

THE BIG TOP

Mid-Atlantic Clown Association Newsletter

JuneJuly 2019

He Just Asked Me To The

MID-ATLANTIC CLOWN ASSOCIATION
CONVENTION

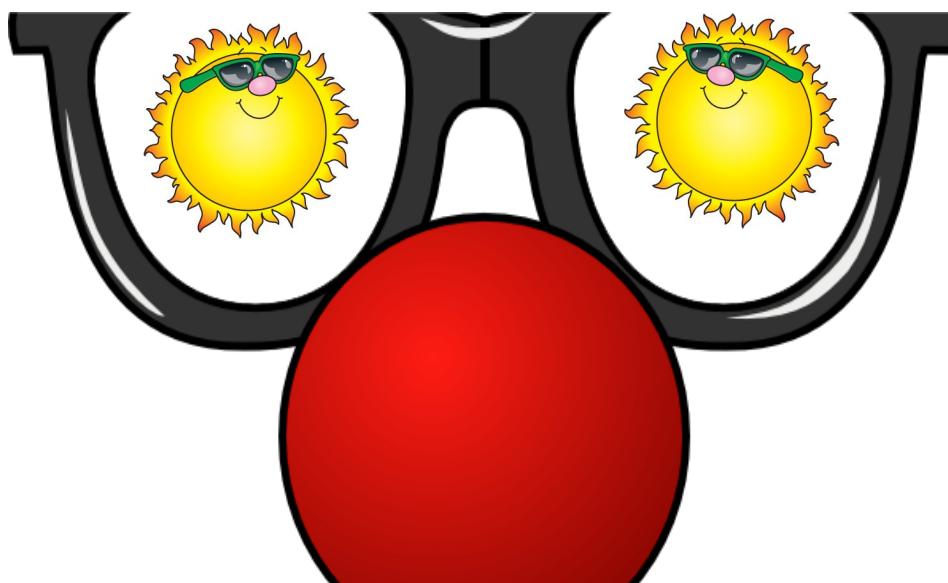
SENIOR
Prom

November 7-10

Red Lion Hotel
Harrisburg, PA



SPECIAL Registration Offer - See Page 6
"Skootchee's Birthday Registration Offer"



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Pat Stevenson
MACA President

Message from the President...

Heat, RAIN and humidity!

Hope you are enjoying the summer, but continue to think about all the cool things you will be doing at MACA this Fall!

Part of moving forward is continuing education and exposure to new and exciting things.

We have received inquiries from as far away as Nebraska because we do concentrate on education and sharing.

Our schedule is pretty much set and we will be having lots of hands on and participation lectures.

Bring your sneakers (tennis shoes) for a personal design! And don't forget your kazoo to embellish! (There are some rainbow chickens looking for a good home "on the other side of the road.)

Themes: Thursday will be our Reunion - skits and some music. (Bring your dancing shoes)! Friday is the Pep Rally - join the marching band and shake your pom-poms! Saturday, is the our Senior Prom and commencement! (you may interrupt "Senior" any way you wish) Gowns, tux, graduation gowns...you design it!



Instructors/lecturers are convention tested from Kidvention, WCA, COAI and other professional programs.

Top notch entertainment - Friday is the renowned Blues Brothers!

Saturday - Elmo Gibbs former RBBB clown and owner of the Teeny Weeny Circus.

The Circus Fans of America Association and the Circus Model Builders will be joining us this year. We will have circus models in the hotel for most of the convention. Please welcome these folks as they are making concessions to be with us. Registration forms are available! You can use Eventbrite to pay by PayPal (credit cards).

Hopefully you took advantage of our fire sale. If not we have one last savings opportunity! July 28th from 9 to 9 (Skootchee's birthday), the cost is only \$170. You must use Eventbrite for the sale. Prices go up on September 30th to \$195 and then again on October 31st to \$205.

Bump a nose and see you down the road,

Pat Stevenson

Patty Cake

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

By Bill "SHOBO" Schober
MACA Chaplain

Last Walk around ...

Lois M. Herman(1934 - 2019)

Lois M. Herman

Voorhees - (nee Himes) Passed away peacefully on May 11, 2019, surrounded by her loving family, of Voorhees, formerly of Bellmawr, age 84yrs. Beloved wife of the late Daniel. Devoted mother of Denise Herman, Daniel Herman (Christine), Cindy White (Ed) and the late Dawn Herman. Dear sister of Ted Campbell (Bill). Loving grandmother of Stephanie, Nicole, Michele, and Dan. Great-grandmother of Victoria and Olivia. Mrs. Herman was a long-time member and Deacon of the former First Presbyterian Church of Barrington. She loved to bring joy to others through the art of clowning for over 30 yrs. Known in the clown world as Ding-A-Ling, Lois was a member of Kapo's Gang as well as the Mid-Atlantic Clown Association, serving as Chaplain for many years...so many fun stories. When she wasn't clowning, Lois enjoyed crafts, handing out root beer barrels and spending time with her family.

MACA Education Director Message

Education is one of the cornerstones of the MACA Convention. It doesn't matter if you have been clowning for 6 months or 60 Years. It's your obligation to continue to grow, to learn, to improve in whatever part of the art form of clowning you do.

Again this year, we have put together a Buffet Bar of Topics. Look over the schedule, attend as many lectures as you can. One helpful hint I was reminded of by Keith Karas, a person I admire very much was taking notes during the lecture. Absorbing all the information at one time can be overwhelming. Writing down the key points will help you retain the knowledge you received. At balloon and face painting lectures, take pictures.

To me, a successful convention is, I walked away with at least One new balloon creation, One new magic trick, and One new idea to improve my performance.

Clowning is a performance art. Be it doing Balloons, Face Painting, Magic, Stage, Parades, and or Puppets. Each time, we need to be the Best We Can Be. When you are out and about in your Clown, you are not only representing yourself, BUT every clown in the World.

Never Stop Learning
Bob "Bunk" Gretton
Education Director

This Years Headliners !!!

It's the Family Duo of Dave and Dana Hill. Dave & Dana will be presenting FOUR Lectures and Performing at our Friday Night Dinner. Dave will be sharing with us "Magic So Easy a Caveman could Do It" AND "YMCA" "You Make Clowning Awesome"

Fun Bits & Walk-Arounds to make You or Your Group the Hit of Any Occasion.

Dana will be sharing his insight with "Balloons They Will Love" Puppy Dogs and Swords are a thing of the past. Find out new techniques to improve your ballooning and increase your revenue with not much extra work. AND "CSP" (Close Up, Stage, Parlor): Magical effects for all occasions. Be able to entertain no matter the situation with these audience tested effects that use minimal moves so you can focus on your performance.

Their Friday Night Stage Show is Outstanding. Father and Son at their Best. Mind Blowing Magic, Comedy, AND a Tribute to the Blues Bros.



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Red Lion Hotel
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Will You Be There?



If you follow face book, you will see that so many clowns and Alleys are very busy during the holiday season. Between performing, being an elf helping Santa or actually being Santa, our profession provides entertainment to those corporate sponsors right on down to the hospitals with children's parties, assisted living residents, and everyone else in between.

If you were at the convention this year, you heard about hospital clowning. You heard about ministry clowning. You heard about the Santa Character. You heard about balloons, face painting, and how to generally be the best clown you can be!

You can get most of this information from fb, you tube and other sites on line, but there is no better place to learn and grow than net working with others. As you sit in the sessions and see the reactions of others, you will know what little pieces you can adapt to your character or what you might want to change. Not every class is for you. But even if you think you will never use a skill being taught; artistry, technic, finesse and confidence can be gained.

Please consider the convention in November 2019.

Convention 2019

**Registration on Skootchee's
birthday is only \$170!**



*If you haven't
registered yet for the
Mid-Atlantic Clown
Association
Convention*

Senior Prom

*November 7-10 at the
Red Lion Hotel...*

*To get this special you
must go to Eventbrite
before he blows out
the candles!*

**Senior Prom Registration
July 28th from 9am to 9pm**

www.MIDATLANTICCLOWNASSOCIATION.com

YOU MUST USE EVENTBRITE

and MUST click on the special!

Convention 2019

This is a list of some of the lectures/topics at this year's MACA Convention.

Clown Games

I've got Your Back

Face Painting Bling & Unicorn

Create your own Clown Shoes & More

Wacky Walk Arounds

First Tie a Knot

Kazoo-Kazoo

Laughter Yoga

Doing Ministry

Unbelievable Magical Miracles

Funny Prop Shop

Beginning Juggling

Business of Children's Parties

Taking Your Clown Show from "Meh" to "Wow"

Time to get Physical

"CSP" (Close Up, Stage, Parlor)

Balloons They will Love

Magic So Easy

"YMCA" (You Make Clowning Awesome)

Working a Parade

Approachability

Dave & Dana Hill

Thom Stevenson

Keith Karas

Mary Ann Ross

Scott Correll

Teresa & Bob Gretton

Larry Etchison

Bill Schober

Alene Kraus

John Kral

Connie Morrow

Jim Donoghue

Susan Sanders

It's not too early to get the word out. Spread the word to local Alleys, Face Painters, Balloon Artists. Put the info on your Facebook page, Social Media.

Convention 2019

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Subject to change

Thurs 10:00	Vendor Set Up @ 9:30
Registration Open Lobby	Vendors Open @noon
Flea Market-Gently Used Items	
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12:00 LUNCH BREAK – Buffet in Hotel at Season's Restaurant OYO	
CAPITOL WEST LECTURE ROOM	CAPITOL EAST LECTURE ROOM
12:30 Welcome Meeting for First Timers	
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1:00 Big Bear Heads, Balloons	1:00 Magic So Easy
2:00 Shonna Flanigan	2:00 Dave Hill
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2:15 Clowning for People with Disabilities	2:15 Makeup/Critique
3:15 Thom Stevenson	3:15 Mary Ann Ross
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3:30 Create Your Own Clown Shoes & More	3:30 Funny Prop Shop
4:30 Connie Morrow	4:30 Scott Correll
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	4:45 Working A Parade
	5:45 Teresa & Bob Gretton
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6:30 Buffet Dinner in Ballroom	
Home Coming/Reunion Theme	
Hospitality Room and Jams follow	
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Convention 2019

Friday

CAPITOL WEST LECTURE ROOM	CAPITOL EAST LECTURE ROOM
9:00 Doing Ministry	9:00 TBA
10:00 Bill Schober	10:00 Susan Sander
	10:15 YMCA
	11:15 Dave Hill
11:30 Clown Games	11:30 Time to Get Physical
12:00 Larry Etchison	12:45 Keith Karas & Thom Stevenson

12:15 Laughter Yoga	
12:45 Bill Schober	
12:30	GROUP PICTURE PIE THROWING
	LUNCH BREAK – Hot Dogs in the Hospitality Room! \$5
	Or Hotel buffet in Season's OYO
2:00 Balloons They will Like	2:00 Face Painting Bling
3:00 Dana Hill	3:00 Susan Sanders
3:15 Approachability	3:15 First, Tie a Knot
4:15 Teresa Gretton	4:15 John Kral
4:30 Unbelievable Magic	4:30 Kazoo-Kazoo
5:30 Scott Correll	5:30 Alene Kraus
6:30	Buffet Dinner in Ballroom Pep Rally Theme – Join the Band! Entertainment by Dave & Dana Hill Blues Bros/Comedy Magic Hospitality Room and Jams follow

Convention 2019

Saturday

CAPITOL WEST LECTURE ROOM	CAPITOL EAST LECTURE ROOM
9:00 Business of Children's Parties	9:00 Wacky Walk Arounds
10:00 Mary Ann Ross	10:00 Connie & Jim
	10:15 CSP (Close Up, Stage, Parlor)
	11:15 Dana Hill
11:30 I've Got Your Back	11:30 Beginning Juggling
12:30 Teresa & Bob Gretton	12:30 Mary Ann Ross
12:30	LUNCH BREAK – Buffet in Season's OYO
1:30 Elmo Gibb	1:30 From "Meh" to "WOW"
2:30 Former RBBB Clown Teeny Weeny Circus	2:30 Keith Karas
3:00	General Membership Meeting
6:00	Senior Prom Banquet Sit Down Dinner Dress Formal/Semi Formal/Business Casual Elmo Gibb – Commencement Speaker

Sunday Capitol West

9:00am **Sunday Service** Bill Shober and others

Safe travels, see you down the road and bump a nose!

36th Annual Mid-Atlantic Clown Association Convention

Leonard Aylesworth Ring and Bob Dover/Peggy Williams

Tent Annual Banquet**



Convention November 7-10, 2019

Banquet November 9, 2019

Red Lion Hotel

4751 Lindle Road, Harrisburg PA 17111



To register, complete the form below by filling in the blocks on your computer, print out the form and send, with check made payable to MACA Convention, to: Dave Myers, 202 N Dupont Rd, Wilmington, DE 19805@ Dave email: clickerclown@yahoo.com. To use credit cards, go to Eventbright

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

Registration:

Full - \$185.00 thru 9/30/19

Daily Rates:

\$30.00 per day -Thurs or Sat.
\$60 Friday

Special one Day rate—May 15, 2019 \$155

Must be completed on Eventbrite

Full - \$195.00 thru 10/31/19

\$35.00 Thurs. or Fri. each night

Full - \$205.00 after 10/31/19

\$35 Saturday night
Convention Banquet and

MACA dues \$20

Leonard Aylesworth Ring/Bob Dover/
Peggy Williams Annual Banquet

Total registration : \$

**Check for Banquet tickets for CMB and Tent can be sent to Jim Rittle, 2 Oak Lane, Manheim, PA 17545 payable to Leonard Aylesworth Ring. If you plan to attend any other dinners or activities listed above, please complete the form and return to Dave Myers—information above. @ Use Eventbrite to use credit cards.

Hotel room rate - \$93.00 single per night includes breakfast. 103.00 double per night includes breakfast for two. Additional persons in room do not get breakfast tickets. You must reserve before 10/26/2019 to be assured this rate. If you make reservations thru Sunday and check out earlier, you will be charged a \$50 fee. (717) 939-7841. Easy on line check-in available

Double—Control + Click here to book: <https://reservations.redlion.com/ibe/details.aspx?propertyid=14193&nights=1&checkin=11/06/2019&group=MADD1106>

Single—Control + Click here to book: <https://reservations.redlion.com/ibe/details.aspx?propertyid=14193&nights=1&checkin=11/06/2019&group=MACA1106>

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

\$25 processing fee for cancellations before 10/01/19. No refunds after that date.

Face painting supplies and latex products will be used and sold at this convention.

All are welcome to attend, however, you must be an MACA member and have paid registration to participant.

Name:

Clown Name:

Address:

E-mail:

City:

Phone:

State:

First MACA convention?: No Yes

Convention 2019



The convention is being held at the Red Line Hotel In Harrisburg, PA

4751 Lindle Rd, Harrisburg, PA, 17111

Below is the links to make your hotel Reservations

[MACA CONFERENCE SINGLE](#)

[MACA CONFERENCE DOUBLE](#)

The convention reservation form will be available shortly.

MACA CLOWN ALLEY NEWS

RAMBLINGS OF A CLOWN

I'm back from COAI with way too many things zipping around my clown brain! It was wonderful to make new friends and reconnect with old friends. We are a rather small community in that we see many of the same people at a few conventions. Two questions always come up-What can we do to increase our numbers? How do we overcome the scary clown phenomenon? Some of the lecturers think that divesting ourselves of our clowniness will do the trick. You know-no make-up, no nose, maybe big shoes. I admit I've had to do a few gigs like this. Another possible solution was presented by Trisha Manuel/Pricilla Mooseburger. Pricilla Mooseburger is offering the Red Nose Readers Program with her usual "plowing forward" with a determined smile. She has experienced success with the program. It will be available online this fall. I plan to sign on because I believe we will change peoples' perspectives of our noble profession one clown at a time. Who else wants to give it a try? Could we take the course as a group? It is offered at Moose Camp too.

I'd love to see us be more willing to at least listen to ideas without saying that shut down phrase, "Been there, done that, doesn't work". Or. we always do it this way. Or, "that's not how we do it." That's maybe not the best way to get more clowns involved. We might want to be as nice to each other as we are to our clients. Just saying'... While I am on this roll- for those of us who have been clowning for a while, share your knowledge but do we need to hold a lecturer's class captive with our own experiences and opinions? If you want to lecture, offer a class.

I wonder what some of our opening lines are when we begin a party, a library show or any performance. Do we create fun with our interactions or do we only produce a balloon or cheek art or magic? What's our patter? Science tells us that when we can attach an emotion to an action we are more likely to create a memory. Which of us wants to create a memory??? We all know that answer-all of us! It would be great to have a platform to share the things that work for us! It would be awesome to cheer each other on and to openly share without judgement.

I know this article is rambling from topic to topic. COAI was very thought provoking. There is so much that makes what we do exceptional and each of us does it differently. We are a kind and talented group. Each of us has something to share. So, let's share!

Hopefully,
Alene Kraus

****ONE More Thing****

As we register for our 36th MACA Convention,
(which will be amazing) it would be great to also consider bringing a basket for our raffle.
You can always pair up with a friend and donate a basket together. Items do need to be new. Email Alene with
any questions at srateach@gmail.com. Thank you and see you in Harrisburg!

MACA CLOWN ALLEY NEWS

FREESTATE CLOWN ALLEY No. 30



See "the boys" at the CFA convention!



^ Skootchee in the Nation's Capital



Royal Hanneford Circus VA >



Kay Brock's agent suit ^

Nikolas Strubbe Kelly Miller Circus >

<Alley meeting with Bill Boots v



Kozy and EZ at Loomis Brothers Circus

<Miss Maryland in DC 4th parade



Lewis and Clark Circus ...

< ^Vandier Reis

MACA Information Center

or Things you may not know about MACA

CLOWN SEARCH

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

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

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

Clown name
Email address
City , State
Phone Number

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

MACA MEMBERSHIP

Looking for some help in your clowning career ?

Looking to meet some new and some well established clown ?

Join the mid-Atlantic Clown Association (MACA)

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

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

Changing the World One smile at a time



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

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

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

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





Clownatarian

The MACA is the only clown organization that gives a Clownatarian award every year and that's because, we made it up! Way back, when the MACA was being formed 30+ years ago, The Keystone Klowns, made up of several clowns that many of you don't know and most of whom are no longer with us on earth, decided they wanted to give an award to a clown for just being a great clown person. There was a gentleman who worked with new clowns and who on several occasions paid for registration fees, hotel rooms, etc. for clowns who were just starting out and did not have money to come to a convention. It was decided this fellow was a Humanitarian and hence the name Clownatarian.

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

Over the past several years, the selection committee has consisted of Nellie "Muffin" May (a founding member of the Keystone Klowns and the MACA), Darlene "Daisy" Morgan and George "Porgie" Caban. We have re-organized the selection committee to include more currently active members and have decided this committee will be made up of previous Clownatarian award winners that are currently serving on the MACA Board of Directors. Therefore, this year's selection committee will include Nellie May, George Caban, John Kral, Sandi Smith, Bill Schober, Bob Gretton, Ron Mount and Ryan Schwendel.

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

Please send any nominations you have for the 2019 award to me at dottheclown@comcast.net or to my home 169 Buckingham Dr., Southampton, NJ 08088 and I will see to it that the current selection committee receives your nominations.

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

Sandi "Dot" Smith

Scholarships

Scholarships are important!

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

We do not just “give it away”! We ask each applicant to provide information about their current abilities, their performance jobs, their clown group participation and their clowning goals. The application for the Willy from Philly Scholarship is attached.



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

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

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

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

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

Mid-Atlantic Clown Association
Willie from Philly Scholarship Application

1.Your full name, clown name, address and contact phone number.

2. How long have you been a clown? _____

3.What kind of clowning do you do? (hospital clown, caring clown, party clown, etc.)

4.What is your favorite thing about clowning?

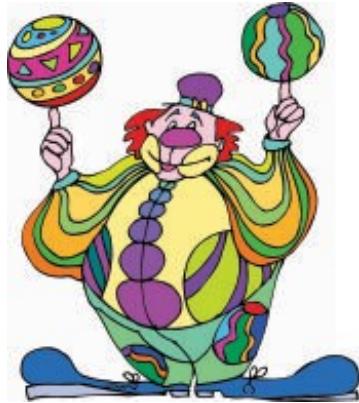
5.How are you hoping to expand your clown experience?

6. Are there any special skills you would like to learn?

7. Do you belong to an Alley? Which one? _____

8.Do you have a mentor? _____

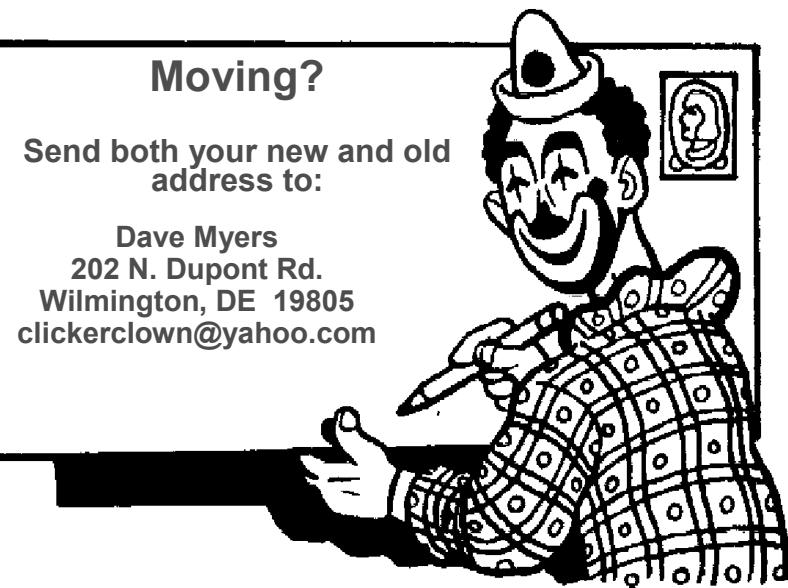
9.Do you belong to any other clown organizations? _____



Moving?

Send both your new and old address to:

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



"Anyone who has paid their dues for 2018/2019 and has not received a membership card please contact Dave Myers at 320-691-5804 or clickerclown@yahoo.com"

MID_ATLANTIC CLOWN ASSOCIATION INC.

2019 OFFICERS AND STATE DIRECTORS

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