

KLOWN KLATTER

Official Newsletter of the Western Region Clown Association

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October 2009

Newsstand price \$852.12, A lot less with WRCA membership

From the President
Jay Anthony

Vice President
Matt Akers

It's that time again. Another year and another convention and another week with my clown family. I look forward to our time together. It'll give me time to catch up on everything that's happened over the last year.

I'm very impressed with the job everyone's done in preparation for this convention. A lot of work has been done by many people. I'm sure this year's convention will be as good as or better than any of the past conventions.

Suds has lined up a fantastic group of vendors this year. If you need it, you'll find it here this year.

We've an all-star lineup of instructors that are ready to teach us everything they know. The instructors will be teaching everything you need to add to your skills in clowning.

It's time for a personal note. Judy Anthony, who would be my wife, after many years as our registration person is stepping aside to take a well earned break. Our convention would not be what it is today had she not been there to keep me in line. She's always been there when we needed her. I'm also sure she'll be there to help when needed. Let her know how much we appreciate her. Remember to give her a pat on the back and an atta-girl.

I'll see you real soon.
Be Happy,

Jay Anthony

Chocolate: the OTHER major food group.

I am not a vegetarian because I love animals. I am a vegetarian because I hate plants.

Hi all!

What an exciting year! I'm looking forward to this year's convention. I hope you got on board with preregistration. It's time to call your friends and start practicing for competition! (This is a reminder if you're not thinking about what to do in competition, START!) With Home Depot across the river we can make some outrageous props. I remember the 1st year at W.R.C.A. On the way to Laughlin, I found a dog puppet at Las Vegas Airport, put it in a box and made a dog dishwasher paradeability prop titled "the Jiffy Dishwasher." We are fortunate to have so many resources as close as we do to the Riverside. Some of the best ideas come from conventions, well, most of the best ideas come from convention. Don't forget to check out the Hat Company across the street at the mall.

So, see you all "Far, far away, behind the moon, beyond the rain" at our "SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW."



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The KLOWN KLATTER is published for the education and enjoyment of the Western Region Clown Association membership. Editorial policy is to avoid any negative statements or personal attacks on or about any member or officer of ANY clown organization.

You can email your notices and comments to the Editor at jayanthony3@cox.net. Or go to the website <http://westregionclowns.org> and send a message from there.



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Oregon
Lee Wheeler

Hidee Ho fellow jesters,

The classes and schedule are firming up and it looks like another fabulous convention. Unfortunately there are only about 51 classes that you will have to choose from and I don't envy your decision making. We have made Monday a Face Painting Day, just as Tuesday is our Twister Tuesday extravaganza. There are classes for the beginning clown as well as the more advanced. We are fortunate to have Debbie Henry this year, sharing her gospel, hospital and caring clowning. Best check the schedule to see the full line-up of fabulous teachers and classes.

I did not think the little town of Roseburg, Oregon had any real clowns, until I ran across a family that clowned in Portland and have since moved down here to Roseburg. Hopefully, I will find more clowns as I become acquainted to this strange area of green and trees. After 22 years in the desert of Yuma, AZ, I am still amazed to actually see green and it actually rains here in Oregon.

I am looking forward to seeing our WRCA family again in November. Love to you all,

Lea Wheeler,
Education Director and Oregon Rep.

Last Walk Around

Born January 9, 1955, Doug "Maynard" Wright, who won 2nd Place Hobo Tramp at WRCA a few years ago and was also a whiteface named "BeBop," had his last Walk-Around September 13, 2009.

He volunteered regularly at Swedish Hospital as "BeBop" but was usually (silent) "Maynard" at parades. He was buried as "BeBop" on Sept. 17th.

His funeral was attended by over a dozen members of the Colorado Clowns who dressed out and many more alley members that did not dress out. We miss you, Dougie!

Who is General Failure and why is he reading my hard disk?

Southern California
Ann Larson

What a wonderful summer (except for the recent fires in California). For 5 months every year I run away from the heat of Palm Springs to the cool mountain city of nearby Idyllwild. Actually, this is closer to our alley in Hemet too. This year there are lots of us Happy Clowns who will be attending convention and many are competing. Are you? I hope everyone has a cool costume idea in mind for the theme party.

Maybe you can't do anything with your hair, makeup, shoes have holes in the soles, costume is looking tired, paints are drying up, balloons popping, doing the same old act? Well...our convention in Laughlin is the place to go for repairs, updates, replacements, new ideas, fun and excitement. Visit my table at registration and I'll give you a free face lift (a SMILE)!

Ann "Ana-Banana" Larson
760-641-4288

Treasurer
Candy Will

Hi WRCA Members!

I'm really looking forward to another great convention this year! Lots of registrations are coming in! Don't forget to get yours in so we can all get together and have a great time "Over the Rainbow"! Hmmmm, I'm thinking "Rainbow Brite", whadda ya think?

Summer has been kind of slow for my clowning as I'm sure for some of you also this year, so I'm hoping there will be some good insights as to how I can market myself better in these trying times. Here's to looking forward to better clowning in the near future. Hope to see you there!

Candy Will
Butterscotch the Clown
WRCA Treasurer

Southern Nevada
Dollie Circle

Hey Southern NV WRCA clowns!!

It's been a hot summer and now's the time to think about cooling off at "the river". Get out your suitcases, dust'em off and pack 'em up! We're going to have a great time at the Riverside in Laughlin again this year.

Don't forget your theme party costumes. I know there are going to be some imaginative ideas for this one. (As there always are.)

Put on your smiles and howdy-doo's to all the new and old clowns coming this year. Our leaders have worked hard planning and organizing everything for us. I know we'll be having a good time and learning a lot as always. So much to do, so little time it seems.

I can't wait to see everyone again, old and new. Please stop by my table and sign my guest book. I'll try to answer any questions for you, so hope to see you at registration.

Stay cool, be happy!!!
Dollie-Wollie

Drink your coffee; there are people in India sleeping.
An unemployed court jester is no one's fool.
As I said before, I never repeat myself.
Bigamy: one wife too many. Monogamy: same thing.

REGISTRATION GUIDE
Judy Anthony

Hello to all who will attend the 2009 Convention.

Anyone attending class(es) must be registered either for the full convention (\$120 for adults, \$50 for juniors age 6-17) or for a Day Pass (\$50 per day, \$25 for juniors). It's best to register in advance by mail (check or money order – use registration form or flyer at our website) or you can at the door (cash, check or money order). **Sorry – no credit cards.**

Everyone starts the convention in the Starview Room. **Registration times are from 5 to 7 PM on Sunday, Nov. 8th (best) or Monday or Tuesday from 7 to 9 AM.** Please let me know by November 5th if your arrival won't let you check in at one of those times (Judy Anthony, 602-279-8008 or judyanthony3@cox.net).

The full convention price includes the banquet. Your packet will have a banquet Voucher that you need to trade for a ticket showing your menu choice. **Select your seat on the table charts and mark your table number on your ticket during registration, no later than Tuesday at 9 AM.** Guest banquet tickets will be sold for \$35. **If you won't be attending the banquet, PLEASE return your Voucher to registration or give it to someone who will use it.**

Discount tickets for the Riverview Buffet restaurant will be sold Sunday night and Monday and Tuesday mornings at the registration desk. If you have Buffet tickets left over, we will buy them back at the same price after the General Membership Meeting Thurs.

Colorado
Molly Kleeman

Did you miss me? I'm sorry I didn't manage to get anything written for the last Klatter!

While this year has flown by, it's been too long since I've seen you! I'm really in need of that jumpstart that the convention always gives me. I don't know how entertainers that don't go to conventions stay invigorated. Even if I don't learn ANYTHING new in the classes (like that could happen) just being around all of you for the week hones that edge that I need to keep up with my competition. I couldn't keep

If at first you don't succeed, try left field.

clowning year after year without all of you.

It looks like a really great line-up this year with David Ginn and Steve Kissell. If you have yet to make up your mind whether to come or not, believe me it *will* be worth your while. Send in your registration NOW!

Contact me at 303-798-9933 or TheClown@skiddles.com if I can answer any questions or help you decide to come!

Your Pal,
SKIDDLES

Arizona

Russell Cornell

Attention Arizona Clowns,

White faced, Auguste and Mimes, oh my! Step right up and see the most amazing array of rainbow colors you'll ever see in one place. I'm talking about the 2009 WRCA Convention of course. So follow the yellow brick road, folks, or any road that will lead you to Laughlin, Nevada. There you will be transported to a magical land full of phenomenal fun and wonderful wizardry. After you register on Sunday, be sure to come see me at the Arizona table for your bag of tricks and treats. If you arrive in Laughlin early, we could use your help setting up the hospitality room. If you get there late, we could use some help taking it down. Give me a call if you can help at (928)-775-0532. The Arizona Clowns are hosting the hospitality room this year, so let's show them how "Grand" our Grand Canyon state clowns really are! Please don't miss the convention this year cause there's no place like WRCA! There's no place like WRCA! Oh I said that already, didn't I?

Your Navigator of Nonsense
Russell "Wing-Nut" Cornell

Utah

Tom Butte

Hi there,

Greetings to all the new people that will be here for the first time. I know that you will enjoy our wonderful convention. To all the regulars or irregulars it will be nice to see you again.

I think that there will be a lot of Ozs and the yellow brick road will lead us to great classes and of course the wonderful vendors.

Utah will have some new faces and some well used faces there. Our GREAT and WONDERFUL leaders are awesome. So get packing and avoid the rush.

See you there.

Your friend in life and balloon art,
Tom "Sammy T" Butte

Always try to be modest and be proud of it!

SHUTTLE FROM LAS VEGAS AIRPORT

Call Tri State Super Shuttle for reservations at 800-801-8687. You must tell them you are with the WRCA Clown Convention to get a special discount rate of \$39.95 each way between Las Vegas airport and Laughlin, Nevada.

L. A. Rep

Joyce Payne

Hello Fellow WRCA-ers,

Before we know it, the holidays will be here and, hopefully, lots of holiday shows. This year I am preparing way ahead, starting like right now. So, let me share a few tips I use for converting just about any routines I am currently using into a theme show. Hope these tips help to fill your calendar with holiday shows!!!

Colors: Every holiday can be represented by a color. Colors also transcend age, vocabulary and language barriers. Wrapping papers and gift bags are an inexpensive way to give color and pizzazz to prop case, balloon pump, etc.

Key Words: Use catch phrases, slogans or mottos.

Books: There is always a book available to reinforce your theme/message.

Signs or Showcards: Displaying a show card gives your show a professional and polished look. (Read about making showcards in the October 2005 issue of WCA Clowning Around Magazine).

I am eagerly looking forward to Laughlin and our "Convention/Family Reunion" and can hardly wait to see you all there. Remember the wonderful DAVID GINN will be there!! Another great reason to come and bring all the clowns you know. They will thank you for it!!

Sincerely & *Magically* Yours,

Joyce "JOY" Payne
JoyTClown@sbcglobal.net
JOYtheMagicClown.com
323-779-5770

Northern California
Kelly Martinez

Start packing your bags; it is almost time to follow the yellow brick road to the WRCA convention!

I still remember my first time attending the event, I was excited and nervous. Would I fit in? Was my costume and makeup like all the other clowns? Would I learn anything? My worries disappeared the minute I walked into the registration room! I was welcomed by friendly faces both young and old, with encouraging words from everyone. I learned more in the 4 days of classes and competitions than I did in 5 years of trying to "figure it out" myself. My costume and makeup were not like everyone else's and that was a good thing - everyone had a different look and took pride in their style of clowning. The theme party was a fun time to hang out with all the new friends that I had met in my classes. I have never missed a WRCA convention since! Over the years I have brought family and friends to the event, some were clowns and some were not, but they all said they had an amazing time and would remember going for the rest of their lives.

I am just as excited about attending the convention as I was first time and I encourage everyone to join in the fun!

Kelly Martinez
kellythec clown@sbcglobal.net
707-447-9326



Your gene pool could use a little chlorine.
Contents may have settled out of court.

Secretary
Kathy Cornell

Howdy Happy Harlequins,

I am so looking forward to our fabulously fun family reunion. Every year I am more and more amazed at how wonderfully gifted our WRCA crew is. You guys are the best! 24 years ago our founders came together with a common vision to make the art of clowning the very best it could possibly be. When I look at all of you, I believe that vision has been fulfilled. Last year "Willie" (LeMar Williams) shared with me something wonderful he wrote. With his permission I now share it with you:

—————
"THE CLOWN"

What Type of Clown Are You?

Every family or group claims its clown. There are clowns in every classroom, club, and community. In fact the impulse to be funny, to play before an audience, is probably buried somewhere inside all of us. When a few second hand jokes and twice told tales have exhausted our comic repertory, we begin to appreciate and perhaps even revere the professional entertainer who makes a lifelong career of being funny.

What is a clown? A divine spirit...to rejoice and delight the heart. One of the biggest secrets of being a successful clown is to exercise patience and persistence. A clown must tread a narrow path between humor and sadness, dignity and foolishness and not offend anyone. To be a great clown you must be a superb actor, who never appears to be playing a part. You must be living the part.

Every clown knows that real success arrives only when you learn how to give of yourself to other people. As a hobby or lifetime profession, being a clown and making your audiences happy are personally rewarding. The art of clowning like all comedy is the expression of an individual, a culture, and of a universal human need.

LaMar Williams

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WRCA VENDOR LIST FOR 2009

David Ginn
370 Bay Grove Rd.
Loganville, GA 30052
ginmagic@comcast.net
(770) 466-8421

Skiddles Shoemart
Molly Kleeman
4042 W. Quinn Pl.
Denver, CO 80236
thec clown@skiddles.com
(303) 798-9933

Suds
4601 Challen Ave.
Riverside CA 92503
sudsmagic@sbcglobal.net
(951) 359-5797

Planet Mirth Magic
Earl Chaney
6117 Elton Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89107
mirthmail@peoplepc.com
(702) 300-8115

Under The Big Top
Dena Piraino
P.O. Box 807
Placentia, CA 92670
underthebigtop@earthlink.net
(714) 579-1144

Jim Howle
P. O. Box 1322
Hartsville, SC 29551
(843) 383-6147

Steve Kissell
1227 Manchester Ave.
Norfolk, VA 23508
KissellTalks@cs.com
(800) 523-4887

Costumes by Betty
Betty Cash
2181 Edgerton St.
St. Paul, MN 55117
bettycash@aol.com
(651) 771-8734

Magic 4 Less
Bob Bowden
11576 S. State St. # 1104
Draper, UT 84020
sales@magic4less.com
(801) 542-8742

Walden Productions
Allen & Brenda Walden
291 Brett Way
Grants Pass, OR 97526
abwalden@msn.com
(541) 441-1599

Crickit's Corner
Rick Farewell
P.O. Box 294308
Phelan, CA 02329
cricket@fastmail.fm
(760) 868-9910

Jodi Carr
289 Bluefield Rd.
San Jose, CA 95136
jodi@profacepaint.com
(408) 363-8408

Pricilla Mooseburger
P. O. Box 700
Maple Lake, MN 55358
Pricilla@mooseburger.com
(800) 973-6277

Dr. Magic (Foam-Fetti)
John McClenahan
3743 Funston Way
Las Vegas, NV 89129
doctormagiclv@embarq.com
(702) 395-3856

Rocky Five
Frank & Julaine Mullaney
5705 Begonia Dr.
San Jose, CA 95124
rockyfiv@aol.com
(718) 579-1144

Dennis Owens
P.O. Box 7085
Burbank, CA 91519
dpowens@dslextreme.com
(310) 619-0677

Terry Ricketts
7341 Madero Ave.
Mesa, AZ 85208
looneewebe@msn.com
(602) 818-0274

Continued from page 6

It is important to have a polished repertoire, but even more importantly we must remember why it is we do what we do. As Willie says "Real success comes when we learn to give of ourselves to others." Thank you to our awesome founders who have set the example all these years. We love, appreciate and respect you more than words can express. See y'all soon.

Giggles & Grins till then
Kathy "Dusti" Cornell



Competition Director
Joyce Quisenberry

Dear WRCA Family,

Well it's almost time for convention and competition!! My mama always said "if it ain't broken don't fix it" and I agree, but the make-up competition has been broken for awhile. I believe that because we have such a large number of return clowns and I talked to many of them who said "been there – done that," our numbers are way down. Soooo, I think we are going to make things interesting and step outside the box! "What do I mean?" you ask. Well we are going to combine some of the categories so that we will have enough competitors to give away all the plaques. This year White Face and Auguste will compete against each other. Character against Hobo, and Teen against Junior joey. Senior and Special Joey will remain the same, since they already compete against each other. Rules will apply as they always have, White Face will follow their rules and Auguste their own rules. This will cut us down to five categories in make-up and hopefully give us the numbers we need. So remember to clean up

those shoes and wash your costumes and maybe buy new gloves. If you're doing skits, practice! practice! practice! Another great idea is to do the skit for a group of kids. If they aren't laughing, rethink the skit. How can you make it funny? Well, if you have any questions or comments, e-mail me at jqclown@yahoo.com or call me 951-781-4379 (after 10:00 a.m. – not a morning person). Well, until we meet in November, remember "Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain." GO CLOWNS!!!

Joyce Q aka "Bubbles" aka Competition Director



Northern Nevada
Sharon Gohlke

Hey all you Northern Nevada clowns!

It's that time again. You ask, what time? It's 2009 Clown convention. Time to have fun, fun, fun, and then more fun. Time to brush off your costume, get your makeup, and don't forget to practice, practice and then practice again some balloons and maybe a skit.

We have so much fun, you meet a lot of new people and even learn some new things to take home and put into your act. There is so much. So bring a notebook to take notes, a camera to take pictures of the balloons, because by the time you get home you may forget how it was made, so if you take pictures, you can look back and say oh, that's how it was done.

I drive way too fast to worry about cholesterol. For every action there is an equal and opposite criticism.

I hope everyone had a safe and busy season. It was sure hot and dry up here. We are getting a lot of smoke from California. Hey California Clowns, I hope everyone over there is doing okay.

There is not enough paper or time to tell you of all the enjoyable things at the convention, so just come and see for yourself. So for now, goodbye, see you at the convention. Make sure you stop by my table and say a big hello to Sparkie from Northern Nevada.

Attention all clowns from east to west, north to south. Stop by the Nevada table on Sunday night during registration and say Hello. Sparkie just might have something for you. Well, got to go. See you at the convention.

KODAK MOMENTS

DO:

1. Do mark your camera, film containers and discs with your name and home phone number.
2. Do create and practice a "pose."
3. Do remember that light sources, like windows, should be behind the camera, or the contrast may ruin the picture.
4. Do ask if you can take a photo of someone's costume, props, balloon creation, etc.
5. Do be willing to stop and be photographed; use your "pose."
6. Do take some candid shots (in good taste).
7. Do wait for the competitor to leave the stage and judging area for photos.
8. Do ask an instructor if you can take pictures or videos.

DON'T:

1. Don't forget your camera!
2. Don't take pictures in the casino gaming areas.
3. Don't take anyone's picture if they say no.
4. Don't call a person then "flash" their eyes.
5. Don't stand in front of others without checking for other photographers.
6. Don't disturb the competitor or judges during judging.
7. Don't take shots from too far or too close. (Most stage shots will be too far.)
8. Don't video classes or shows without the consent of the teacher or star.
9. Don't ask to use the "official" photographer's backdrops and props for your photos.
10. Don't block aisles with your equipment (tripods), and make sure your cords are not a hazard.

2009 WRCA CONVENTION PACKING LIST

CLOWN STUFF

HAT, HAIR, GLOVES
 GLOVE EXTENDERS
 COLLAR, SHIRT
 SOCKS, SHOES
 PANTS, BELT
 SUSPENDERS
 BLOUSE, SKIRT
 DRESS, BLOOMERS
 PETTICOAT
 (or put on shopping list)

MAKEUP KIT

WHITE, COLORS
 ROUGE, GLITTER GEL
 MASCARA, EYELASHES
 NOSE, JEWELS, GLUE
 POWDER SOCK
 BABY OIL
 BABY SHAMPOO
 COTTON SWABS
 PAPER TOWELS
 NAIL POLISH

PEOPLE STUFF

HAIRBRUSH
 TOOTHBRUSH & PASTE
 CLEAN SHIRT
 CLEAN SOCKS
 DEODORANT

AWARDS STUFF

FANCY DUDS
 (not formal)

COMPETITION STUFF

PARADE PROPS
 SKIT SCRIPT
 SKIT PROPS
 SKIT MUSIC
 BALLOON PUMP
 BALLOONS
 SMALL SCISSORS
 NEEDLE & THREAD
 SAFETY PINS (just in case)

CONVENTION STUFF

NOTEBOOK, PEN, TOTE BAG
 CAMERA & FILM/MEMORY STICK
 BUSINESS CARDS
 SHOPPING LIST
 CHECKS
 CHARGE CARD
 BALLOONS
 FACE PAINTS, BRUSHES
 JUGGLING BALLS
 QUARTERS

MISSED MEALS

TRAIL MIX
 POPTARTS
 TUNA LUNCH KITS
 CHIPS
 SODAS

THEME PARTY

OVER THE RAINBOW

WRCA
P.O. BOX 7656
PHOENIX, AZ 85011-7656

New Mexico
Denise Bachis

WOW!!! What a busy year it's been since last I saw everyone. I was told, because of the economy, that the jobs would be few and far between, but not so here in New Mexico. I hope all of you have had a similar experience.

I've been putting that extra money away to be able to go "Over the Rainbow" at WRCA. I can't wait to see what all the vendors have brought. I know we'll all be learning new face painting techniques from Jodi Carr and wonderful magic from David Ginn. Be sure to check out the schedule ahead of time and be thinking about which lectures you'll want to attend.

Our alley, Funny Bizness Clowns of New Mexico and Sandia Clowns, will be sponsoring a workshop by David on October

18th. So we'll be lucky to get a double dose of him. I've heard that Nina Dees will be in our area doing a workshop on Character Development on October 5th. It's going to be a busy Fall.

If you have any questions or just want to chat let me know. Nick and I look forward to seeing all our old friends and making new ones!

Denise "Nee Cee" Bachis
104 Kings Lane
Corrales, NM 87048
(505) 898-6335
nickneecee@q.com

If you jogged backwards, would you gain weight?
Everyone has a photographic memory, some just don't have film.
"More hay, Trigger?" "No thanks, Roy, I'm stuffed!"
Who stopped payment on my reality check?