



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

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CANVAS DATES

The Tommy Scott-Tim McCoy Show will go under canvas for the latter part of its 1973 tour, reports show owner Tommy Scott. The show already has about five months of dates booked for auditoriums and arenas, then will move into an outdoor canvas format.

A circus-type tent will be used, with chairs and bleachers for the patrons. A portable stage will be used for most of the acts, while a single circus ring is to be set-up just in front of the stage for animal and wild west acts.

Show will continue to use its same promotion format for the under canvas operation. All dates will be sponsored and promoted by advance phone sales. Ticket prices have been announced as \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children.

This is Scott's 39th season on the road and it is the 11th year that McCoy has toured with the Scott show.

route plans

Recent printed reports indicates that George Hubler, in association with Harry Mills, will buy out the Circus Williams for 6 or 8 weeks this summer.

This is the second year the tented show has been on the road, under the direction of Jim Conley, of Ohio. The show will, this season, use an 80 ft. round end top with three 30 ft. middle section units. It will seat approximately 1,500 people.

Out in the Cold

News has just been received here that in England the Croydon Council told the Billy Smart's Circus to "pack its bags and don't come back."

The Management Committee, which runs the Fairfield Halls, where the show recently completed its long holiday run, says the circus will not be back next year because "a change is needed."

Circus folks report the officials are against them add plan to bring in some "highbrow" entertainment.

winter tour

The Voorheis bros. Circus opened at Mt. Pleasant, Mich. (Jan. 19) for its winter tour, which will include stands at Grayling, West Branch, Clare, Au Gees, Alpena, Oscoda, Alma, Port Huron, Gladwin and Owosso.

Show people traveling with the winter show unit include:

Henry Sprister - chimps
Aurillo Navarro Duo
Pat Davison
The Miller Family
The Marcellis
The Dog Man (Bow Wow)
Ricky Romig - producing clown
Wilma Rench - band leader
Col. Bill Voorheis - ringmaster

The show's summer tour will find the circus playing dates in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

Whistles & toots

..... by PETE PEPKE

Hexie Bros. Circus provided the power plants for the Frazier-Foreman heavy-weight title fight in Jamaica on Jan. 22.

Col. Bob Clark is furnishing timbers for the rebuilding of the ship "Constitution" - he reports via long distance.

Stuart Miller's Magic Show is playing dates in New Jersey and New York.

Upcoming winter show dates in the area of Rochester, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Youngstown and Buffalo will be covered by this reporter.

But right now I'm on my way to see the Ringling Show in Miami and get a bit of sunshine. Hope to visit Rudy Bundy while in Florida and lots of other old friends.

SHOW reviews

The New York Times reference set of ten volumes, available in most large libraries, lists the following show reviews under the title "Circus"

Circus Aimee - 1932 - May 22 -
 Circus Girl - Oct. 21, 1928
 Circus Madison Sq. Garden - Apr. 6, 1939
 Circus Princess - Mar. 28, 1926
 Apr. 26, 1927
 Aug. 31, 1937

finale

Jimmy Duffy, one of the seven brothers who operated the Duffy's Irish Circus in Ireland passed away on Dec. 29, 1972. His mother, Lena Duffy, died last August.

He was an all-around performer and had been seen as a clown, trapeze performer, rider and ringmaster.

Survivors include his widow Cilla

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Show dates set

Plans are well underway for the annual production of "The Great Y Circus" according to its director Warren Wood. The circus, which is now in its 35th year, will be presented on May 11-12 and May 18-19 at the YMCA in Redlands, Calif.

The entire program features local young people, most of whom have been training for the circus since last October. They will offer a variety of aerial numbers, ground displays and clown routines for an interesting program.

Early last year many of the members of "The Great Y Circus" worked during the opening stand with the Major Chumleigh's Circus. They earned enough money to buy nylon rope for their rigging. (For a report on Major Chumleigh's Circus see The Circus Report for Aug. 14 and Sept. 4, 1972).

Carlos Farfan, of the Famous Flying Farfans recently built new equipment for the show. This included seven webs with swivels, two tall unicycles and a flying trapeze rigging.

Walt Disney Productions Earnings Off

¹⁻²⁵⁻⁷³
 NEW YORK (AP) - Walt Disney Productions had slightly lower earnings in the first fiscal quarter ended Dec. 31, although revenues were up, the company reported.

Net income was \$5.02 million, or 18 cents a share on a fully diluted basis, compared with \$5.35 million, equal to 19 cents a share, in the first quarter a year ago. Revenues were \$68.91 million, up from \$58.43 million.

Chairman Donn B. Tatum said interest expenses of slightly over \$1 million were incurred in the first quarter of each year, but in the first quarter a year ago they did not appear as an expense because they were charged to deferred pre-opening costs.



Betty Hutton Out Of Stage Show

¹⁻²³⁻⁷³
 SAN DIEGO (AP) - The first stage appearance by Betty Hutton in seven years is off. The blonde actress faces three weeks in a hospital with an old shoulder injury, a spokesman said today.

A production of "Here Today" in which Miss Hutton was expected to star in San Diego's Off-Broadway Theater, was canceled.

Dr. Keith Agre, Miss Hutton's physician, was quoted as saying the shoulder has troubled the actress for almost 20 years since she dislocated it during filming of "The Greatest Show on Earth."

PEOPLE

THE FLYING ALEXANDERS have been signed to be on the Shrine Circus program at Sikeston, Mo. in March.

TANYA, the elephant, was presented with an "Entertainment of the Year" award on TV last week (Jan. 26).

RAY GRANT, magician, presented his illusion show at the Scottish Rite Temple in Oakland, Calif. on Jan. 29th.

KARL KOSSMAYER, famous mule trainer with Circus Scott in Sweden and SJOUKIE DIJKSTRA, Holiday on Ice star, will be married later this month.

EARL ALLEN reports that Floyd King visited his circus room one day last Nov.

KARL WALLEUDA was at the Auto Thrill Show in Houston, Texas on Jan. 12-13.

CHARLES GERMAINE reportedly will operate a Bugs Bunny Show this coming summer.

EVELYN CURRIE is reportedly now living in Lilburn, Ga.

TREVOR WOODWARD, former manager of the Circus Enis Togini (England) has been named manager of the Bristol Hippodrome Theatre.

RON HENON's side show was the subject of an interesting article in the San Francisco Chronicle (Calif) on Jan. 28th.

PAUL WESSLER has been visiting friends and doing research in the San Francisco, Calif. Bay Area this past month.

JAMES H. DREW visited with Floyd King At Macon, Ga. over the holiday season.

LARRY RUCKER is breaking a new dog and chimp act for the 1973 program of the Carden-Johnson Circus.

CHESTER CABLE will be with the George Matthews Circus during its brief winter season.

CLEMENT E. TOCCA, veteran circus musician, will be in charge of the music for the show "Holiday With Horses."

OTTO GRIEBLING and HANS JAHN were recently named to the Circus Hall of Fame.

NOTES

The Western Fair Assoc. is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

The Sam Bee Circus reportedly has some early spring dates in the Pacific Northwestern states.

The Circus World Museum, at Baraboo, Ws. will open its 1973 season on May 12th.

The Miller Johnson Circus reportedly will play 40% of its 1973 season dates under canvas.

Carson & Barnes Circus is scheduled to open its 1973 season at Austin, Texas on March 17th.

The third annual Shrine Circus at Sikeston, Mo. will be held on March 23-24.

The George Matthews Circus will start its winter tour at Martinez, Calif. on Feb. 17.

The Clowns of America have announced their convention will be held in Baltimore, Md. on April 12-14.

Some 85,000 people attended the Moslah Shrine Circus at Fort Worth, Texas during the Nov. 15-25 date.

RBBB recently signed a five year pact with the San Diego (Cal.) Sports Arena starting this year.

The North American Triple Circus of Bolivia travels from town-to-town via aircraft.

Some 21 graduates of the Clown College were given contracts with RBBB for the 1973 season.

The USSR reports they are going to build some 30 new circus buildings.

A feature on this year's RBBB Red Unit is the five high teeterboard number.

The Moscow Circus will be in Vancouver, BC on March 7-17. The prices are: \$4.50, \$5.50, \$6.50 and \$7.50.

PHILIP MORRIS, magician, tours his own magic show in addition to working for 22 weeks with the Hanneford Circus.

HARRY HAMMOND has joined the Sells & Gray Circus as office manager.

YEARS AGO

Pittsfield, Mass. - Jul 26-31, 1920

Great Keystone Exposition Shows came in today at 4 o'clock on one train of 7 freight cars, three box cars, one baggage car, two wagons and one engine.

They have three rides - The Whip, Merry-go-round and Ferris Wheel. Then there are eight shows - Hippodrome; Ka We Mo, snake eater; Mutt & Jeff walk-around; Athletic Show; Silodrome; Tarzan the ape man; Circus Side Show which has a ten piece band.

They also have 34 concession stands.

Everything was ready for the opening on Monday night following a street parade. All of the performers had nice clean costumes.

It rained on Saturday night so they closed up and took the show down at 9:30 p.m. As a result they were all loaded on the trains early, then left here on Sunday about 12:15 p.m. for Schenectady.

More Trouble

ATTENTION READERS

Apparently no one received The Circus Report for Jan. 22, 1973. Everyday we hear from another reader who has not yet received that issue.

We have asked the Post Office to make a search to determine what has happened to that week's issue. They went in to the mail on Jan. 19th. As a result you may receive an inquiry from the local Post Master, asking if you have been receiving the paper regularly.

Hopefully they will find the entire mailing laying on a desk or table just waiting to be sorted and sent on its way.

If the Post Office is unable to find the missing copies we will have this issue reprinted for you. So please let us know if you have not received the Jan. 22nd issue and if you want that issue for your files.

Many thanks ,..Don Marcks

MINIATURE CIRCUS

To the average passer-by it is just a garage, but on the inside its a fantasy land of dreams come true. Yes, that garage houses the big quarter-inch model circus built by Gene Moreland of Van Nuys, California.

The model show, all hand carved, represents some 20 years of work on the part of Gene and his wife, June. The show covers an area 18 ft. x 7 ft. and includes 16 tents, 63 wagons, 3 trains, plus special lighting and musical effects. All four walls of the garage are covered in old-time circus posters.



Gene has been a life time circus fan and admits that many times, as a child, he thought about running off to join the circus. However, he brought the circus home by means of books, pictures and his model show. His father was with the Walter L. Main Circus, working in the advertising department.

Many top name circus people have visited Gene's circus room and frequently he plays host to school classes, groups of scouts, friends, and fellow employees all of whom want to see the model show. Even local circus buffs gather at his home to visit and enjoy the show and to see the latest additions.

His poster collection includes litho posters from most of the famous old shows such as Al G. Barnes, Buffalo Bill, even Clyde Beatty, Cole Bres., Toni Boltini, Cristiani, etc.

They're all there waiting - ready to be announced so they can rush in and entertain the public.

HISTORICAL FACT

In June of 1873 the New York and New Orleans Exposition set up at 13th and Broadway, in Oakland, Calif.

The show reportedly was traveling on 40 cars and had a menagerie and big top.

ROUTES

Artisten Tiere Circus
Feb. 7-March 11 Vienna, Austria

Hubert Castle Circus
Feb. 7-11 Memphis, Tenn.

Cole's All Star TV Circus
Feb. 5 Russell, Pa.

Polack Bros. Circus
Feb. 7-11 Louisville, Ky.

Ringling-Barnum (Blue Unit)
Feb. 9-11 Venice, Fla.

Ringling-Barnum (Red Unit)
Feb. 6-11 Greensboro, N. C.

Tommy Scott-Tim McCoy Show
Feb. 5 Aiken, S. C.
6 Elberton, Ga.
7 Hartwell
8 Athens
9 O'Ff
10 Milledgeville
11 Augusta

Wonderful World of Horseees
Feb. 9-25 Mexico City, Mexico

memories . . . by Bill Ruesskamp

A novelty act, which played both burlesque and vaudeville from 1905 to 1915, The Exposition Four, consisted of three brothers whose name was Alexander, while the fourth brother was named Brady.

One of the brothers played a baritone solo which was strictly tops. One played two cornets at the same time. One of the brothers became a famous writer of marches - his name was Russelae Alexander.

This man's march music was used by trouping bands since the 1890's. He wrote such numbers as "The Exposition Four March" which RBBB's band played many times. He also wrote "Tropic to Tropic" and dedicated it to H. A. Vandercook, another circus band leader.

Incidentally, a Mr. Barnhouse of Okaloosa, Okla. has some of the Alexander marches in his collection, with some of the music on records.

The leavings are thin

My major criticism of the Belle Vue Circus, says R. Fraser Dudgeon, is that the second half is, on the whole, a great deal weaker and slower than the very good first half. The pace quite noticeably slows down and in a couple of cases the quality drops.

Having said that I must hasten to add that I thoroughly enjoyed the first half and perhaps it is, in fact, its quality which leads to a certain disappointment after the intermission.

Appearing throughout the show are Britain's finest team of clowns - Jacko Fossatt, Little Billy Merchant and Jimmy Scott. Their numbers tie in well with the program and they even have new twists to old routines.

One major change this year is the appearance of Denmark's lady ringmaster, Nelly Jane. Attized in tights and hot pants she certainly is different. She's more of a speaker than the traditional idea of a ringmaster. Nonetheless she has a pleasant personality which comes across well and she does a good job of making the announcements.

(See circus program in the Circus Report for Jan. 15, 1973)

show to debut

A 25 week season has been announced for the newly organized "Sunshine Circus". The show will be playing the Chicago area along with dates in the eastern part of the country.

The new show is a joint venture by Jimmy McNeal, a concessionaire and Ernie McLean, former circus announcer for L. N. Fleckles and other shows.

Show will use a trailer marquee by which patrons will pass through into the seating area. Six seat wagons, with a capacity for 2,400 persons, are currently being built.

Spend a moment

by ART "Doc" MILLER

If your readers have ever wondered as to the final disposition of the Elmer Jones' (2 car show king) equipment, the blues went to the new James M. Cole Show.

This new show was built around a nucleus of the Van Arman minstrel tent. This was an early truck show with very clever and efficiently built truck bodies that replaced the gilly railroad car.

It is doubtful if any truck show was ever as flashy and well lettered as the James M. Cole outfit. Charles Lockier, of Auburn, N. Y., was the artist on this and all later James Cole shows. All James Cole shows were based at Pann Yan, N. Y., and oddly enough, another Jim Cole tent had previously been based about 60 miles away at Tioga, Pa. Marsha Maynard is the daughter of this Jim Cole, who operated a well known wagon show.

A small village in western New York (Gawanda) was the home of Al Anderson, old-time and well-known side show operator. Al framed several wagon shows but didn't have much success. However, he always did well as a pit show operator on Rhoda Royal, Elmer Jones and other shows during his 50 or more years of traveling. He went off the road in 1927 and seemed to vanish into thin air - it



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was the week that Sig Sautelle died.

Incidentally, Sig's final show was a two car gilly operation which folded in mid-season (1919) at Red Lion, Pa.

Many a trouper dreams of finding forgotten show equipment in an old barn and once in a blue moon it happens. Back in 1955, at Masena, N. Y. a billposter saw a calliope half-hidden under hay and purchased it for just \$10.00.

Workmen tearing down a barn in Waverly, N. Y. some 15 years ago uncovered the Dad Backer tent show ticket wagon, some 40 years after the show had folded. Neighborhood kids had it wrecked and burned in less than an hour.

A wagon circus with little or no history folded in upstate New York during the 20's. It was called the "Ferris Circus" and one of their wagons, a tabloid, had been on a Walter L. Main show way - way back in its early days.