

3-Ring News

Volume I, Issue 7

November 29, 2018

FORTY-FIVE YEARS! THAT'S A LOT OF ROUND-UPS! YOU DON'T WANNA MISS ALL WE HAVE IN STORE FOR YOU IN 2019 IN GRAND RAPIDS! MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!



The Hall of Fame Clowns did a great job hosting our 45th Annual Midwest Clown Association Round-Up in LaPorte, Indiana! A great time was had by all!! It will be hard to top, but our Mich-IN Possible clowns are gonna try their best!!! They are already diligently planning for 2019. And "word on the street" is that another group has already met with a hotel and will be making a bid for 2020!! Exciting things in store for the Midwest Clown Association and our annual conferences!!

Thank you, Hall of Famers, for a great Round-Up. Remember that you do not have to have a full alley to host a Round-Up. You can join with other alleys or just get a group of friends together who love MCA and want to make it the best it can be!! Don't like the location? Well, now's your chance to step up and decide where you want the next Round-Up to be!

In the meantime, get ready to live the "Disney Dream" and join us Oct. 15-20, 2019 in Grand Rapids, Michigan! You don't wanna miss it!!

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Disney Dreams

mascot Sneezel cordially invites you to join us October 15-20 for the



2019 46th Annual Midwest Clown Association Round-Up Conference



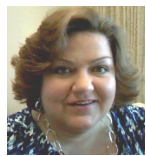
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AT THIS TIME

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NO PHOTO
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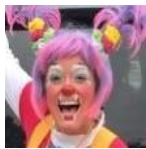


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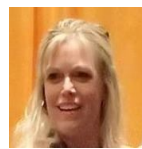


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**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
NEWLY INDUCTED MIDWEST
CLOWN ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE!**

JR. JOEY COMMITTEE

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Midwest Clown Association strives to recognize and reward not only those individuals who compete and win at conventions; but also those individuals, living and deceased, who have contributed time, effort and dedication to the Midwest Clown Association and the clowning profession in general. Since this is an MCA award, special attention is paid to those persons who promote clowning at the local level in the midwest, and particularly with regard to the MCA in its perpetuation and growth. Bruce “Blinky” Nelson is the 2019 Lifetime

Achievement Award recipient. Bruce has been a clown for over 57 years and was one of the founding fathers of the Midwest Clown Association. He has served terms as Chief Joey, Assistant Chief Joey and Sargeant At Arms. He co-chaired the first two MCA Round-Up conventions. He has competed, judged, and taught classes at Round-Ups, and has written several articles for the 3 Ring News! Bruce was recognized with a special tribute at the Lifetime Achievement Award luncheon held on Friday of the Round-Up. (LAA Chair John Joseph and then-Chief Joey Jim Caffrey are seen at right, presenting Bruce with a special plaque to commemorate the honor.)



GREAT JOB!

By Marilyn “M.T. Pockets” Barrett

Hey, how about a huge shout-out to the Midwest Hall of Famers for the 45th Round-Up. Nice job! It was wonderful to see the Hall of Famers giving back to the association in such a beautiful way. Sometimes, such an honor is bestowed on a person and they walk away from the group, and never look back. It was absolutely fabulous to see our Midwest Hall of Famers in action. Each person had a responsibility, and it was amazing to see them step up. Classes, theme party, auction, table decorations, hospitality, church service, just to name a few. It was a privilege to see you perform and work together to make the Round-Up successful.



The MCA Hall of Fame Award recognizes those individuals in the Midwest who excel in competitions. For more information on Hall of Fame eligibility or requirements, contact Chair Sandi Christie (contact information on page 2) or visit our website. There were no Hall of Fame inductees for 2018...will YOU join our Hall of Fame in 2019? Check your points and get your application in!! Deadline for application is May 1st.

Hail To The Chief!

By Marilyn "M.T. Pocketts" Barrett

At the recent Midwest Clown Round-Up, Jim Caffrey stepped down from the position of Chief Joey after 8 years of unselfish service. There was very little fanfare of appreciation because Jim is a very humble man. The Midwest Clown Association has been very lucky to have had him as their Chief Joey. He first served as Assistant Chief Joey, then Chief Joey, and then proceeded to repeat his term for another 4 Years. One term is usually enough for any man, but Jim is not by any means an ordinary man.



Besides serving in his leadership roles, what most of us don't see is what goes on behind the scenes. Jim and his wonderful bride pay very close attention to detail so that the Round-Up is conducted in a professional manner. Have you ever noticed or been at a Round-Up when Jim arrives? It is like watching a little boy and his wagon carefully and meticulously make several trips from his truck to his room bringing stage piping, banners, stands, often sound equipment, duck tape, printers, projectors and various other miscellaneous supplies to our conference. This has helped Midwest save hundreds of dollars from the hotel because Jim made the effort to make it happen by often building or creating a fix so we didn't have to pay to get it done.

When the Round-Up is over, and everyone is preparing to leave, there are Jim and Jamie quietly and effortlessly packing up the little wagon, then the truck, as they prepare for the journey home. They function as a well-oiled team: Jim the clown, Jaime as Clown Support. We were fortunate to get a "two-fer."

I have seen Jim grow over the years into his leadership roles. He has also been inducted into the Midwest Clown Hall of Fame, Lifetime Achievement, held various officer positions within his own Alley, the Quad City Clown Troupe, and served as Convention Director for COAI. He loves clowning and is dedicated to clowning. He never hesitates to step up. Well, maybe you can catch him taking a glance at his wife for approval before he volunteers the "team" for yet another activity, but usually he does get the winning smile and favor of the First Lady to go ahead.

On behalf of the Midwest Clown Association, "Thank you, Jim and Jamie, for your service to Midwest. Thank you for your dedication and all that you have done and accomplished for the Midwest. Your efforts were very much appreciated!"

***NOTE: The 3-Ring Editor HEARTILY agrees, and also wishes to THANK Jim and Jamie for ALL of their hard work and encouragement!!**



Editor's Choice Award

Merilyn "M.T. Pocketts" Barrett entered the clowning world in 1978, with an initial interest to incorporate clowning in safety and drug awareness programs. Formerly a corporate security investigator, the safety programs assisted her in making a positive contribution to give back to the community. She took over as editor of the Three Ring News many years ago from creator Gene "Cousin Otto" Lee, and graciously gifted the newsletter to the Midwest Clown Association last year, to be used as the organization's official newsletter. She is a member of MCA, World Clown Association and Clowns of America International, on whose board she also serves. She provides photography services for all three organizations (and others), as well as teaching classes for each organization's conferences. She also serves on staff at Clown Camp (Wisconsin).



This year, we presented Merilyn with the first "Editor's Choice Award" from the Midwest Clown

Association, presented to those who contribute greatly to the *3-Ring News* publication.



Thank you, Merilyn for your efforts over the

years to make *3-Ring News* the publication it is today! Congratulations!! We appreciate you!

WINNERS, WINNERS, EVERYWHERE!!

WHITEFACE MAKEUP CATEGORY

TRAMP MAKEUP CATEGORY



1st PLACE
Pat Bowers

NOTE: According to our competition rules, when there are a limited number of contestants in a category, each entrant is scored as an individual and must receive a certain percentage of total points available to qualify for a first place medal. That is why you may see only one award winner in a category, and even no first place award winner. It depends on the number of total points they receive. Individuals are also allowed to participate in competition judging for a "critique" only, and therefore, may have received sufficient points for a medal, but are not part of the award ceremony. If a contestant arrives late for the competition start time, they may be disqualified, but can still participate for a judges' critique.



1st PLACE
Lynette McDonald

AUGUSTE MAKEUP CATEGORY



1st PLACE
Irene Spudic



2nd PLACE
Juan Reyes



3rd PLACE
Gloria Sterrett

MORE MARVELOUS MAKE-UP!!

CHARACTER MAKEUP CATEGORY



1st PLACE
James Kuhn



2nd PLACE
Luan Hanewall



3rd PLACE
Roberto Ramirez

FACE PAINTING CATEGORY



2nd PLACE
Juan Reyes
"Chupacabra"



Going, Going, GONE!!

By Marilyn "M.T. Pockets" Barrett

Oh my gosh!! Did you go to the Auction? What a great auction it was! There were a lot of goodies that went for bargain prices. Special thanks to Frank Bunton, Clowns of America International Midwest Representative, for his generous bids during the Auction. Frank was a riot with all of his antics to keep his rival from winning the generous Alley baskets. He was hilarious to watch. Many of you may not know, Frank turned around and gave away many of the items he bid on. Frank is very supportive of Midwest, and in keeping with his generous personality, he enjoys the entertainment of the auction and is a real instigator of adding fun and spirit. Thanks, Frank.



YOU'VE GOT THIS! DON'T BLOW IT!!

BALLOON COMPETITION (Each entry consists of 2 sculptures...a single and a multiple/combo)



1st PLACE

Sandra Seymour

SINGLE

"Baby Dragon"

MULTIPLE/COMBO

"Dragon"



2nd PLACE

Juan Reyes

SINGLE

"White Dog"

MULTIPLE/COMBO

"Clown"



3rd PLACE

Roberto Ramirez

SINGLE

"Bunny"

MULTIPLE/COMBO

"Teddy Bear"

JR. JOEYS HAVE WHAT IT TAKES!

JUNIOR JOEYS MAKE-UP COMPETITION



SILVER

Mary Anderson



SILVER

David Hess

1st PLACE/GOLD

“Face Painting”

David Hess



JUNIOR JOEYS PARADEABILITY

AFTER-THOUGHTS OF A ROUND-UP

By John “Luther” Hanewall

Were you one of the fortunate people to attend the 45th MCA Round-up in LaPorte, Indiana this year, or did you unfortunately miss it for whatever reason? In either case, allow me to share some post Round-up “after-thoughts” or reflections.

If you are like me, you have already shared pictures, videos, funny stories and posts on Facebook and other social media venues. You are probably still putting away costumes, props and all the other things we haul to the Round-up. And if you are like me, you have already begun thinking about the 46th Round-up in Grand Rapids in October 2019. But before we all get too far ahead, here are some of my “after-thoughts” on the 45th Round-up, not necessarily in any order.

This year’s Round-up was a great time for many reasons. The opportunity to see, what many of us refer to as, “our clown family”, is worth the trip. While many of us keep track and follow each other via Facebook, the opportunity to catch up face-to-face is so much better.

The theme party, put on by The Krazy Clown Klub, with all the simply, yet fun and entertaining games, was a great way to kick off the week, although some of us may be pushing our physical limitations with games of Twister and Musical Chairs.

The Hall of Fame Showcase, which in this writer’s opinion, should become an annual tradition, was excellent. As a spectator, it was great seeing so many quick skits and the HOFers highlighting their skills and sharing their entertaining abilities. Comments from the crowd and throughout the week were nothing but positive.

For those of us who were there, watching Terry “Jinx” Sherwood-Awald ad lib when her music failed (numerous times) was not only hilarious, but an actual lesson in how to make the best of a bad situation. A comedy master couldn’t have done it better.

EVERYBODY LOVES A PARADE!

SINGLE PARADEABILITY COMPETITION



1st PLACE
“Walking Jumbo”
Irene Spudic



2nd PLACE
“High Five”
JoAnn Martinson



3rd PLACE
“Ball Around”
Juan Reyes

GROUP PARADEABILITY COMPETITION



1st PLACE—“Clown Grill Team”
Pat Bowers, Dorine Thibideau, Pam Turpin, Terry Awald, Lynda Hayhurst



2nd PLACE
“Robot Repair”
James Kuhn, Lynette McDonald



3rd PLACE
“Hello?”
Darlene Malkow, JoAnn Martinson

ARTISTS EXTRAORDINAIRE!

SINGLE SKIT COMPETITION



1st PLACE
 "Tight Rope Walker"
 Heather Buchmeier



2nd PLACE
 "Dance Studio"
 Harry McCullagh



GROUP SKIT COMPETITION



2nd PLACE
 "Ta-Da!"
 John & Luan
 Hanewall



1st PLACE
 "Loaded Up"

Darryn Chupp,
 Lorelei Jacobs,
 Patti Ummel



3rd PLACE
 "Potatoes"
 Darlene Malkow,
 JoAnn Martinson



PERFECT PERFORMANCES!



ALLEY SKIT TROPHY WINNERS

Krazy Clown Klub—"At the Movies"

Patti Ummel, Darryn Chupp, Lorelei Jacobs, Deanna Jacobs,
Jennifer Ummel, Irene Spudic, Jan Bohan

AFTER-THOUGHTS OF A ROUND-UP

(continued from page 8)

Hats off to two marvelous MCs, Tom Cass and John Joseph. Let's face it, we're a tough crowd, but these two gentlemen kept us entertained, made us laugh, and did a marvelous job on those nights. Three cheers to both of you.

While competition numbers/entries were down, those who did compete did a wonderful job. It was very evident how much work and practice each competitor put into their costume, skit, and/or skill. Let's hope we see an increase in competitors next year. And thank you to Robbie and Annette for another year of serving as Competition Directors and a well run week of events. I don't think people realize how much behind the scenes work you two do.

Finally, although not the last "after-thought", as there are far too many to list, kudos to Jim Caffery, who has given our organization his heart and soul serving as our Asst Chief Joey and Chief Joey. Jim's commitment to the MCA is upfront and beyond comparison. If each of us make half the commitment to our organization that he has made, we will grow the MCA and see it continue in its glory.

Best wishes and thanks for all the memories and "after-thoughts"!

P.S. For those of you who were there and may be wondering...I spoke with "Luther" and due to some fabulous door prizes, he now has some balloons....just in case you run into "Wink" and he asks.

SEE ANYONE YOU KNOW???



*****All award winner photos courtesy of Marilyn Barrett, Photographer to the Clowns!! Other candid shots provided by various members of MCA.***

2019 Midwest Clown Association --- 46th Annual Round-Up “Disney Dreams”

WHEN: October 15 – October 20, 2019
WHERE: Crowne Plaza Grand Rapids- Airport
5700 East 28th Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-957-1770

* Shuttle service available to and from Airport

Room Price: \$89.00 (Plus applicable fees and taxes)
In order to receive the “Disney Dreams” Room Rate
Reservations **MUST BE** received by the hotel on or before
Monday, September 2, 2019
YOU MUST INFORM THE HOTEL YOU ARE WITH the
MCA – DISNEY DREAMS

Questions: Call Hazel Ovanin at 248-431-5794

NOTE: Any special needs **MUST** be made to Mark Ovanin
No later than July 8, 2019.

Mark Ovanin: 248-431-5768

October 7 2018 - February 28, 2019 - \$150.00
March 1, 2018 - August 31, 2019 - \$165.00
September 1, 2018 and at the door - \$175.00

Name: _____
Clown Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Meal Choice: _____ Meat _____ Vegetarian _____ Gluten Free

Make checks payable to: “Midwest Clown Association”
Send Check or Money Order to: **Mark Ovanin**, 4830 Fox Creek East #117, Clarkston, MI 48346

No Refunds after September 8, 2019 Returned checks will be assessed a fee of \$45.00



Look for our
2019 Mascot
“SNEEZEL”

Special Guest:
Sean Carlock





The Midwest Clown Association is one of the oldest organized clown associations in the country. The MCA serves the educational needs of clowns and alleys in a 7-state region, including Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin. Each fall, one of our member alleys serves as host for a five-day convention, called the "Round-Up," where clowns from all over the Midwest (and some from outside the Midwest) gather to learn, educate, compete, share, socialize, energize, and promote the art of clowning. The 3-Ring News is now the official newsletter of the Midwest Clown Association and all rights and responsibilities belong to the organization.



Visit our Website at:
www.midwestclownassociation.org

For questions about the 3-Ring News, to submit an article, or to submit other information for publication, please contact the editor, Angie Gonzalez, at angela.gonzalez@indy.gov or 317-840-1583. See below for submission deadlines.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 1, 2019—Round-Up Registration Rate increases
 March 1, 2019—Lifetime Achievement Nominations Due
 May 1, 2019—Hall of Fame Applications Due
 May 18, 2019—MCA Spring Meeting 10:00a.m. (Grand Rapids)
 Sept. 1, 2019—2nd Round-Up Registration Rate increase
 Oct. 15-20, 2019—46th Annual MCA Round-Up (Grand Rapids)

3-RING NEWS UPCOMING DEADLINES

ISSUE DATE	DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS
January 25, 2019	January 18, 2019
March 29, 2019	March 22, 2019
May 31, 2019	May 24, 2019
July 26, 2019	July 19, 2019
September 27, 2019	September 20, 2019
November 22, 2019	November 15, 2019

IF UNDELIVERABLE, PLEASE RETURN TO:

Midwest Clown Association
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 Indianapolis, IN 46219

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