

# The Advance Car

The Official Newsletter of the Circus Historical Society

**APRIL 2025**

We are pleased to bring you another edition of *The Advance Car*, the official e-newsletter of the Circus Historical Society!

2025 is shaping up to be another busy year at the Circus Historical Society. During the first quarter, over twenty CHS members traveled to Monaco to participate in the meetings of the Fédération Mondiale du Cirque and to attend performances of the 47th International Monte-Carlo Circus Festival. In addition, three-hundred members registered to attend one or more of our online *Circus History Live!* sessions. Those programs featured the late circus historian Bill Taggart, pioneering Ringling female clown, dancer, animal trainer, and manager Bernice Collins, and Circus Vazquez chief financial officer Ramon Vazquez. And, more than eighteen-hundred people viewed our thirteen new online *Circus History Spotlight* interviews. [Click here](#) to watch the recordings of these informative programs on the CHS YouTube channel.

We are now gearing up to celebrate World Circus Day this coming Saturday and preparing for our annual convention in fabulous Las Vegas in October! All these activities are the results of the efforts of our officers, trustees, and members who volunteer vast amounts of their time, talents, and treasure to help us preserve circus history. If you want to help us preserve circus history, see the **Volunteers Wanted** section below for new opportunities to volunteer at the Circus Historical Society.

We send this newsletter to CHS members and to non-members who are interested in the Circus Historical Society. If you are not already a CHS member and want to start receiving our beautiful *Bandwagon* journal and enjoying our other member benefits, [click here](#) and join today. Dues are still only \$60 per year.

See you down the road!

Bruce Hawley  
President  
Circus Historical Society

## ***The Bandwagons are coming!***



Volume 68, Number 4 of *Bandwagon: The Journal of the Circus Historical Society* has been mailed to CHS members, and Volume 69, Number 1 is at the printer and will be mailed soon!

Because of our commitment to producing well-researched articles that accurately preserve circus history, *Bandwagon* has become a “go to” source for circus history for academics, circus historians, and enthusiasts around the world. Although we planned to release Volume 68, Number 4 sooner, we encountered unexpected production issues that prevented us from doing so. We sincerely apologize for the delay.

In addition to the latest news about Circus Historical Society activities, the current issue includes terrific articles about the life of world-famous woman juggler Lottie Brunn, the circus adventures of Tiny Tim, of "Tiptoe through the Tulips" fame, the interesting "Clown Egg Register," and a detailed year-in-review of the 40-plus circuses that toured the United States in 2024!

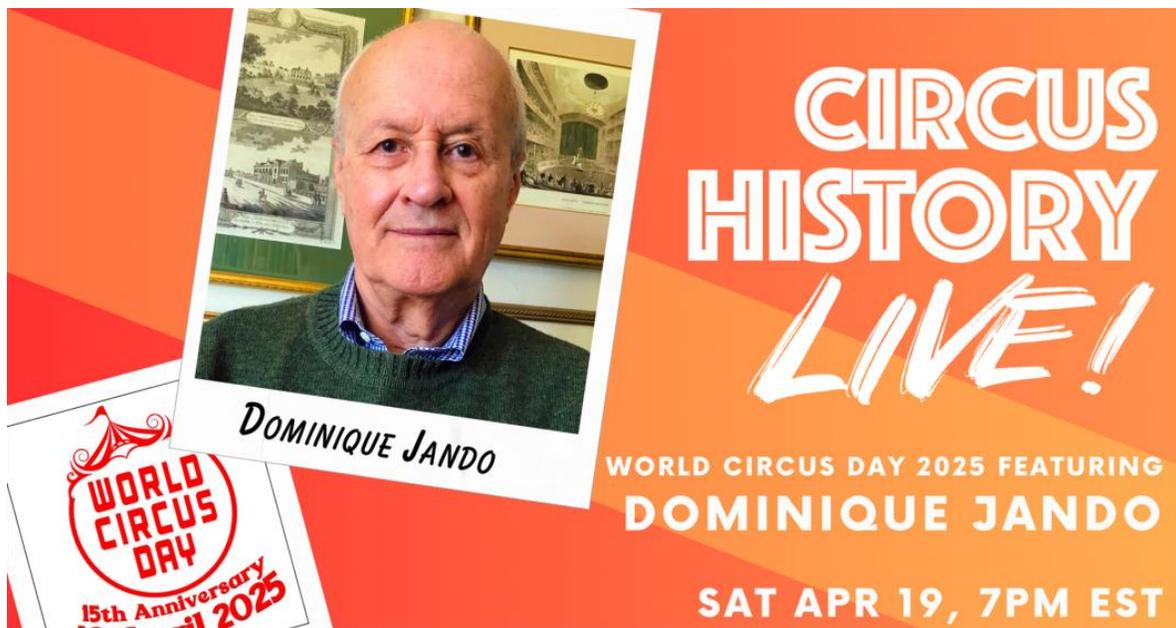
CHS members who do not want to wait for their printed copy or who previously selected the digital-only delivery option for *Bandwagon*, can read the online version of this issue on our members-only Back Yard website now. [Click here](#) to log in to our Back Yard website and select the Recent *Bandwagons* button on the menu bar.

## **World Circus Day Celebrations**

Got your red nose ready? Saturday April 19 is World Circus Day 2025!

Since 2010, World Circus Day has been observed internationally on the third Saturday in April. Created by the Fédération Mondiale du Cirque in Monte-Carlo, this is a day to honor circus arts and culture, with celebrations in many locations.

Whether you opt for some popcorn and *The Greatest Show on Earth* movie on TV, or an Alexa-request for some Merle Evans tunes while you bend-and-stretch, CHS invites you to enjoy World Circus Day!



The graphic features a central portrait of Dominique Jando, an older man with a balding head, wearing a green sweater over a blue collared shirt. The portrait is set against a background of orange and red geometric shapes. To the right of the portrait, the text "CIRCUS HISTORY LIVE!" is written in large, white, stylized letters. Below this, it says "WORLD CIRCUS DAY 2025 FEATURING DOMINIQUE JANDO" and "SAT APR 19, 7PM EST". In the bottom left corner, there is a circular logo for "WORLD CIRCUS DAY" with "15th Anniversary" and "April 2025" written below it.

**DOMINIQUE JANDO**

**CIRCUS HISTORY LIVE!**

WORLD CIRCUS DAY 2025 FEATURING  
**DOMINIQUE JANDO**

**SAT APR 19, 7PM EST**

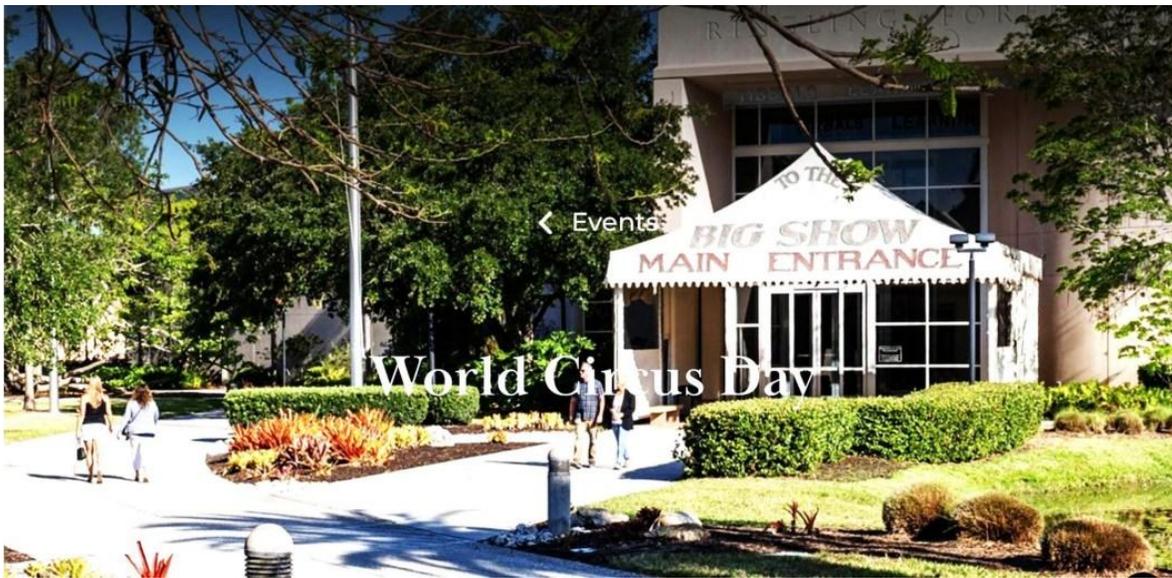
**WORLD CIRCUS DAY**  
15th Anniversary  
April 2025

In celebration of the 15th Anniversary of **World Circus Day**, the Saturday April 19 session of our *Circus History Live!* online program will feature international circus arts historian, author, and consultant **Dominique Jando!**

Dominique is founder of [Circopedia.org](http://Circopedia.org), a popular international on-line circus encyclopedia. He has been for many years Vice President and Artistic Director of Lone Star Circus in Dallas, Texas, and now serves on the boards of Circus Center and Circus Bella in San Francisco.

Originally from France, Dominique participated with Alexis Gruss in the creation of France's *Le Cirque à l'Ancienne*, which eventually became the French National Circus and is considered a catalyst of the European 'New Circus' movement. He came to New York in 1983 to join the Big Apple Circus and served as its Associate Artistic Director for the following twenty years.

[Click here](#) to register for this free CHS program.

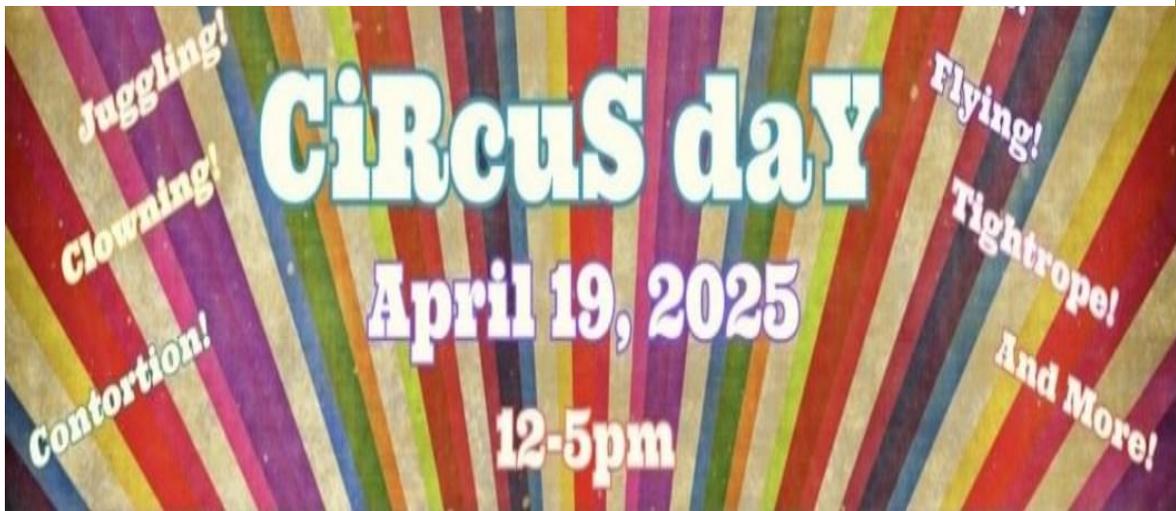


*Photo courtesy of The Ringling Museum*

Come one, come all to World Circus Day on April 19 at The Ringling Circus Museum as we join with communities around the globe to celebrate the rich history and extraordinary artistry of the circus arts. Enjoy [Free Admission to the Circus Museum and the Bayfront Gardens](#).

Please note: Free admission applies only to the Circus Museum. The Museum of Art and Ca' d'Zan are not included in the free admission offer.

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San Francisco's Circus Center will be celebrating World Circus Day with circus skills workshop on April 19. [Click here](#) for further information.



*Photo courtesy of Philadelphia School of Circus Arts*

The Philadelphia School of Circus Arts will be conducting workshops for both children and adults on April 19 in celebration of World Circus Day. [Click here](#) for registration information.



## ***2025 CHS Convention***

Registration is now open for the Circus Historical Society Convention in fabulous Las Vegas from October 22 to 25!

The convention will begin with the Opening Reception at 5:30pm on Wednesday, October 22. The program includes two days of circus history presentations, our annual banquet and circus memorabilia auction, attendance at a competition performance of the Vegas Variety Circus Festival and a movie night program of historic Max Fleischer circus cartoons featuring Koko the Clown and Betty Boop, presented by Fabulous Fleischer Cartoons Restored!

### **Convention Registration & Hotel Reservations**

[Click here](#) for registration information, hotel reservations, and further details.

### **Auction Donations**

If you would like to donate circus memorabilia for sale at the convention auction, please send an email to Bruce Hawley at [president@circushistory.org](mailto:president@circushistory.org).

## ***Meet our new Bandwagon Editor!***



**Rainie Themer Bosquet**

We are very pleased to announce that CHS member and ISU Gamma Phi Circus program manager Rainie Themer Bosquet has been named to succeed Kat Vecchio as Editor of *Bandwagon!* Please join us in congratulating Rainie and thanking Kat for sharing their talents with the Circus Historical Society!

[Click here](#) for additional information about the editorial changes at *Bandwagon*.

## ***Volunteers Wanted***

### **Convention Technical Assistance**

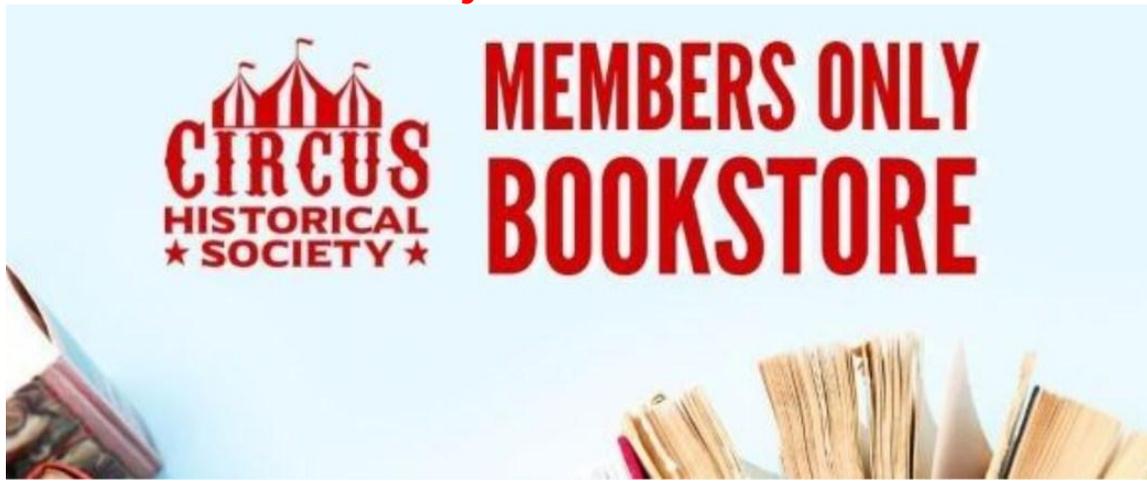
We will be live streaming the presentations at our October convention in Las Vegas. If you have experience coordinating Zoom sessions and are willing to operate the Zoom and PowerPoint slide controls during the convention, let us know.

### ***Bandwagon* Articles**

For over 80 years, CHS members have been accurately preserving circus history by authoring scholarly well-researched articles for publication in our *Bandwagon* journal. For further information about writing for *Bandwagon*, see [Write for \*Bandwagon\*](#) on our website.

Members who are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities should send an email to Bruce Hawley at [president@circushistory.org](mailto:president@circushistory.org).

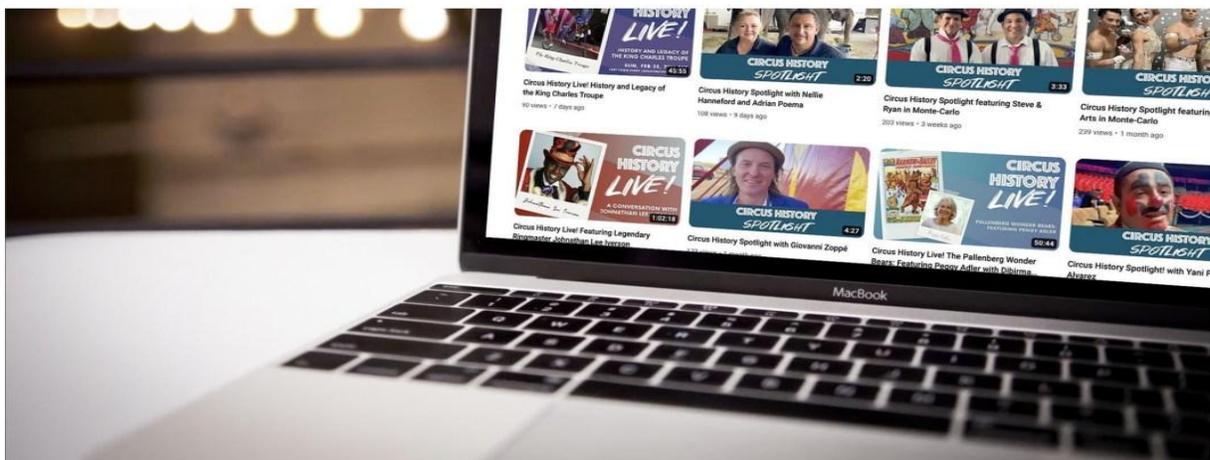
## ***New Inventory in the CHS Bookstore!***



**Visit our Bookstore!** - We recently received a new supply of hard-to-find used circus books, programs, and other items that were donated to the Circus Historical Society for fundraising purposes. Access to our online bookstore is limited to members only.

[Click here](#) to log in to our Back Yard website and select the Bookstore button on the menu bar.

## ***Visit the CHS YouTube Channel***



Want more circus history? [Click here](#) to visit the Circus Historical Society *YouTube Channel* and watch the recordings of all our *Circus History Live!* programs and *Circus Spotlight* interviews!

**Not a member?**



**JOIN CHS  
TODAY!**

Members have access  
to publications, events,  
a bookstore, and more!

Become a member at  
**[circushistory.org](http://circushistory.org)**

If you are not already a member, please join us today! For only \$60 a year, you will receive our scholarly quarterly journal *Bandwagon* and enjoy all the other benefits of a CHS membership. For additional information about the CHS, [click here](#).

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