

George Kinter, NPRA Clown of the Year, coming to the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo

Laughter, smiles and being tormented by small animals are what George Kinter calls his passion. He is a rancher by trade,

but on the weekends he hits the rodeo trail. He paints his face, throws in his Jack Russell Terrier, a skunk and whatever else he can use to make people laugh and he's

off clowning around all over Oregon and Washington.

He keeps his schedule busy with 16 to 20 rodeos each year during the summer. He has company on occasions, which includes his wife, Mary, and their two sons, Luke Coyote and Skye Hawk. Mary makes his outfits.

George loves making people laugh, working with kids and traveling to small towns where people truly enjoy rodeo and the entertainment that comes with it. Kinter enjoys the spur of the moment comedy that he can bring into the arena. He uses the audience and the action around him to entertain the audience. He changes roles often in a performance to fit the act he has prepared (and some he hasn't).

Cattle have been a huge part of Kinter's life. He ranches in Toppenish, Washington, raising about 200 head of cattle and working at the livestock yard. George started competing in rodeos in the 70s. He was a bull rider because of the thrill and the quickness the sport entailed. During a junior rodeo in Toppenish, George jumped in front of an angry bull and, with agility, skill and quickness, fooled the bull to go the opposite direction. Shortly after this, George went from bull riding to bull fighting. He had a fire for the thrill and danger this job entails.

Injury is a part of this career and the question is "when" will it happen. Broken ribs, broken arms, feet and plenty of stitches are part of this sport and Kinter had his fair share. However, a serious incident was enough to let George consider other avenues of entertainment. During an Oregon rodeo, Kinter was hooked and thrown against a chute, separating a shoulder, putting him into shock and sidelining him for six weeks. This was another changing point in his life.

This cattleman now enjoys putting on his funny face and loading up his props such as the motorized bull (a little safer than



George Kinter and friend

the real ones), his pet Jack Russell Terrier and, of course, the family skunk! His kids often come to help dad out and be a part of the act. He is a true entertainer. The NPRA has awarded Kinter the Clown Barrelman of the year five times.

Don't miss the fun and entertainment by Kinter at this year's Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo, Aug. 16-17. The trip is worth it for the whole family.

Magical Puppet Family, contests and more at Fair

Come see Neil Heilpern with The Magical Puppet Family and Gerry Giraffe on Wednesday, Aug. 14. From 11 a.m.-12 p.m., Gerry Giraffe will be performing. The Magical Puppet Family will be performing twice starting at 12:30 p.m. and again at 4 p.m. In between, from 1-4 p.m. there will be a lot of contests to enter. There will be Face Painting, Bean Bag Toss, Musical Chairs and a Duck Pond, along with the popular Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest. Prizes will be given away to the winners, but remember all kids are winners!



Magical Puppet Family

OSU Extension Service extends its services to diverse populations

Mario A. Magaña, 4-H Youth Development agent in Morrow and Umatilla counties, is developing innovative, non-traditional 4-H clubs to serve diverse populations, mainly Hispanics.

Some of his new clubs are: 1) a computer club at Riverside High School with approximately 37 members; 2) a soccer club practicing at Sam Boardman Elementary School with approximately 185 members; 3) a Mexican folkloric dance club at Riverside High School which will have approximately 40 members by mid-month; and 4) a sewing club meeting at A.C. Houghton Elementary School with between

10 and 20 members.

Mario is also working with youth and adults in these counties informing them about GED and college opportunities in the State, developing sporting activities for adults and building better relationships among community members. About 25 women meet three times a week at Sam Boardman Elementary School to practice volleyball and talk about community needs, issues and problems.

Mario's office is located at 101 NW Boardman Avenue (Docken Building) in Boardman and the mailing address is P.O. Box 1270, Boardman 97818. Call him with any questions you might have at (541) 481-6610.

Come join us at the Morrow County Fair & Rodeo for our Sixth Annual Murray's Country Rose Beer & Wine Tasting on Thursday, August 15th from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Music by Joe & Leanne Lindsay All ages are welcome! (Italian sodas for the kids.)

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