train station out to Fairground Park, where it gives afternoon and evening performances. Was last here in 1915."

.....Bill Ruesskamp





LEOPARD ATTACKS BOY VENDOR

While walking towards at Exit at Chicago's Int'l Amphitheatre, a 13 year old peanut vendor was attacked by a leopard. Michael Dwyer, told a Chicago Tribune reporter that the leopard ran toward him, knocked him down and "bit me on the head and clawed my eyes."

Treated at the Holy Cross Hospital, officials said he had cuts on his head, hands, eyes and legs.

The Tribune story said that Michael and his friend Edward Abbitt, thought the leopard was chained to a wagon at the RBBB Circus. They were heading for the exit to leave the building when the leopard attacked. The boy's supervisor drove off the leopard by hitting it with a table.

A circus attendant said the boys were walking in a restricted area at the time of the attack. He also told reporters it was possible that the leopard had opened its own cage in an attempt to get out.

The leopard, a part of the Samel's Mixed Animal Act, was described by Mrs. Samel as being an 8 month old pet. It often sleeps on her bed, she said, and was believed to be tame.

FINANCIAL PROBLEMS (Continued)

cerning the future operation of the 600 acre facility.

If the facility is closed, all 501 of its animals will be sold. The park's manager, Ed Hutton, says they have 40 different species of animals, including lions, tigers, zebras, elephants, ostriches, hyenas, gazelles, kudus and cheetahs.

Elephant Riding Class

Students of RBBB's Clown College reached the mid-way point in their clown classes on Oct. 17th when all 48 students were introduced to elephant riding at Circus World Park. Instruction in mounting, riding and getting off an elephant was offered by veteran elephant trainer, Bill Woodcock.

The class includes 39 men and 9 women, who range in age from 17 to 26, and represent 18 states. They'll wind up their classes with a "graduation" show at Venice, Fla. on Nov. 17.

The commencement exercise will be both a final exam and an audition. About 40% to 60% of the class are usually offered contracts with the circus for the coming year.

Circus Report is just \$10.00 per year - order your copy today.

Miscellaneous

A report on the Canadian Int'l Circus (See Circus Report for Sept. 30th - Page 5) should have read the program ran 2 hrs and 20 minutes.

Four shows are due into the San Francisco, Calif. area in November, followed by two shows in December.

November is going to be a busy month for Florida Circus Fans with Beatty-Cole and RBBB's Red Unit playing there. The Blue Unit and the Roberts Arena show will be there in December.

ANIMALS RESCUED (Continued)

Then Emerson jumped on a plane and flew into Waco for a surprise visit and tour of the zoo. He liked what he saw and announced the animals would go to Waco.

The only problem then was to find enough money to pay the shipping charges. A "Noah's Ark" program was launched and quickly the needed money was raised.

On Oct. 17th the Red Ball trucking Co. loaded the elephant for its 40 hour trip to Texas. The other animals will leave on Oct. 24th.

The trucks will stop every 50 miles during the trip to see that the animals are OK. Professional handlers will be along to care for the animals all the way