

THE BIG TOP

Mid-Atlantic Clown Association Newsletter

AugSep 2018

IT'S ALMOST HERE

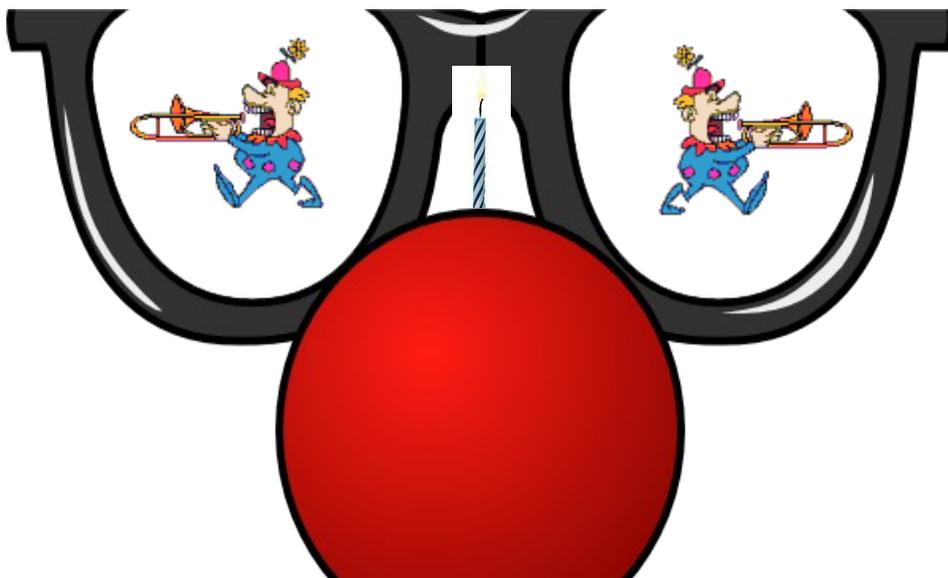
35th Annual Mid-Atlantic Clown Association Convention

Birthday Bash!

Inside this issue:

Convention Registration Form, Online links to hotel reservations, list of instructors and more.

Don't miss this one!!!



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Pat Stevenson
MACA President

Huge apologies for what must have appeared as forever and lack of progress on the convention. We constantly ask for photos and info and we hear crickets also. But that is no reason for us to go on the road for three months and not tell you what we are doing for the association. Several of us toured other local hotels. There is the Best Western Premier that may be a contender.

Susan and I have contracts out for all our vendors and lecturers. We have a schedule that is 99% complete...so here it is...

35th Annual Convention

Nov 9—12, 2018

Red Lion Hotel 4751 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111

Price is still \$185 for members.

Contact is Dave Myers 202 N Dupont Rd, Wilmington DE 19805

Clickerclown@yahoo.com

Hotel rates—Single \$91 includes breakfast

Double \$101 includes breakfast for 2. (If there are 3 or 4 sharing a room, there are only 2 breakfast vouchers.)

Double - <https://reservations.redlion.com/ibe/details.aspx?propertyid=14193&nights=1&checkin=11/07/2018&group=MADD1107>

Single - <https://reservations.redlion.com/ibe/details.aspx?propertyid=14193&nights=1&checkin=11/07/2018&group=MASS1107>

Our Vendors need to cover expenses and be on the green side of the ledger...so, different this year. **Mary Ann Ross** will be bringing just about everything you need. If she doesn't have it, **Dave Hill** will! And just to be sure we have everything a clown needs **Scott Correll** will have his usual set up! **Terry Slaymaker** will have his "button" display. Please be sure to patronize the vendors. They bring so much merchandise that you can see and have hands on experiences.



Happy Birthday to us!

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

By Bill "SHOBO" Schober
MACA Chaplain

Hey MACA peeps...

Long time no hear...I'd LOVE to be able to pray with you over concerns of life. Speaking of life. It's gotten crazier every day. In addition to being the Chaplain of MACA I'm also the Mid-Atlantic Regional director for World Clown Association along with being the Chair of the Administrative Council of my home church while we transition to a new Pastor. That being said, time has been limit...

With this in mind, going to an educational event is VERY important. Over the year's MACA has not only been a family fun event but very educational in the grow of being a clown. MACA has always been like family and have produced some top notched clowns. So much this past August, at the American Clown Academy "Big Show" 5 MACA members played a huge role in the show. Those not familiar with the Big Show, you need to Try out to be a part of it.

This Past year I was blessed to not only go to American Clown academy but got to attend the World Clown Association in Minnesota. Wow..both were great experiences, seeing some old friends and meeting some new. We all have some friends on Facebook we have never actually met. These conventions are opportunities to meet and chat "clown up "

Unfortunately, (well not really)...I will not be attending this year's convention. A 1st in many years. This year marks 15 years of Marriage to my wife and we planned a getaway. I Love going to MACA and have been Blessed to Clown around with some of the best of the best...SOOO PLEASE post Pictures and write comments on Facebook and/or any social media to let all know how Great MACA is. 35 years should be celebrated and congratulated.

I'd also challenge all MACA members to get out there and show what you learned...

Three great Opportunities are with the Dolan Fund family Boat Ride. We have been involved with the Dolan fund for many years in the Philadelphia Area. Now they are expanding to Washington DC and New York...The Philly event averages 15 clowns at the event to help Kids with special needs have fun and to help Families relax and laugh. Last year My Buddy Shady and I traveled down to DC to attend but this year would be great to see more. SOOO I'm challenging all Clowns in the DC and NY area to attend their next event, to better our 15 clowns The DC event is Oct 21st and the NYC one is Dec 2. It's a super fun event and you will be blessed knowing you "Done Good"

Bump a nose
Shobo

MACA CLOWN ALLEY STATE DIRECTORS

Again this year , MACA will be holding elections of officers and state directors during the business meeting on Saturday afternoon.

If you are interested and would like to become more fully involved , why not consider running for an office or directorship.

Main Requirement: Must be current member in good standing

35th ANNUAL MACA CONVENTION NEWS

35 Years of Fun and Frivolity!

What was clowning like in 1982?



What does it take to be a clown in 2018?

Our *Birthday Bash* will be educational, fun and rewarding.

November 8-11, 2018

Red Lion Hotel Harrisburg Hershey

4751 Lindle Road

Harrisburg, PA

35th Annual Mid-Atlantic Clown Association Convention ***Birthday Bash!***

November 8-11, 2018

Red Lion Hotel

4751 Lindle Road, Harrisburg PA 17111

To register, complete the form below by filling in the blocks on your computer, print out the form and send, with check made payable to MACA Convention, to: Ellen Gagnon 737 Mill Street, Moorestown, NJ 08057. Questions, call Ellen 856-727-9261 or email: classitheclown@comcast.net

Full registration fee includes dinner Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.

Thursday theme - Throw Back Thursday night...

Friday theme - TBA

Saturday banquet - Business Casual (Theme and Show TBA)

Registration Fees:

- | | | |
|---|---------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full - \$185.00 thru 9/30/18 | Daily Rates: | <input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00 per day -Thurs.&Sat.
\$60 Friday (no meals) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full - \$195.00 thru 10/31/18 | Dinner Rates: | <input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00 Thurs. and/r Fri. each night |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full - \$205.00 after 10/31/18 | | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00 Saturday night banquet |

Total registration fees: \$

Hotel room rate - \$89.00 single per night includes breakfast. \$99 double per night includes breakfast for two. Additional persons in room do not get breakfast tickets. You must reserve before 10/26/2018 to be assured this rate. If you make reservations thru Sunday and check out earlier, you will be charged a \$50 fee. (717) 939-7841.

Easy on line check-in available - control + click to go to hotel website

Control + Click here to book a [Double](#) room

Control + Click here to book a [Single](#) room

:

*****Please note*****

\$25 processing fee for cancellations before 10/01/18. No refunds after that date.
Face painting supplies and latex products will be used and sold at this convention.
All are welcome to attend, however, you must be an MACA member and have paid registration to participant.

Name:

Clown Name:

Address:

E-mail:

City:

Phone:

State:

First MACA convention?: No Yes

Listing of MACA Instructors

Back by popular demand –**Bob Abdou**. Puppet master, comedic entertainer and Ventriloquist! Not only will Bob work with puppets but will do a class on “How to write a joke”. There will be a sign up sheet where you can work with Bob one-on-one. There is no other convention where you can get this one-on-one training included in your registration. There will be no extra charge! Bob will be doing the show on Saturday night!

Kevin Brown is a former Ringling Brothers Barnum and Baily Clown. Kevin will be doing classes Friday and Saturday. Skills 101 and Speak Softly and Carry some Shtick. Kevin will also be providing Friday night entertainment. Don't miss this incredible talent.

Mary Ann Ross had a large vote for a come back in vendors and lecturer. Mary Ann will be teaching balloons, make-up and wardrobe and the business side of the business.

Dave Hill is coming back with lots of walk around and easy magic for clowns. Are you in clown just churning out balloon after balloon at a big event? Dave will show you WHAT YOU SHOULD BE Doing!

Scott Correll will be back with Bubble Fun, Santa and maybe a surprise!

Bob and Theresa Gretton will show you how to work with a partner, make those awesome paper roses and how to reboot your clown.

Terry Slaymaker will help you promote yourself with buttons and more.

Physical Comedy.2 by **Keith Karas and Thom Stevenson**, who will also discuss paradabilty. Come dressed and with your best props for some coaching!

New this year*** **Susan Saunders** and face painting. **Renate McIntosh** with Literacy and Library programs. Ministry Clowning with **Tina Coleman** and Hospital Clowning with **Kesha Beckley**.

The Mid-Atlantic Clown Association wouldn't be complete without our Sunday service with **Tina Coleman and Ron Mount and other special Christian Clowns**.

MACA 35th ANNUAL CONVENTION Preliminary Schedule

Day	Time	CAPITOL WEST LECTURE ROOM	Time	CAPITOL EAST LECTURE ROOM
Thurs. 11/9/17	10:00	Registration - LOBBY Sign up for one-on-one with Bob Abdou		Vendor set up (can begin at 9AM)
	10:30	Flea Market - gently used items only		
	12:00	by individual clowns/Alleys		Vendors open at 12:00pm
	12:00	LUNCH BREAK		
	1:00	Beginner Puppets	1:00	
	2:00	Bob Abdou	2:00	
	2:15	Beginner Balloons	2:15	Holiday Fun - Mr.&Mrs. Claus
	3:15	Mary Ann Ross	3:15	Scott Correll
	3:30	Tools of the Trade - face painting	3:30	Clowns that Bring Smiles
	4:00	Susan Saunders	4:00	Larry Etchison
	4:15	I've got your back! Work'g w/a Partner	4:15	The Walk Around Clown
	5:15	Bob and Teresa Gretton	5:15	Dave Hill
	6:30	Buffet Dinner - BALLROOM Theme - Throw Back Thursday followed by SKITS hosted by the MACA board of Directors Hospitality Room open afterwards with refreshments & lobby open for Jamming		
Day	Time	CAPITOL WEST LECTURE ROOM	Time	CAPITOL EAST LECTURE ROOM
Friday 11/10/17	8:45	Promotting Yourself	8:45	Paper Roses
	9:15	Terry Slaymaker	9:15	Bob and Teresa Gretton
	9:30	How to write a Joke - interactive	9:30	
	10:30	Bob Abdou	10:30	
	10:45	Make-up and Wardrobe-Mary Ann Ross	10:45	Paradability - Thom S and Keith K
	12:15	come dressed and if you want, be coached	12:15	come dressed and if you want, be coached
	12:15	LUNCH BREAK		
		Group picture in lobby-picture outside if weather permits		
	1:30	Funny Prop Shop	1:30	Skills 101
	2:30	Scott Correll	2:30	Kevin Brown
	2:45	Business Aspects of Children's parties	2:45	Fun and Games with Balloons
	3:45	Mary Ann Ross	3:45	Dave Hill
	4:00	Funny Magic, You're a clown!	4:00	Face Painting
	5:00	Dave Hill	5:00	Susan Saunders
	6:15	Buffet Dinner - BALLROOM Theme - Dress as your Mentor followed by Kevin Brown and then some dancing Hospitality Room open afterwards with refreshments & lobby open for Jamming		
Day	Time	CAPITOL WEST LECTURE ROOM	Time	CAPITOL EAST LECTURE ROOM
Saturday 11/11/2017	9:00	Speak Softly and Carry Some Shtick	9:00	
	10:00	Kevin Brown	10:00	
	10:15	Puppets for Professionals	10:15	Physical Comedy.2 (not what you think!)
	11:15	Bob Abdou	11:15	Keith Karas and Thom Stevenson
	11:30	Rebooting Your Clown	11:30	Ministry Clowning - Tina Coleman
	12:30	Bob and Teresa Gretton	12:30	Hospital Clowning - Kesha Bleckley
	12:30	LUNCH BREAK		
	1:30	Literacy and Library Programs	1:30	TBA
	2:30	Renate McIntosh	2:30	
	3:00	Annual MACA General Membership Meeting Capitol West Lecture room		
	6:00	Birthday Bash and Presidential Awards Banquet Sit Down Dinner Dress formal/semi formal/business casual Very Special Entertainment by Bob Abdou		
Day	Time	CAPITOL WEST LECTURE ROOM		
Sunday	9:00	Clown Church Service - Tina Coleman		

MACA CLOWN ALLEY NEWS

Kapos' gang has been having some fun:

At Kapos' gang, we got to do some fun things recently.

This Past Summer we joined forces for the Jersey Comics to Play a softball game vs some Military members in a fundraiser in Lakewood NJ. Wow What a great time and we got to raise over 1,000 dollars for the families of the military...

Before that we took a road trip to North East Philly to see the Big Apple Circus. We even got a personal behind the scenes tour before the circus. Was super nice and fun to enjoy the Circus as an alley



Big Apple Circus inside Gang

During the Summer Months Shady and Shobo got to Clown around with EZ and Kozeer of the Kelly Miller Circus. It was a "fun rush" helping them out and seeing what the circus life was like. Being a part of their "fish Gag" was a Hoot.



EZ and Kozeer at Kelly Miller Circus

We continue to have our monthly meetings (but not during the summer month) enjoying different aspects of children entertainment and skills...Recently we even had a local Real Bearded Santa stop by to chat of his experiences and this Sept the plan is to have an instructor to teach us some basic of ALS (American Sign language)..



Kapos' Gang Softball Group



Kapos' Gang Softball Group with Johnny



Philly Santa and me

Bump a nose
Shobo

MACA CLOWN ALLEY NEWS



Freestate Clown Alley is always active



Performing at Camp Glow
Camp Glow West >

Freestate Clown Alley Presents:



Lewis and Clark Circus

at



Washington DC Gala
Hirschorn

Kelly Miller Circus



Kozy and EZ

BE THE REASON
SOMEONE SMILES

Walter L. Main Train Wreck Memorial



MACA CLOWN ALLEY NEWS

What have you been doing?

The Freestate Clown Alley and John Ringling North/Steve and Ryan Tent have been very busy.

In May they traveled to Tyrone, PA to participate in the 125th anniversary and memorial of the Walter L. Main Circus Train Wreck. What a humbling feeling to be honored with the privilege to present and lay the wreath. There was a special opportunity to meet some of the relatives of the deceased who traveled from Hawaii.

But there was also a very unique opportunity 2 months later, to meet the great grand daughter of Mattie Lee Price who performed with the WLMC, Donna Lee Dicksson in Baraboo, WI.

Before we ventured to WI, we spent four days with the Kelly Miller Circus. EZ and Kozy invited Patty Cake and Poppo to perform in two shows with them...what an honor!

We then started our monthly performances for Camp Glow. (a week long camp for developmentally disabled adults) Four or five clowns would perform an hour show using all that magic we purchased at the last MACA convention. During International Clown week, we celebrated with the Camp and received a very special blessing.

It was then off to Baraboo, WI to participate in the 2018 Big Top Parade. There were the old circus wagons with giraffes, kangaroos, the elephants, clowns from the International Clown Museum and all the performers from Circus World and 3 clowns from Baltimore 1000 miles away.

We did get to visit with Steve, Pamela and Louie Copeland; Ryan, Tatiana, Abrianna, and Nico Combs; and Ryan Easley. In addition Thom got a great big old trunk hug from Tracy (elephant) while talking to Armando Loyal. Colleen Pages, Wesley Williams and others were there.

Clowns—pay attention! The day after we returned, we packed again to perform for Camp Glow West. Only Thom and I traveled the 200 miles out to Western MD. We got into grease, drove to the venue, opened the trunk and to our surprise—no magic, no props! What to do...we wrote down a few jokes, gathered some music, recalled a few slapstick specs and performed for an hour. The audience loved the different show (Many had seen our comedy magic before) Our interaction and involving the audience “magically” let us ENTERTAIN ! You are capable of so much if you just let your natural abilities shine!

We are now off to Atlantic City NJ for the Miss America parade! I will remember my shoes and tiara!

MACA Information Center

or Things you may not know about MACA

CLOWN SEARCH

Did you know that the Mid-Atlantic Clown Association provides a way for people to contact it's MACA clowns on our website?

We have a link on the site menu "**Clown Search**" where anyone accessing the site can find a clown in their area to perform. Your listing as a member is free BUT... You need to provide your information. We do not act as a booking agency. The information is there for contact purposes only.

If you would like your contact information to be published on the website, please send your information :

- Clown name
- Email address
- City , State
- Phone Number

to the webmaster, Thom Stevenson
Skootchee3419@gmail.com.



MACA MEMBERSHIP

Looking for some help in your clowning career ?

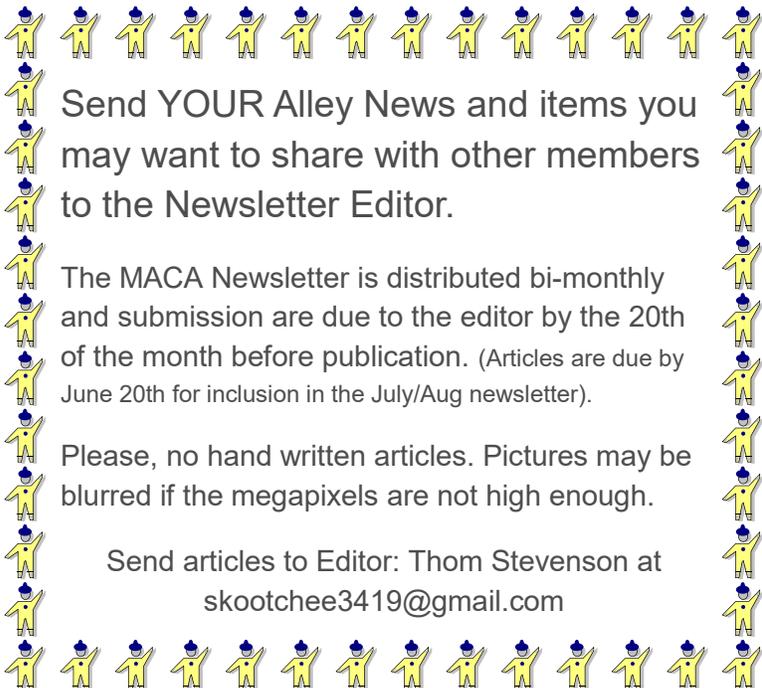
Looking to meet some new and some well established clown ?

Join the mid-Atlantic Clown Association (MACA)

Our purpose is to promote the education in and the preservation of the ancient art of clowning.

To become a member, click on this link to apply for [membership](#).

Changing the World One smile at a time



Send YOUR Alley News and items you may want to share with other members to the Newsletter Editor.

The MACA Newsletter is distributed bi-monthly and submission are due to the editor by the 20th of the month before publication. (Articles are due by June 20th for inclusion in the July/Aug newsletter).

Please, no hand written articles. Pictures may be blurred if the megapixels are not high enough.

Send articles to Editor: Thom Stevenson at skootchee3419@gmail.com



Scholarships

Scholarships are important!

Not only for the recipient for financial reasons but for the learning experiences.

We do not just “give it away”! We ask each applicant to provide information about their current abilities, their performance jobs, their clown group participation and their clowning goals.

We ask the individual to pay the fees upfront to show their dedication to learning and the art of clowning. We expect each to attend as many classes at the convention as possible and prepare for a lifetime of laughter.

There is also an interview. Just a sit down talk about why you want to clown and to go over all that you have presented on your application. If you have any recommendations from other MACA members or the clowning community, make sure you attached the items to your application.

MACA wants to help as many new attendees as they can. Some years there have been no scholarships...some years several. We also realize that the tuition/registration and trip is sometimes just too much for a new clown.

If you know someone who really wants to come, but can't afford the whole package, please contact Sandi Smith.

Be the person who makes someone smile today! **Keep the world laughing!**



Clownatarian

The MACA is the only clown organization that gives a Clownatarian award every year and that's because, we made it up! Way back, when the MACA was being formed, The Keystone Klowns decided they wanted to give an award to a clown for just being a great clown person. There was a gentleman worked with new clowns and who on several occasions paid for registration fees, hotel rooms, etc. for clowns who were just starting out and did not have money to come to a convention. It was decided this fellow was a Humanitarian and hence the name Clownatarian.

This award was never intended as a Clown of the Year type award but as a thank you to a good human being who was always there to lend a helping hand in any way they could to other clowns. For the first, at least 15 years the trophy award was purchased and given to a person chosen by the Keystone Klowns, eventually as many of them passed away or left the clown world for various reasons, the MACA decided to take over the presentation of the award.

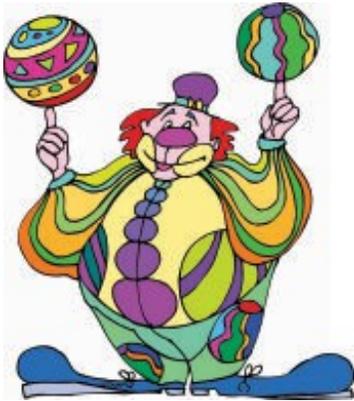
This year we have re-organized the selection committee to include more currently active members and have decided this committee will be made up of previous Clownatarian award winners that are currently serving on the MACA Board of Directors. Therefore, this year's selection committee will include Nellie May, Darlene Morgan, George Cabin, John Kral, Sandi Smith, Bill Schober, and Mark St. Marie.

To be selected as a Clownatarian, a clown is nominated by a member of MACA by submitting a letter to the selection committee stating why this person should be considered for this award. These letters are reviewed without names of the person being nominated or the person nominating them being noted so that the nomination is based on good deeds only.

Please send any nominations you have for the 2018 award to me at dotthec clown@comcast.net or to my home 169 Buckingham Dr., Southampton, NJ 08088 and I will see to it that the current selection committee receives your nominations.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions and I will try to answer.

Sandi “Dot” Smith



Moving?

Send both your new and old address to:

Dave Myers
 202 N. Dupont Rd.
 Wilmington, DE 19805
clickerclown@yahoo.com



MID_ATLANTIC CLOWN ASSOCIATION INC.

2018 OFFICERS AND STATE DIRECTORS

President	Pat Stevenson	(410) 256-8862	pat_stevenson@verizon.net
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Recording Secretary	Nancy Gindlesperger	(814) 479-7458	gnancy43@aol.com
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	John Crull	(240) 762-0500	slapshotwizard@aol.com
	Mary Jo Noble	(610) 693-3450	tmjnoble@verizon.net
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Delaware	Renate McIntosh	(302) 653-1658	renate@snippydoodles.com
Maryland	Keith Karas	(410)453-9288	keithkaras@yahoo.com
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