

CLOWNS GALORE



Chuckle Sheet

Volume 1, Issue 1
January, 2000

1999 Clearwater Holiday Parade



The City of Clearwater held their annual Holiday Night Time Parade on Friday December 10th. There were a lot of floats and entries in the parade which made for a large turn out.

I would like to thank all those who turned out for the parade and to all those who helped with the float/truck.

Clowns Galore members who turned out were: Steven "Bumper" Fowler, Jo "Dimples" Parris, Kerry "Luvy-Duvy" Bauer, Bob "Bobbo" White, Maureen "Hug-A-Bug" Belote, Gene "Quinton" Belote, Jean "Buckles" Chaffin, Ed "Chuckles" Chaffin, Judy "Spritz" Santostefano, Donna "Itzy" McPherson, Bobbe "Sparkle" Grey, Melissa "Oreo" Lanton & her friend "Carrot Top", Ruth "Doodlez" Lanton, and anybody else I may have forgotten.

I would like to thank Ruth's Friends Rick & Dave for the use of the pickup and the setup

New Clowns Galore Officers



The elections were held at the November meeting and the inductions were held at the Clowns Galore Christmas party held at Sweetwater Restaurant on December 3rd.

Here are your Year 2000

Officers for Clowns Galore:

President: Elaine "Berry Merry" Petit

Vice President: Steven "Bumper" Fowler

Secretary: Michele "NoseDive" Alonso

Treasurer: Kerry "Luvy-Duvy" Bauer

Board Members @ Large:

Kay "Pockets-D-Clown" Blaise

Pam "Itchee" Wolin

Past President: Judy "Spritz" Santostefano

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Your Clowns Galore Newsletter

I would first like to wish everybody a Happy New Year and with anything good, good things do take time. I would first like to apologize for the lateness of this month's newsletter. With Christmas and Y2K concerns at work, things were a little slow in coming but they are now here. The newsletter is here and will be on time from now on. That is my commitment to Clowns Galore. And with any good thing, it takes help from every-

one. If there is something needed in the newsletter or you have a suggestion for the newsletter, please feel free to contact me. You can call (784-8206) or better yet, email (bumper@bumpertheclown.com) and I will be glad to help anyway I can.

Steven "Bumper" Fowler
Vice President Clowns Galore
Newsletter Editor

'In every real man a child is hidden that wants to play'

- Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche

Note from the President

Let's start this New Year and New Century off with enthusiasm and commitment!

Everyone was so generous with our adopt-a-families. We had about 7 gifts per child, many thanks from me and the Salvation Army. Let's keep this enthusiasm!

My goals for the alley are to continue with quality training at each meeting and at weekend seminars throughout the year. I want to have us appearing more often as an alley, be it at nursing homes, schools, or libraries. I would also like to update all our records, membership, photos in the historian's albums, and review our by-laws and get copies out to everyone. To accomplish this, I need dedicated chairpeople. Clowns Galore, belongs to



all of you. The elected officers and board members have taken an oath to serve you. We cannot do our jobs without everyone pitching in. I would like members to volunteer for positions, rather than make appointments. I don't know all your skills or areas of preference and I don't want to put anyone "on the spot." Several of you came forward at the December meeting to volunteer, I hope to hear from many more of you at the January meeting. Have a Safe and Happy New Year!

Elaine

Building Web Pages

For those wishing to build webpages, it is recommended that you learn HTML, which webpages are built on. I would highly suggest that if you are going to learn HTML code you by a book. Not that you would read it cover to cover, but use it as a reference. I have been working HTML since the Web was conceived and still to this day use my book to get some of the fine tuning parameters. Trust me you will need it. Also be careful of buying packages that handle websites for you (Frontpage for example), they can be very expensive. Word 97 has an OK webpage creator, Netscape Composer (which is built into Netscape) is very good at setting up pages. If you are looking for something good to manage sites with, Netobjects Fusion is my choice. It does not require special setup on the Hosting server

to use it, has a small learning curve and handles everything for you. I started learning web page building back in the early days of the Internet and have always used a text editor to fine tune my web pages. However, I started using NetObjects Fusion to manage my customers sites. It allows me to make changes quickly and create new pages faster, as long as I stay within the boundaries of Fusion. However, if there are any problems I run into I always revert to checking the HTML code. So in conclusion, even if you are going to use a WYSIWYG tools, learn some of the basics of HTML. Try this for a starter: <http://www.webmonkey.com>. Webmonkey is a great site to learn about web page building.

Did You Know?

Ringling Bros. And Barnum & Bailey's Greatest Show on Earth is known for breathtaking feats of daring. But one of the circus' most remarkable feats remains unseen by the public. Workers must refurbish, stock, staff and maintain nearly 60 train cars that become home to almost 300 circus performers and support staff. Readyng the trains is a round trip process that starts and ends in a facility tucked away in Palmetto. While performers, both human and animal, rehearse wire walking and acrobatics and memorize the sequence and pacing of the show, their quarters are being prepared. "Without this, none of that happens," said Tom Dillon, manager of rail

operations for Ringling Bros. The trains must be in tiptop condition to carry passengers, equipment, props, two miles of electrical cable, about 100 animals, wardrobes, souvenirs and even a bus. And because the circus has two units – red and blue – that crisscross the country, the 110 workers at the rail operation, including 50 tradesmen, are always busy. Once the trains are moving, there are maintenance concerns, septic tanks to be tended to, and water, generators and supplies of human and animal food to be managed.

Clown Creed 2000

Clowning is a performance art. We exist to perform. Our obligation is to prepare ourselves for effective and entertaining performances.

The primary expectation of our audiences is that we will bring humor into their lives. While delivering humor we can also do many important things such as teach lessons, praise God, help heal troubled souls, and many other worthwhile things. We do these things within the context of our art form and with the understanding that our primary purpose as clowns is to comically entertain.

Clowns are of human nature. Clowns are not representations of fictional characters. Clowns are not figments of the imagination. We are human, we are real and we are alive. The clown is an essential part of our human soul. We nurture and care for the clown in us so that it always continues to grow.

We respect and learn from clowning's rich past. We also understand that clowning has always changed and grown to adapt to the society of its day. We must not force artificial constrictions on the development and advancement of clowning simply in the name of tradition. Conversely we must not abandon tradition for the mere sake of change. Change should come as natural extensions and adaptations of our tradition.

Makeup and costume are merely two of the many tools we use in our clowning. They are not what define us. Costume and makeup styles do change and evolve over the years and will continue to do so. This is a sign of dynamic progress in our art form. No style of makeup or costume is ultimately right or wrong (except in a historical context). Its ultimate criteria today is its effectiveness in helping the clown comically entertain.

Character development, thought patterns and styles of action are no longer predetermined by any particular makeup or costume design. Character development determines makeup and costume choices that highlight

and augment character. Character development determines thought patterns and range of action appropriate to each situation.

Individuals, alleys or clown organizations may freely choose to impose upon themselves restrictions concerning costume, makeup or action. Failure to adhere to these self imposed restrictions, however, does not preclude anyone from the enjoyment of participation in the art of clowning. Alley and organizational rules are applicable only to those who want to belong to that specific alley or organization and do not speak for the entire clowning world.

Clowning is one of the most free and open art forms. It can incorporate aspects of all other art forms. Clowns are free to show expertise or feign incompetence. Clowns are free to explore. Clowns are free to succeed or fail in their endeavors. Clowns are free to laugh and cry. Clowns are free to relate to young and old.

Clowning is, and ought to be, inclusive and not restrictive.

'If you find yourself able to make people laugh, it is God's gift. You have to do everything from the bottom of your heart. I don't go in for slapstick. I let the emotion come from inside and penetrate the eyes. I'm the same man underneath.'

-American clown Otto Griebing

Website of the Month

This will be the first of many websites of the month to come. The first website of the month is:

Soda Pop's Fun House

<http://home.plutonium.net/~sodapop/>

Soda Pop is the editor of the popular online newsletter Soda Pop's Newsletter which is a weekly email newsletter that covers a large range of clown topics. Folks are free to send notes to Soda Pop for publication in the newsletter. Soda Pop's website has many wonderful

things on it to provide information to others, sign up for his newsletter, computer lessons, kids magic, and of course, information on Clown Camp which Soda Pop is an active trainer at Clown Camp.

So give Soda Pop's website a visit!!



CLOWNS GALORE

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Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

We're on the Web
[http://www.geocities.com/
Broadway/Alley/3725/](http://www.geocities.com/Broadway/Alley/3725/)



Clowns Galore

Dates to Remember

This section will always have the latest dates and times to remember about coming events.

January 14th – Ringling Circus

The alley will be going to the circus on this day and hopefully we will have a "Free Roll" (Pot luck dinner) with the clown alley. Keep your ears open for details.

January 22nd – Florida Clown Day 2000

For information contact Jerry & Connie Yarbrough (727)393-5425 or yoyotopsy@aol.com.

Every Wednesday – Tampa Bay Jugglers Club 7PM 4719 Prescott St, Tampa

For details call Ed (813) 527-1716

3rd Sunday (even Months only) - Storytellers Guild, Seminole Library

All dates and times are subject to change. Please contact the appropriate group for any schedule changes and details.

Clowns Galore Officers

President:

Elaine "Berry Merry" Petit (727)572-7465

Vice President:

Steven "Bumper" Fowler (727)784-8206

Secretary:

Michele "NoseDive" Alonso (727)555-1212

Treasurer:

Kerry "Luvy-Duvy" Bauer (727)588-2320

Board Members @ Large:

Kay "Pockets-D-Clown"

Blaise (727)586-5313

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