



7th Year

December 18, 1978

Number 51-52

Search for Seals

New York's City Park Zoo is searching for seals (sea lions) for its popular center piece attraction. There was a time when they had five seals, but old age has caught up with the animals and now the zoo has only one such seal.

It's almost impossible to get seals nowadays because of the Federal Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and the Endangered Species Act of 1973. In addition to these restrictions there are new regulations in the works which could result in the Federal Government confiscating the one remaining seal.

The City Park Commission says Federal bureaucrats are threatening the future of their seal attraction. They have charged the zoo with maintaining "unsanitary conditions, no filtering system, no temperature regulation or monitoring system." As a result recent applications to obtain seals off the California coast have been turned down.

The zoo is doing things differently now, like testing the water daily. However, because of their financial situation they see no way that a filtering system can be installed. Cost estimates for such a system run as high as a million dollars.

The zoo has been hoping they could find a pre-Act seal, one that would have been in captivity before the regulations were passed, thus

making it exempt from the rules. They have also looked at "rehabilitated seals" which are also exempt. They are seals that have been injured or stranded and nursed back to health. The zoo feels most of these animals are not up to living in the zoo's seal pond.

Loopholes for pre-Act animals will soon be closed when new regulations for another Federal Law, additions to the Animal Welfare Act, go into effect,

(Continued on Page 2)

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Paul V. Kaye

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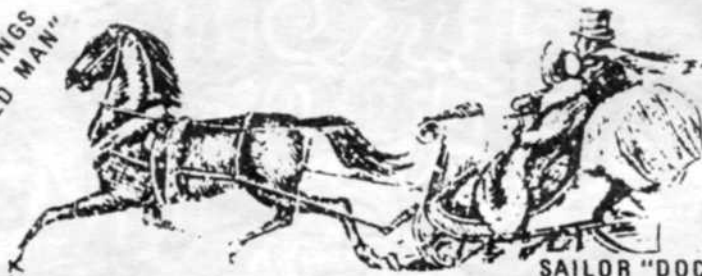
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PAUL V. KAYE

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SEASON'S GREETINGS
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SEAL SEARCH (Continued)

according to R. B. Brumsted, permit director of the Office of Marine Mammals and Endangered Species, National Marine Fisheries Service.

Dr. Dale Schwindaman, the senior staff veterinarian of the Animal Care staff of the Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services, says his agency will gain jurisdiction over all sea lions when the new law goes into effect, probably about the first of the year. The agency will also supervise whales, dolphins, sea otters manatees and polar bears.

"We would advise them (the Central Park Zoo) not to get them," he said. "This is pretty strong evidence they willfully violated the act."

Meanwhile, pool keeper Joseph Smimmo, scoffs at the Federal authorities and notes that the Zoo's remaining seal, Missie has lived there for 16 years - does she look that old, he asks.

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PEOPLE

DOUG HENNING, magician/illusionist, will be appearing at a club in Lake Tahoe, Nevada, Dec. 22 to 30th.

CARL BECK will take his magic act to the Flamingo Hilton in Las Vegas, opening there Jan. 19th.

ALBERT HOUSE, JOHN "Tiny" PHILLIPS, FRED HEATLEY, FRANK MARA and FRANK ROBIE, CFA's visited the Ringling Blue Unit at Nassau, N.Y., where they visited with **HAROLD RONK, BUCKLES WOODCOCK, GARY JACOBS and TED SERVET-SKI**.

Some of the acts seen working in the Central/northern portion of California for the Holidays were:

Bob Emerico, clown/magic/Santa; **Bill Williams**, clown/magic/Santa; **Lani Ironberg**, trained animals; **Wally Lee**, magic/illusions; **The Wheelers**, musical comedy act; **Holveck & Co.**, magic/illusions and **Dave Twomey**, clown/dogs/ponies.

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Injury Report

While driving east near Dearborn, Mich., escape artist **Manzini** and his wife, **Dina**, were injured in an auto accident on Nov. 27th. They were enroute to New York City after having completed a Nov. 24-27 engagement with the **Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus** at Birmingham, Mich.

Manzini's van rolled over and was badly damaged. He suffered three cracked ribs, received cuts on both legs near the knees and a mouth injury. His wife received cuts on her forehead and legs.

They spent three days in the Oakland Hospital at Dearborn, then laid over a week waiting for their van to be repaired so they could get home.

Manzini was scheduled to be in London on Dec. 9th for the **Circus World Championships** where he was set to compete against some of the top escape artists of Europe.

The Circus

The program to be presented by the **Circus International** at Bellevue, England, Dec. 23 to Feb. 3rd will include the following acts:

Bobby Roberts, Jr., elephants; **Johnny Roberts**, lion act; **Jacko Fossett** and **Little Billy**, clowns; **Norman Barrett**, ringmaster; **Diavolo & Carina**, high wire; the **Lati's Comedy Bus Stop Act**; the **Ten Vulcanos**, acrobats; the **Morano Troupe**, bar act; the **Miahæla Kaiser Troupe**, bareback riders; **Victor and Sylvia Ponce**, juggling; **Barbara Morris**, sea-lions; and **Ramirez**, cloud swing.



SHOW DATES

- Beatty-Cole Circus
to Dec. 26 DeLand, Fla.
Dec. 27-31 Miami
- Castilla Circus
Dec 22-Jan 6 Madrid, Spain
- Circo Atayde
to Feb. 6 Mexico City, Mex.
Circus America
Dec. 25-30 Largo, Md.
- Circus International
Dec 22-Feb 3 Manchester,
England
- Circus Vargas
Jan. 5 San Diego, Calif.
(Opening date for the new
1979 tour)

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- Men, Animals, Sensations
to Dec. 31 Berlin, Germany
- Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
Dec. 28-31 Venice, Fla.
Jan. 2-8 St. Petersburg

---- OTHER DATES ----

- Blackjack Tournament
Dec. 17-20 Las Vegas, Nev.
- Blackstone Magic Show
Dec. 19-24 Cincinnati, Ohio
26-30 Wilmington, Dela
- Holiday On Ice - Int'l
Dec 26-31 Hollywood, Fla.
- Holiday On Ice - Nat'l
Dec 26-31 Anaheim, Calif
- Holveck & Co. - Magic Show
Dec. 18 Oakland, Calif.
- Ice Capades - Eastern Unit
Dec 26-Jan 7 Boston, Mass.
- Ice Capades - Western Unit
Dec 25-31 Spokane, Wash.
- Ice Follies
Dec 26-Jan 7 Philadelphia, Pa
- Loomis Magic Capades
Dec. 20 Deming, N.M.
- Magic Time USA - Prf. Miller
Dec. 19 Trenton, N.J.
- Santa's Xmas Show
Dec. 18 Kansas City, Mo.
- The Sikorskys - Jugglers
Dec. 23 Baltimore, Md.

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CIRCUS AMERICA, opening Dec. 25th and running thru Jan. 7th, will feature DAVE McMILLAN's Fabulous Flying Tigers - the first time EVER in a circus! The act consists of 20 tigers, 1 lion and a panther. The remaining talent line-up includes: Rix's Bears, Victor Julian, the Flying Espanas, Hugo Zacchini, Sensational Leighs, Fearless Bauers, Dino & Anita (low wire), The Wallendas, Miss Lisa, Norbu, Miss Elizabeth, the Jorge Rossell comedy car, Cristiani's elephants and Di Lellos, an imported Italian musical clown group. Also imported is YASMINE SMART who will be ringmistress. JOE BAUER, recently returned from Europe, is performance director; BILL HALL is talent co-ordinator and the BAUER-HALL Agency are Talent Consultants.

BEN DeWAYNE filled me in on the tragic details of the poisoning of JUDY, the Baby African Elephant, part of the PAUL KAYE Hollywood Elephant herd. The elephant became suddenly ill and died, the day after Halloween at the Charleston, S.C. Fair which ran Oct. 26 thru Nov. 4th. An autopsy revealed traces of toxic poisoning (believed to be strychnine) and deliberate poisoning is suspected. The other two elephants did not become ill. A wrestling bear, BRUNO, on the program, was also poisoned, and did not work for two days.

In the southeast corner of Indiana, almost into Kentucky, is the small city of Evansville, home of the Hadi Shrine Temple, one of the finest Shrine organizations in the country. Each year this Temple and all the men involved, work very hard to make their Shrine Circus a super-success, and their personal treatment of performers is without equal - anywhere. If an act comes away from this engagement unhappy then something is wrong with the act. The Shriners cannot do enough to make everyone comfortable and content. For instance, on opening night, a Grand Turkey Dinner is held at the Temple for everyone on the show, and on Saturday night, after the 3rd show, a bar is set up for a few "unwinding drinks"! And then on Sunday, between shows, the wives of the Hadi Funsters layout a sensational spread of food. Meanwhile, throughout the run, there are cookies, sandwiches, coffee and cold drinks, available for all personnel free of charge. This food is provided by the Funsters themselves. It seems a bit unfair to single out just a few for public tribute; however, there are so many involved it is impossible to name them all in such a brief space. So here's a big Thank You from all of us to the entire Shrine Committee in general, and in particular to Dr. William Standing (Acts' Chairman) and his assistant Joe Vezzoso, and to Harvey Johnson (Arenic Chairman) and his assistant Wayne Howard, plus a very special thanks to the Funsters and their wives.

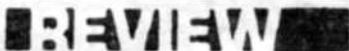
JOHN H. McCONNELL, who is writing a book on the Hannefords, to be published sometime next summer, became interested in his subject through his fascination for the late KAY FRANCIS whose death upset the writer very much. It was her death, actually, that was the initial motivation for his book which will span seven generations of Hannefords dating to the 1700's. George DeDeppo is doing the art work. We wish Mr. McConnell well with his project.

CLOSEUPS: Word is that the DYMEKS have recovered and will be ready for the new season . . . KLEMENTIS are back from their trip to Austria . . . JOHN LEWIS, of Hoxie Bros., has been having trouble with his teeth, so much so that he had to beg out of the California jaunt with CHUCK MELTZER . . . TOMMY BENTLEY reports that his hospital check-ups have been Okay and he is feeling better . . . IVY KELROY, on the other hand, slipped on ice, and took a nasty five foot fall from her front porch, injuring her chest and shoulders. She was in only fair condition at last report . . . The FLECKLES office in Chicago has been busy with film work, providing equipment, seats and stunt people for a prize-fight movie called FLESH and BLOOD starring Suzanne Pleshette, and John Cassavantes, which will be released as a feature film; and provided equipment also for a TV movie called DUKE that stars ROBERT CONRAD . . . WES and FLORINE OLER are now off the road for a month or so and glad to have the rest . . . ED and CYNDY MIGLEY are back in New England after spending 7 weeks in Las Vegas. . . The SHOWFOLKS CIRCUS playing Sarasota Dec. 9th was a big success. . . Clown DENNIS STEVENS plans to return to the road in '79. . . BENTLEY BROS. may add another week to their summer run in California. . . Playing a run of Xmas dates for the HOWARD SCHULTZ office are the MORGAN ASHTON Family. . . Magician JOE SMILEY, who developed a bad case of "Shingles" was forced to leave BECK'S CIRCORAMA, but is better now and doing a brief tour with BILL HILL'S Xmas Promotions. . . LAURA HERRIOTT and husband JOHNNY WALKER, Jr. have favored a "trial separation."

LAST MINUTE NEWS: JOHNNY HERRIOTT will take 3 rings of High School Horses to Circus Vargas, adding more later in the season when WEINER and HEIDI are out of school; meanwhile they will open the season with three liberty acts as well (show owned) with Johnny working center ring, flanked by MARY RUTH and CINDY

Appearing on the BOB SNOWDEN dates (Nov. 18-26) were: The Dubskeys, the Robertsons, Jim Royal & Co., Marcelli & Janis and Dave and Ivy Upton. The

(Continued on Page 32)



BLACKSTONE MAGIC SHOW

The Blackstone Magic Show is a full evening stage show that embarked on a three year tour, after its opening in Tempe, Ariz., on Sept. 14-15. The show opened in the Gammage Center for the Performing Arts, a building designed by the late Frank Lloyd Wright.

After an overture by the show band, the curtains open to reveal a black backdrop with a large lighted sign that spells out the name "Blackstone."

For his opening number Blackstone does the Disappearing Bird Cage, with the help of several young people from the audience. This is followed by a production number called "America Hurrah" with six girls and two boy dancers, and a red, white and blue backdrop. The "Girl in the Drum" is featured here, with the production of birds, flags, etc., then the girl who represents Liberty. A donkey and an elephant are also produced to represent the two American parties.

The Wiz follows, and works throughout the show with a variety of tricks that do not work - all good laugh getters.

The "Hay Ride" production has everyone in bam-

yard costumes and features the vanishing and reappearing ducks. The "Diamond Bracelet", the "Clip-po" trick and the "Buzzsaw" wind up the first portion of the program.

The second half opens with "House of Flowers" with a vanishing cane, production of bird cages, plus a variety of flowers of all sizes and shapes, including a fountain.

The Rose trick is a quickie one, wherein roses are picked from a bush and then the bush re-blooms again.

The Floating Light Bulb follows and then comes the "Copacabana" production with a touch of Vegas. It includes the disappearance of a patron's wristwatch and is later located in a box, tied by a ribbon to a rabbit's neck.

One Touch of Venus leads to the Asra illusion and is followed by some pick pocket and rope routines.

The final production feature is called "Circus of Mysteries" and has a stage full of circus trappings. The feature here is the shooting of a girl from a cannon into a nest of boxes.

One sure way of keeping up on what's new is to read Circus Report regularly. Send your \$15.00 subscription to: Don Marcks, 525 Oak St. El Cerrito, Calif.

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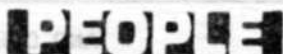
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Miscellaneous

Rumfor has it that the new Monte Carlo Circus, some are already calling it "Le Cirque" will play only in the Eastern part of the U.S., as well as in French Canada.

Circus Vargas will be the only show on the road in 1979 featuring three rings of liberty horse acts.

The Beatty-Cole Circus received a nice review in the Oct. 25th issue of Variety. The clowns and Dave Hoover were singled out as feature presentations.



MRS. JOHN MARTIN, wife of the well known circus fan JOHN MARTIN, of Arlington, Va., was a recent guest at the MORGAN BERRY ranch in the State of Washington.

BARBARA and SYLVESTER BRAUN, western performers, visited with FRANK and BERNICE DEAN at Palmdale, Calif., last month. The Brauns were in town, appearing with the HOLVECK Magic Show.

YASMINE SMART, daughter of the famous British circus producer BILLY SMART, will be the ring-mistress for Circus America in Largo, Md.

THE GREAT MAYO, escape artist, worked a three day engagement at Magic Mountain over the Thanksgiving Day weekend. Earlier in the year he was injured, but he has recovered and is back working once again.

GARY HOLVECK and family attended a performance of the "It's Magic" show in Los Angeles just before he started his Dec. 4-10 engagement for the Magic Castle.

BILL WILLIAMS (Cotton Candy) has been working Christmas Shows, doing both clown numbers and also appearing as Santa Claus.

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HADI TEMPLE SHRINE CIRCUS

by Billy Barton

The Hadi Temple Shrine Circus at Evansville, Ind., which opened on Thanksgiving Day and ran thru Nov. 26th, was produced by Paul V. Kaye. It was a power-packed program of feature acts and displays that ran three hours on the opening show and was pared, finally, to two hours and forty-five minutes. Attendance was up over last year with packed houses for most of the nine performances.

Featured in the program were Tarzan Zerbini, Mlle. Jacqueline, the Sensational Leighs, the Zoppe Arabian Riders, and Marvel Comic Strip Characters, the Spiderman, Hulk and the Green Goblin.

The program ran as follows: Circus "rock" overture; Spec with Shrine units; Shrine Clown floats; animals and performers; Opening aerial display with Ruth (trapeze), Donna (trapeze), Sylvia (trapeze), Venicio (loop) and Juan (loop), featuring the closing, alternating routines of Maryse Begary and Mr. Sensation; Tarzan Zerbini; Cradle Display with the Pharoahs, the Pinsons and the Knieseleys; Hadi Temple Funsters; Little Dolly, the elephant; Pamela and her Chimps; A single elephant; Princess Ruth

Ann, sponge dive; the Drouette Duo, juggling; The 3 Knopps, high double perch; Miss Basco, juggling; Rex Young and his comedy cannon; Herman & Penunia, comedy horse act; Aerial Ballet with 12 girls and featuring the head balancing trio of the Vasquez Brothers - bubble machines and lighting effects; Rex Young with the Hadi Funsters in the Duck Hunt; the Hollywood Elephants; Marvel Comic Strip characters.

Second half started with the Vasquez Flyers, followed by Happy Kellams with a solo bit; Elek Sebestyn's Poodles; Mlle. Jacqueline, high trapeze; The Zoppe Arabian Riders; The Sensational Leighs, followed by a finale with flags, maypoles, flag drop and bubble machine.

Rex Young was clown director with the Hadi Funsters; Happy Kellams did specialty bits and come-in; musical director was Jack Cervone; ringmaster-vocalist was Ernie McLean; Paul V. Kaye was the executive producer-director. Among the Shrine staff were Harvey Johnson, arena director; Dr. William Standing, acts' chairman and Norman C. Burnworth, circus chairman.

Bill Bannister was boss property man with a heavy crew of professional riggers and prop men.

Next year's circus, the 46th annual production, will be held Nov. 22 to Nov. 25th.

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SAWDUST TRAIL

by M. L. DUPONT

As snow flakes fall and the trail of sawdust ceases another year is winding down to an end. I hope it has been a successful and fruitful year for all of our readers, friends, circus fans, circus performers, producers and owners. It's been a year filled with surprises, new friends, loss of old ones, happiness and heartbreaks. Those of you who have supplied this column and Circus Report with newsy items during the year, I thank you. It would take this whole column to list everyone who deserves thanks, so I'll just say Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and "keep those cards and letters coming."

Fans and collectors will be unhappy to learn the Circus World Museum at Baraboo no longer has the circus calendars for sale. The Schlitz Brewing Co., has discontinued the printing of these calendars.

Bobby Gibbs and his wife, Rosa, spent Thanksgiving with Manuel King in Houston. He's Rosa's brother and was on the No. 2 unit of C&B most of '78. His '79 plans are not yet developed, but as always he has a number of things going, including furnishing talent and pit shows for circuses.

Further word has reached this reporter that C&B No. 2 show will go out in '79 as "Circus Vegas." The show is now in quarters somewhere in the Mobile, Ala. area. Showman John Frazier has been in Hugo, visiting the quarters of the big C&B show.

Reports on the Jungle Wonders Circus reveals it will go out as a huge one ringer in '79. A complete change in format is planned. This show has grown from a one elephant show to an 8 elephant show. The late Floyd King would call this show an "eight elephant herd." It seems that at one time King told his advance man not to say the show had two elephants, but two herds. Webster's dictionary says a

PEPI

KEN SHERBURNE, juggler, closed a 3 month engagement at Barbados, West Indies, on Dec. 6th, then flew to the New York City area for a series of Christmas dates.

BILL SLATER, slack wire juggler and Pepi the Clown, and SANDRA CATAPANO, daughter of former circus clown JIMMY JULIUS, of Louisville (Ky) were married on Dec. 16th.

BOB-O the Clown has been working a series of Christmas dates in the Sacramento, Calif. area.

herd is "one or more elephants."

Circus history is being made in Texas. Older fans will recall the Gainesville Community Circus which became so popular in that state. Well, now the Ed Millette Tent of Dallas puts on their own circus for free. It has grown to the point where they've incorporated, and have their own tent, rigging, canvas, etc. A story on the show appears in the Sept-Oct. issue of White Tops. Their PR manual is an 8 page booklet of pictures and the history of this show.

Billy Sheets, circus advance man and jack of all trades, has a Santa Sled unit out. Working with him is Sammy Johnson who was producing clown on C&B's No. 2 unit. The Sled unit will be out until almost Christmas day.

Ken Benson is working at the La. Purchase Gardens & Zoo in Monroe, and at the same time is working on his camper, getting it ready for the '79 season. He and a local clown are working up a small mini circus for malls in the area.

Hoxie Bros. Circus used a Computer Ticket System for their New Orleans date. It was a first for the show and was handled by the Holmes Dept. Store.

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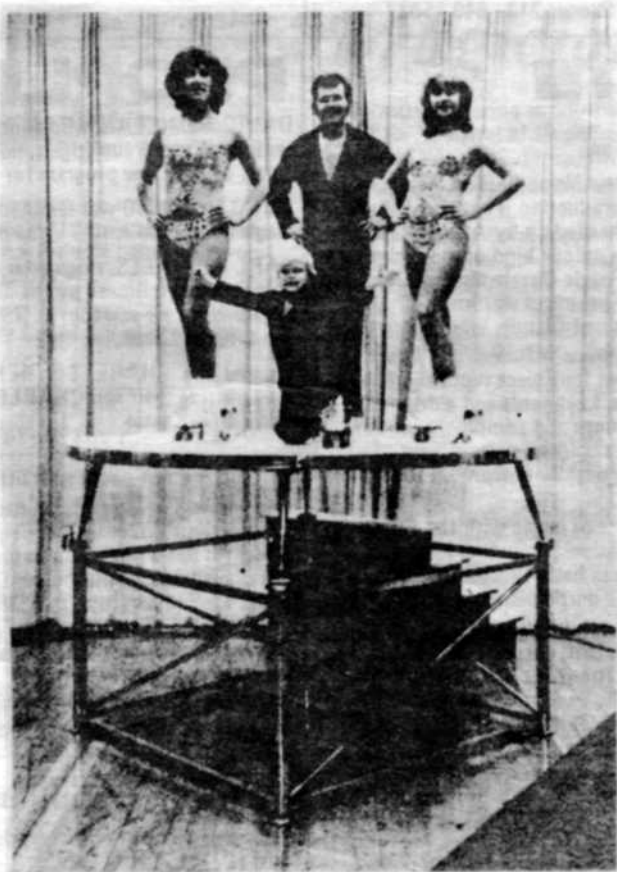
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SEASON'S
GREETINGS
TO ALL



MAGIC ODYSSEY

by "Circus Joe" Valenciano

This year an exciting new Magic-Illusion Show has entered the scene. The production is entitled "Magic Odyssey". The show is headed up by Alexandra & Sebastian Adriani. It is a unique kind of magical revue, combining Magic, Razzle Dazzle Musical-Disco with plenty of flash and beautiful wardrobe. The performers are all smiles and friendly which adds to the enjoyment of the show.

The show carries its own four piece musical group, consisting of two guitars, keyboards and a drummer. With all their speakers, amps and equipment set up in the background, plus a colorful arrangement of lighting, it appears to be a really modern up-to-date show.

The troupe does all sorts of magic with the Disco beat. They do several illusions, including sawing a member of the audience in half. This must be a thriller, especially for the participant.

They do about two 45 minute shows at each date, with each one being different. A special feature of the show is "Alexandra The Great & Co." the first lady illusionist, assisted by two smooth "disco" dancing young men; Dana Zornes and Arthur Sto-

PEOPLE

DAVID McMILLAN, wild animal trainer, will present his mixed group (tigers, lion, black panther) as a part of the show program for Circus America.

DOUG HENNING was featured in his 4th annual Magic Special on NBC-TV the night of Dec. 14th.

EARL MICHAELS, ringmaster, worked the Texas Shrine dates, followed by the Three Rivers Circus engagement. He will tour in '79 with the Hamid-Morton Circus.

Mr. and Mrs. CHARLES H. BENNETT, Sr. have been visiting their son CHARLES, Jr. and his family at Wichita, Kansas.

vall. This is a fast-paced neat little number.

Alexandra The Great & Co. has appeared with the Famous Hunt Circus at Philadelphia, and some under canvas dates during the summer. Most recently they played dates with their entire revue at "Red Carpet Inn" in Sarasota, the "Sheraton" at Fort Myers and the "Plantation Inn" near Orlando. They have also appeared in Gainesville, Fla. and New Orleans, La.

My thanks to Dana and Mrs. Adriani for a nice visit and information for this report.

SEASON'S GREETINGS TO:

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JIM PAPPE, a San Francisco street juggler, is reportedly going to join the Fratinelli Bros. Circus for its 1979 season.

ROLAND TIEBOR, retired seal trainer, was the subject of a special article in the Nov. 23rd issue of Tampa's Mobile Living News. The story was written by HENRY LEE.

HARRY BLACKSTONE closes his magic show with a production called "Circus of Mysteries" which includes an elephant and has his wife being shot from a cannon into a nest of boxes.

HARRY ROSS, popular clown, spent the past summer with the Ivan Henry Circus. He will celebrate his 74th birthday next April.

MUSICIANS

Needed for future openings with major tented circus. Opening is in L.A. area in early January. Tour runs 48 weeks. Top Money for serious minded people. Sleeper furnished. Trumpet and Trombone applications now being taken for future openings.

DAVID EPPERLY — Bandleader
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Call and leave name and phone number, I'll get in touch.

Magicians

Performers appearing at Southern California's Magic Mountain "Festival of Magic" over Thanksgiving Day weekend (Nov. 24-26) included:

John Garner, Bryan Budin, Paul West, Jonathon Yarbrough, Ajax the Clown, Ron Jones, Stan Greene, Ricky Dunn, the Great Mayo, Fly-by-Night Jugglers, Kirk Charles, Mike Cooper, Chris Cunningham, J. Corey Friedman, Kirk Grodske, Whit Hadden, Scott Kimble, Mark Miller, Rob Millman, Earl Oliver, Marshall Redstone, Ringo Redstone, Michael Rivera, Jeff Semel, Harry Walker and Phil Wick.

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HOLIDAY GREETINGS
TO ALL OUR
CIRCUS FRIENDS EVERYWHERE

TNT & ROYAL OLYMPIC
CIRCUS
THE TEGGE'S
EARL, LOUISE and TIM

Miscellaneous

American Airlines sponsored a Christmas Circus for its employees at Toledo, Ohio, on Dec. 9th.

The Swan Bros. Circus was one of many features appearing at the Holiday Fair (Dec. 8-17) in Sacramento, Calif. Also performing there was Kim Chapman, a magician.

The old Arkansas Village at Jonesboro, Ark., was put on the auction block on Dec. 13-15. At one time the firm made wagon wheels for circuses.

Anti-circus fanatics in England have been breaking store windows where circus posters are displayed.

PEOPLE

Top stars who were signed for engagements at Atlantic City, N.J. this month included:

Allan King - Nov. 30-Dec. 2
Chita Rivera - Dec. 4-6
Joan Rivers - Dec. 7-9
Norm Crosby - Dec. 11-13
Della Reese - Dec. 14-16
Norm Crosby - Dec. 18-20
Joey Bishop - Dec. 21-23
Steve Martin - Dec. 29-31

Stars signed for March and February are: Barry Manilow, Donna Sumner and Shirley Bassey.

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1979 DATE BOOK

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WISHES ALL
HIS FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES

**THE MERRIEST of
CHRISTMASSES
and
THE HAPPIEST of
NEW YEARS**

SPECIAL THANKS TO

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- Hubert and Mary Castle
Hubert Castle International Circus

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Seasons Greetings

JERI - VI - TOM MARTIN

PEOPLE

TIM COONEY, WALLY ROSS and CHARLIE FRANKS were among the visitors seen at Circus Vargas during the filming of a movie when the show was set up on the Parking lot of Magic Mountain.

BOB KELLOGG writes the elephants McClain, Sage, Dusty and Lollie at the Los Angeles Zoo are Africans and not Indian elephants.

DINO and ANITA MENENDEZ, wire act, have been signed to appear in the Circus America show at Largo, Md. later this month.

VINCE CARMEN was performer, director and MC with the RAY WINDER Christmas Show for Atlan-

tic Southern Productions. Appearing with him on the shows were Eric Adams, dogs/chimps/balancing, plus CoCo the Clown who worked some dates.

MIKE SPORRER writes there is a new book on the market called "Big Apple Circus" by Peter Aingelo Simon. It is a Penguin paperback book which sells for \$5.95 and contains many pictures.

MILDRED DOUGLAS (Chrisman) veteran wild west rider who appeared with circuses and wild west shows, plus rodeos, is now a resident of Lawton, Okla., where some of her costumes are displayed in the Great Plains Museum.

*Merry Christmas
and
Best Wishes for the New Year*

AND A SPECIAL THANKS TO

KARL and SHEILA WINN
"Vaudeville '78"

GOPHER DAVENPORT
Jungle Wonders Circus

RUDY JACOBI
Christmas Dates



BOB EMERICO - Hi Fi the Clown



To Our Friends

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

IN A WILD WESTERN WAY



Frank and Bernice Dean

(OUTSTANDING WESTERN ACTS)

A Merry Christmas
and
A Happy New Year
to all



OUR FRIENDS IN THE
CIRCUS AND FRIENDS
OF THE CIRCUS

CHESTER and MARYLN SLUSSER

SPECIAL

The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization recently adopted a "Universal Declaration of the Rights of Animals."

The UNESCO's declaration starts with a remark from the Jefferson assertion that "all animals are born with an equal claim on life and the same rights to existence."

It then continues by defining the duty that those rights imply. For example, "No animal shall be exploited for the amusement of man" and "scenes of violence involving animals shall be banned from the cinema and television."

The declaration overlooks the fact that most animals which suffer premature death are eaten by people for food. But it does say that "any act involving mass killing of wild animals is genocide."



PEOPLE

DAVID McMILLAN, wild animal trainer, was featured in an Associated Press photo release last week as he and a tiger hitched a ride just outside Washington, DC.

HAROLD DUNN's miniature circus was featured at the Ringling Museum and was the subject of an article in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune on Nov. 26th.

A Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year
To All Circus Fans And Circus Friends Everywhere

From

SEILS STERLING TENT No. 79
OF SHEBOYGAN, WISCONSIN



Norman Wilbert, President
Ernest Kaufman, Vice-president
Frederick Wendland, Secretary

Wayne Bolz, Treasurer
Robert Kroos, Trustee
Richard Maas, Trustee

WE WANT TO THANK

ALL OF THE ACTS, ARTIST'S FAIR
MANAGERS, AND CIRCUS PRODUCERS

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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AND A NEW YEAR FILLED
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Honolulu, Hawaii

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Miscellaneous

The International All Star Circus played at Victoria, Texas, to a full house on Oct. 9th.
The Royal Lichtenstein Circus was at San Marcos, Texas, on Nov. 27th, playing to a full house.
A John Strong Xmas Show Unit played South Bend, Ind., on Dec. 14th.

PEOPLE

JOHN LEWIS and **Mongo the Gorilla**, of **Hoxie Bros. Circus** were seen in a special **Timex TV commercial** on the west coast the night of Dec. 6th.
MARK WILSON, magician, presented his "Girl Thru Glass" illusion on the **DICK CLARK TV Show**, the evening of Dec. 6th.
JANE and **MARTY ELVIN**, of **Hillsboro, Va.**, plan to keep the two lions they have raised since they were just young cubs. Despite several protests they plan to keep them because no one else wants them.



We wish you a Merry Christmas

THE GREAT AMERICAN CIRCUS DIRECTORY

Emil & Debbie Goetschi

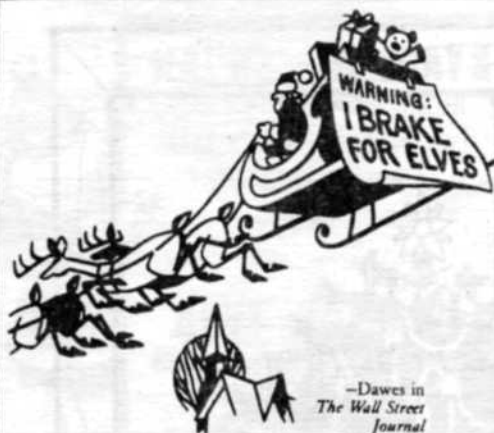
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A WISH MOST SINCERE
FOR
A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO
ALL OF OUR FRIENDS
IN THE
CIRCUS WORLD

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*The Wall Street
Journal*

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— NO COLLECT CALLS —

JIM (Jimmy) NEVINS, circus clown and protege of the late HARRY DANN, will be working circus spot dates in 1979 for Don Birdwell.

VELMA LOWRY, vice president of the Kansas Clowns was honored with a surprise birthday party by her family on Dec. 2nd.

PAT BISSONETTE is playing Santa Claus at the Cross roads Shopping Center in St. Cloud, Minn., with the Dorothy Nathan Polaroid Concession which features the camera with the triple lense.

PEOPLE

IRV ROMIG (Ricky) was one of the feature attractions at Shirley Muldowney, dragster racer, at the "America On Wheels Show" at Pontiac, Mich., on Dec. 1-3. He will be working for a camper show in January, followed by advance publicity for the annual Lansing Hospitalar Circus.

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BETTY WENDANY AND FAMILY
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DAVE TWOMEY AND FAMILY
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JOHN STRONG and SON

And all the others who helped
to make 1978 a pleasant and
profitable year.





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AERIAL THRILL and NOVELTY ACTS — FUNNY CLOWNS

— A COMPLETE 2 HOUR SHOW —



by

DON MARCKS

Christmas is just around the corner and we here in California are trying to brush away the dark and gloomy clouds that have hung overhead for the past several weeks. There's a feeling of sadness that just won't go away and so the holidays are going to be pretty quiet.

We wonder how many more things can happen to defy the imagination. This is sure the wild and woolly west, where television's fiction takes a back seat to the real, every day events.

People everywhere must think we Californian's have gone completely mad. It's not really true. We have a few strange people among us, but for the most part the people are good and kind - the type you'd want to have living next door.

Before the ink on the headlines about Guyana

and the People's Temple had set, San Francisco's Mayor and a Supervisor were shot. What must the world think of us now?

Just the other day someone said with all this tragedy the world must be coming to an end. It might be, but we hope not.

People tend to shape their own destiny, but here of late it seems obvious they are doing a very bad job of it. Maybe in time things will improve.

The shock of it all is beyond explanation. Some 912 people are dead because someone persuaded them to drink cyanide. A mayor and a supervisor are dead, apparently because one of their fellow members couldn't have his own way. Life seems to mean very little and that thin line between sanity and insanity becomes thinner - it's scary.

We have certainly strayed far, far away from the teachings of Jesus and his words "love thy neighbor."

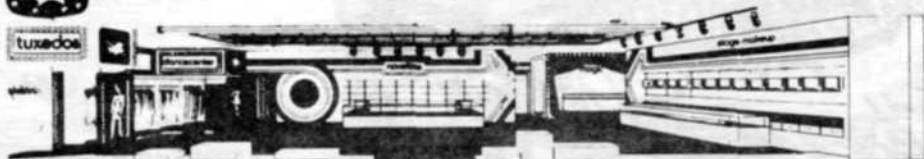
Let's hope this Christmas will bring us back to life as it should be lived, where all men are brothers. Where once again we can walk about unafraid and live in peace and harmony.

Merry Christmas everyone!



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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

IN MEMORY OF ELOISE BERCHTOLD

"Merry Christmas and Happy New Year"

to all my dear circus friends.

Horse Meat Folks from Michigan

Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Wooden

**HOTLINE**

Mr. and Mrs. JOHN ZOPPE, Sr. have announced the marriage of their daughter, SONJA to FRANK LOU-
DERMILK, on Nov. 25th, in the Saint Josephs Ca-
tholic Church at Rochester, Indiana.

Miscellaneous

In Sept. 1978 Germany issued a new series of postage stamps depicting circus acts - they include: acrobats, elephant, horse and bear.

The preparation of the Ringling-Barnum circus trains are described and pictured in the Sarasota Herald -
Tribune of Dec. 3rd.

PEOPLE

DON BRIDWELL (Whizzer the Clown) has been play-
ing Santa Claus in Columbus, Ohio, for WTVN-TV
stations in addition to working his clown magic act
for Variety Productions.

MAC and MABLE BIRCH, former illusionists, are re-
tired and living at Birchwood Estate in Malta, Ohio.
Birch was noted for his Vanishing Pony effect and
was acknowledged successor to the late HOWARD
THURSTON.

**Season's Greetings**

WITH BEST WISHES FOR A GREAT AND
PROSPEROUS 1979 SEASON

JON FRIDAY

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Season's Greetings



THE WENDANYS

Fred

Betty

Heidi



HUSTON'S HALLUCINATIONS

by Tom Currier

After far too long a time, Roy Huston has returned with his full evening illusion show to the stage. "Huston's Hallucinations" bowed in 1965, one of the first big illusion shows to emerge since the dissolution of the railroad illusion shows of the past. "Huston's Hallucinations" played Rapid City (Nov 18) under the sponsorship of the National Federation of the Blind and Mt. Holly Productions. Dates in Sioux Falls, and Aberdeen followed.

The show runs about two hours and has two variety spots, rola-bola and juggling, both handled expertly by Pat and Gwen Davison. The rest of the show is jammed with illusions - 14 in all, all unusual in appearance and original in presentation.

The show's opening builds from flower productions to a duck production and vanish, and climaxes with Huston's now-famous drum illusion. From a large steel drum, he produces first 200 feet of silk streamers, then a girl-clown. The curtain that opened to a nearly bare stage closes on a spectacular, colorful disarray.

After this strong beginning, nothing can stop Huston. He does a comic-Egyptian "Girl Without A

Middle," the ever popular "Temple of Benares" and "The Lightbulbs through the Girl." Then he introduces the rola-bola spots, invites audience participation in the "Headchopper" and closes with the classic "Sawing-in-Half."

As a performer, Huston possesses considerable showmanship and grace. He knows how to pace his presentation so as to squeeze the maximum effect from it. Furthermore, he is aided and abetted by a strong musical force - Richard A. Rosio at the organ and Fred Blacksmith on drums. Mr. Rosio plays powerfully; he has a very full sound and an almost uncanny ability to pick up cues.

After a ten minute intermission, the curtains open on two devil girls, complete with capes and horns, who produce Huston from a mummy case. These devils assist him in his spirit cabinet effect and in the "cremation", during which he burns up one of his devils with soaring flames.

Pat Davison does his juggling turn - a real crowd pleaser - and the show closes with the aerial vanish and terrestrial re-appearance of Huston's main female assistant, Susan Hussey.

When I went backstage to congratulate Huston, I was amazed by the multitude of red crates - 40 of them - all numbered and named. The show fits into a one ton truck and a pick-up, both loaded to capacity.

While the substance of the show was impeccably organized and presented, there are some flaws. The light cues were occasionally slow, and at one point the spotlight shone on the bare stage floor. The same is true of the curtain cues - Huston uses travellers after each illusion, and the stagehands were too often slow in re-opening it. These rough spots could be smoothed out by the addition of a full-time stage and lighting director.

"Huston's Hallucinations" could be one of the strongest of the illusion-show line-ups on the road today.



Season's Greetings

TO

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AND

Circus Performers

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P. S. Don't forget us - Young JOHN - SANDY - LINDA

PEOPLE

THE BAKERS, who handled the horse acts on Circus Vargas this past season will take over direction of the horse acts at Circus World in Florida for the 1979 season. Meanwhile, JOHN HERRIOTT, who was working at Circus World has joined Circus Vargas, where he will be in charge of that show's horse acts.

THE JABCZYNSKI TROUPE, teeterboard artists, who have traveled with most of the major circuses, are now appearing at the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas.

LLOYD JONES published his last issue of the 'Son Of Bat, Jr' with a drawing on the front page showing a group of magicians paying their last respects at the grave of the paper.

In Memoriam

TOM GIBBS (84) a long-time elephant man who toured with most of the tented shows, including the old Mighty Haag Circus and the Page Bros. Shows, died at a hospital in Nashville, Tenn., on Dec. 3rd.

NEW ADDRESS

THE EASTWOOD FAMILY
Howard, Chona, Wally

Have bought a new home at:

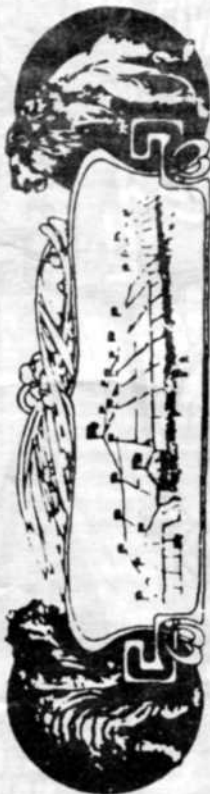
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JAN. and FEB. 1979

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HOLIDAYS!!



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SUBSCRIBE for the 1979 "TODAY IS CIRCUS DAY IN...?" Thirty Two Weeks at just \$15.00 in advance, if ordered before January 31, 1979. Season opens early in 1979, with three new circus routes to be listed. Write TODAY for FREE SAMPLES (three to each person writing in). Know when a circus enters your state. Don't be disappointed like you were last season, because you found out too late.

CHARLIE CAMPBELL, 150 - 10th Street N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30309



THE
**GREAT AMERICAN CIRCUS
DIRECTORY**

An Outstanding Advertisement Guide For Agents, Variety Artists, And Circusmen

We are sorry to announce that we must discontinue our publication "The Great American Circus Directory". Due to failing support, raising postage and printing costs we can no longer meet financial obligations without suffering personal financial loss.

When we first started "The Great American Circus Directory" (not a large company but a husband & wife team) we had hopes the industry would appreciate this useful magazine but unfortunately have not had the backing necessary for the magazine to go to its furthest potential.

We appreciate the people who have supported us with advertisements and subscriptions. We hope all those who placed ads in our publication received fine results.

All those who subscribed after September '77 for the year or longer will receive a refund for issues not received. We hope these people will understand that monies can not be refunded immediately but will be as soon as possible.

Anyone who is interested in purchasing back issues of our publication can do so for \$2.50 per issue plus 50¢ for postage and handling.

Thanking you for your understanding and support.

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Emil & Deborah Goetschi

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Herb Walters

HELEN WALTERS

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Billy Barton (Continued)

show appeared in the New England area and featured several production numbers.

ALLAN HILL, who bought the Dubsky-Jordan Circus, plans to take that show out for 3 months this summer, under the title HILL BROS., playing very small towns in Pennsylvania. Allan also bought 75 days of the Great American route in Pennsylvania which he, his brothers and father will promote.

Allan is currently playing a series of Xmas dates in Western Pennsylvania while his father, Bill, and brother, Teddy, are playing a circuit in the eastern part of the state. Among the talent on Allan's unit are the DUBSKY Troupe and BILLY MARTIN.

We come now to the end of another long, reporting year - like all years 1978 has not been without its drama, its tragedies or its amusing sidelights. And

SPECIAL

Former fair manager C. Larry Gately, who resigned in September as the Contra Costa County (Calif.) Fair manager after a state audit uncovered improper accounting procedures for the second time in two years, will not have to face formal charges.

District Attorney William A. O'Malley said that an investigation determined Gately did not receive any personal or financial gain and did not have the criminal intent necessary for prosecution.

now we face a new year which is bound to bring more of the same and which I shall try to chronicle to the best of my ability.

Merry Christmas to All!

See you down the road, luv.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

FROM

SOUTHERN SAWDUST

A quarterly circus publication
for troupers, fans, collectors
and all who love the circus.





Season's Greetings



Best Wishes
for the
New Year

THE
HAPPYTIME
CIRCUS

Circus Fan

An extra-ordinary circus fan, that's Tom Upton, of Berkeley, Calif. He hasn't missed a circus in Northern California since he was just a youngster.

Throughout his life he has maintained a constant interest in circuses and vaudeville shows. As a result he is personally acquainted with more performers than any other circus fan in the country. Just ask anyone and they'll tell you they know Tom.

Born in Merced and raised in Stockton, Tom spent several years in the Navy, this gave him a chance to travel and see many shows in Europe and other areas. Later he became a high diver (making regular dives of 72 feet or more) and a trampoline performer and he has helped many beginners get started.

In 1941, he took his first circus movies - the Polack Bros. Circus in San Francisco. Since then he has carefully filmed the full performance of every show playing California. As a result he has amassed the largest collection ever - a complete documentary of circus performances through the years.

He also has a vast collection of films of vaudeville acts in action, most of which are now priceless collector's items.

Each of his films has a synchronized musical back-

SEASON'S GREETINGS

"And she shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call His name JESUS: for He shall save His people from their sins."

..... Matthew 1:21



LOIS and PAUL HORSMAN

Circus Memories - Auburn, New York

ground and to achieve this Tom has collected thousands of record albums. Music for each portion of his films are selected from this huge library, and in many cases duplicates the exact music that each act used.

Yes, Tom is really an extra-ordinary circus fan, and if a circus is in town then he's there showing his movies backstage someplace, much to the delight of the show people.

Equestrian Acts Needed

Arena Productions, Inc., producers of

THE ROYAL LIPIZZAN STALLIONS SHOW

is looking for new and different equestrian acts for
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No liberty acts or bareback acts please

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