

# CLOWNING AROUND

JULY 2020 | VOLUME N° 38, ISSUE N° 04



*Deanna "DeeDee" Hartmier*  
Lifetime Achievement Award 2020

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# WORLD CLOWN ASSOCIATION

WCA Membership Effective For 1 Year from Date Processed by Business Office

Print form, check the appropriate box(s), then Fax, Email, or Mail form along with payment to the WCA Business Office. Membership, and insurance is not auto-renewable. A new form must be submitted every year.

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY  
ONLY 1 PERSON PER FORM

ITEMS WITH \* MUST BE FILLED IN OR FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

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You **must** check box, sign this form and fill in Type of performance to obtain insurance.

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You must be a member of the World Clown Association and have a US mailing Address to purchase the insurance

**Coverage:** This is a Comprehensive General Liability Policy provided by an A-rated insurance company with coverage of \$1,000,000 per occurrence/ \$2,000,000 aggregate per event. Deductible: None The price includes Premium, Brokerage fee and Association handling fee.

Policy Exclusions: This program is designed for Clowns and Magicians. The following types of performances are **NOT ACCEPTABLE**.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Hypnosis  | 4. Musicians and Disc Jockeys, except clowns/magicians who engage in these activities as part of their act |
| 2. Hot Air Balloon Events, Circuses (production), overnight camping Tractor pulls, Rodeo and roping events, motorized events, Mechanical amusement devices, inflatables, rock climb, Bounce Houses, laser tag, sky diving, competition racing. | 5. Throwing objects (juggling is acceptable)   |
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Coverage is **only** available at time of purchase of primary liability insurance. It may not be added on later nor be purchased separately. This covers liability for actual, alleged, or threatened abuse, molestation, or exploitation civil liability. This coverage excludes cost fines or penalties arising out of criminal investigation, or prosecution. For further explanation see official binder online at worldclown.com. ***If this coverage is selected the policy will not be processed until a Nationwide background check is submitted to the business office.*** You may only select one.

The premium is in addition to the \$155 liability premium

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04012020 am

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Please add the following as an additional insured to my certificate. Print carefully and legibly; errors will slow the process down.

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CITY  STATE  ZIP CODE

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ADDRESS:

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**Performer's signature** (Required) \_\_\_\_\_

Just a reminder there is no longer a cost for Additional Insured requests

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# July Ramblings

*M*orning clown friends and family,  
As the world was almost at a standstill a few months ago, things are slowly beginning to move once again. Whilst the world has slowed down, the WCA and its members have continued to keep busy entertaining, creating, crafting and bringing smiles to the masses. Thank you everyone.

The new board of directors has settled into their positions and are very active on social media. They should be contacting our alleys and members in their area to check all is ok and if anyone needs help. If you don't know who your current regional director is, then please check and visit our website [www.worldclown.net](http://www.worldclown.net). They are here to help you.

Our business office has been busy with rejoining and updating members insurance policies. We all understand the reasons why we are members, but we need to share this with more clowns. If you have not joined up a friend or two, gifted them a membership, then please consider making that smile on their faces even bigger. The WCA really does need more members and our numbers to grow. We can only do this with your help.

Keep clowning and keeping busy generating laughter and smiles. If you have a story to share during these difficult times then please email me, Janet Tucker or the business [manager@worldclown.net](mailto:manager@worldclown.net).

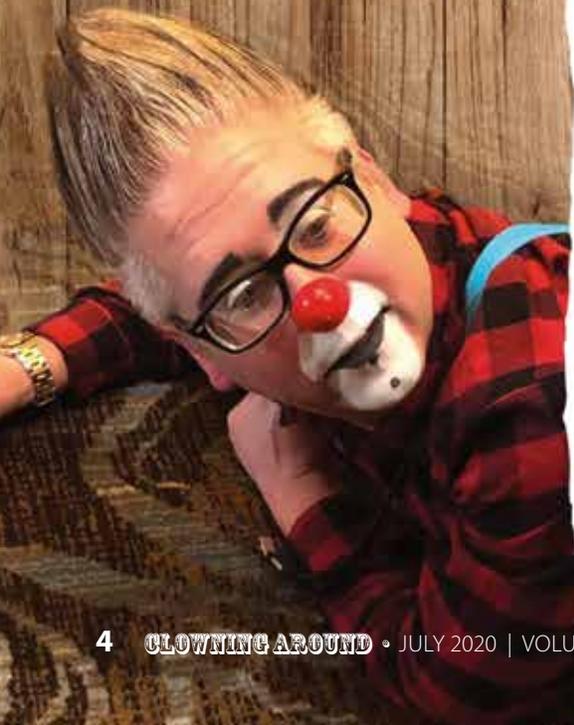
Thank you everyone for your continued support.

Your friend always,  
Andrew Davis

WCA President 2019-2021 🌟

Presidential Ramblings

— Andrew Davis,  
WCA President 2019 – 2021



# Introduction

— Jackie Newton, Vice President

*Hello from Central* Missouri, Lake of the Ozarks! I am so excited about my new job as vice president of WCA. I hope that I can do the utmost job possible, because I have some amazingly super shoes to follow! I look forward to seeing all of my red nose friends when this pandemic is over and am excited to meet new red nose, big shoe friends! I have found that in twenty-six years of clowning, I learn something wonderfully new every day. It mesmerizes me to open up our magazine or to watch video clips from The World Clown Association forum or website and find wonderful, innovative ideas for skits, props, techniques, skills and performances that I can add to my repertoire!

As a career college professor for Central Methodist University, I am continually updating, taking workshops, reading materials by authorities in my content area and getting tips from other professors and administrators. To be a career and professional clown, we really need to do the same. I always encourage new clowns and child entertainment characters to join a



group that “NOSE” their stuff! It is interesting how many times I think, wow, I really know how to do this and then I watch other professionals that really know how to do it better and more efficiently! Thank goodness, we can share, teach one another and trade ideas to create the best family entertainment show possible. One way to glean information and fabulously fun items from other professionals is to join a professional organization such as The World Clown Association! This month up to May 31st, we have a great membership drive contest for renewing and new members. Please take the time to check out the fun prizes and to encourage others to join! The price for one year is amazingly inexpensive and provides so much for your business, that you will multiply that small membership cost into lucrative and future paying gigs! Please let me know if you need anything from me and I look forward to all of the hard work and great fun!

Jackie Newton, Sparkie Malarkey Da’ Clown  
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 573-480-4094



# Be A Creative Alley - part 2

— Janet “Jelly Bean” Tucker, WCA Alley Director

**W**ow! As I look back on my article in the May issue, I wrote about the wonderful creativity of our WCA alleys in their Alley of the Year submissions, their ways of having clown classes, their variety of ways to have educational classes to promote clowning and make new clowns, their creative ways to hold a meeting and stay together as a social group with the passion for clowning. Written mid-February, it was a positive article. That was BC - Before Covid 19!

As I write this article the end of April, we are in the thick of rules and regulations for Covid-19, entertainment gigs for most of our clowns have come to a standstill, most of us are “sheltered-in-place” at home, no clown income, no contact with others. I have hope that by the time you read this article in the July issue, there will be some relaxation and we will be through the worst of the virus - but - we have no assurance of this. So, let’s focus on clowning and the creative varieties we have developed during this dramatic change in lifestyles around the world.

WCA was on the leading edge of canceling our convention and trying a virtual convention online. It didn’t just work - it set the example for many organizations as our amazing Executive Committee set up classes, competitions, and even a banquet to make awards and install new officers online. It was so successful WCA has continued to add classes and fun to our World Clown Members Forum on Facebook. You can go back and re-watch these great classes over and over. And if you have a clown friend who is not a member of the World Clown Association, tell that friend to join NOW so they can also be a part of the fun, education, and preparation for “down the road” when life gives us back parties and get-togethers and nursing home visits and clowning opportunities.

Elsewhere in this issue, be sure to read Robin Bryan’s article on visiting a nursing home during the virus closedown. That’s creative! My clown friend, Barboo, made a balloon basket for Easter, set it up in her yard and neighborhood children came to have their photos taken in the basket. Check out Balloon Yard Art as creative balloon sculptures are being delivered to front yards and set up to celebrate birthdays and graduations. That’s creative! One of my clown local alleys is holding monthly meetings on ZOOM online. That’s creative! Our excellent Master Clown, Edmund Khong, has put together a celebration online for his birthday where he does a magic trick each day for a week. That’s creative! I have been impressed with Randy Christensen, Lee Andrews, and several others who have set up a colorful background curtain to perform shows and classes and special events online. That’s very professional and creative!



ALLEY, CONT'D ON PAGE 8

# Tired of Sitting... Try Something New

— Robin “Pinkie bee” Bryan, President Elect

**I** decided I was tired of sitting at my home during April 2020 Covid-19 and offered to clown at a nursing homes’ windows. I got in touch with the administrator and gave my credentials. My partner and I’s over 1,600 combined volunteer hours at the Children’s Hospital impressed them to say come. Then I hung up the phone thinking, “What do I do now? I’m a children’s entertainer. Clowning at elderly’s windows!! What do I do?”



I turned to my newest tool for information and training-WCA MEMBERS FORUM on Facebook. If you are a current WCA member and on Facebook I highly recommend you join the group. There’re tons of educational content in live feeds, videos, and general postings. My question - I’m going to a nursing home...now what? Received answers from clowns around the globe. I gained ideas. I tossed a few, for example, Dianna Hale had visited her father at a nursing home, and they told her no balloons (I was gonna tape some flowers to windows). They explained that a staff member would have to clean up signs and balloons and with short staff.

I packed my outdoor dog stroller with a magic drawer box and my live bunny. I brought the Mis Made Flag change

bag production, my Ukulele, Axtell Puppet Orangutan, and some homemade signs. We arrived and the administrator came out and handed us a map with X’s that marked the resident at window spot. My partner Groovy and I sang a song and apologized that I only know one cord on the Uke! But I played anyway hoping that they couldn’t hear from afar how bad I was. We performed the Mis Made Flag and said the Pledge of Allegiance. We got to hear how proud they were to be Americans and over half were Veterans, so we thanked them for their service. Tootie and I were on a quest for a Grandma. I got willing adoptions and they enjoyed my silliness. “I’ve always wanted a Grandma named Lemonaid. Will you be my Lemonaid?” I renamed them all after food. Then Groovy gave me a present that turned out to be an empty box! Lucky for me the residents had magical hearts and wiggled their fingers and produced a bunny rabbit. I got a fabulous bunny when I opened the drawer and he instantly pops his head up and looks around.

I learned a few things from my adventure. Yes, I can make a difference and entertain all ages. If I ever need suggestions and help, I have the greatest resource in the World Clown

SOMETHING NEW, CONT'D ON PAGE 8



**ALLEY, CONT'D FROM PAGE 6**

So how is your alley coping? Is there an on-line format to get in touch with members? Is your alley group “supporting” those who are full-time entertainers and totally out of a job and income? Are you taking this time to refurbish alley props, or write a new alley skit, or do a drive-by parade at your local nursing home so they can see they are not forgotten by your clowns?

When this Covid-19 season is waning, we will begin a “new normal” but our President, Andy Davis, told the Executive Committee the other day that the “social distancing” rules have been extended through the end of the year in England. Can your alley look forward to a plan for the 2020 holiday season if “social distancing” is still the norm? Can you create a new storyline for Santa, Mrs. Santa, or the elves to bring holiday cheer a new way? Are you working on a new set of magic that does not require an on-stage assistant? Can your clown deliver a balloon yard sign and perform a short magic trick while the child watches from inside? Can you sell your balloon yard art sculptures as a source of income? We have been forced to take clown creativity to a whole new level but our WCA members are up to the challenge.

Share what you are doing and help pass along the creative ideas during this difficult time.

Janet “Jelly Bean” Tucker  
WCA Alley Director 🌟

**SOMETHING NEW, CONT'D FROM PAGE 7**

Facebook group. Bring a beverage! It was 90 degrees and full sun! It doesn't take a lot to make someone's day by giving a little bit of yourself. And no one really cares that you sing a little off key and can't play the Uke.

See you online!

Robin “Pinkie bee” Bryan, President Elect 🌟

*“Some people swim in a teaspoon of water and think they are wet. I prefer to Dive Deeply and live Intensely”*



# Howdy Jr. Joeys

— Greg “Cactus Patch” Chalmers, WCA Jr. Joey Director

What have you been doing with your time lately? Have you been using it successfully and productively, or have you been wasting it? What are you doing with your time? Don't get me wrong, I am not the time police; in fact, if there really were time police they would probably be after me. The truth is time has not changed, but the opportunities and locations that we spend our time have. Because of these changes some of us feel like we have more time than we use to and others feel like they have less. So, what have you been doing with your time?

Remember when I said the time police would be after me, well... I do not always use my time wisely. Sometimes it is okay to not use your time wisely, but I wasted my time. My youngest son got a video game for his birthday. It was a single player game. He and his brother would take turns playing the game. Because I had the time I would watch them play the game. One night just before they went to bed, I asked my son if I could play the game. He helped me set up the account and get started on the game. Then he went to bed and I played the game. During the day they would play the game, and at night I would play the game after everyone else went to bed. That way I was not taking time away from anyone else. In two days, I had logged more hours on the game than both my boys together.

At the end of two weeks I had logged over 100 hours of play time on the game. A standard workweek is 40 hours, I had put in 50 plus hours each week. My kids and my wife told me I was not using my time wisely. Was I addicted to the game? Was I a game-a-holic, did I need to join an online support group to battle my new addiction? I am happy to say that all it took to get me to use my time better was an online video of one of my clown students. When I had seen him last he was talking about learning 5 ball juggling. On the video he was



juggling 4 and 5 balls. I had wasted one hundred hours playing a video game, and he had learned to juggle 4 and 5 balls. Ouch. I think I hear the sirens of the time police approaching.

I needed to do something different. I had injured my arm, so juggling was not a good idea. So with the help of my oldest son I designed a magic study course. Now instead of playing the video game for hours and hours I spend my time studying and practicing magic techniques, with a little housework and few other things thrown in. We allow the schedule to be a little flexible to allow for when things go crazy. Like this morning when our dog had a potty accident in the kitchen, and I had to clean up a really gross mess because it went under the stove. Have you ever seen the gross stuff that ends up under the stove? That was not a fun mess to clean up and it put me way behind on the schedule. I did not stress about it, I just adjusted the schedule to make it work. At the time of the writing of this article I have only been logging my practice time for 4 days, and have logged 7 plus hours of magic practice. I know that does not sound like a lot compared to the 100 hours of gaming, but it is seven more hours than I used to have. That is not including the things like housework and cooking meals that I am not logging. And guess what? I still get to play the video game. I just use my spare time to play the game. I am also getting more sleep now. And I feel better about myself and how I am using my time.

Is there something you would like to learn or be able to do? What do you want to be able to do that you are unable to do that you cannot do today? If you want to grow your clowning: what area would you like to improve? Do you want to learn to juggle or do you want to learn how to make balloon animals? Or maybe you would like to learn ventriloquism so you will always have a friend to talk to. The WCA Jr. Joey Newsletter ( <http://junior.worldclown.com/> ) has classes that can help you get started on the path to learning these things. I wanted to improve my magic and so I am working on things that will improve my magic technique, and my magic presentations so my magic can become more magical. What are you going to work on? 🌟

# Clown Characters: Whiteface Insights

— Randy Christensen – WCA Awards Director

We have two clown make-up competitions at the WCA Convention in the area titled “whiteface.” There are some major differences between the classic whiteface and the comedy whiteface categories. In some cultures, the “white clown” was also just known as the “clown.” The whiteface has evolved through the centuries, being expressed in different ways by different performers. Consequently, these two specific styles of whiteface are embraced.

In the early 1800’s two fantastic performers brought their own personal styles to the whiteface clown. Both of these historic clowns had their performance roots in the Commedia Del Arte. Here they learned comedy, character relationships, physical communication and their stage craft. Let’s take a look at each of these historic characters to better understand the differences between classic whiteface and comedy whiteface.

The first clown demonstrates to us the mindset of the classic whiteface. Jean-Gaspard Deburau, a Frenchman, performed as the stock character, Pierrot. “The chief quality that Deburau brought to the role was finesse: he performed all his tricks and acrobatics with great delicacy and grace.”<sup>1</sup> He was a magical and mystical mirthmaker who performed



in French pantomimes in Paris. He had numerous skills and physical aptitude. “Deburau’s Pierrot was also a creature of mystery.”<sup>2</sup> This was not a stupid character, but one that had graceful athleticism, confident mental capacity and whimsical wit. He was smart.

Mr. Arthur “Vercoe” Pedlar (one of our former WCA Presidents) states that the traditional European authoritarian whiteface portrays strictness, rigidity and the “faceless authority” devoid of emotion. The whiteface portrays the mindset of government, the rules, the unbending “right way to do things.” He is logical, systematic and analytical making decisions from intellect and proven principles rather than by emotion or trial and error. This is portrayed through the classic whiteface make-up. It’s white. Non-colorful. Emotionless.

When I created my classic whiteface persona for the New York WCA Convention, Arthur was adamant that I not put blush on my cheeks. He argued that rouged cheeks didn’t capture the traditional stoic persona. At the same time, I noted that Arthur had painted some red onto his otherwise white ears. I asked him about that. He smiled and winked, “Even the whiteface has a bit of humanity to him,” he replied.





Arthur (1998 International Clown Hall of Fame inductee<sup>3</sup>) also told me that whiteface is not funny by himself. I believe that to be a basic difference between the classic whiteface and the comedy whiteface. The classic whiteface has limited smaller features. He is precise in every way. The classic is not a laughmaker. The comedy whiteface is. The comedy whiteface uses exaggeration to bring humor to his appearance and his character.

Which brings us to the second clown from the early 1800's... Joseph Grimaldi. Also beginning as a pantomime performer, Grimaldi evolved as a clown performer, establishing a new type of character in his day. He performed audience participation comedy songs, slapstick, and onsite creative inventions. "Ridiculous combinations of objects could become animated in Grimaldi's hand; he could create a living...vegetable man out of a pile of turnips and carrots. Or he might thrust a mop handle through a wheel of cheese, place each end of the stick in the hands of a prone Pantaloon, pile additional cheeses on the old man's back, and wheel him off by his ankles as though he were a wheelbarrow."<sup>4</sup>

Grimaldi was fun and funny, physical and eccentric. His facial features were enlarged. He painted red patches on his cheeks, had a red mouth and blue tufts of hair erupting from his bald skullcap. His character was a glutton and gave full sway to satisfying his appetites. Though he was always in control, there was a sense that he was personally out of control. Grimaldi used comic exaggeration. He changed the course of clowning as we know it today, and

to honor his contribution, clowns today are often known by his first name, "Joey."<sup>5</sup> In today's clown culture, Joseph Grimaldi would be seen as a comedy whiteface.

We have the classic whiteface as demonstrated by Deburau. We have the comedy whiteface as demonstrated by Grimaldi. "Whereas Grimaldi was coarse and jolly, Deburau was subtle and sinister."<sup>6</sup>

Consequently, the wardrobe and facial designs portray the chosen characters. The classic whiteface seems to "flow" without exaggerated movement and without exaggerated features. The classic whiteface does not wear a false nose. Often the eyebrows mismatch with one having an ornate swirl. At times, one eyebrow curls upward while the other curls downward. This is a matter of artistic expression. He wears slippers or well-fitted shoes. This is the "clown doll" persona...the poetic beautiful clown.

The comedy whiteface also has a white make-up base. He is in charge. But, his level of comic exaggeration is greater. This may be demonstrated clearly by his shoe choice. He won't wear slippers like the classic whiteface, but may wear exaggerated large shoes like the auguste. He may wear a red nose to exaggerate that feature. I've often thought that comedy whiteface may be a closer cousin to the auguste than he is to the classic white. His costuming may have more exaggerated features (i.e., lapels, cuffs, flowers). Bozo was a comedy whiteface, not a classic whiteface. His personality was far more bold than a classic whiteface's prim and proper approach.

# Florida's "Comedy Connection Caring Clowns" and "The Smile Team"

— Kathy Keaton – "Piccolo" Caring Clown Director

While planning the humanitarian visit for the 2020 Convention I was so excited at the response I got from other WCA Caring Clowns anxious to reach out to others. Nearly 30 clowns stepped up. As the new Caring Clown Director, I am beginning to get to know some of you and am looking forward to sharing the amazing things you are doing!

In the late 80's many Caring Clowns and groups were just beginning to do hospital work (including myself.) Although disconnected from each other, many of us were discovering and observing the same outcome. Humor really is good medicine, in the hospital, in nursing homes and even in Hospice.

Today, 31 years after they began "The Comedy Connection Caring Clowns" continue to perform providing positive, uplifting humor programs and outreach in the Tampa, Clearwater, St. Petersburg Bay area of Florida now operating as a 501© 3 organization. They remain dedicated to clown education, training, performance research networking activities for their 40 - member alley.



"The Smile Team" members are specifically trained in the area of Care Clowning. They regularly visit several hospitals, senior centers, work with dementia patients as well as hospice patients and family members to help relieve anxiety, pain, stress and suffering, offering light hearted humor and a smile to encourage

healing. New clowns who wish to join "The Smile Team" must meet with the Educational Director and are required to learn the many necessary skills, hospital rules and regulations as well as have the opportunity to shadow other hospital clowns before being accepted on the team. Learning how to be professional is an important part of the program.



Seasoned clowns assist new clowns with make-up, character development and other clowning skills.



Member of "The Smile Team" sharing time with seniors

The alley meets monthly where individual members showcase their specialty to teach and mentor each other. Classes include face painting, balloon art, magic, walk around, puppetry and other beneficial clown skills.

If you want to get more involved in care clowning and community clowning you might want to check out "The Comedy Connection" web-site ([www.TheComedy-](http://www.TheComedy-)



INSIGHTS, CONT'D FROM PAGE 11

One of the highlights of WCA conventions is viewing the make-up competitions. Numerous stunning classic whitefaces have appeared over the last decade, along with fun, delightful comedy whitefaces. For more information on our competition guidelines and processes, please feel free to contact me at [wac clown@earthlink.net](mailto:wac clown@earthlink.net) See you in Chicago!

To read more about the criteria for classic whiteface and comedy whiteface make-up competition, you may go to our website at [www.worldclown.com](http://www.worldclown.com) 🌟

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Seleneck, Laurence. *A Cavalcade of Clowns*. (Santa Barbara, CA: Bellerophon Books, 1985) p.22

<sup>2</sup> Seleneck, Laurence. *A Cavalcade of Clowns*. (Santa Barbara, CA: Bellerophon Books, 1985) p.22

<sup>3</sup> <https://famousclowns.org/famous-clowns/arthur-pedlar-famous-english-clown/>

<sup>4</sup> Townsen, John H. *CLOWNS*. (New York, NY: Hawthorn Books, Inc., 1976) p.158

<sup>5</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph\\_Grimaldi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Grimaldi)

<sup>6</sup> Speaight, George. *The Book of Clowns*. (New York, NY: Macmillan Publishing Company, Inc., 1980) p.31

Photos for article:

1. Ed Estrin competing in Classic Whiteface at the 2017 COAI Convention.
2. Luis & Ed at the 2017 COAI Convention
3. Luis Casiano displays his award-winning Classic Whiteface in Albuquerque, NM.
4. Mick Spudic competes with his personally handsewn Classic Whiteface costume in Northbrook, IL.
5. Arthur Pedlar & Randy Christensen at the WCA Borneo Convention performing Classic Whiteface.
6. The "King of Comedy Whiteface," James "Ha Ha" Kuhn.
7. Former RBBB circus clown, our American NE Director: Nicole Portwood as comedy whiteface.
8. Randy Christensen in Comedy Whiteface.
9. Luis Casiano wins the Classic Whiteface competition in Bloomington, MN.
10. First place Comedy Whiteface, Irene Spudic, brings cheer!

*Connection.org*) or seek out an alley member for help or guidance. This merry group of 40 clowns, ages 34 to 88 has many years of experience to share in making others happy.

If you have questions, ideas, suggestions about the area of Caring Clowning or for this Caring Clown section, please e-mail me at [kpicolo28@juno.com](mailto:kpicolo28@juno.com)

Laugh Often\_Live Well  
Kathy & "Piccolo" 🌟



# The “Curse” of Being a Clown...

— Bill Schober, Ministry Director for WCA

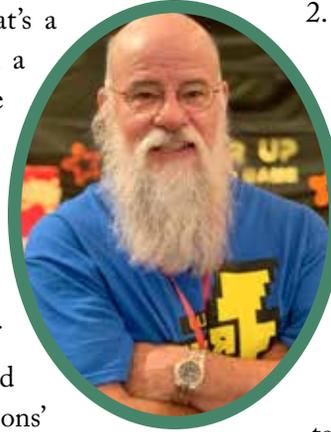
Been thinking... *YEAAH* I know, that’s a stretch for me, but did you ever feel a “curse” of being a clown. If not, maybe you should. No, I’m not talking about a curse that an evil witch doctor might place on you, nor am I talking about the dark side of making people laugh. As a matter of fact, while researching this topic on the internet, I saw a number of cases and very dark story lines of that type of curse. You know, the stereotyped tear faced Pierrot picture, or Smoky Robinsons’ song “Tears of a clown”. Some people have underlying issues going on in their lives that they don’t allow the outside public to see, which later gets in the way of their growth. I read in a blog that *both Hollywood’s greatest comic performers, Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton, suffered from bouts of Depression. Chaplin once said “to truly laugh, you must be able to take your pain and play with it”*. That’s a whole other topic of conversation. Maybe it’s more of a “Call of Duty”. And No, it’s not another version of that game on Xbox.

The Call of duty I’m talking about is the duty one should feel if you are a clown. When you’re in clown in public, you’re always on. No matter if you see someone looking at you or not, you’re “always on” when your in clown. Some people don’t get that concept. Not that you should be “on” 24/7 but remember, if in public, you have a duty to be a clown.

We even have a WCA “Code of Conduct”, that has been well addressed by several articles, so we have a standard on representing the art of clowning in a professional way. Remember they are “Code of Conducts” or “Commandments” and not mere suggestions.

## 9 Codes of Conduct:

1. I will strive at all times to provide children of all ages with fun, respectful, family-friendly entertainment. I will create a joyful experience for my audience, not causing embarrassment at another’s expense.



2. I will present quality, friendly-looking, professional makeup and costuming and will maintain my clown character while in public view.

3. I will refrain from drinking or using any alcohol, tobacco products or drugs prior to or during performance or at any time while in clown costume.

4. I will act appropriately and with respect towards each member of my audience and other performers. I will be courteous, not interfering with other acts, events, spectators or individuals.

5. I will remove makeup and costume after performance (when possible) to avoid any negative incidents which may be detrimental to the good name of clowning.

6. I will strive to understand and fulfill the expectations of event and program directors with a positive attitude.

7. I will continue to learn and become the best clown I can be.

8. I will promote clowning as family entertainment and respectfully oppose any use of the clown image in evil, violent or destructive ways.

9. I will gladly share my skills, knowledge and experience with fellow clowns in an effort to encourage and support a positive and united approach to the art.

There is even some school of thought that you should not eat while “in clown”. I can see the arguments on both side of this. Once you eat in public, like normal, the mystical view of the clown character goes away to the ones that are watching. On the other hand, if you’re hungry, its better to eat than see a clown passed out on the sidewalk because of starvation. Personally when I’m offered to eat at a gig, I decline and say all food tastes funny to me..BAHHH . I’m not here to argue this being right or wrong, I’m just suggesting to be aware of your surrounding when “in clown”.

Shady (Ron Mount) and I have expanded our LAUGH Clown Ministries into the Caring Clown venture at a lo-

cal Nursing home and Hospital. We perform together all the time and have had some training with “No-Joe” Joey Thurmond with his Sunshine Foundation. I had clowned at the nursing home my dad was at while in rehab after his stroke and also clowned at a few hospitals many years ago. I had some experience in that field. We thought we would “play it by ear” once we got to the nursing home. When we arrived, they placed all the residents in one area and we were “on”. Performing for the elderly is much different than a congregation at a church or a Kid’s birthday party. By the end, we had a good time and set up our next visit. I got an email from the coordinator a few weeks later saying how everyone is still talking about us, which was news to us, because ¾ of them did not seem to respond to us even being there. “Ya just never know”. A few weeks later we had a “walk thru interview” at a local hospital. While waiting in the lobby for the coordinator, a few teenage volunteers wanted to see us do an act. Of course we obliged, but later was told not to clown in front of the welcome desk as many people come into the hospital to visit for other reasons than a joyful one. So there is a time to clown and time not to clown. By the way, we passed our interview and were set for monthly visits to different floors of the hospital.

When it comes to clowning, the word “no” doesn’t come out of my mouth enough. Lee Andrews, Lew-ee the clown, is a clown who also has the clown “curse”. He, without a doubt, is the hardest working clown I know. He travels from point A to point B all the time and is hardly home. I think it’s his inner drive, or “duty”, to be the best and that feeling in his belly to help make people laugh or to help others learn from that skill.

Being a clown can really be a “curse” and a “blessing” if you think about it. As a clown, you are asked to help make people smile, even if they are not in a smiling mood. When in clown, it’s your “duty” to act like a clown which in effect, may bless someone that day. You just never know the effect you have on someone while you’re in clown, by just giving a wink, or a quick smile to someone near you. But please remember, the “on” button can be turned “off” while out of clown. Being “on” all the time can be scary and annoying. Just ask my wife !!

Having a “Call of Duty” also holds truth in my faith. In Matthew 28;19 it states: *19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and*

*of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*” This is known as the “Great Commission”. It’s not known as the “Great Suggestion”. As a believer, you are to go and tell others what you know. Some may see this as a “curse”, since it’s required of you, even when you don’t feel like it. I would suggest clowning is like this. We are required to go and teach what we know and learn, so others may enjoy. When we are in clown we are to act like a clown, and enjoy the ride because that’s what is in you to do. Yes, it might not be a “curse” but is sure is an important “Call of Duty” so you can receive a “blessing”.

Bump a nose,  
Bill Schober, WCA Ministry Director  
*Shobodaclown@yahoo.com*

PS Check out the Facebook “WCA Ministry page” to post ideas/topics of discussions 🌟

## A Clown's Blessing

Author Unknown

*May your noses be red and shiny,  
And your smile always bright.  
May your cheeks be nice and rosy,  
Your eyes sparkle in the light.  
May your shoes be always too big,  
Your costume be perma-pressed,  
Your heart overflow with laughter,  
Every time your clown is dressed.  
May face paint be at the ready,  
And your balloons be “easy-blow”.  
May children run to greet you,  
Wherever you may go*

*Isolation*

April 2020, in the middle of a PANDEMIC I need to travel home. Once I enter Canada, I am required to self-isolate for 14 days. With the help of family and friends I look for a place in British Columbia. Next thing I know I am headed to WCA Member Amanda O’Leary’s in North Vancouver Canada. This is genuine clown-friendship at its best.



*It was easy to play keep away from the other passengers.*

Walking through an empty airport wearing a home-made mask is eerie. Being the ONLY person at security is uncanny. Six people onboard a plane is surreal. Having my luggage lost on an airplane with only six people is unbelievable-but it happened.

I anxiously enter Canada. Scenarios run through my mind! What if they don’t let me in? What if I have a temperature? What if I can’t find a cab? What if my self-isolation plan isn’t acceptable? Thankfully these worries were unfounded, I was greeted with helpful, friendly Health Canada employees.

I was instructed, to make NO stops on the way to Amanda’s (Wait! no Tim Hortons?) I was greeted by Amanda with a smile and a “sit here while I finish the basement” apparently, I told her I was arriving at 5:00 not 1:00. It was wonderful to sit in the sunshine; I think I fell asleep.



*Amanda’s sanctum sanctorum of clowning and magic. This is the tip of the iceberg, there’s an entire room too!*

The basement is Amanda’s sanctum sanctorum of clowning and magic. There are balloons, hats, canes, puppets, magic, props, clown shoes. Yup, this was the perfect place for me.

She had set-up a space with a hot plate, toaster oven and other appliances. There was a bedroom with a teeny spider in the corner, a bathroom. I hoped she had enough un-

derwear for 2 weeks because the laundry room was in my domain! Mah ha ha!

I noticed Amanda had left me something to occupy myself; a vacuum and cleaning supplies! Did she know I like to clean when I am stressed?

*Imagination*

Our portal of communication became the stairwell. EZ made us a walkie talkie system with 2 red solo cups and a piece of string. Amanda at the top of the stairs and I at the bottom the clown gag RING, RING was re-invented! We had signals too, like the “I am awake now” signal from upstairs (Amanda) was



*Welcome, here’s the Key to your Cribb.*



— *Kolinda Zander-Hussey and Amanda O’Leary*

*Alone- To 2 Clo in Quar Isolation, Imagination*

KOLINDA’S SIDE, CONT’D ON GREEN PAGES

AMANDA’S SIDE, CONT’D ON BLUE PAGES (EXCEPT WHERE NOTED ON LAST SPREAD)

together  
was  
antline  
Inspiration

**N**o one could have seen what was going to happen. The world in an unprecedented lock down. Not since a century earlier, in 1918, had the world felt the grips of an unseen equal opportunity disease ravage families and countries.



I received a message from Kolinda saying “do you know anyone with a basement suite where I can quarantine for 14 days” and immediately had 3 thoughts come into my mind.

“Well, I do, but it’d be a lot of work to get it ready” “Do I want even to open my door to the possibility of the disease coming in my house?” “Why do you need one?” Then when I find out the back story and there is no other choice but to say “I will help”

The day Kolinda showed up I was still putting the space together. As luck would have it, I had gotten a job to present online using magic on the topic of Leadership as it related to a sale team just prior to saying yes to Kolinda. The presentation was on the same day she arrived.

I gave myself PERMISSION to not have it perfect when she showed up. I did have a backup plan knowing she’d be tired, and it was a beautiful day, I set her up outside. Lounge chair or regular chair and those cushions were hers until she left. And thus, began our “Alone-Together” time officially in isolation, in imagination and in some darn good inspiration to get us through the 2 weeks that lay ahead of us.



Now remember, we know each other from attending WCA conventions together and a few nights here when they were visiting with the circus just for a change of scenery but a long deep friendship, we didn’t have. We knew we liked each other, and she was “good people”. (Okay, yes EZ, you’re good people too).

And 2 weeks with someone who controls the laundry facility and the freezer has most of the power in the house. I had the BBQ and back deck though! Balance of power achieved.

Kolinda’s idea of making it easy on me by coming prepared with enough food for Thursday and Friday was thwarted when her luggage (the size of a tractor trailer) was LOST by the airlines! Finally making an appearance late Saturday afternoon after 2 or 3 delays. Her stomach was growling so loud on Thursday afternoon I thought I must feed her something. And so, started our time of how we make this work. She didn’t like the slingshot food delivery system, so we had to get creative and be Alone-Together.

We had a collaborative approach to keeping each other safe and healthy as we shared meals and social time. (She can’t grocery shop so that fell to my shoul-



— Amanda O’Leary and Kolinda Zander-Hussey



Ring, Ring. I have a message for you...



Sometimes it's ok to be alone



At least you can't see the broccoli in her teeth!



Online dates with my hubby!

walking around like an elephant, or dragging trash cans to the curb. The signal for "I am awake now" from downstairs (me) was a genteel cooing of a dove. Another signal from upstairs was the 8:15 pm sound of KABOOM! Amanda does planking and sometimes she falls over. Of course, I was quiet as a mouse.

Dinner was a collective effort. While Amanda had all the modern appliances upstairs. Downstairs I was using a dove pan to boil rice, a magic sword to grate cheese, a balloon pump to dry lettuce, and an exploding hammer to open cans.

Who knew this clown was an excellent cook, she made steak that cut like butter and her homemade hummus was heavenly.

When it was time to "share" our dinners the meal was divided very health conscious on separate plates. I used and washed my own dishes. Eating together-apart meant Amanda sat at the top of the stairs and I sat at the bottom, with a plate of food on our laps. Nice days we ate outside on her deck. She at one end of the table I at the other-separate entrances, separate everything.

*Inspiration*

I thought Amanda had gone crazy when I heard her outside banging on pots and pans. It was 7 pm, the time Canadians recognize and support essential workers. I loved racing out the back door to be part of the celebration every night. Hearing horns honk, drums, whistles, clapping, cheers, pots and pans. The community pride is truly inspiring.

Working in the garden was a comedy of errors. If we came within 6 feet of each other, a beautiful dance would ensue. I would sway one way and she would be-bop other; I'd go left she'd go right. It was a lovely ballet, except the ballerina's were wearing clown shoes! I have a sneaky suspicion Amanda got the better end of the deal. While she fiddled with the lawnmower, I pulled dandelions, planted, turned soil, filled planters, clipped bushes, it reminded me of my sister, when it came time to do the dishes she would have to go to the bathroom.

Amanda O'Leary is in VERY good shape (she planks for goodness sake!) When she takes a walk there is no lollygagging, it's fast paced and with purpose. We hiked through gorgeous trails, down 182 steps to a breathtaking river and back up again. 3.5 miles later we are home and I was exhausted, (where is Tim Horton's when you need it?) It was invigorating.

The enormity of it all hit me like a tidal wave on day two. My luggage was still lost. All of the sudden the thought of contracting a deadly virus and bringing it into Canada took second place. All I wanted



Self-Isolation Selfie



LOUD & PROUD! 7pm Celebration!



O Canada! The True North Strong and Free!



Ain't Nobody here but us Chicks!

ders... twice... apparently she doesn't like gruel) Remember she wasn't there to see me and in her heart of hearts wanted to be elsewhere but until the time had passed, she was stuck with me. That's tough to be held up when your heart wants to be somewhere else. However, Kolinda fast learned what this face meant. "Back off!" Or "I haven't had my tea yet!"

It had all the ingredients for a dismal time: separation from loved ones and support systems, worry, tiredness, fear of transmission and others I'm sure. Instead, we figured out how



to make it fun and comfortable. We had good food, lots of laughter, some tears, exercise to keep mind and soul together, art class and full permission to be ourselves and have fun. Support without judgement and ride the tide. We dug deep and the deeper we dug, the more fun we had and the deeper our friendship grew.

The back deck was our safe zone. Food was shared between us. Kolinda at one end of the table and I at the other. Her plate put down and I would place her portion of the nightly feast on it. She came up the outside stairs with plate, cutlery and all she needed for her. A serving spoon for her and one for me if we were sharing a common salad.

Yes, it was uncomfortable not to be able to openly share utensils or even pick up her dishes, but the name of the game was to keep healthy and sane besides she had some sharp knives at her disposal!

Inside, our eating arrangements were either alone or it was her at the bottom of the stairs and I at the other end with tea for a morning chat or our last supper together had to be inside thanks to rain. Kolinda and I have differing opinions about the sleeping arrangements.

She complained it was too hard. I reminded her, her gardening back would be better after 14 days on a cold hard surface and she had a pillow! (She didn't check blankets in her room needs) I politely reminded her of the last person who complained, and she suddenly saw the wisdom in my words.



If you know Kolinda, or seen her in action at a convention, she's a doer. She vacuumed so much downstairs (and rightly so, I had not got to cleaning just clearing space and setting up a makeshift kitchen) I got a call from the BC hydro company asking if I was setting up a grow op! Okay not really, but it's a better story the way I tell it. The weather turned nice and Kolinda came and helped me calm my garden. Regain order and just help make decisions about what to keep and the most important of all the "Oh this looks good" seal of approval.

I'd go for walks with my sister several thousand miles away and I'd tell her what we had done, and she say, "I think you're getting the better part of the deal!" And I say "YES! I know I am!" I was trying to figure out how she had to come back for another 2 weeks on the return part of her trip back home.

The secret to our success. Gratitude on both parts. Kolinda was grateful and I was grateful for her help and company. It was so nice to have another person in my space. We were smart together, keeping each other healthy, reminding each other "I washed my hands before I touched that" Wiping down





In Self-isolation, you have to be aware of your surroundings. Talk magnificent surroundings!



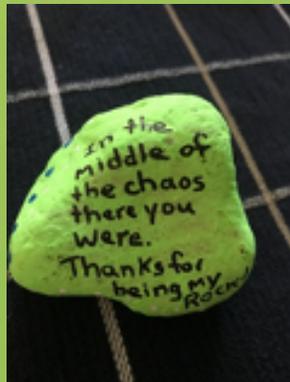
Ring, ring continued... Hang on I need a drink!

to do was BRUSH MY TEETH! This was the lowest day of my isolation. I felt completely helpless. I couldn't leave to buy a toothbrush. I was banished in a basement. There was nothing I could do about it. Except there WAS something I could do about it. I could share it, so there I stood at the bottom of the stairs and cried about my toothbrush. Amanda knew it wasn't about a toothbrush, it was so much more. With compassion and understanding she talked me off the ledge, then ran around locating a comb,

a sweatshirt, tea, and the toothbrush she was given on her last visit to the dentist. She cared and I was not alone. My luggage arrived on day three.

This experience taught me that chatting with a fellow WCA member can have a lasting effect on your life. If it hadn't been for the WCA I never would have found my isolation savior, guardian angel and friend.

So, the next time you are at a WCA alley meeting, convention or online forum. Reach out, make a connection-you never know where it might lead. 🌟



AMANDA'S SIDE, CONT'D FROM PAGE 19

groceries to go to her fridge. Lots of good healthy food- salads, steak, roasted veggies, jumbolia! Walks into the forests around my house. Beautiful lush trees, mountain streams and virtually no one on the trails. Absorbing nature's beauty can ease your pain and make you forget. We took up speed walking. We howled with laughter. And we were brilliant at postponing writing an article together until the morning she left.

We had been taking pictures but not as clowns and just as luck would have it my mask arrived from a friend just before Kolinda was to leave. She had brought me one she had made so we could be safe. But I wanted to take a picture to show this lady who out of the blue sent me a mask to keep me safe. And with that our clowns got out... big time! No idea was poo poed. It was welcomed and escalated!

I had sponge noses in my car's glovebox, untouched, they were perfect for our masks.

So now, this is what happens when 2 clowns are quarantined together - alone with isolation, imagination and inspiration and the freedom to play. (see next page)

My house is very quiet. The emotion I'm left with is gratefulness, great memories of laughter and fun, and a new friend. I expected nothing and received so much in return. Like clowning, it is often the clown who receives so much more than they give.

My own Kozy rock painting wearing a mask! A beautiful thank you card with a heartfelt message and a jar of candies.



'Till next time, Kolinda. No pandemic required. 🌟



We had to figure out how to communicate with each other long distance. Thanks to EZ we had the technology! "Ring Ring..."



And who doesn't have time fore a toilet paper piñata?



I never complained, even though we never got around to trimming my antlers. (on the other hand, Christmas season may be very lucrative this year!)



Don't believe Kolinda that I made her work hard while I slacked off! There's no proof of that! Hey! What a minute, how did that get in there?



Finally, departure day arrived. We couldn't believe the 2 weeks had gone that fast. But enough was enough, really.



Next was good health care. Nothing like a manicure to make you feel good. Kolinda even got her favorite color to paint her nails.



We practiced our social distancing photo poses. And we even managed a "how not to pose" just to prove we were listening Marilyn. 2 artistic creative minds melding as one! It's not easy being director, writer, producer, director of photography and camera person, look at that steam and consternation on those faces! Our next project will have a mega budget and be able to afford 2 selfie sticks. And yes, there's still lots of distance between us. Angle cheat!



And who doesn't have time for toilet paper piñata?



I thought we could practice some magic. Man, can Kolinda run!



Okay maybe someone was a bit happier to separate than the other. Can you guess who? It wasn't Me that's all I can say.

# Easy, Light and Portable Stage!

— Nicole Portwood, NE Regional Director

Last issue I discussed the various ways you could use an apron for walk-around magic etc. I also hinted that I would be discussing a way to do an entire walk-around show! Well, here it is! Now, I know Robin Bryan is the QUEEN of thrifting things, especially costuming, but she is a girl after my heart, because I too, love to thrift items that I can use for my clowning.

Over my 36 years of clowning, I have realized many things as I perform and often times those things change or evolve over time. For example, how many different balloon bags or face painting cases have you used? I see someone else's and I think, that is perfect! Only to find out for me it was too heavy, too small, too big, too whatever. We all have to experience what works for us but I bet this will work for just about everyone!

So, I have found when I do walk-around that it would be nice to do a stage show! I know what you are thinking. Huh? Well, sometimes, just sometimes, ok, a lot of times I wander up to a group of people standing in line for food, or waiting for a bouncy house, and they are not moving for a bit. Even better, a family or two camped out resting under the shade of a tree. In any event, I have found that even though pockets of tricks are great, I have wished I could do a mini show! Maybe even draw more people around.



I came up with an idea after I had been working a festival. An elderly lady came rolling up with her walker and she had everything she needed attached to that walker. I was like, hmmm. So I started to peruse thrift stores for walkers as they can be very expensive if you purchase them new. I found one for \$2.50! It didn't have wheels and that's exactly how I wanted it because again, in my experience of clowning and walk-around, often times I am on grass! Hard to roll things over it some-

times. Now a wagon would work for toting around clown junk, but that's not what I am talking about here. I wanted something easily carried and that proved to be this set up. If I had to guess, it is under 5 pounds, quite honestly possibly even with the pockets filled! It's that light!

So you see in the pictures what it started out looking like! I added the clear shoe pocket holder to the back (I think I cut two rows off before I attached). I then was able to look for some cheap magic material, which was actually a set of curtains that I got for \$15. I was able to do the apron you saw last issue and this item, and I actually still have some left! The top tray is simply an extra TV tray that I had. Again, super light! I simply used Velcro to attach. That way I can disassemble to put in my car if I need to!

I am easily able to walk around and plop it down right

PORTABLE STAGE, CONT'D ON PAGE 33



# Down The Parade Route With Jay Jay

— John "JAY JAY" Joseph



**I** love a parade. Unfortunately, with the Corona Virus (COVID-19) around, parades are being cancelled. However, this won't last forever, so now is the time to start thinking about gimmicks for future parades.

**Allow me to share a parade idea with you.**

My very first gimmick, one I came up with back in 1982, a golf putter. My gimmick allowed me to putt a golf ball from the middle of the street, to the curb and reel it in before the kids could grab the ball.

I entered my gimmick in 1983 while at the Shriners Imperial Session in Denver, CO. There were over 100 competitors and I finished in 3rd place.

Everyone told me to patent the idea. I didn't. Guess what? A year later, I am on a business trip and what do I see in Sky Magazine? My putter for sale for \$60.

**What do you need to make this gimmick?**

A golf putter or a two way pitching wedge.

A colorful golf ball and a small flat head screw.

A fishing reel with fishing line and two small car radiator clamps.

**How do I make the gimmick?**

Carefully drill a hole in the middle of the putter head. Make sure you file the hole so it is smooth and you have no rough edges.

Now, attach your fishing reel to the handle of the putter using two small hose clamps. Make sure you leave enough room for your hands, above the reel. My original fishing reel was screwed into the handle. I could not adjust the position of the reel, so in version two I used the clamps.

Now I could adjust the position of the reel if needed.

Now, fish your line through the hole in the putter. Drill a small hole in your golf ball and attach the fishing line to the golf ball by wrapping the line around the screw before you tighten the screw into the ball. Make sure you use a flat head screw to attach the ball.

**Now you are ready to use it in a parade.**

Practice first. Put the ball on the ground. Release the reel line, now putt the ball. You will notice it takes a little bit of a hit to get the ball out away from you because it is attached to the fishing line.

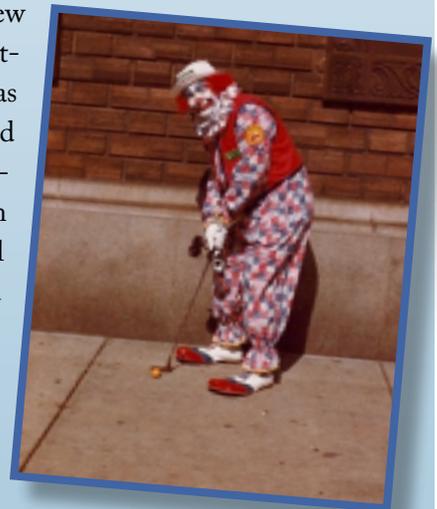
In a parade, ask: Got any golfers out there? When you are in the middle of the street the audience will only see the putter and ball. Very hard to see the fishing line from a distance.

Hey anyone want to play around? Ask, if I putt the ball to you, will you catch it and throw it back?

Soon as the ball gets close to the curb, reel it in. Look back and say, I thought you were going to keep my ball then keep walking. Use it again and again. Have some fun.

Caution: the fishing line will break (maybe two or three times during the parade). Carry a small tool in your pocket, so you can unscrew the screw and re-attach the fishing line as you are walking and cut the line if necessary. Keep an eye on the line, as you will see the area around the ball begin to weaken. You may want to adjust the line before it breaks.

**Ready for my first parade in 1982:**



PARADE ROUTE, CONT'D ON PAGE 25

# Lockdown Clowning!

— Andrew Davis, WCA President 2019 – 2021

**W**ell we all made history during our lockdowns for the CV2019 Pandemic. And as social butterflies and people who need A LOT of continuous attention, we entertainers have to now rethink our lives and the way we entertain the community.

What do you do if you're locked down in your own home and you're told not to leave your home for at least 2-3 months!?! How do you continue clowning? How do we keep doing what we love!!!!!!

As clowns we need to use this time to be creative, to think through old and new ideas and to play with new ideas of how to rethink our industry. We need to move outside of the box and devise new ways to generate fun and excitement.

I always keep notes on my iPhone, and I pad of ideas as I think or see wacky things, jokes, odd situations or even others posts on social media. I guess it's my virtual scrapbook of ideas. Now is the perfect time to create and test those oddball ideas. Here are some of the ideas that have popped out of my scrapbook for you to ponder and try. What's in your notebook?

1. I have a character that I entertain with, Tony Lambrini who sings in a giant recycle can/bin. I've always wanted to do a live 'busking' performance online such as Facebook Live. Really just to see how it is received by the online community and get their reactions. I did this recently in March and I think it went very well, as I got some great reviews and more confidence to continue.
2. MIME character. I've always clowned but never explored the mime inside of me. I have a new offbeat character that I made a costume and designed makeup for and will try introducing him to the public one day soon.
3. Practiced juggling with clubs. I can juggle but I'm not a good or confident juggler, and the key to getting better is practice.
4. Examine what my clown does during a performance that's NOT magic. Like playing the Ukulele or percussion bells, human hoopla or sweeping the floor and adding humor to these ideas.
5. Tidy my clown room. A tidy box is a happy box. Clowns are notoriously untidy so move things, create order and throw away rubbish. Find helpful ideas online to get you motivated and organized.
6. Watch classes and lectures online. There is a wealth of information at your fingertips for anything you want to learn.
7. Read old joke books but visualize the joke and how it could be performed. You might just find a new or original skit.
8. Change your makeup and practice with other performers makeup techniques. Maybe even duplicate your favorite performers makeup just to see if you can do it.
9. Wake up and get in clown/motley for a full 24hrs. Everything you do, even load the dishwasher and vacuum, do it in character. Look at the whole day through the eyes of your clown.
10. Reach out to a new clown friend via the WCA members forum on Face Book. You might find a new Pen pal or friend you can talk and share your ideas with.
11. Review your clown business strategies. Are you getting less enquiries and bookings? Are you putting the same effort into getting new booking as you did 10 years ago? Figure out a way to make it and you more productive.
12. Encourage your family to be silly and clown with you at home. If they live away, then use video conferences to talk and laugh.
13. Plan and write a new show... then practice it over and over and over.
14. Try to do some tricks with a hat... like juggling or hat manipulation. This takes a lot of practice, but you can probably find how to videos online.
15. Revise your seasonal bookings like Halloween and Christmas. Look at your diary and see what you've got. Create a show and advertise it.



16. Send a friend a new joke every day.
17. Paradability ideas. A Picket Fence – A fencer with a picket sign. Fencing (as in a swordsman, all in white) complete with epee/sword) holding a protest sign that says, “Ban Fox Hunting”.... you’d be a picket fencer. It’s English humor!
18. Make a balloon zoo. How many different balloon animals in your zoo?
19. New challenge for me. I’ve never done a Clown ministry skit.
20. Write an article to your local press about something good you did before lockdown.
21. Research old school rhymes and games such as; The lost hanky rhyming circle game. Or Ring around the rosy.
22. Make a list of what you do and update it with new skills and ideas
23. Make a video of myself playing poker... but me as all four players and edit it.
24. Parachute games for preschool. Read up and ask others what their favorite ideas are.
25. Do something nice and giving for charity.
26. Ballet or Yoga. Watch and copy an online class but use your creative flare to perform the same class in clown making your own ‘Clown ballet or yoga performance’
27. Use a sock puppet to tell some funny jokes. Or practice with puppets you have in your clown room.
28. Create a competition with another clown friend. Choose 5 things and see who wins.
29. Learn a song in sign language. Search YouTube to learn from.
30. Bake a cake in clown. Plan it. Script it. Rehearse it, video it, share it and see what others think.

There we have 30 quick ideas from my scrapbook and certainly things I will be working through and developing over the next few months. Maybe you’d like to join me with your thoughts, and we could develop them together? Email [me@andythec clown.co.uk](mailto:me@andythec clown.co.uk)

Your friend always,  
Andrew Davis

WCA President 2019-2021 🌟

PARADE ROUTE, CONT'D FROM PAGE 23



Attach the fishing reel to the putter handle.



Drill the holes and attach the ball.



Final product ready for the parade or walk around.

**When using this in competition be ready for the judges to say, not colorful enough, the ball is too small. I’ve placed second and third but never first. I wrapped colorful tape to the shaft of the putter. Tried larger balls but they just don’t work in a parade.**

Hope you have as much fun as I have had over the years. Have a good time, but make sure you practice using it before you try using this gimmick in a parade.

Have fun and keep'em smiling.

See you down the parade route,  
John “JAY JAY” Joseph  
[jayjay360@hotmail.com](mailto:jayjay360@hotmail.com)  
847-483-4520 🌟



## Deanna "DeeDee" Hartmier Lifetime Achievement Award 2020

— Pam Moody



*T*wenty years ago, I had the pleasure of first meeting Deanna "Dee Dee" Hartmier at Clown Camp, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. Though I was impressed with her magnetic and caring personality. I didn't realize then, that we would become lifetime friends. As the

years passed, we both became more and more involved with WCA and clowning in general.

Dee Dee had been a member of WCA since 2000 and has completed over 10 consecutive years of service as a member

of the WCA Board of Directors as the Canadian Central Director, President Elect, President, Past President, Future Site Convention Chair and Convention Chair and Clown of the Year Chair. In these numerous offices, she has been an advisor, coach and mentor to many individuals, Regional members, and directors. She continues to support and provide guidance to anyone that needs assistance. Deanna has been a major contributor to many WCA accomplishments including the website, contracts and input into the Clown Rules of Conduct. Even when times have been challenging, she has always been willing to help.

Deanna attended WCA conventions in Toronto Canada, Laughlin NV, Denver, she hosted in Winnipeg, New York, Sarawak Malaysia, Northbrook IL, Reno NV, Orlando FL, Minneapolis MN and Albuquerque. Deanna's service and leadership has assisted the WCA to ensure many successful

conventions. She has provided names for new lecturers and vendors for convention and even managed to get some big names as headliners.

Currently Deanna is the Clown of the Year Chairperson. She has been on the Bylaw & Handbooks, Convention Chair and the Future Site Convention Chair. Over the years she has been a part of the Executive Committee, LAA Committee, Clown of the Year Committee, Alley of the Year, Convention Committee, Election committee, Legacy of Laughter, Website, Social Media and the Past Presidents Council. She was the Membership Drive Chairperson for 2 years increasing membership from Canada, United Kingdom, Denmark, India, and other areas offering incentives for people to join. She was instrumental for starting the Blabigail Scholarship. She added valuable input and assistance for the Junior Joey Directors' as well. She stepped up as fulfilled the Awards Director's responsibilities at the convention in Minneapolis. She was also instrumental in creating new director positions for Asia West and South East. She worked to having WCA involved and represented at the first Worldwide Circus Summit in 2015.

Over all the years Deanna had written over 100 articles for the Clowning Around, Presidents updates and submissions to the NQCA. She has created promotional information for the conventions and other promotions. She has provided valuable added information with updating the WCA Handbooks, competition rules, forms and many important decisions for the progress of the association.

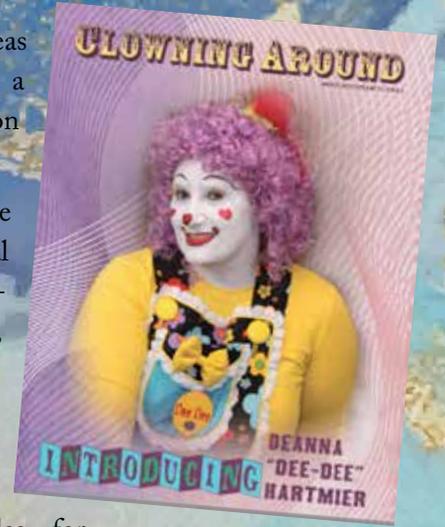
Deanna had served as a judge for a number of WCA conventions and International Shrine conventions. She has been a real asset at numerous conventions assisting in a variety of tasks. She has also taken the time to write up nominations for Clown of the Year, Lifetime Achievement and Alley off the year Awards.

She has been active in her local alleys and has instructed for her local Chimo and Bump-a-Nose Clown Alley.

Around the world she has taught and occasionally also performed in England, Malaysia, Hong Kong, India, Ireland and Denmark. She has also served as an instructor at numerous conferences around the USA and Canada. In her travels she has also served as an ambassador for WCA. She was on the Board of Directors for California Clown Campin' for five years.

She openly shares ideas with everyone and is a mentor and inspiration to many.

Deanna has been the secretary for her local Alley and has contributed by helping, teaching, mentoring, performing and assisting where she can. Aside from WCA, wrote articles for Clowns International, COAI, Clowns Canada, SMILE (Safety Messages in Life Education), MSLA (Manitoba School Library Association),



LIFETIME AWARD, CONT'D ON PAGE 28





#### LIFETIME AWARD, CONT'D FROM PAGE 27

She has done countless interviews dealing with the World Clown Shortage media circus and the Scary Clown phenomenon, as well as interviews for promoting clown conventions, safety programs and some just for fun.

Last summer, despite having been significantly injured in a car accident, she continued to work for WCA as the current Convention Chair and Future Site Chair and Clown of the Year Chair.

Over the years she has received countless Awards and Accolades including:

- WCA Clown of the Year 2015
- WCA 1st place-Face Painting 2013
- WCA 3rd place- Comedy White Face 2010
- WCA 2nd place- Comedy White Face 2009
- Best Overall Clown- North Dakota State Fair 2000 & 2001
- Balloon Sculpting 1st, 2nd
- Paradability 1st, 2nd
- Single Skits 1st 2nd
- SMILE (Safety Messages In Life Education) - Best Clown Safety Routine

#### Scholarships Awarded:

- Clowns of America Scholarship 2009
- Bo Dino Scholarship 2006
- Mark Anthony Scholarship 2004 & 2007

Deanna is a member of World Clown Association since 2000, Clowns International, Clowns of America International (Also appointed as Ambassador), Clowns Canada (Central/West Ambassador), Canadian Association of Face and Body Artists, Face and Body Art Association, Arizona Fire and Burn Education Association,

Deanna is co-owner for her company Laughter Without Borders. She performs and is involved in every aspect of the business. Along with this she also volunteers for numerous charitable events.

Deanna is also instrumental in creating LAFS (Life and Fire Safety) Canada. This is a registered charity. Her and partner Val Meiners volunteer in schools around the Province to teach Life and Fire Safety, Bully Free messages and drug awareness.

On a personal note, Deanna has reached out to hundreds of clowns via the internet over the years giving of her time and talents to help them to become more professional in all areas. She truly “cares” for others which is evident to all who have been on the receiving end.

I'm extremely grateful to the Lifetime Achievement Committee for their efforts and decision to award this prestigious “Lifetime Achievement Award” to my friend, Deanna “Dee Dee” Hartmier. 🌟

# One Way to Organize Your Clown Outfit

— Dale PATCHES Flashberg, WCA SW Regional Director

**D**o you have multiple outfits? Or do you have only one look outfit?

I have several different outfits for my clown character. They are all vest and pants. At one point I was trying to remember which pair of pants goes with which vest, and what shirt looks better as well as socks, shoes, buttons, bib, etc.

I have come up with something that works for me. Maybe this will help you, or you can use parts of these ideas.



Hold on, this is old school, but it works for me. You could put it on an excel spread sheet or in a word form.

I use a 3 x 5 lined index card and keep them in a card file box. This keeps me focused on what I need for each outfit. Each line has a specific item of clothing or accessory. For instance, on the first line I always write VEST, since that is the key word for each of my outfits. I write the description of the vest on this line. One the next line, I write PANTS – followed by the description of the pants. Each following line has a specific item of clothing or accessory which goes with the outfit., i.e., SHIRT, SOCKS, SHOES, BUB/BUTONS, HAT, WIG, BADGES, GLOVES, NOSE.

If you do not wear pants and vest, just fill in the lines with your dress, belt, socks, shoes, wig, hat, bow, badges, gloves, nose, etc.

When getting ready for a gig, I just pull the card and go down the line and pull all the items that is on the card from the closet. That way I have all the items ready for the gig. This also helps a lot when I am packing for a convention or any away from home function. That way I do not forget anything.

I have a similar card with props that I need for certain skits or performances I perform on a regular basis.

This also goes for making sure you have all the makeup you need, especially when attending out of town clown events.

Hope this will work for you. I know it has helped keeping me organized and less frustrated when I am in a hurry. 🌟



# Take it personal, then make it personal!

## The importance of branding...

— Kynisha Ducre

**P**ut a twist on the unexpected! Pay attention to the details! Genuine professionalism drives booking!

‘Your brand is a potential customer’s overall perception of your business.’ Whether you have been in business for three months or thirty years, attracting and keeping business is key. Your talent and smile are the priorities, but the business of clowning is no laughing matter. We have to stay (kid) relevant, have a social presence, incorporate cultures and trends to our shows.

One of the first items I wanted when I started was a name tag and I now have a couple from Jamstone Magic (mag-

netic backs rock)! I’m a girlie girl, cheerleader by nature, and interior designer by profession so I definitely know accessories. But if that doesn’t come easy, ask any 8 to 14-year-old girl or a seamstress who likes theatre.

We should have our name visible so people can simply remember us! And that goes for both coming and going. A good example would be in my sports theme character. When I get kids to cheer for me, I make it personal with a Go Daisy Go chant. Check out #godaisygo on Instagram and some pictures of me will



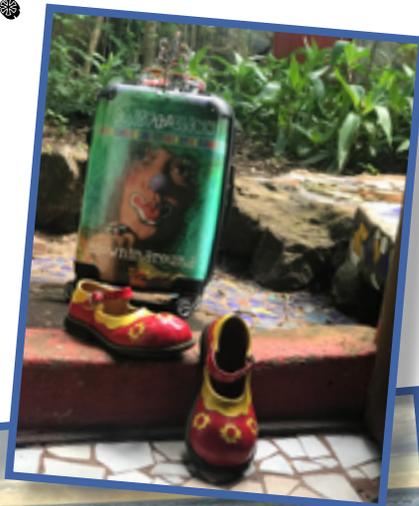
show up as well. Even my sometimes-sassy puppets refer to me as Daisy versus she.

Daisy and I travel often, love mission trips and want to ensure pictures capture my name or website, so I have custom luggage from [www.luggagepros.com](http://www.luggagepros.com). Backdrops, a custom bumper decals with your info works well on your bag of awesomeness too. Can’t forget stickers and coloring sheets too. My newest and super duper awesome accessory is this umbrella made by Imani at [oneskinnybaker@gmail.com](mailto:oneskinnybaker@gmail.com) (ask for the \$55 Daisy

special in the US).

Shoot me an email at [clowninaroundtown@gmail.com](mailto:clowninaroundtown@gmail.com) or send me a message at DaisyTheClown on Instagram! Life is too short to live a little, LIVE A LOT!

-Kynisha Ducre



# Making a Milk Pitcher!

— Nicole Portwood, NE Regional Director



So, here's the thing about making some magic tricks! I have bought more magic over the years than I can remember and continue to patronize magic suppliers. I am totally one of those people who will watch a magician do a presentation at a convention and then say, "I want one

of everything you just did!" Sometimes, however, I just find the need to be able to make some inexpensive magic props especially for the little kiddos I teach in my after-school enrichment classes. They are very rough on things and I have lost quite a bit of good magic so over the years I have come up with a few "kid friendly" versions. One example is the Milk Pitcher.

I have a glass one. I love it and use it quite often. Especially at Christmas with talking about Santa and how he loves milk! I also have a plastic one I purchased a few years back but it is a bit smaller than the one I am talking about in this article. My glass one is vintage and I found one on Ebay for \$29 and the plastic style runs about \$25. Now that is kind of steep for a trick that a kid might break in two seconds, so I was able to make one for less than \$2! As you see in the photos I was able to find cheap plastic water pitchers at a garage sale. I think they were a buck a piece. I then saved a liter bottle of soda and cut it to size. That is, cut to the rim of the pitcher. I used hot glue to glue it to the bottom. I will say that so far it is holding but if you find that it doesn't, you may need to find a waterproof glue. And that is all it took! So now I have a couple I can let the kids use and not freak out!

How the Milk Pitcher trick works is you show what looks like a full pitcher of milk. You pour the milk into a cup making it clear that the pitcher is now almost empty. And



MILK, CONT'D ON PAGE 33

# You Can't Pay Me Enough

— Greg "Cactus Patch" Chalmers

Teaching is an interesting thing. Being a teacher like anything else has a cost. In everything we do in life there is a cost. If we are doing one thing it means that we cannot be doing another at the same time. When someone decides to become a teacher, they decide to remove something else from their lives. For everybody the thing they give up will be different and often they do not realize they are giving that thing up. The thing some people will give up could be hanging out with family or friends, it could be money, or opportunities, or free time. Ultimately the thing teachers give up is themselves.

Heroes and teachers both have to put others and the needs of others before themselves. They both require sacrifice. All teachers make these sacrifices. Teachers of performance arts are no different. They sacrifice a special part of themselves when they take the time to teach and share their art with others. If you are teaching a class how to juggle you won't be able to practice your juggling during the same time. You will be able to juggle some but you are not able to concentrate on the things you need to improve your juggling. Instead you will need to be focusing on what your students need to improve their juggling. At least, that is what a good teacher will do.

I have a friend who when he teaches is a really good teacher. I have seen him work with kids to teach them magic, and the kids love his teaching and can learn quickly from him. He also is good at teaching adults. But he rarely teaches, for three reasons: 1) it takes away time from his family, 2) it takes away time when he could be perfecting his own magic performances, and 3) if he is scheduled to teach then he cannot schedule a paying gig for the same time. You notice how all three of those things involve time. Time is what our lives are made up of and once we have used time we do not get it back. As time slips past us so do the moments of our lives. This means the time given to teach others is the teacher's life given to the student and for the student. I used to work for a dance studio. The man who owned the



studio used to say you could not pay him enough money to teach someone to dance. It was dancing itself that paid him to do what he did. He loved dancing and that was why he invested his life in teaching others to dance. He was amazing to watch, and he was a very good teacher. But he could have been an even better dancer than he was, if he had only concentrated on his own dancing, but he wanted to share the joy

he found in dancing with others. He spent his life teaching others to dance.

The teacher becomes less so the student can achieve more. Teaching can give you a greater understanding of a subject. They say you do not really learn about something until you try to teach, and this is true, but while your knowledge increases the time you have to spend perfecting that knowledge decreases. At least in the performance arts. The time spent teaching and preparing the lessons takes away from the time the teacher has to create, practice and perfect their technique.

While the cost is great for any teacher, they struggle on in the hope of the promise that one day their investment into others will bear fruit. I recently experienced the payoff of that promise. I got to see one of my students who I taught clowning and juggling, juggle 4 and then 5 balls. I was, and am, so proud of the young man. This is the cool part about being a teacher. I helped him get started juggling three balls and I helped him a little with club juggling in doing so I helped him learn the foundations so he could learn to juggle 4 and 5 balls. He learned the 4 and 5 balls on his own because of the social distancing thing. He did the hard work on his own. His success was the reward. Did I teach him every step of the way? No, I helped him find some of the tools he needed. He did the rest. The truth is while I understand the principles and some of the technique needed for juggling five balls, I can't juggle 5 balls. But he can.

This past year a great number of our members have stepped up and taught a number of classes online. I want to thank

all of you who were willing to invest your lives into the lives of the WCA membership. Thank you, you are all heroes, because you are willing to put others and their needs first. The rest of us, who are the students, if we want to pay our teacher back, should remember that the truest payment we

give our teachers is not made by money spent. Payment is made when we take and use what is taught. We pay our teachers best when we use what our teachers have given us and apply it to our performance so we can transcend where we are and move to greater heights. ❁

PORTABLE STAGE, CONT'D FROM PAGE 22



where I am and start my show by pulling the magic tricks easily seen out of the pockets “backstage”. You could also use this in clowning

of course, and have all kinds of things in there show wise. You could use for doing balloons too and not necessarily have a curtain around. That way the kids have absolutely no access to any of your balloons and you have that little bit of distance. I have 12 pockets on mine but you could also customize what size pockets you need and make it yourself with material.

I encourage you all to think outside the box when it comes to props and magic. I loved when Miz Daisy said during her tour of her clown office that she has to laugh when she shops because the worker in the store will always try to help her by asking, “What are you using this for?” and of course it is never its intended purpose.

So start looking for those walkers and by the way, I intend on REALLY using it someday should I need to! Lol

Any questions, call or email!

Nicole Portwood NE Regional Director  
*portwoodjr@comcast.net* 413-245-1076. ❁

MILK, CONT'D FROM PAGE 31

ultimately you can make the milk in the cup “disappear”, or turn to confetti or whatever else you can think of.

What exactly happens to the milk? The photos show that you 1. Fill the milk on the OUTSIDE of the liter bottle. This gives the illusion that the pitcher is full. 2. Make sure you have put a v-cut or a rounded cut, right below the pitcher lip. 3. Once you start pouring (making sure the audience can't see that there is actually no milk leaving the pitcher) the milk is really going from the outside of the pitcher to the inside. 4. You then set the pitcher down making the audience believe that the milk is in the cup, which it will because the pitcher will look half empty now.

How fun is that? You can incorporate any liquid or story but make sure it is a liquid that is visible, obviously water wouldn't work. Thanks for reading and if I can help you with anything, just ask!

Nicole Portwood, NE Regional Director  
*portwoodjr@comcast.net*, 413-245-1076 ❁



# 'Clumsy Mumsy' Celebrates 100

— *San Diego Union-Tribune (Sunday) • 24 May 2020 • Elishabeth Frausto writes for the U-T Community Press*

— *Kawshun Cheryl Evans*

One would have never thought how things would change this year in 2020. Coronavirus arrived and everything changed so suddenly. We had to make changes to help my Mom celebrate her big day.

My Mom, Clumsy Mumsy started clowning in 1985 and was a hit right away. She is a member of the San Diego All Star Clown alley. She attended many conventions, clown camp and other workshops. She totally loves clowning, face painting and doing magic.

This past May she turned 100 years old and we had to find a way to celebrate this milestone birthday in a slightly different way. So, we thought a car parade would be the best way to celebrate. My sister Cricket (Maureen) organized the whole event. She made flyers and contacted friends and neighbors to be part of this special event.

I was unable to attend as well as the grandchildren and great grandchildren. I was able to be their virtually thanks to a dear friend. Later that evening my family did a zoom party for her which was wonderful.

Please enjoy the pictures and article about this wonderful clown.

**A**s Ruby Minder turned 100 on May 15, she celebrated by doing the thing she loves to see others do: laugh.

To help her mark the milestone, her children Maureen and Mike Minder — knowing they couldn't throw a party due to restrictions because of the coronavirus — arranged something even bigger: a birthday parade.

They set up a pop-up canopy on that Friday afternoon for Ruby to sit under, decorated the yard of her home with balloons and signs and invited friends and neighbors to drive by and wish her a happy birthday.

Two firetrucks, along with about 20 cars, gathered outside Bird Rock Elementary School before making their way along Van Nuys Street and past Ruby's house just over the Pacific Beach border from La Jolla.

With sirens wailing and horns honking, parade participants greeted Ruby with cheers and cards that a neighbor collected via a trash picker and placed in a basket for her to read later.

As a surprise, Maureen arranged for the San Diego Fire-rescue Department to participate.

"On a whim, I called the Pacific Beach Town Council," she said, and a council representative put her in touch with Fire Station 21 on Grand Avenue in Pacific Beach, where Maureen dropped off a flier with parade details.

Ruby laughed at the procession, wearing a clown mask and waving as neighbors gathered along the sidewalks to watch.

It was no accident that Ruby donned a clown mask for her big day. After her retirement from secretarial work, she nourished her humorous side and became a clown in 1985. She found success entertaining others as Clumsy Mumsy, her clown name.

"I got into all types of homes, met all types of people. It was a wonderful experience," she said.

Maureen, who's also an occasional clown named Cricket, said Ruby isn't as active in clowning as she used to be, but they remain "the two clowns in the La Jolla Christmas Parade every year. We've done it for 25 years."





Ruby is “quite a character,” Maureen said. “She’ll make you laugh for sure.”

Born May 15, 1920, in Chicago, Ruby worked for the railroads and

as a secretary while also dancing at USO events during World War II.

“She has wonderful stories of entertaining the troops,” Maureen said.

Ruby moved to San Diego in the 1940s, where she met and married Edmund Minder, an electrician with General Dynamics, at St. James-by-the-sea Episcopal Church in La Jolla in the latter part of the decade. The couple eventually chose a neighborhood on the border of La Jolla and Pacific Beach to build a house.

“They came for the ocean,” Maureen said. “My mom went boogie boarding, body surfing, all that stuff.”

The house was completed in 1953. “I put the roof on,” Ruby said, “but not the finishing touches. It took me a whole summer, and I would watch people going to the beach. I was not happy about it!”

Ruby, who still lives in the house (Edmund died in 2006), said it isn’t just the ocean she loves about living here.

“It’s the people,” she said. “They’re more relaxed. I think it’s the climate that gets them that way. We have excellent neighbors.”

When asked what advice she has for others looking to achieve similar longevity, Ruby said: “Don’t try to cure all the world’s troubles. The main thing is just to be kind to other people, and they’ll be kind to you. Try to understand other people. And don’t borrow money.”



Due to COVID we had a parade for Clumsy Mumsy. Bon Bon, Bonkers, Wower, Grandma Huggs and Uncle Rusty represented the club. Lots of her neighbors and other friends were out too. It was led off by 2 firetrucks from Pacific Beach.



# Taking Laughter Across the Pond

— Jackie Newton

*M*y beloved Lake of the Ozarks became my home in 1983 and clowning became a huge part of my life in 1994. For years, I have traveled miles to perform, train, teach and laugh. My clown family grew over the years in the Ozarks...I have worked with some of the best right here in my own back yard, but one of my dreams was to travel the world and experience theater and clowning and to spread universal laughter. I wanted to meet people from all walks of life and gather a sense of others different than me, and yet, truly the same.

As a member of the World Clown Association, Clowns International and Clowns of America International, I have had the honor of becoming part of a universal clown family. Coming from all walks of life, after a long day of work, energy can still be found for the nose, the big shoes and the silly dance. For years, I watched gatherings of clowns around the world and drooled at the thought of hearing childrens' laughter in all languages and dialects. My journey began again.

One of my truly great friends is the World Clown Association's president from Lowestoft, England, Andy Davis. His character, his heart and his humor delight people from around the globe. He continued a tradition of the "gathering" of world clowns in his small village in the far eastern point of England several years ago. While the news stations were calling our group a convention, it was truly a gathering of theatrical talents from everywhere. I cannot describe my experience as a convention at all. The CGUK, Clown Gathering of the UK was truly magic. The gathering is also conveniently placed during the time period of the Joey Grimaldi Celebration in London. For seventy-five years, the father of clowning, as we know it, is honored in a church celebration in London. An amazingly interesting note to all of this is that London takes this celebration very seriously. We were actually prepped before the celebration and given tips on the numerous paparazzi that would at-



tend. I did not take this very seriously until I was whisked this way and that by photographers and videographers from dozens of papers, news stations and magazines. Want to feel like a celebrity, attend this ceremony!

My cousin, Dolly Dimples and I travel a great deal together. I pulled her into this silly world and she came willingly, we decided that if we were to travel all the way across the pond, we had better experience everything we could in a three-week period. Our three-hour drive to St. Louis and

getting our beautiful costumes from my mother's amazingly talented hands brought us closer to our six-hour drive to my aunt in Chicago. There we hopped a plane to Denmark and continued on to London. We slept a bit and then grabbed the 200 mph Eurostar to Paris. We ate pastries, toured the Louvre and my favorite...Versailles! We walked the streets as Sparkie and Dolly Dimples, gathering several onlookers throughout the day. We knew about three words of French, but it didn't seem to matter. Clowns are universal. We decided two words to learn in French would be sliced turkey after I bit into a sandwich of very raw goat's cheese thinking it was sliced turkey! The French were very friendly, very accommodating. They loved our characters and we loved them.

We traveled back to London for the clowning day of our lives. I literally teared up several times as I got caught in the whirlwind of global laughter and fun during the Grimaldi Celebration. Clowns from everywhere, beautiful English, Irish and Scottish dialects



filled my ears and silly universal laughter warmed my heart. Because of my mother's brilliant talents as a seamstress, it was obvious to all that we are American and we got a great kick out of.... "You're from America! Please come talk to us!" I have never been interviewed or photographed so much in my life...you could probably take my entire career and still not see that many photographers.

We moved on from there to Lowestoft, England for a week along the North Sea. We rode in a one ton van from antique days and enjoyed the antics of our juggling/unicycle driver, Jonathon Jester. After a few jump starts, both ways, we made it to our destination. Packed in like sardines, with the craziest props in the world, we made it to experience the clowning and theater of a lifetime. I had long conversations with the amazing funny man Freddie Davies who came to speak to us about his antics with greats like Jerry Lewis and the old-time stage shows and films. I was swept into the hauntingly beautiful sounds of our clown fiddler Paul Southcott, and the great face of our very own Hagrid, the larger than life Eek! I met truly moving actors like Simon/Clown Noir and our aerialist, the amazing Pip! The whirlwind continued on to two fabulous performances in the tiny Seagull Theater along the shores of the North Sea in a show dubbed as The Wrong Side of the Pier.

One of the highlights of my journey is when the children were on intermission and I took my magic thumb out to throw it around. I left for a moment and came back. The children rushed me and yelled, "Sparkie, show us your red bowl!" RED BOWL? What in the world were they talking about? Ah...language barrier....they were saying red ball! It took me a second, but I was able to produce the "red bowl" once again! Gotta love those English accents! 🌟





—Michael Stelzer

# Revisit...or New...Try it Out

## *Tug-of-war Madness*

A clown comes on stage and notices two ropes lying on the floor. He picks up an end of rope in each hand. Suddenly, two or three additional clowns arrive at each of his sides; they pick up the other end of the rope and enter into a tug-of-war competition with the unfortunate clown stuck in the middle of the rope. At this point, the center clown may perform one of three finishes:

- (1) He may release both ends simultaneously and have the clowns at each end tumble backwards,
- (2) He may release one end and have the other clowns pull him off stage while the other group of clowns stumble backwards, or
- (3) He may acquire enough slack in the ropes to remove his overcoat and walk off stage while the other clowns continue their tug-of-war event.

The last option involves having an additional length of identical rope in the coat that travels from one sleeve, across the back and to the other sleeve. At the ends of this rope is a small hook, such as that which you may obtain from a standard bungee cord. The stage ropes each have a small loop at each end in which the center clown may hook together each of the two stage ropes with the hidden rope. After you hook both stage ropes into the hidden rope, the center clown may take off his overcoat and walk off-stage while the tug-of-war continues with the remaining clowns.

## *Bouncing Handkerchief*

The clown remarks how hot it is and wipes his forehead with a handkerchief. He accidentally drops it to the floor,

where it bounces back into his hand.

The secret is that there is a rubber-bouncing ball hidden in the center of the handkerchief secured in place by a rubber band.

## *Comedy undershirt removal*

The clown remarks how hot it is and starts loosening or removing his tie (if you desire to wear one), unbuttoning his sleeves and collar to cool-off. Another clown approaches and tells him to remove his shirt entirely. Feeling embarrassed about undressing before an audience, he refuses. The second clown approaches from behind the first clown, grabs his shirt by the collar and pulls it off, while the overcoat remains undisturbed.

To prepare for this bit of comedy, drape your shirt over your shoulders like a cloak. Now, button up the collar with the top three or four buttons. Then, without putting your arms through the sleeves, button the cuffs around your wrists. Put your tie on normally (if you desire to use one) and then your jacket. In this arrangement, it would appear that you are wearing your clothes normally. However, after the tie and buttons are undone, a sharp pull by the collar by an assistant will quickly remove the undershirt from under the overcoat.

## *Eye of the Bee Holder*

A male clown approaches a female clown with flowers and



remarks on how beautiful she is. The female clown modestly declines the compliment. The male clown however, remarks, “beauty is in the eye of the Bee holder” and opens his hand to reveal a toy bee.

*Falling safely*

As part of any slapstick or physical comedy routine, a clown may fall to the ground as part of his act. It is important that you fall safely in your practice and performance. A slapping breakfall is commonly practiced in most forms of martial arts and should ideally be used in your clowning. This form of falling distributes the energy of the fall by spreading the impact over as wide of an area as possible. It is preferable to first practice the following breakfalls on a padded surface starting as close to the ground as possible (e.g. kneeling or squatting) prior to practicing a full-standing breakfall.

- Front breakfall - The forearms are positioned in front of the head with the palms facing away from the head. The forearms form a triangular shape, with the hands close together and the elbows wider apart. Spread the feet apart. Turn the head to the side to prevent striking the face. Fall forward only making contact with the ground with the hands, forearms, and feet.

- Side breakfall - Tuck the chin to the opposite side of the body to which you will be falling. Now, swing the leg on the side to which you will be falling across and in front of the body and then fall to the side, allowing the en-

tire side of the body to make contact with the ground. The arm on the striking side of the body slaps the ground prior to your body landing to absorb the impact of the fall.

- Back breakfall - Tuck the chin tight into the chest to avoid hitting the back of your head. Now, lean backward, bending at the knees until you fall onto your upper back (between your shoulder blades). Both arms strike the ground at the sides prior to your back touching the ground to absorb the impact.

*Ventriloquism*

Ventriloquism can be a great way to perform a partner routine solo by using the puppet as your assistant. I shall present a basic crash course in ventriloquism.

When speaking in your ventriloquist voice, you should hold your jaw slightly lower than normal, with your lips slightly parted. In this position, air and sound can escape from your mouth without moving your lips.

Now, recite each letter of the alphabet with your mouth in this position. Most people will find that your lips move when speaking the following sounds: B, F, M, P, V, and W. In order to prevent lip movement for these special cases, generally it is best to use substitute words and avoid these troublesome sounds entirely (e.g. use kid instead of boy in your script). If however, in situations where it is necessary to use these more difficult sounds, you may use the following table of sound substitutions to minimize mouth and lip movement:

Letter	Pronunciation	Example
B	Use the D sound	Boy is Doy, Bouncy is Douncy
F	Soft -th sound, as in the word think	Flowers is th-lowers, Fred is Th-red
M	-ng sound as in hang, or the n sound	Many is gn-any, Money is noney
P	Use the T sound	Happy is Hatty, Hungry is Tungry
V	Hard -th sound, as in the word there	Very is th-ery
W	Use the oo sound	Which is oo-ich, When is oo-en

If you are highly concerned about your audience witnessing your lip movement, it is possible to use extra make-up, turn the head, or use misdirection (e.g. surprise movement by the puppet) to distract your audience away from your face when pronouncing the more difficult sounds ventriloquially.

Once you have developed a fluency in speaking ventriloquially, work on your puppets’ character, personality, and voice. All of these characteristics should be in contrast to that of the performer to create the illusion of two very different people.

Please send comments and appreciations to:

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Follow Mike on Facebook at Fightandentertain or on my website at [www.fightandentertain.com](http://www.fightandentertain.com)

*Michael Stelzer holds post-doctoral degrees in project management and Team Leadership, doctorate degrees in Electrical Engineering, Paranormal Science, and Cryptozoological Science as well as a Masters of Business Administration. He began studying magic at a young age when he saw his first magician at the Eagles Christmas meeting. He is a member of the World Clown Association, life member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, Society of American Magicians, Genii Magazine, and the International Ventriloquist Society. Although new to the clowning world, he performs his magic, juggling, escape artist, or ventriloquist acts “Magical Mike”. Performance credits include Pandemonium at Oklahoma City, churches, and comedy clubs. He plans to perform his clown acts as “MADCAP MIKE”. His other interests include martial arts, professional wrestling, boxing, fencing, writing, and bodybuilding.*



# “HAT - T

— Ron Severini – (Official WCA Historian)  
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*I* believe a clown's hat is a very intricate part of his or her entire persona. Actually, I think a clown's hat can be one of the most, if not the most significant signature element

of a clown's wardrobe. Depending upon how it is worn, it can help increase expression, help to exude attitude and can certainly aid in accentuating punctuation of a clown's visual storytelling.

Cases in point ... just study Charlie Chaplin's use of his black bowler hat, Harold Lloyd's skimmer straw hat, and especially Buster Keaton's flat "pork-pie" hat. Each of these great film comedians' hats were a vital ingredient of their individual and iconic performing personalities. It's no different in the world of a clown. Just take a look at Lou Jacob's tiny fedora atop his elongated head piece, Bobby Kay's miniature, sequined, cone hat and Emmett Kelly's tattered bowler. Their hats became such an important component of these Master Clowns' comedic costuming. I surmise that all of these world-class funnymen searched for many years before they found the perfect headgear to adorn their notable noggins.

If you are new to clowning and you haven't already found your ultimate clown hat, then let me suggest that you go out, look around, and search to find your own one-of-a-kind topper.

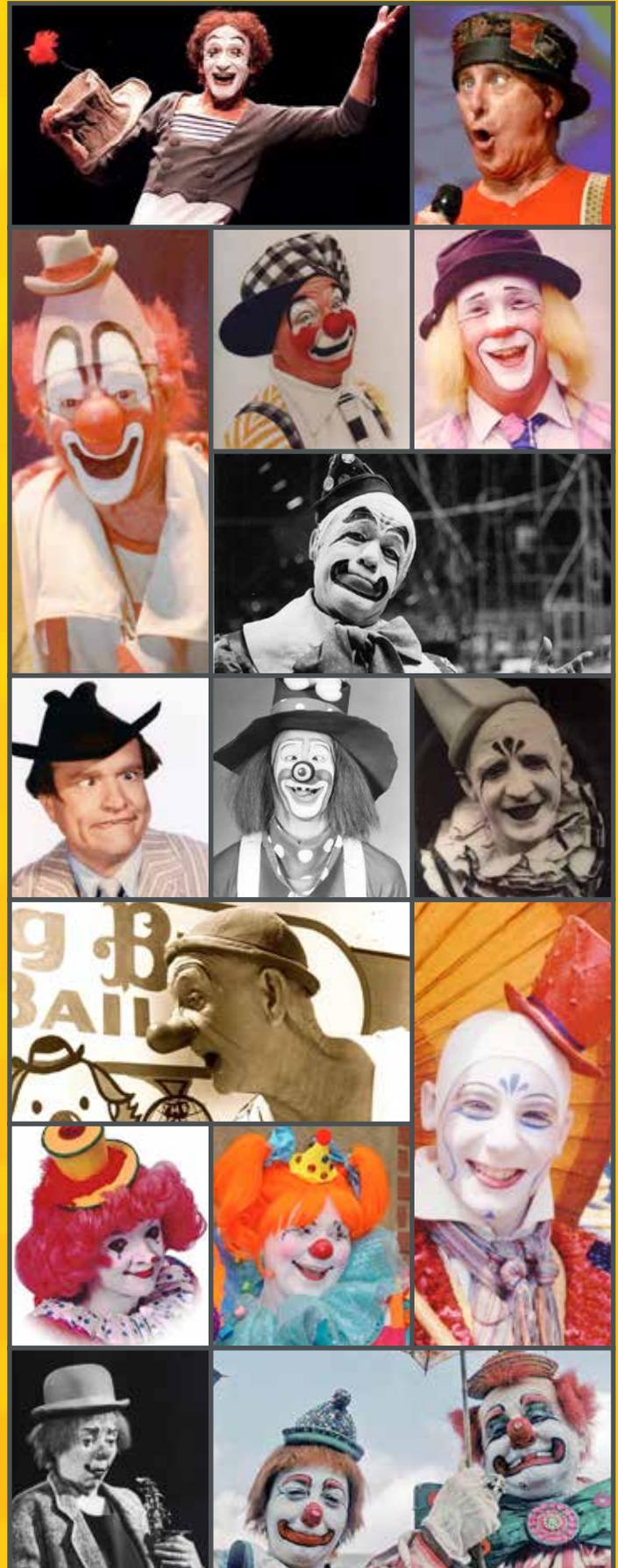
# ITITUDE

Try it on for size. Feel how it fits. Look in a mirror, make some faces, experiment, make some more funny expressions ... see if that one particular hat comes to life. Tilt the hat to one side of your head, then to the other. Wear it in the front of your head, then push it to back. Feel if it becomes a part of you. Only you will know if it's the ideal top for your head or not.

So, if you haven't found your perfect hat yet, keep searching ... you will find it ... or it will find you. Oh, also know, that if you are going to be a clown forever, be open to allowing your clown character to continually grow and evolve. Be cognizant of the fact that you might think that you have found the most perfect hat in the world. You may even wear it for several years and then, all of a sudden, you just might find an even better hat. Yes, that's right, keep your options open because one day a more perfect clown hat just might come along. When you do find that prized part of yourself, I suggest you wear your clown hat with ATTITUDE. I call it: "HAT-titude!"

Now, how does the search begin? Well, you can look for hats online, in costume catalogues, in costume shops, haberdasheries, men's or ladies hat departments, garage sales, antique shops, thrift shops, and even junk shops. I've gathered an assortment of photos of professional comics and clowns wearing their hats. Maybe these pix will give you some ideas of the unlimited possibilities. Please know that some clowns are very protective of their unique look and design of their personal clown make-up, clown costume and especially their clown hat... so please create your own character and try not to copy another clown's hat design.

As you can see in the photos attached clown hats come in assorted colors, shapes, sizes and materials. I've written this little poem about clown hats, in tribute to the many clowns that bring them to life.







## South East Asia Report

— Edmund Khong

(Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia & Taiwan)

I always have a habit of checking my last report before writing the current one. I have always been excited to share the fantastic growth and development of clowning in our region. At the time of writing this report, man, how everything has changed! We don't have to deny it: The COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted the lives of almost everyone on planet earth; some more than others; and the people in our region are no exception. Most of our clowns work full-time or part-time so the bans on live events as part of government lockdowns affect us deeply.

Many of us including myself, took the opportunity to learn new technology to engage our viewers and friends online. Some of us gave free online performances via Facebook and Zoom online meeting app. The Indonesian Clown Alley organized various online clown competitions by informing their members to post their competi-

tion performances online so that the public can also enjoy their acts and learn more about their local clowns.

Many clowns also got together to make compilation videos to inspire others. Au Young Keen Kiew and his son, Peter (*see photo*) roped into clowns from the region (Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Myanmar, Indonesia, and Taiwan) to do one and many of you have seen it at the WCA Members' Forum page on Facebook. Another compilation video that you all loved was made by Cinder Tsoi and the Good Clowns Ministry Team, a WCA alley in Hong Kong. They wanted to cheer up people who felt alone during COVID-19 isolation and quarantine periods. They have been doing a lot of good work for charity and elders in Hong Kong and other countries. Here's a sharing from Cinder:

(Minor edits just for clarity)

I read an article 'The clown ministry in Hong Kong' in a magazine, a long time ago. At that time, I thought that it was interesting that I have an opportunity to be a clown. Not long after that, I found a clown ministry course poster post on a corner of my church. My clown journey started; that was the year of 2002.

I accompanied with my clown classmates to form a clown team called 'Good clowns ministry team', we are not just doing clown ministry; we are caring clowns too.



We do clown shows in church, youth center, elderly center, kindergarten, school, University, hospital, jail, etc.

My clown name is Bonbon. I'm very happy to become a clown that I can bring JOY, LOVE and CARE to others. Previously I was a shy girl; I was afraid to talk with strangers, and it's great to meet new friends and to know more clown friends! I gained so much from clowning more than I expected.

The greatest reward as a clown is to see patients smile happily, to hear the cheering from the audience and the raised up hands of people (believe in Jesus).

I joined WCA since 2016, and attended the WCA convention in 2017. We're WCA 'Caring Clown Alley Hong Kong' since 2017.

Cinder Tsoi, "Bonbon" 🌸





## American Northeast Report

— *Nicole Portwood*  
 (Vermont, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts & Rhode Island)

Hi all, and hope this report finds everyone well! By the time you read this it will be July. I am hoping beyond hope that things will be back to some sense of normalcy, but I am sure there will be some residual effects, so if you are still finding yourself at home, I hope you will take advantage and make some new props, build a new show, make new contacts for gigs, work on a website, do whatever you always say you don't have the time to do!

Right now as I write this it is still the just the end of April. I only premise this report with that because, well, as we all know, we have all been in quarantine for a month and a half. None of us have done a whole lot due to the "social distancing" aspect of this COVID-19 global pandemic. We have experienced a myriad of disappointments with clowning including of course, no convention! We are not alone as virtually everything is being cancelled and continues to be so. Last announcement was Clown Camp at Viterbo University. I am hoping that the other camps later in the summer still have a chance, but, who knows. I know there is noth-

ing we can do about it, and obviously it is imperative that we continue to do what the experts tell us to do, and I pray our clown family does not suffer any sicknesses or deaths as a result of this horrible virus, but boy this all really stinks right?

I actually had a slow start to the year as usual and so I have only done a small handful of gigs and my alley, **The Bay State Clowns, Worcester County**, only had the chance to meet twice. We had a meeting in January with Blake Parhamovich doing some balloons for us and in February we did some story telling with Cindi Evans, both of which were mentioned in the last article, so, what else can I tell you? I can share that our own, Lisa Laconto, AKA Lee the Clown, is an employee of an elderly establishment and has been working VERY hard as



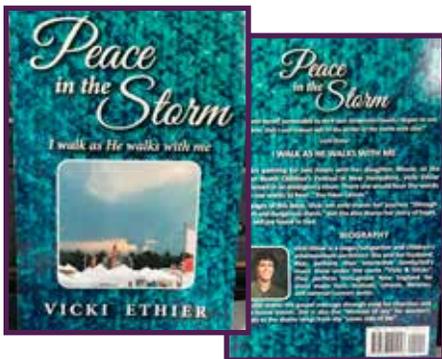
you can imagine. She did, however, even take the time to still don her clown attire and try and put a smile on her client's faces! Thank you Lisa for all you have been doing and will continue to do in the months ahead!

Hopefully everyone has been busy doing things they usually don't have time to do! I was actually the beneficiary of some entertainment items from a man whose loving wife, Vicki Ethier, passed away from cancer a couple of years ago. He finally had the courage to finalize some cleaning out of items she used to use and thought of me. I was given an awesome wagon, a face painting chair, TONS of balloons, pumps, bubbles, and so much more. I decided that some of the items deserved a home where they would really be used so the puppets I was given are going to



go to Elaine Vercellone and the **Smile Factory Clowns**. Vicki was an amazing, talented singer and performer who had started to incorporate some clowny aspects to her performance. Her “Noodle Daisy” character was a prominent fixture at fairs and this character used the adorable cow puppet. She also had a marvelous bright pink tricycle she would ride around in. She did balloons and face painting and was an all-around spectacular performer and person! Anyone who knew her was blessed to have her as a friend. She and her husband Rick, as Vic and Sticks, sang together doing all sorts of shows at the fairs, as well as for senior care facilities, churches, and anywhere else they were called to! The resume goes on and on, and the day Vicki went to heaven, the world lost a beautiful soul.

Why do I mention this? Well, this time of being stuck at home has given all of us a chance for some reflection, whatever that may be. For Rick, it was, “I need to finally part with some of these things”. For me, it was, “Wow, what an amazing community of performers that think of others and how best to spread joy with sharing.” He did not want any money for any of these things, by the way, but I insisted, and hoped he would use my donation to further spread love through Vicki’s



book she wrote, “Peace in the Storm”. It is her amazing story of courage as she fought her battle with cancer.

Rick often just gives these books away so I thought, that’s exactly what he could do with the money is buy more books. Now, as I write this, reflecting how much longer I will clown, (I am on year 36) and who can I think about passing on some of my clowning paraphernalia to? Yes, I have a few people in mind already, and they know who they are, no worries! Let me say that being a part of an alley, you always have connections and those connections are people who have a love of the clowning that you love. Your clowning can carry on and spread joy long after you decide to retire!

So I would love to invite you, especially if you are in the Northeast region, including, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, to contact me. We have several groups of clowns all over who meet regularly, do parades, have meetings and hang out learning all kinds of skills necessary to keep your clowning up to par, and regularly recommend one another for gigs! It is a win-win no matter how you look at it! What are you waiting for?

One of the groups you may find yourself introduced to is the **Granite State Clowns in New Hampshire**. They do quite a lot of events together and they even found themselves with at least one gig they will get to do! With the “6 clown feet” of social distancing, they will do a birthday party for Isabella, a Make a Wish recipient. This will be a surprise so hopefully it will be a day to remember. I am sure they

will have some photos for us next issue after they have done it. Great job guys! In the meantime, here are Lollipop (Pam Bridge), Kricky (Kristi Parker) and Foo Foo (Victoria Levesque) at the last festival that the Granite Staters did together before their normally busy gig season got cancelled. Also, they were able to hold their February meeting where they invited folks from Queen City Improv to play lots of improv games and had loads of fun!

**Donald Casey and his Pyramid Shriener Clowns** down in Connecticut, were at the Northeast Clown Institute in January where they practiced their make-up.



Previously we shared some other NCI Photos of the Pyramid clowns receiving awards. Donald was also the recipient of the Red Nose Award from officers of the International Shrine Clown Association.



This award is presented to Shrine Temple clowns achieving at least 150 hours in make-up and raising funds



to assist needy children receiving medical services through the Shrine

Clown Association Sneaker Fund. The Sneaker Fund provides financial support for research aimed at finding improved treatments and techniques for children with burn injuries at the Shriners Hospitals. Lastly, the Pyramid clowns were able to squeeze in one last event before the shut-down occurred and that was in Monroe, CT at the Winter Carnival held on

March 7, 2020.

That is about all the news I have for the NE. If I can help anyone living in this region regarding finding an alley or anything else, please don't hesitate to contact me.

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## Canadian Central Report

— *Charles Lauder*  
 (Manitoba, North West Territory, Nunavut & Saskatchewan)

It is the end of the world and I feel fine.

My goodness friends, family and clowns from around the world, what a year 2020 has been so far. And it is only half over! I hope and plead that you are all okay, safe and sound in your clown abodes across the world.

Up here in Canada, we may have a handle on the pandemic and chaos, but that doesn't make it any less weird or stressful. I know personally all the performances I had between March and September all vapourized, and I am left to day work and my own devices these past and coming months. Like you out there, it has been an adjustment. And not the best for my creativity or mental health.

But things will get better!

All this chaos and nonsense is for the greater good, and sooner rather than later we will be back in front the audiences we love, visiting our favourite children and grandparents, and bringing joy into the world as the clowns we are. But in the meantime? Well, I have some ideas.

First and foremost is take care of yourself. It is so easy to forget to eat properly, and get fresh air and exercise, and just let ourselves relax when the world is so tense at the moment. So walk around your yard, do some gardening, read a book, cook a nice meal. Take care of your self and your family first!

Second, and really everything seems to relate to self care in the end, is training! Specially if you find yourself trapped at home isolating. What better time then to practice your juggling skills, experiment with clown skit ideas, or perhaps play with new make up techniques. And the internet is an even bigger source for knowledge then ever. With many conventions being cancelled, and mentors still hungry to share their skills, tips and tricks. Whether you are seeking magicians, clowns, dancers, acrobats

and every other circus skill you can imagine, you are sure to find a video series showing you the ropes on the world wide web. I am thoroughly enjoying videos that the WCA has been throwing on their Facebook group page, the regular updates for the likes of Jeff McMullen, Charlie Frye and many others. Has even inspired me to do a weekly video myself with my children.

And finally, social distancing does not have to mean isolating. Even if you can't spend all night at your friends place, you can still talk all night long. Through video conferencing, texting and messaging and something old fashioned I am told called 'phoning people'. Multi user video chat systems can be great for visiting family and friends, and there are even those in our industry using video to perform for birthdays and audiences around the world!

To end this on a high note, we will make it through this bit of nonsense. And when we do the world will still need clowns, so keep your noses polished and have some fun in the future, and while you wait!

Bump a nose friends,  
 Charles Sleepy Lauder 🌟



## American Far West Report

—Karl Krohnes  
(Hawaii, California, Nevada, Arizona & New Mexico)

Since this is my first report as the newly elected Far West Regional Director, I'm still working on establish contact with clowns in the area. If you're a clown in California, I'd love to hear what you've been up to and share it here. For now, I am happy to report on the awesome clowns in sunny San Diego. We have two active alleys here, namely the San Diego All Star Clowns and the San Diego Clown Conspiracy.

In February, the All Stars were shining bright as they welcomed Circus Vargas to San Diego, and had the honor of being guest clowns taking pictures with the circus goers. They also brought smiles the best medicine



(laughter) to patients on a visit to Sharp hospital. In the monthly meeting, Bob Bon gave a presentation on applying her whiteface makeup. Bon



Bon, Grandma Huggs, and Banjo Belly have also been enjoying several classes in the virtual convention

The San Diego Clown Conspiracy started 2020 with an ASL Fiesta



Reading Workshop at the Mission Hills Library in San Diego. Tango, Lomax, Jiffy, and ToonUp twisted balloons, painted faces, juggled, and applied airbrush tattoos for children

and parents in the deaf and hard of hearing community. Jeffrey Hitchen also gave a presentation during the extended virtual convention on how to be a clown on Twitch. If you missed it, look it up on the WCA's Facebook page, and maybe we'll be seeing your happy clown face in cyberspace. 🌟





## American Southwest Report

— Dale Flashberg

(Utah, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma & Texas)

The Jolly Joeys Clown Alley has had a lull in their outside appearances.

I have kept in touch with many of the alley members. We are cleaning out our clown rooms, organizing the closets, and going thru all our props – Many of the comments are – OH, I forgot I have that. We are playing around with our props and using our makeup – trying on new faces.

I can't believe what I found in the back of my closet. And the duplicates I have – unbelievable.

As soon as things calm down, we will begin slowly clowning again, in small groups, I'm sure. It will be a different way of clowning – until everyone gets used to getting out and socializing again. We are Strong, We will be back in no time. We miss you all. Can't wait to 2021 – it will be a bigger and better year.

Dale PATCHES Flashberg, SW Regional Director, [patches@gwvc.com](mailto:patches@gwvc.com)

Colorado Clowns January to April, 2020 News for WCA

Colorado Clowns has been hit by snowstorms and COVID-19. We

were not able to meet in February due to snow, nor in April due to COVID. The St. Patrick's Day parade in Denver was cancelled by our Mayor due to COVID. Our 4 new Clown Graduates had their nursing home performances cancelled due to COVID. The World Clown Association (WCA) convention that was to take place in March in Jacksonville, Florida was at first postponed until September 2020, then was cancelled for 2020. It will take place in Northbrook, Illinois, outside of Chicago, next March 2021. What are our clowns doing during this strange Stay At Home time?

To backtrack, our Alley was able to meet at the Golden Corral in January for our annual Installation of New Officers. Our new and returning officers are: President: Lynn "Sprinkles" Imig; Vice President: Paddee "Molasses" Embrey; Treasurer: Rosalinda "Chica" Trevino; Secretary: Barbara "Nurse Patch It" Kaare-Lopez; Alley Coordinator: Eileen "Jelly Bean" Newman; Board of Directors: Frank "Whuffo" Bair; Shirley "Shuffles" Barbre, and Kathy "Sami Ann" Shook.

In March, we were able to hold our annual Flea Market. We usually sell our fleas, and bring home new ones, which is what I did. Our big news in March is we have 4 new Clown Graduates. They are: Mariah "Yaya" Kleffner; Nick "Freebones" Neisler; Abram "Abey The Clown" Palmer; and Michelle "Towanda" Healey. Her dog Tucker also performed with her in a skit, but also...shall I say... graduated. He is in training to be a therapy dog! How much are doggie dues?

Since 1972, this brings to 729 the grand total of clowns who have either attended our Clown College, and/or

were already clowns, and performed their skit, along with some preliminary clown work, to join our Alley! We look forward to participating in community events, and meeting monthly once it will be safe to do so. Be Safe!

Clown with shaving cream on face is Darryl "Goody Goody" Dugan. Then 4 new Clown Grads: Mariah "Yaya" Kleffner, Nick "Freebones" Neisler, Michelle "Towanda" Healey, & Abram "Abey The Clown" Palmer. On the right end is Lynn "Sprinkles" Imig, our Alley President



Written by: Barbara Kaare-Lopez, "Nurse Patch It", "Dame Bubbette", "Impi The Elf", and Secretary for Colorado Clowns

Hi everyone, I hope our wonderful WCA family is staying safe, healthy, and motivated during this down time! I have had it very easy since I work from home and was used to being inside most days. I am still home and working my full-time job. My part time job is on hiatus for the time being so, I am finding I have more time on my hands! I have been able to do a few focused things that I am excited about. The first being joining Red Nose Readers. I am in the process of ordering books and am in the process of playing with different ways of doing online reading. Showing the pictures can be hard because of lighting, glare, distance from camera. There are



so many things to consider ensuring that I have just the background I want and not the extraneous things around me! It is a new adventure that I am having a lot of fun doing. So far, I have posted two videos. I think my next step will be in doing the video and taking the time to do the editing so that I have it exactly as I want it. It will be more work but will be worth it! My goal is at least one per week during this time when I cannot be out clowning. I am also doing some story telling versus reading the book. That is a bit easier, I think! I have spent time also setting up my Instagram page, updating my Facebook page, and re-vamping my website. So, I have been super productive. My next goal is to begin putting together some new routines so that I can change my show up a bit. As a performer, it can get boring if you do not add new routines, so that is on my list! As I look to the future, I am hopeful and excited. I hope that all of you are too. Take this time to learn, grow, and look for the positive things that are going on in your life so that you can continue keeping a joyful heart! Be Well and Keep Smiling!

Diana "Buttons" McCurtain-Talbert,  
[www.buttonspartyevents.com](http://www.buttonspartyevents.com) 🌟



## Europe & Africa Report

— Neil Wilkin "Jester Jim"

(Germany, Middle East, Scandinavia, South Africa, Switzerland & United Kingdom)

At this time of the virus scare it has been interesting to see how others in England have continued clowning. Some have been performing at home and putting their performance on You Tube. I have seen friends tell-

ing stories they have written and others teaching simple juggling. One clown is working on Origami and planning to help people be creative at home.

Only this weekend a friend of mine John has set up a weekly session using simple action songs whilst he plays the guitar, followed by a skit on training for the Olympic games as a runner using his puppet monkey who told him he was too old to be an Olympian. This was followed by a story time which was aided by John juggling.

Could this be the way forward for Clowning at this present time? I hope not because a lot of us in the UK love performing in front of an audience. If you are like me we need this to keep our skills up to standard but hopefully improving all the time. It also gives us a better idea of what works in a workshop or show because you can see how the people attending react but also get feed back afterwards from your attendees.

One plus of using something like You Tube is, I suppose that we can see ourselves perform afterwards when our items are recorded which we would be unable to do otherwise. This should help us though see if we are delivering what we want for our customers or online followers. Hopefully it will generate new customers for us after the virus scare but also help us keep regular customers interested.

I would like to end by wishing all members across the globe well in this difficult time and to encourage each to use this time to hone our skills not to lose them.

It would be nice to network with more in our region in particular abroad. I can be contacted on [jesterjim.gym@gmail.com](mailto:jesterjim.gym@gmail.com) 127 Holyrood crescent, St. Albans Herts AL1 2LY England. 🌟

Share what your alley is doing in Clowning Around.  
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**Chicago 2021**  
**WORLD CLOWN CONVENTION**  
[WorldClown.com](http://WorldClown.com)

## November 2020

November 11-15, 2020

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Mankato, Minnesota

Be tutored by Randy Christensen & Angel Ocasio!

Limited to fifteen clowns!

[www.nextstepworkshop.blogspot.com](http://www.nextstepworkshop.blogspot.com)

contact Randy at [procomedy@earthlink.net](mailto:procomedy@earthlink.net)

November 12-15, 2020

### Mid-Atlantic Clown Association Convention

Red Lion Hotel

Harrisburg, PA

[www.midatlanticclownassociation.com](http://www.midatlanticclownassociation.com)



Hey Randy!  
Let's do a  
5 day clown  
event this  
Fall! I'll see  
you there!

-Angel

*Join us for 5 days of sharing, coaching, fun, inspiration and learning!*

### The Next Step Workshop

November 11-15, 2020

[www.nextstepworkshop.blogspot.com](http://www.nextstepworkshop.blogspot.com)

[www.nextstepworkshop.blogspot.com](http://www.nextstepworkshop.blogspot.com)

Email: [procomedy@earthlink.net](mailto:procomedy@earthlink.net)

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# 2020 SCHEDULE

## PUBLICATION / MATERIAL DUE

January 2020 / by 11-01-2019
March 2020 / by 1-01-2020
May 2020 / by 3-01-2020
July 2020 / by 5-01-2020
September 2020 / by 7-01-2020
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Full Page Inside	Color / Black & White*	\$225.00/issue	\$608.00/3 issues**	\$1,148.00/6 issues
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Please note the following guidelines when preparing your ad files for CLOWNING AROUND magazine. If in doubt, e-mail for clarification.

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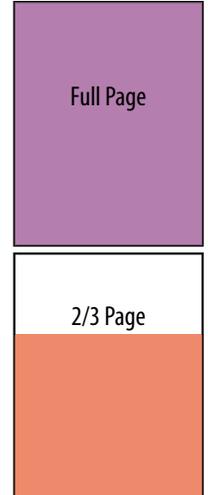
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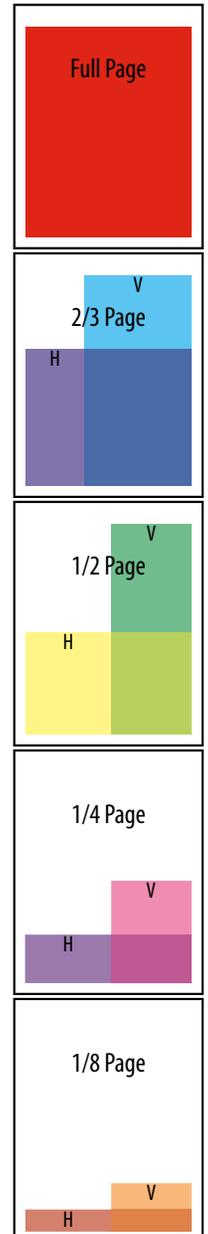
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Rich Snowberg 1987–1988	..... clowncamp@me.com, 608-796-1546, 14 Copeland Ave. Suite 101, LaCrosse, WI 54603	
Kenneth Gillespie 1988–1989	.....	113 SE 6th St., Minot, ND 58701
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Mary Beth Martin 1993–1994	..... Pokumhome@verizon.net, 512-864-2401, 117 Ridgewood Cove, Georgetown, TX 78628-4336	
Bill Lozon 1994–1995	..... billlozon@yahoo.com, 585-703-0317, 8 Sweet Jasmine Court, Columbia, SC 292290	
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Arlene Feen 1999–2000	..... jroxx@Bellsouth.net, 954-464-5013, 640 SE 13 St. Apt. 106, Dania Beach, FL 33004	
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Aurora Krause 2010–2011	..... bebopclown@hotmail.com, 210-410-0578, 661 Richfield Drive, San Antonio, TX 78239	
Joyce Payne 2011–2013	..... joytclown@att.net, 323-779-5770, 1246 W. 119 Street, Los Angeles, CA 90044-1106	
Deanna Hartmier 2013–2015	..... deedeetheclown@yahoo.ca, 204/781-8882, 207 Edgemont Drive, Winnipeg Manitoba R2J 3H6	
Randy Christensen 2015–2017	..... wcaclown@earthlink.net, 507/720-6306, 2117 Peregrine Lane, North Mankato, MN 56003	
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As a member and representative of the World Clown Association I commit myself to representing the art of clown in a professional manner.

1. I will strive at all times to provide children of all ages with fun, respectful, family-friendly entertainment. I will create a joyful experience for my audience, not causing embarrassment at another's expense.
2. I will present quality, friendly-looking, professional makeup and costuming and will maintain my clown character while in public view.
3. I will refrain from drinking or using any alcohol, tobacco products or drugs prior to or during performance or at anytime while in clown costume.
4. I will act appropriately and with respect towards each member of my audience and other performers. I will be courteous, not interfering with other acts, events, spectators or individuals.

5. I will remove makeup and costume after performance (when possible) to avoid any negative incidents which may be detrimental to the good name of clowning.
6. I will strive to understand and fulfill the expectations of event and program directors with a positive attitude.
7. I will continue to learn and become the best clown I can be.
8. I will promote clowning as family entertainment and respectfully oppose any use of the clown image in evil, violent or destructive ways.
9. I will gladly share my skills, knowledge and experience with fellow clowns in an effort to encourage and support a positive and united approach to the art.



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