

9/3/20

Arts and Sciences

Art

George J. Keller Papers, 1901-2020

Box 1:

**Bloomsburg**

Accession Correspondence, 1977, 2000-2012

Bloomsburg State College Correspondence, 1960-1967

Correspondence, 2000-2004

*Here Keller, Train This* Transcription in *Press Enterprise*, 2005

Phil Hyde, 1945-2009

Keller

Art and Teaching, 1918-1943

Correspondence, 1932-1960

Virginia "Ginny" Lowery, 2011

Newspaper Clippings, 1932-79, 1999-2010

Photographs

Doyle Edgar Photographs - Donated July 11, 2000

Black and White Negatives (with prints) - Circus Travels, c.1953

Black and White Prints, 1937-1952

Color Negatives

Artists (66), 1953

Clowns (30), 1953

George Keller (42), 1953

Wagons (5), 1953

Unidentified Circus Performers (143), 1953

Color Transparencies (with prints) - Circus Travels, 1953

Negatives

Animals (28), 1934-1939

Jungle Farm (20), 1938

Keller's Jungle Killers (8), 1946-1950s

Props (8), 1937-1940s

Tent Show (10), 1939-1940

Morning Press Negatives (prints), 1936-1950

Melvin Olsen Photographs - Keller Performances, 1958-1959

Photographs, 1938-47, 1964, 2001-13

Publications, 1916-59, 2004-14

**Jane Keller**

Photographs, 1912, 1936-1947

Publications, 1918-21, 1930s-1950, 2010-12

**Katie Keller**

Newspaper Articles, c.1940-1985  
Photographs, 1907-1953  
Publications, 1918-1969

**Virginia Lowery Keller Scamihorn**

Articles and Correspondence, 1946-1961  
Color Negatives and Transparencies, 1954-1960  
Disneyland Postcards, 1956  
George Keller Interview - Correspondence and Transcriptions, 1959-1960

Box 2:**Virginia Lowery Keller Scamihorn**

Keller Address Book, 1955-1960  
Photograph Prints (Originals), 1915, 1937-1960  
Photograph Prints from Digital Scans, 1940-1970s  
Publications, 1948-1966

**Stancliff**

Accession Correspondence, 2013  
Articles and Newspaper Clippings (Diverse Topics), 1940-1955  
Correspondence (4 folders), 1950-1961  
Disneyland, 1955-1956  
Keller's Jungle Killers Publicity Photographs, 1947, 1963  
Manuscripts and Notes, 1951-1960  
Newspaper Clippings - Circus (4 folders), 1950-1960, 1971  
Personal and Copied Photographs, 1947-1951  
Programs and Publications, 1950-1961  
Public Relations Material, 1950-1952

**Keller Estate**

Documents, 1945-1956  
Photographs  
Animals (171 photos - 3 folders), 1924-1958  
Circus (19 photos), 1941-1955

Box 3:**Keller Estate**

George Keller (62 photos - 2 folders), 1937-1959  
Jungle Farm (19 photos), 1936-1938  
Keller's Jungle Killers (122 photos - 3 folders), 1940-1949  
Tent Show (5 photos), 1939-1940

## **Book Research**

Animal Act Assistant Research Material, 2006, 2013  
Book Research Material- Keller Jungle Killers, 1921-2006  
Circus World Museum Research Material, 1945-1958  
Columbia County Historical and Genealogical Society, 1934-1942  
Keller Family Research Material, 2000-2016  
Keller Research Material- Andre Dominguez, 2010  
Marriage and Divorce Files, 1922-1957  
Memoirs and Memories of George Keller, 1942-2013  
Research Articles  
    Alumni Quarterly and Orbiter, 1921-1960  
    Billboard Magazine, 1942-1960  
    Colorado, 1971  
    Local Newspapers (3 folders), 1866-2020  
    Maroon and Gold Student Newspaper, 1926-1973  
    National Magazines, 1936-1959, 2004  
    National Newspapers, 1939-1979  
    New York Newspapers, 1894-1960  
    Pennsylvania Newspapers, 1918-2000  
Research Material  
    B.S.T.C. Trustee Minutes, 1946-1953  
    California, 1954-2011  
    Super Circus and Mary Hartline, 1950-1964, 2010

## **Box 4: Larger-Size Items**

### **Bloomsburg**

Mounted photograph of Keller painting given to Hartline family, c.1930s

One copy of the January 2, 1939, issue of *Life* magazine, featuring George Keller's hobby of collecting albino animals, pp. 38 and 39.

Copies of *Press Enterprise* articles reprinting *Here, Keller – Train This*, August 2005

### **Jane Keller**

Photocopied pages of George Keller album, with art and photographs related to his courtship and marriage to Eleanor Evans, 1925-1928.

## **Katie Keller**

*A Theological Dictionary* by the Rev. Charles Buck, published 1835, owned by the Keller family  
The Holy Bible, published 1901, owned by the Keller family

Two scrapbooks/albums, 1915-1930

The scrapbooks/albums documenting George Keller at Bloomsburg High School, Columbia University Teachers College, and the Bloomsburg State Normal School. The first album contains newspaper and magazine clippings showing Keller's artwork and cartoons, many sold to major magazines. Documentation of his time in Bloomsburg covers his teaching at both the normal school and in the public school system. These include clippings and photographs of the student art work shown in large exhibitions in Science Hall. Extensively documented were the plays staged by the Junior High School Art Club: Red Riding Hood, The Three Bears, Cinderella, and The Pied Piper of Hamelin, each year from 1923 to 1926. Keller also included photographs of his new house on Lightstreet Road, which was completed in 1929. The second album concentrates on the 1923 Art Club production of Red Riding Hood, with clippings, flyers, tickets, programs, photographs, costume sketches, and set designs.

One copy of the January 2, 1939, issue of *Life* magazine, featuring George Keller's hobby of collecting albino animals, pp. 38 and 39.

One copy of the November 6, 1954, issue of the *Saturday Evening Post*, featuring an article on George Keller titled, "I'm Scared all the Time."

Two copies of *Here, Keller – Train This*, 1961, one of which was owned by George Keller's second wife, Eleanor.

Two copies of the March 1961 issue of *Reader's Digest*, which serialized portions of his book.

## **Virginia Lowery Keller Scamihorn**

Two scrapbooks compiled by Al Lapchak of his travels around the United States with Keller's Jungle Killers. The first covers 1954 and the second 1955, with several items for 1956 and 1957. The scrapbooks include newspaper and magazine clippings, tickets, circus notices and schedules, employee and I.D. passes, program covers, and various items related to Disneyland.

## **Stancliff**

Numerous copies of the article on George Keller titled, "I'm Scared all the Time," torn from issues of the November 6, 1954, *Saturday Evening Post*,

Mickey Mouse Club Circus souvenir program, 1955

## **Keller Estate**

Contracts and correspondence for George Keller's animal act to appear at venues around the United States, 1956-1959

## **Box 5: Audio-Visual Materials**

### **Bloomsburg**

CD and VHS tape:

1937 – Jungle Farm 1

1942 – Paramount Unusual Occupations

1955 – Mickey Mouse Club television program

45 RPM record:

1955 – Ginny Lowry sings with the Jack Medell Orchestra

Side A: "Just the One I Adore"

Side B: "The OO-OO Song"

CD and Reel-to-Reel tape:

1980s – "Memories of George Keller," an interview of Ted Fenstermacher by host Sherry Carpenter on the WCNR radio station program "Animal Crackers"

### **Virginia Lowery Keller Scamihorn**

DVDs and Films:

1937 – Jungle Farm 2

1952 – George Keller's Wild Animals commercial, Memorial Day

1957 – Performance at the Ararat Shrine Circus in Kansas City, MO (Keller performed there in both 1956 and 1957. The film could be from either engagement.)

CD and Reel-to-Reel tape:

1959 – A May 22 interview with Keller at Clementon Lake Park, NJ, broadcast on WKDN radio, Camden, NJ

16mm film:

1946 – "Lion-Tiger Fight!" A b x w feature produced by Castle Films and shot in India. A lion and tiger are shown fighting to the death. Part of *The Adventure Parade* and edited by Eugene W. Castle.

## Box 6: Artifacts

### **Katie Keller**

c.1938 – Wooden engraving, 8.5” x 10”

On one side of the engraving is George Keller holding a whip dressed in his Jungle Farm uniform and kneeling next to a tri-color (red, gold, blue) pedestal supporting a spotted leopard. Jungle animals are carved around the edge. The reverse side features a female circus performer in a light green tutu, standing next to a hippopotamus with its mouth wide open. The border is plain with no ornamentation.

1930s – Circus wagon wheel made of metal

The wheel is painted on one side red, white, and blue. Around the inside of the rim are the letters George J. Keller.

1930s – Ring made of silver

Ring with an African Lion on top and a nameplate on the front with George Keller engrave on it.

1930s – Blue and Orange ribbons

Two cloth ribbons, possibly related to Bucknell’s school colors. Keller graduated from the university in 1935 with a master’s degree.

## Box 7: Oversize

### **Katie Keller**

1905-1907 – Registration book for the Hotel Wiest, Herndon, PA

The book contains numerous entries for Charles Keller, who stayed at the hotel while making trips to sell wholesale goods to clients.

### **Stancliff**

1955-1957 – *Disneyland News*

Twelve issues, beginning with #5, of the publication issued by Disneyland containing stories of all the activities, changes, and additions to the park in its first two years. The main story for Issue 5 announced the impending opening of the Mickey Mouse Club Circus with featured guest performer George Keller.

## **Virginia Lowery Keller Scamihorn**

1949-1953 – Scrapbook compiled by Keller assistant Al Lapchak

The scrapbook, the first of three in the collection (the second and third are in Box 4) covers the travels Keller's *Jungle Killers* around the United States. The scrapbooks include article clippings of newspapers from many states, performing schedules, telegrams, magazine and special newspaper section articles, and advertisements for the *Big Top* television program.

### Box 8: Oversize

## **Katie Keller**

### Diplomas

1912 – Eighth Grade certificate for George Keller

The diploma certified that Keller had completed the course of study for the Bloomsburg Public Schools Grammar Department and he was qualified to enter the High School Department.

1916 – High School graduation diploma for George Keller

Awarded by Bloomsburg High School to Keller on June 15, 1916.

1925 – High School graduation diploma for Eleanor Rees Evans

Awarded by Bloomsburg High School to Keller's second wife on June 11, 1925. The diploma still includes a drawing of the old high school building, which burned in October 1923.

1926 – Palmer Method of Business Writing teacher's certificate for Eleanor Evans

The diploma certified that Evans had completed the course on the Palmer Method of Muscular Movement Business Writing

1935 – University graduation diploma for George Keller

Diploma from Bucknell University awarded to Keller when he earned his master's degree.

### Clothing

1950s – Green sequined jacket and striped pants

One of the costumes in various colors Keller designed and wore in the early to mid-1950s. According to existing packaging, this costume was mailed to Jane Keller Molinaro

(Mrs. Frank) at 850 Park Road, Morris Plains, NJ, on June 9, 1961, from Virginia Keller (Mrs. George) at 426 Division Street, Joliet, IL. The cost of postage was \$2.15.

## Box 9: Oversize

### **Bloomsburg**

#### Artifacts

##### 1930s – Leather whip

Whip used by George Keller to both train and direct animals during performances. It was never used on them, just to point them as to where they were to go to perform.

##### 1930s – T-shirt

Maroon t-shirt with a plain front and gold lettering “George J. Keller’s Wild Animals,” and a drawing of the face of a lion on the back

##### 1940s – Jacket

Red jacket with blue trim and “Keller’s Lions” on the back in gold lettering, worn by his assistants (called cage boys) who helped set up the act and care for the animals

### **Jane Keller**

##### 1950s – Gold Jacket

A gold jacket with gold trim and ornamentation, worn by Keller while performing during the late 1950s

## Over-Oversize

### **Bloomsburg**

1938 – Two copies of the Jungle Farm Poster (41” x 56”) printed by the Globe Poster Corporation, St. Louis - Chicago, and donated in 2000 by Gordon Derr and Reuel Hartman (On Oversize Artifact Shelves)

1956 – Blow-up (30” x 19”) of the postcard produced by Disneyland publicizing Keller’s act at the park from January to September (On Shelf with Oversize Boxes)