



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

3rd Year

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Number 39

Squall Adds to Circus Excitement

A crowd of people waiting for the 4 p.m. performance of the Beatty-Cole Circus to start (Munster, Ind. - Sep. 12) got their first thrill not from the circus, but from the weather. A squall, of rain and wind raced through the area and for a time it threatened the stability of the big top, itself.

The wind and turbulence were unexpected, said one spectator. Circus officials sent everyone out to their cars, to wait for the storm to blow over.

About 4:30 it was decided that con-

ditions were safe enough to allow the crowd back into the tent. The rains continued, however, forcing some numbers to be cancelled for safety's sake.

Steve Hansen, writer for the Munster Times, reported the wild animal act, presented by David Hoover worked well. The clowns offered some comic relief and laughter. Adults showed their appreciation for the feats of strength and daring, while children pointed, smiled and were wide-eyed.

Hansen also had words of
(Continued on Back Page)

New Rules

The national Council of Better Business Bureaus has set new standards for charitable solicitations that for the first time spell out proper and improper practices in the almost \$25 billion-a-year fund-raising industry.

The standards call for soliciting organizations to make annual reports available to the public, clearly disclosing where their money goes and how much of it is spent for administrative and fund-raising expenses.

(Continued on Page 11)

TOP CROWDS AT SHOWby PAT BISSONETTE

The Stebbing's Royal European Circus engagement at New York's Aqueduct Race Track (Aug. 24-Sep. 2) was sponsored by the South Queens Boys Club. The show drew full houses for every performance, and the audience was enthusiastic about the fine performances, which featured some 16 acts.

The circus was presented under a red and white big top -- 85 ft. round end with a 40 ft. middle -- bale ring tent, using aluminum poles. They have a typical European style curtain entrance and use a 38 ft. ring. Seating is of the bleacher type, 8 rows high, with a capacity of 2,000 people.

MAKES CHANGE

A few years ago pretty Victoria Banks tried to become a clown with the RBBB Circus, but there wasn't any demands for girl clowns. As a result she joined the circus as a show girl.

Now the 25 year old Californian has traded her plumes and sequins for the baggy pants of a clown. "I'm really happy about making the change," she told reporters.

Miss Banks says she "was attracted to the clowns because they were so lively and energetic." They all have such individuality, she added, then went on to say that she likes the acrobatics and gymnastics of clown work.

Miss Banks is the first circus showgirl to defect to clown alley, and says that if she bombs as a funny girl she might go back to being a circus showgirl.

Music is provided by an organ and drums. Two clowns are employed -- Rus Taylor is the producing clown, as well as handling painting, art work and the PR work for the show.

The program features:

Overature - Wm. Stebbing rnmst
 Trampoline Duo - one a clown
 Carol Stebbing - aerial web
 Barry Sloan - stilt walker
 John Stebbing - baby elephant
 Clown walkaround - using six
 colorful paper mache heads
 The Bruchi's - unicycles
 Clown - the 3x3 gag
 Aston Cortez - single trapeze
 Clowns - The Strong Man
 The Karls - the poodle parade
 The Bruski's - perch act
 Rus Taylor - comedy unicycle
 John & Anita Stebbing - chimps
 Barry Sloan - stilt walker
 Carol Stebbing - single trapeze

HISTORICAL FACT

Irwin Bros. Wild West Show played San Francisco for the time on July 25-29, 1914.



DON REY

DON REY, circus band leader and organist, died suddenly on Friday, Sept. 20th at Vancouver, B. C. He was touring with the Gatti-Charles Circus, which was scheduled to open a three day stand at Vancouver on Sept. 21.

Don had been in show business for about 40 years. During that time he traveled with many circuses and horse shows, and also handled music for various fairs throughout the country. For several years he had been a regular member of the Rudy Bros. Circus.

Although his permanent home had been at Phoenix, Ariz., for many years, his body was to be buried in Missouri.

NOW AVAILABLE

Facilities for boarding all kinds of hoof stock.

Charlie Allen, P. O. Box 91,
Pixley, Calif. - 93256

Phone: (209) 757-3501

Bull Retired

Modoc, whose owner Ralph Helfer describes her as the oldest performing elephant in the country, was retired early this month. The big elephant was put out to pasture at Lion Country Safari, in Southern California.



Records indicate that Modoc appeared with the Gollmar Bros. and John Robinson Circus, as well as with Hagenbeck-Wallace before joining RBBB. She was at Africa USA in 1966, where she worked in TV films and other movie productions.

PERFORMER DIES

Early this month a British trapeze performer was killed when he fell 35 ft. onto an ice rink before a crowd of several hundred spectators.

Peter Hilliard, a star of the Blackpool Ice Show, always ended his act with a plunge towards the floor, which was arrested by a safety rope at the last minute. In his fatal performance the safety unit didn't work and he crashed into the ice.

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ELEPHANT EDUCATION--Elephant trainer Robert (Smokey) Jones, center, recently held refresher classes for Los Angeles zoo animal keepers. Working the zoo's African elephants are, left to right, animal keepers Jim Whittle and Waymon Walker, as Jones' daughter, Kari, and animal keeper John Kitchen look on, right.

A four day refresher course for animal keepers at the Los Angeles (Calif.) zoo was recently conducted by Robert "Smokey" Jones. The course included standardization of methods used in working elephants, plus the care of animals and use of equipment.

Jones also served as a consultant on plans to improve the zoo's elephant barns. Some projects, it was decided, should go ahead as planned, while others were modified and changed.

Miscellaneous

Ridgeway's Circus played the Easter Fair at Auckland, N. Z., as a free attraction.

The Minneapolis Tribune (Aug. 25, 1974) carried a feature story and photos of the Carson & Barnes Circus.

The Happytime Circus got a half page write up in the Sa-

cramento, Calif. Union on Sept. 4, 1974, for its fair date.

The PAL Circus, at San Francisco, Calif., has been announced for Nov. 16-17.

The American Continental Circus office has moved to 237 South Tustin Ave., Orange, Cal. 92666. The phone number (714) 997-0751 and the mailing address Box 508, remain the same.

Canadian Int'l Circus Breaks Record

All house records were broken at the Edmonton (Alberta) Gardens by the Gatti-Charles' "Great Canadian Int'l 3-Ring Circus" which played there on Sept. 7-8. The show had standing room only crowds, for three performances each day.

The program, which ran 1 hour 20 minutes, featured:

Come In: Nolly and Polly Tate, chair balancing, and Harry Ross camera number.

Overature: Don Rey, organist and musical director; Jimmy Goff, drummer and Herb Miller, trumpet.

Spec "Circus on Parade"

Frank Mogyorosi - lions

Aurora - iron jaw and Miss Licia - hair hang

The Great Zerbini - slide for life

Congo, almost human gorilla

The Gasperrys - knockabout

Los Turins, spinning tops; The Willettys, juggling; Senor Hugo, juggling

Frank's dogs and Tate's dogs

"La Vie en Rose" - aerial ballet

Myna - single trapeze

Amazing Alain - sword balance

The Clowns - cannon number

"Westward Ho" - production number with Margo Temby dancers

-- Intermission --

The Flying Gaonas

Miss Lilian - foot juggling

Les Blocks - high wire

"Fantasy in Pink" production

The Clowns - The Doctor

Lemke's chimps and Kirby's chimp

Ken Willer - one finger stand

The Clowns - balancing eggs

School Starts

The seventh annual session of RBBB's College of Clowns got underway last week (Sept. 23) at the show's quarters in Venice, Florida. Fifty men and women are enrolled in the school's eight week course.

The college is presided over by Bill Ballantine, former circus clown and noted writer. Instructors include James Donlon, of the San Francisco Menagerie Mime Co.; Victor Gaona, aerialist; Sandra Young, dancer; plus veteran clowns Bobby Kay, Lu Jacobs, Keith Creary and David Nicksay.

The Franciscans - teeterboard
Mike Rice - elephants (3)

Clowns with the show include Harry Ross, Eddie Dullum, Harry Ellis, Nolly Tate, Polly Tate and Hank Peterson

The staff on tour includes:

Patricia Gatti - Owner
Chuck Burnes - Gen. Show Mgr.
Hugo Zuniga - Perf. Area Mgr.
Don Rey - Musical Director
Will Hutchins - Ringmaster
Susan Tembey - Choreography
Marvin Varner - Lights-Sound



Routes

Allen's Pet Zoo
 Oct. 2-6 Anaheim, Calif.

Arabia Temple Shrine Circus
 Oct. 1-13 Houston, Texas

Beatty-Cole Circus
 Sep. 30 Paducah, Tenn.
 Oct. 1 Marion, Ill.
 2 Mt. Vernon
 3 Lincoln
 4 Macomb
 5 Quincy
 6 Hannibal, Mo.

Circus Vargas
 Sep 30-Oct 1 Newport Nws,
 Oct. 4-7 Atlanta, Ga. Va

Dailey Bros. Circus
 Sep. 30 Wymore, Nebr.

Dr. Pepper State Fair Cir.
 Oct. 4-20 Dallas, Texas

Gatti-Charles Circus
 Sep. 30 Hanford, Calif.
 Oct. 1-3 Tulare

John Strong Circus (Cont'd)
 Oct. 3 Modesto, Calif.
 4 Madera
 5 Tulare
 6 Dinuba

TNT & Royal Olympic Circus
 Sep. 30 Coffeyville, Kans

Voorheis Bros. Circus
 Sep. 30 Petosky, Mich.
 Oct. 1 Traverse City
 2 Kalkoska
 3 Mancelona
 5 Houghton Lake

Wallace & Rogers Circus
 Sep. 28-29 Oak Harbor, Wash
 Oct. 5 Issaquah

..... OTHER ROUTES

Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
 Sep 30-Oct 5 Robbins, Ga.

Century 21 Shows - Red Unit
 Sep 30-Oct 5 Laurel, Miss

James H. Drew Shows
 Sep 30-Oct 5 Cartersville,

STATE FAIR

When producer Eddie Zacchini brings his Olympic Int'l Circus to the South Carolina State Fair, Oct. 21-26, it will be the fourth year in a row that he has produced a circus at the fair. A total of 14 shows are scheduled, with three performances on Thursday, Oct. 24 and Saturday Oct. 26.

Acts set to appear with the circus include:

Jorge's Comedy car
 The Rosell Troupe - high wre
 Irene, Tongo and Tonga
 Tony Fossett - bounding rpe
 Olympic circus elephants
 Sensational Swaying Stars
 Hugo Zacchini - cannon act
 Gary Strong - ringmaster
 The Kay Parker Band

NEW HIGH AT

Oct. 1-3 Tulare

George-Matthews Circus

Sep. 30 Cedar Falls, Iowa
 Oct. 1 Cedar Rapids
 2 Davenport
 3 Peoria, Ill.
 4 Danville
 5 Decatur
 6 Quincy

Happytime Circus

Oct. 1-13 Fresno, Calif.

King Bros. Circus

Sep. 30 Stuttgart, Ark.
 Oct. 1 Dumas
 2 Monticello
 3 Camden
 4 Arkadelphia

Lewis Bros. Circus

Sep. 30 Waynesboro, Pa.
 Oct. 1 Lumberport, W.Va.
 2 Jane Lew
 3 Glenville
 4 Richmond
 5 Lewisburg
 -- End of Tour --

Polack Bros. Circus

Oct. 5-7 Tampa, Fla.

Ringling-Barnum's Blue Unit

Oct. 2-21 Chicago, Ill.

Ringling-Barnum's Red Unit

Oct. 1-6 Indianapolis, Ind.

Royal Lipizzan Stall. Show

Oct. 2-3 White Plains, NY
 4-6 Binghamton

Sells & Gray Circus

Sep. 30 Brandy Sta. Va
 Oct. 1 Staunton
 2 Lexington
 3 Narrows
 4 Princeton, W.Va

John Strong's 1869 Circus

Sep. 30 Monterey, Cal.
 Oct. 1 Monterey
 2 Galt

Sep 30-Oct 5 Cartersville, Ga.

Golden State Rodeo

Oct. 3-6 Ventura, Calif.

Ice Capades

Sep 27-Oct 1 Tulsa, Okla

Rose City Rides

Sep 30-Oct 5 Bernie, Mo.

Frank Sinatra Show

Oct. Boston, Mass.
 4 Buffalo, N.Y.

Tannen's Magic Jubilee

Oct. New York, N.Y.

Tip Top Shows

Oct. 6-10 La Crosse, Wisc

Ukranian Ice Festival

Oct. 1-16 Philadelphia, Pa

Vandermeide - Hypnotist

Sep 29-Oct 6 Tulsa, Okla

WANTED

Tape recordings of Circus Band Programs - Home recorded Records or other media of Circus Music, Calliopes or Band Organ Music.

For preservation in a future Circus Music Museum.

Write: Art Stensvad, 811 E. 3rd St., North Platte, Nebr. 69101.



NEW HIGH AT ANAHEIM

Gross sales of food and beverages during the Ringling-Barnum 13 day run at Anaheim (Calif) amounted to \$77,000, reports Szabo Foods, concession company. The company, which has the exclusive food and beverage concession at the building, reports this was an all-time high.

The circus audience consumed 40,147 hot dogs; ate 39,545 bags of peanuts; plus drinking 29,190 cups of soft drinks. They also ate 17,201 bags of popcorn and 15,163 ice cream bars.

Miscellaneous

ADEN W. LOWRY, of Kansas, won 1st place at the Los Angeles (Cal) County Fair when he appeared in a variety show, during a visit with his daughter at Lancaster.

The Bette Leonard CFA Tent plans a Circus Banquet in connection with the Oct. 17-20 Shrine Circus at Wichita, Kans.

RICHARD OSLUND, magician, is currently working schools in Kansas and Missouri.

Ringling-Barnum will reportedly present 25 performances at the Anaheim (Cal) Convention Center in 1975.



LION PARK PLANS FOR CIRCUS

Regular circus attractions will be featured at Lion Country Safari, in Orange County, Calif., as present plans are carried out. The proposal was discussed last week between Jerry Kobrin, VP in charge of Advertising and Publicity for the park, and Eddie Howe, former Ringling press agent and now the West Coast Circus Editor for Amusement Business magazine.



In making the announcement Howe said he might be associated with the project starting next spring. There will be no circus animal acts on the program, since the idea of the park is to allow observation of animals as they roam about at will. However, there will be various standard circus acts, plus plenty of clowns.

Lion Country Safari has taken permanent custody of the elephant "Modoc" which was presented to them by her owner Ralph Helfer. The elephant has been performing in Helfer's show at Knott's Berry Farm.

Howe recalls that when he was on RBBB the management often kidded about Modoc, and how she might start moving poles during a performance, thinking it was tear-down time. But she could always be counted on to move wagons mired in the mud, when cats and trucks couldn't budge them.

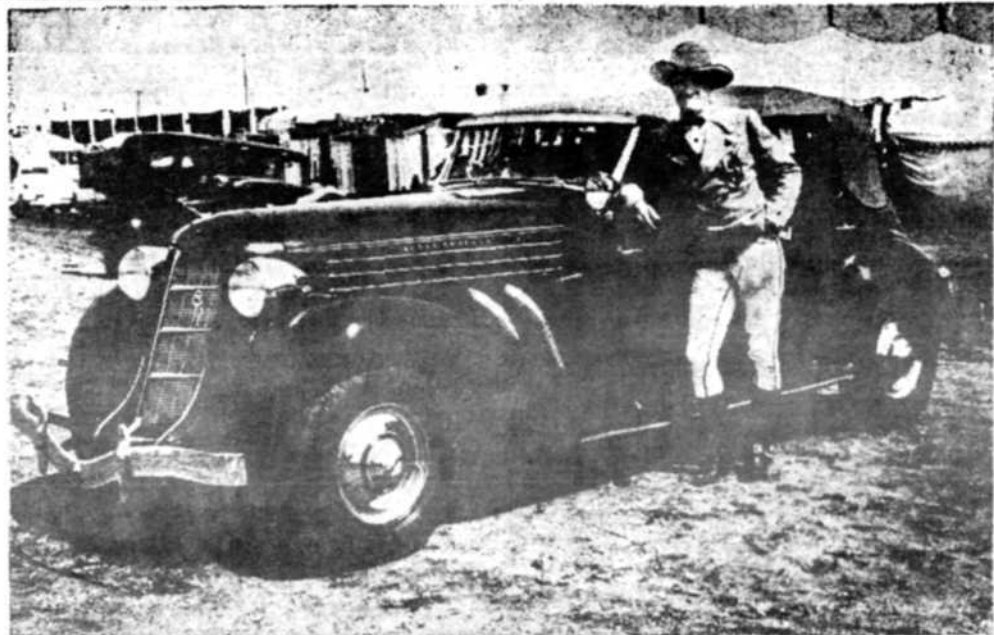
In Memoriam

SID BAKER, a former bandman with Wirth's Circus, in Australia, died on April 14th after a long illness. He was a regular contributor to The Outdoor Showman magazine.

Fisher Bros.

The program, as was reported early this month, now being presented by Fisher Bros. Circus features:

Grand Entry - Entire company
 Freddie White - trapeze
 Josephine Silverlake - dogs
 Freddie & Diane White and Angie
 & Gigi Null - acrobatics
 Mel Silverlake - menage horse
 The Clowns
 Greselda Cannon - tight wire
 The Clowns
 Brownie Silverlake - monkeys
 Mike Gasca - rola bola
 Freddie White - perch act
 Diane White - swinging ladder
 The Clowns
 Greselda Cannon - foot juggling
 Brownie Silverlake - llamas
 Gary Presley - goats and ponies
 Michael Swan - juggling
 Capt. James Davis - elephants



The picture above was taken in 1935 shortly after Tom Mix had purchased his new Auburn. For the car buff the automobile is a 150 HP super-charged Auburn Phaeton Sedan. It sold for \$745.00.

PEOPLE

THE SAMUELS, animal trainers on RBBB's Blue Unit, purchased four baby tigers while in Seattle, Wash.

ALBERT RIX, bear trainer, spent a day at Simpson's Animal Park, in Maine, before going to the fair at West Springfield, Mass.

TARZAN ZERBINI's wild animal act will be featured with the Arabia Shrine Circus at Houston, Texas, next month.

BOB MAIO, RBBB director of

transportation, was the subject of a story in the Sept. 1974 issue of "Career World," a high school monthly publication.

DON KIRBY (Mr. Spud) has recently wound up a tour with the James E. Strates Shows.

MICHELLE DOBRITCH, trapeze performer, suffered only a broken left wrist and an injured left heel when she fell while doing a heel catch on Circus Vargas at Willowick, Ohio, on July 29th.

TOM UPTON is visiting at the fair in Fresno, Calif. this week.

BUSINESS PICKS UP --- IT HAD TO!

"It's just like being home to be back on the west coast and I'm happy to be here," said John Strong late last week. "Our mid-west tour was a rough one and a costly one too."

"Business has picked-up tremendously and it's a good feeling," he added. "Every town here on the coast has provided us with good business. Packed houses everywhere, with really exceptional business at Coos Bay, Yreka, Redding, Red Bluff and Chico."

The circus is currently heading towards its home in Southern California, where it will wind up the current tour early next month. They have been on the road since

early spring, playing mostly one night stands, with only a few days off for a long jump. The tour took them into Eastern Canada and through some unusual weather conditions.

Plans are already well underway for the operation of several Christmas shows during the holiday season, and for a multi-show operation in 1975. The first of the new units, a magic-illusion show will open for the season about Jan. 19th.

HISTORICAL NOTE

In early Feb. 1901 the Sam Lockhart elephants were at the Orpheum theatre in San Francisco, along with the Nine Nelsons.

Leppoldi & Partner - juggling
Jeanine Malter - tight wire
Harry Malter - elephants (2)
Carnellis Czech clowns
Tony, the unrideable mule
Anita Francine - head balance
Harry & Jeanine - dogs/chimps
Miss Jeanine - trained doves

BELGIUM SHOWS

Two major shows tour Belgium each year, bringing interesting programs to each stand.

Acts appearing with the Circus Apollo, which is operated by the Gebruer family, were:

The Knock-about - acrobats
Rudy & Co. - clowns
Jindra and Sonia Merbs - juggling
The Rastellos - cycles
Novakefs Borsoi's dogs
Benoni & Co. - clowns
Virginia & Steve - whips/knives
Jakandas - head-to-head balance
Felicia Rayas - trained snakes
Miss Virginia - rola bola
Charles Fiskorn - slack wire
Edith & Benett - unicycles
Elephants and Zebras
Andre Woznia - band leader

Acts appearing with the Piste Circus, owned by Jeanine and Harry Malter, are:-

The Willas - acrobats



He Liked It

The other evening a tent full of people and I enjoyed a mightily fine little circus, called Barnes & Daily. It seemed as if everyone had come there to enjoy themselves and they did just that.

They had a trapeze and ladder act, rolling globe, juggling, a funny clown, lots of dogs and much more, all done to the tune of a calliope. The announcer described every turn, which was roundly applauded. In fact it reminded me of my first circus -- must have been 10 or 15 wagons, think they called it a mudder.

The thought struck me as I left the lot that in not too many years a Grandpa taking his grandson to a circus would say to him "hope this will be as good a show as my first circus was, That was back in Walton, Ind., Think it was in early September and as I recall it was a beautiful evening, like this evening."

..... Mike Terry

Readers Please Note!

Anyone knowing Norman Rex Mackie is urged to have him phone or write Hellen and Roy Brain, at (604) 434-4843; address: 3333 East 28th Ave., Vancouver, 12, B.C. V5R 1T2 - Canada.

AT THE FAIR

Three circus acts, plus a mariachi band, were featured at the Western Washington Fair in Puyallup (Sep. 13-22).

The circus acts were:-

The Great Wallendas - high wire
The Clementis - bicycles
Victor Julian - dog revue

NEW RULES (Continued)

In addition, all advertising and information materials given to the public must provide a source from which the information may be requested.

A major new provision states that "soliciting organizations shall not pay commissions, kickbacks, finders' fees, percentages, bonuses or override for any fund-raising activity, including telephone, door-to-door, direct mail or other method."

The move is aimed at eliminating high-pressure appeals sometimes made by persons working on a commission, percentage or other variable fee basis, the Council states.

Another new standard requires that all organizations mailing unordered items "shall clearly disclose that recipients are under no obligation to pay for or return the items received -- such as name labels, stamps, pens, seals and ties.

New Plans

New plans for the 1975 season were recently announced for the Pan American Circus by showman Don Francisco. The show will be retitled "Pan American-Corona Int'l 3-Ring Circus" and will be operated by the U. S. Circus Corp., a new organization

Officers of the new operation will be:

Don Francisco - President
 Charles Corona - Vice president and Talent Coordinator
 Lawrence Higgins - 1st Vice president for Promotion
 George Corona - Sect/Treasurer
 Serge Corono - Prop Dept.



*You can never ride on
 the wave that came in
 and went out yesterday
 —Wanamaker*

Circus Squall (Continued)

praise for John Herriott and his dancing horse, and for Fred Logan's herd of elephants. He also commented on the midway attractions which help to make the show a big one.

"Youngsters in Munster found the circus was worth the wait," Hansen said. "There were acts of derring-do, dazzling feats, wonders of the animal kingdom and traditional circus entertainment for a crowd that expected nothing less."