

THE CIRCUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. PRESENTS

NEWS & VIEWS

Bringing Circus Past and Present Together!

The Circus Historical Society Newsletter
Bob Cline – Newsletter Editor

www.circushistory.org

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Chris Berry – Co-Editor

“Our Mission is to Preserve, Promote and Share through Education, the history and cultural significance of the circus & the allied arts, past and present.

CIRCUS PAGES CLOSES

(Re-printed from the Circus Pages Facebook page)

Hello to all our Circus Pages followers. I suppose it's time to make this official. After 28 wonderful seasons and the passing of our father Jose Pages Sr., the family has decided 2018 will be our last year on the road as Circus Pages International.

We have raised 4 generations of circus talent, traveled across the United States and Canada, and made many lifelong friends along the way. Our lives have been enlightened by those encounters and will stay with our family forever.



Daisy and Bambi are loving life at the Memphis Zoo. Our kids, the next generation of Pages, are going to explore their options whether it be circus,

school, or just enjoying life. For now we will enjoy family time with our mother, Sabina, and eagerly await our next adventures in life.

We wouldn't have been so successful without the help of so many of you. We'd like to thank the countless building and fair managers and board members for their continuous support and love throughout the years. We'd like to give a special shout out to Ian Kempf at the Eastern Michigan Fair for making us part of your family.

For now and always... May All Your Days Be Circus Pages Days!

SUMMER HEAT

No one needs to be told that this summer's heat has just been brutal. Who wants to go outside when it's nearly 100 degrees?

The Carson and Barnes Circus started closing for the summer months a few years ago. This joined a practice that was started by the Lewis & Clark Circus several years ago.

Both shows have announced their anticipated return to the road soon. The Carson and Barnes Circus will re-open in Tulsa, Oklahoma on August 31st.

The Lewis & Clark Circus will return to the road in Lavonia, Georgia on September 14th.

FAIR SEASON

Fairs? What does that have to do with Circus History you ask? A lot. Many circus performers find a steady string of dates throughout the years by working Fairs and Festivals.

This year's Ohio State Fair, which was held from July 26th to August 5th featured the Nerveless Nocks Thrill show. This was the first time at the Ohio State Fair for the Nocks since their appearance at the Ringling produced Thrill Circus in 1977. They had just driven across the country from the OC Fair in Costa Mesa, California.

The Indiana State Fair made the circus as its theme for this year's Fair. Wayne McCary, who is a Circus Historical Society Board member, produced a live circus inside the Circus Sarasota Big Top featuring Bello Nock and the Urias Troupe. The Harvest Pavilion was transformed into a circus paradise, with the Children's Museum exhibit as an interactive display. In addition, the Circus Hall of Fame presented three of their wagons, along with historical pictures from Peru and their Gift Shop.



(Doug Konkle photo)

Wayne McCary also produces a Circus for the Utah State Fair. Billy Martin is producing the Big "E" in West Springfield, MA. Fairs, whether a State Fair or a smaller County Fair across this great country, will feature circuses and circus acts as the season rolls on. Circus producers such as Zoppe, Hanneford and Coronas provide quality entertainment to the masses during Fairs where crowds are in abundance. We are grateful for the world class entertainment and performers who are excited about the opportunities.

NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome our new members that have joined since our last newsletter. Many of them were at the CHS Convention in Baraboo this past July.

- # 5013 – Deborah Walters
Painesville, OH.
- # 5014 – Michael Moore
Rockwall, TX.
- # 5015 – Bryan Greene
Washington, D.C.
- # 5016 – Walter Woodward
Hartford, CT.
- # 5017 – Sakina Hughes
Evansville, IN.
- # 5018 – Joe Dobrow
Boulder, CO.
- # 5019 – Gary Nosacek
Milwaukee, WI.
- # 5020 – Robert Neil
Des Plaines, IL.
- # 5021 – Terry Ricketts
Phoenix, AZ.
- # 5022 – Kristine Stabo
Menomonee Falls, WI.
- # 5023 – Brendan McDaniel
Baraboo, WI.
- # 5024 – Scott Manning
Lansdowne, PA.
- # 5025 – Annie Henderson
Pottsboro, TX.
- # 5026 – Kathleen Flinn
Seattle, WA.
- # 5027 – Debbie Fahrenbruck
Novelty, OH.

THE VENARDOS CIRCUS

Former Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, Circus Vargas and The Big Apple Circus Ringmaster, Kevin Venardos has taken to the spotlight one more time as the Ringmaster of his very own show, The Venardos Circus. Utilizing a 16' x 20' raised stage as its performance platform, he has developed a great circus playing in smaller venues across America. In September, his circus will embark on what he hopes will finish as a 40 week season. Opening on the east coast and working its way to Florida before December, his show will continue from the south to points across the country.



Having just closed his show in the State of Washington at the end of July, Kevin came to Indiana for the Wayne McCary produced Indiana State Fair Circus where he served as the singing ringmaster for a fantastic performance, three times a day.

As his advertisement for performers states "The Little Circus that Could, is Growing." We are now casting for a Fall tour to run from Sept. 10th to Dec. 2nd at locations across the Mid South and Florida with the potential to extend artist's contracts into 2019. Venardos Circus will soon be a 40 week touring show with stops all across the United States.

Go see a top notch circus as once again, the circus world proves, the Circus is NOT dead!

MADAME BOUGLIONE

(From Raffaele de Ritis)



Madame Rosa Bouglione, 108 years old, passed away August 26, 2018 in Paris, where she lived in her magnificent family-owned Cirque d'Hiver, world's oldest circus building.

She was respected as a queen by the French citizens, as well as the world circus community. Born in a trailer from Van Been family in Belgium, she married a legend, Joseph Bouglione, assuring the continuity of a dynasty of true circus royals.

From the early menageries to the shooting of "Trapeze", from the age of the Codonas and Fratellinis to receiving Cirque du Soleil, she witnessed more than a fabulous century of circus life .

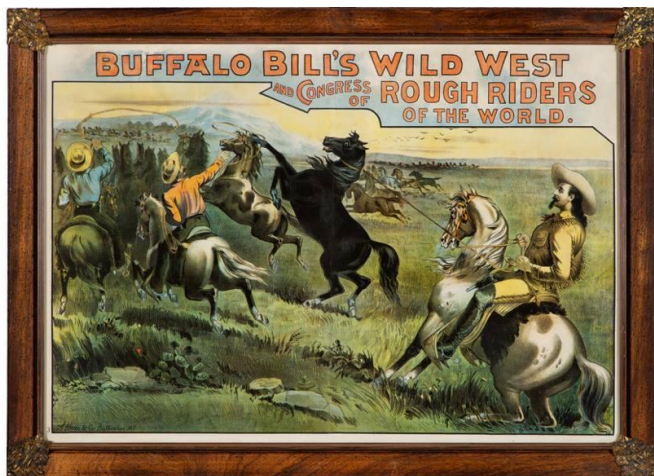
DID YOU KNOW

That the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus series of drop frame wagons were so heavy they had a set of special made 18 spoke wheels with sunbursts on them?

EDWARD GILLETTE

As a noted historian of the circus poster and the lithograph printing houses, Chris Berry reported to us about the amazing Edward Gillette Wild West collection featuring many Buffalo Bill posters that were put up for auction in Dallas, Texas the weekend of August 25th. Mr. Gillette was an attorney from Kansas City who died in 2016 leaving an extensive collection of Wild West artifacts and ephemera. Many of the items sold at very high prices in the online auction.

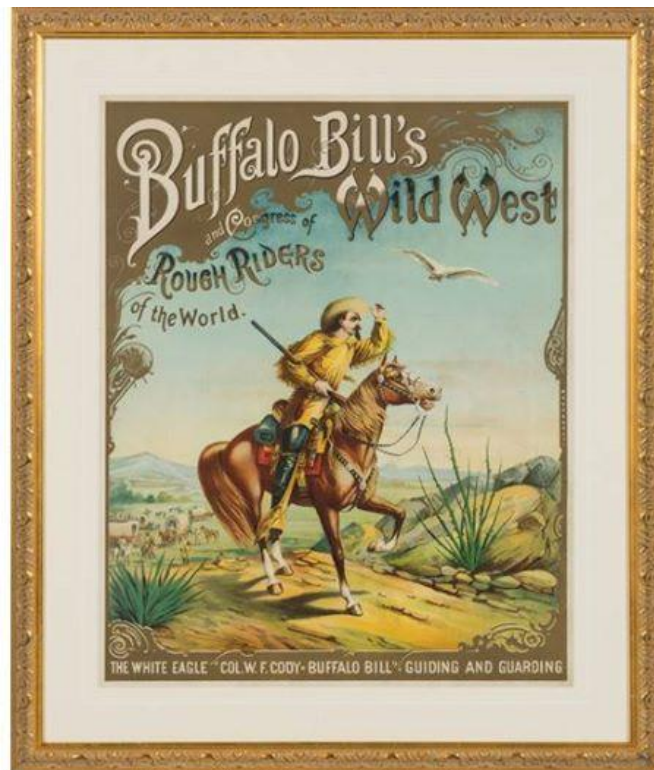
Posters were offered from some of the oldest lithograph and printing houses around the world. A. Hoen & Company of Baltimore, a lithograph company that did many early posters for Buffalo Bill's Wild West was one of the printers featured. Others included works from Courier Company of Buffalo, NY, Weiner's, one of the premier European lithographers at the turn of the 20th Century, and W.J. Morgan of Cleveland, Ohio.



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

CHS Trustee, Richard Flint, commented "This poster sold for \$17,500 (including Buyer's Premium) in the Gillette auction and is already being offered for sale by the buyer! Described as a "Possibly Unique Poster Depicting Cody Roping a Horse. Printed by Hoen and Company of Baltimore, it is a striking design not currently in the collection of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center and previously unknown to [its] longtime curator." The Dallas auction house is taking offers if anyone's interested. This was the same Auction Company that sold the Two Hemispheres Bandwagon in 2016.

This is the iconic "White Eagle" Cody Poster. A. Hoen & Company of Baltimore. It is considered to be one of the finest stone lithographs produced for the Buffalo Bill Wild West and it is one of the most desirable. The poster, used in 1893 and 1894 was in near mint condition. Matted and custom-framed, it measures 32" x 27.5". It sold at auction on August 25th for \$17,500, including the buyer's premium.



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

AN OLD PHOTO

When Ben Davenport had finally run the Dailey Bros. Circus name into enough trouble, he was forced to change the name to the Campa Bros. Circus, the name was derived from a troupe of performers he employed. Being of Spanish descent, one of the trucks was also lettered in Spanish. This rare photo from 1951 comes to us courtesy of the late Robert Spivey collection.

