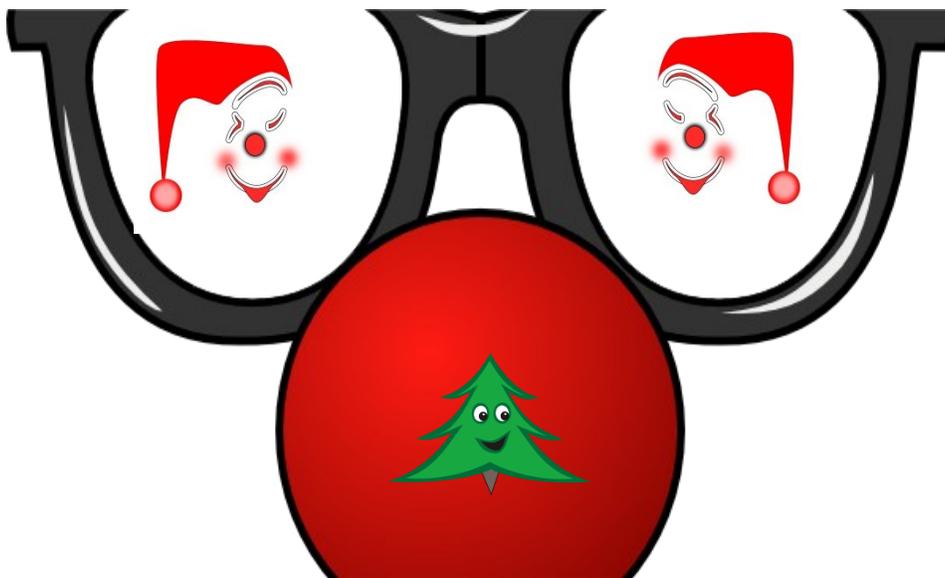


THE BIG TOP

Mid-Atlantic Clown Association Newsletter

Dec/Jan 2018



In This Issue

- MACA President's Message (page 2)
- Chaplain's Message (page 3)
- Convention 2017 Wrap-up (page 4)
- Clown Alley News (page 10)
- MACA Information Center (page 13)
- 2018 Officers and Directors Listing (page 15)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Pat Stevenson
MACA President

Message from the President...

Repeating the start of my 2017 message... Every state in our area just got a blanket of snow especially the Eastern regions . Hopefully everyone was warm and cozy doing what you like best!

We didn't get to read a short profile of each officer last year, so hopefully we can continue to see some bios in 2018. Please pass your bio on to the Editor as soon as possible...

And I open this up to all in the membership...If you want your name and bio out there? Send your picture and bio to the editor!



We have started thinking about the 2018 convention. We will be 35 years old and will hold a "Birthday Bash". The format will be similar to 2017 with

EDUCATION being the top priority.

We have a small committee and are looking for others. We need your ideas on classes and subjects and lecturers.

Ellen Gagnon is the Membership Committee Chair and has been working with Dave and the current membership to entice clowns everywhere to bring our numbers up!



As I mentioned, plans are underway for next November, but we want to hear from you now and every day.

Be the person who makes someone smile today!

Pat "Patty Cake" Stevenson



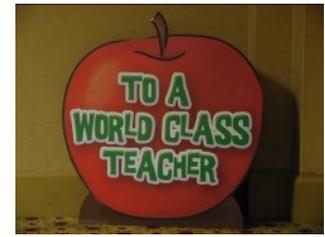
DO GOOD

AVOID EVIL

AND

LAUGH

MACA CONVENTION REPORT



School 2017 Daze

This year's convention put it's focus on training and development of clowning talents.

Thursday: Our first class session was led by Monica and Rick Chaney. Subject was **"Where do I begin?"** The discussion was on Clowning. What is a clown? Why do I want to be a clown? How to avoid some of the pitfalls that new clowns seem to encounter. Recognizing achievements and how to build on them. It was an interactive discussion by all.



Friday: The Chaney's led a demonstration on Clown Makeup. They are Old School, August clown with grease makeup. Accompanying them to demonstrate White Face makeup is Jr. Joey, Saydee. As they applied their makeup, they answered questions from the students.



Rick Chaney



Monica Chaney



Saydee

MACA CONVENTION REPORT

Other classes involved

Balloons led by Willie McGinnis



a Santa lecture, Bubble Fun, and Making Your Puppet Come Alive by Scott Correll



Bits, Gags and Skits by Teresa and Bob Gretton



Fancy Face painting in a Flash and Face Painting for Fun and Profit by Paula Biggio



MACA CONVENTION REPORT

Kitty Kuhr's classes were a lecture on proper storytelling technics and an interactive story telling workshop. She provided a forum for clowns makeup and wardrobe to be critiqued.

Paradeability techniques and props was taught by Terry Slaymaker. Terry brought and demonstrated many of his own props and watched as other students performed with their own props.



Benevolent Clowning-Caring & Ministry - Bill Schober lectured on the caring clown. The benefits you get and give as a caring clown. What you need to know about interacting with staff and patients. And some of the things you should not do.

Physical Comedy - Keith Karas and Thom Stevenson provided an intro to the various types of physical comedy. How to properly execute various acts such as the slap, butt kicks, and walking into walls and doors. The audience had the opportunity to participate. Everyone enjoyed slapping each other.



World's Greatest Walk Arouns

Dave Hill demonstrated some walk-around routines and props that can be used.



MACA CONVENTION REPORT

Sight Gags and Walk Arouns and Top Ten Performance Tips were presented by Peachey Keene.

On Friday, We had our annual Convention Picture taken on the outside pool deck. It was around 20 degrees so we scampered out, took the picture and scampered, even quicker, back inside.



Lighter moments

After the picture, we had time to mingle and talk to old friends and to make new ones.



MACA CONVENTION REPORT

PROM NIGHT



MACA President Pat Stevenson and Husband, Thom, dressed up in vintage 1970 Prom attire.

We enjoyed a nice sit-down dinner.

One by one, members of each branch of the military were called to the front so the organization could honor them for their services.



We honored members of the military in attendance

MACA CONVENTION REPORT

The installation of the new 2018 Officers took place during the prom.



On Thursday evening, we had open skit night. Anyone wanting to present a skit was welcome. Then on Saturday's Prom night, those who participated, were given a small trophy of appreciation.



Finally, the Clownatarian Award was presented. As customary, the past winners of this award were asked to come forward.



Bill "Shobo" Shober was asked to announce this year's winner.

The winner was Southern NJ Director, Ron Mount



2017 Clownatarian Award Winner, Ron Mount



MACA CLOWN ALLEY NEWS and MEMBER COMMENTS



Huge HUGE thank you to everyone that helped with all the events this past Holiday/Christmas Season.



The Freestate Clown Alley is active year round!

Members attend events and conventions starting in January. The Alley comprises entertainers of all types. They enjoy sharing experiences and skills not only at monthly meetings but on road trips and performing together.



Santa Will, Patty Cake, Popo And Toodles at ARC party.

The elf on the shelf tried to slide down the banister! >

Freestate Clown Alley Presents:



Professor Kool...(tv personality from way back when in Baltimore)



Convention hotel pool! >

BE THE REASON SOMEONE SMILES



MACA CLOWN ALLEY NEWS and MEMBER COMMENTS

Stickers Labels

Stickers are a simple tool to get a laugh or smile whether in costume or not. I have carried my stickers with me on different occasions; the bank, post office or medical appointments. It's amazing the result you get especially the smile stickers. People say you made my day, I'll wear it know. I needed it brought a smile or I'll share it if I left a bunch. Or a laugh. I had one person put it on the bumper of his car. The fun ones are seasonal stickers Christmas or the fall one or the one or the one with one eye winking. It opens up conversation and sometimes it plants a seed for a future event now or upcoming. They say where you get those cool stickers. Address labels give you opportunity to SCREAM WHAT MORE LABELS SO SCREAM.

GOOD FOR THE SOUL. Also to put on mail or put on tickets for different auctions. I thought of this last night Tom when I decided to night an article. Keep laughing and smiling and stay warm and safe.

John "Splash" Sullivan



MACA, CFA, CHS, COAI, OABA, WCA...

So many initials and so many organizations that overlap.

Let me start with the clown organizations. I hate seeing references to home town clowns, circus clowns, birthday clowns, etc...If you are reading this you are a clown! I learned make-up from Lou Walston and then from a number of lecturers at MACA, but I was also watching and learning from special friends who are "circus clowns".

My comment: However you present yourself, do it in a professional way. Keep in mind that clowns can do all types of entertainment. Look, act and dress so that you promote the art of clowning in a positive way.

We were lucky to meet A.J. Slaggert at the last MACA convention. Mr. Slaggert belongs to the safety organization that oversees carnivals, etc. He was presenting for the Commonwealth of PA's semi-annual inspector training seminar.

Mr. Slaggart had just presented to the Circus Historical Society's Annual Convention in Sarasota. He was part of the trapeze troupe that included Ray Thomas – the clown on the flying trapeze with a wooden leg.

My point: Always be open to both new and historic information. Process all the visual and audio you can and apply what you learn that is appropriate to your clown character.

Pat "PattyCake" Stevenson

MACA CLOWN ALLEY NEWS and MEMBER COMMENTS

Top Ten Performance Tips By Steve Long

Use exaggerated movements

Stay in Character

Use Facial Expressions

Show emotion

Use your voice

Add music

PROPS

Make eye contact

Play your audience

Work with mistakes



MACA Information Center

or Things you may not know about MACA

CLOWN SEARCH

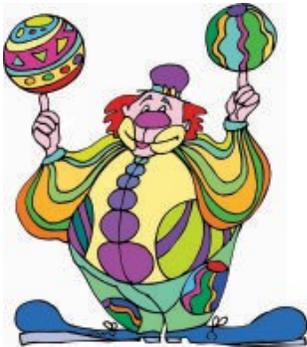
Did you know that the Mid-Atlantic Clown Association provides a way for people to contact it's MACA clowns on our website?

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, Terry Slaymaker
buttonstclown@yahoo.com



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

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



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 Clownatarians 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 Caban, 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 2017 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.

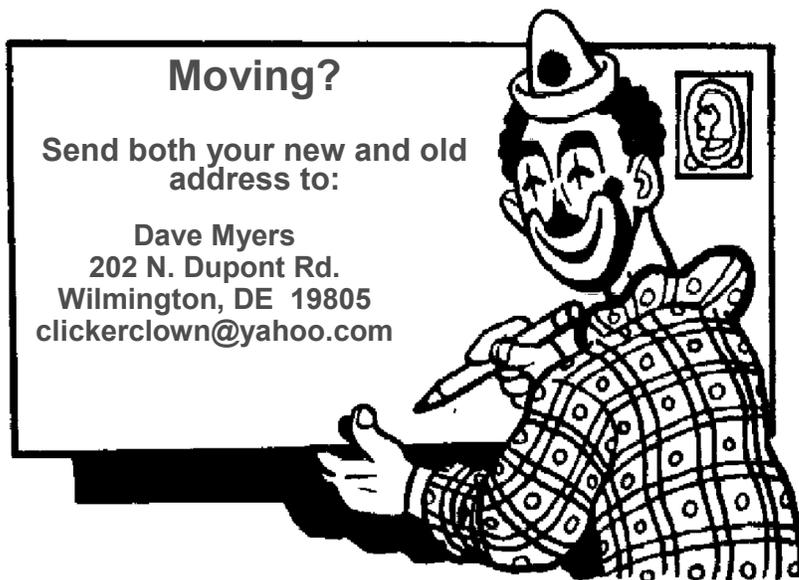
Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions and I will try to answer.

Sandi “Dot” Smith

Moving?

Send both your new and old address to:

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



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