



KLOWN KLUB™ of MECCA

An Affiliate of International Shrine Clown Association

- ❖ **KLOWNS ON COLONIAL DAY**
SEPTEMBER 25, 2010
- ❖ **KLOWN KLUB MEMBERS TRIP TO NYOSA IN CORNING, NY**
OCTOBER 9-12, 2010

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Five Klown Klub members went to the Colonial Day event at the DeWint House on September 25th. The klowns that entertained by making balloon animals, swords and flowers and applying fake tattoos were Tom "Uncle Dippy" and Lorraine "Laurie Lou" Lorentz, Rolf "Sloppo" Schuetz and Adam "Gumdrop" Kurland. Helping with the tattoos was Martha Schuetz. The Klown Klub received donations of \$156.00 which went towards the Sneaker Fund.

The Klown Club of Mecca traveled to Corning, NY to the NYOSA Fall Session. Our entourage consisted of Ralph "Li'l Ralphie" and Marge Edwards, Ted "Profy" Jacobsen, Tom "Uncle Dippy" and Lorraine "Laurie Lou" Lorentz, Bob "Blaze" and Joan "JoJo" Miller, Rolf "Sloppo" and Martha Schuetz, Avery "Nium" and Eva "Loony Baloon" Toledo. Our associate Klowns Murry Cohen and Lady Barbara were also there. President of NYOSA Mel Birnbaum and Lady Joan hosted the event.

An integral part of the event was the instruction and critique of the klowns by Paul "Fuddi-Duddy" Kleinberger of Oriental Shrine Temple in Troy, NY. He held a 3-hour class in

"clowning" on Friday evening, October 1st and gave us some valuable tips and advice.

On Saturday morning, October 2nd, Sloppo, Li'l Ralphie, Uncle Dippy, and Blaze marched in a Shriners parade as klowns, but, because it was a Shriners parade, Laurie Lou and JoJo were not allowed to march. We noticed very few bystanders along the parade route as we marched and "clowned around". This was due to the fact that very few people knew about the parade even though a permit was obtained.

We had a competition that afternoon in which Li'l Ralphie, Uncle Dippy, Blaze and Sloppo entertained to a group of judges who critiqued their performances. In addition to our klowns, Ralph "Popcorn" Haney, Jr. of Tigris Shrine Temple in Syracuse, NY also entertained. His routine also came under scrutiny. We all had a lot of fun entertaining the judges and anyone who was in the lobby that afternoon.

That evening we had a cocktail hour and dinner hosted by NYOSA President Mel Birnbaum and Lady Joan with guest speakers. Fuddi-Duddy handed out certificates to Li'l Ralphie, Uncle Dippy and Popcorn for their excellent renditions of their roles in the skit competition held that afternoon. Congratulations, guys!

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"Having Fun Helping Kids!"



Rolf "Sloppo" Schuetz, Tom "Uncle Dippy" Lorentz and Ralph "Li'l Ralphie" Edwards marching at the start of the clown parade followed by Ramses Temple.



Some of Fuddi-Duddy's tips and advice:

1. We need to entertain with ballooning, fake tattooing, face-painting, and tricks.
2. Why are we here? What do people want? Entertainment!
3. We need to connect with the audience, interact with people; make them laugh!
4. A clown is a person who is trained and learning to show a person how good they can feel on the inside by doing something unique on the outside.
5. We need to understand our audience.
6. Clowns are about fun; it is an art form and a craft. Take clowning seriously; you have to love what you do!
7. Practice comedy.
8. When entertaining, your voice goes where your nose is pointing.
9. Look at the audience; talk to the person in the back of the room.
10. Audience attention goes to the clown; get funny fast.
11. Skits and ad libs need to be short, to the point and funny; the audience has a short attention span.
12. Clowns get in and get out as fast as possible.
13. Perform as often as possible.
14. Be prepared; be unique.
15. More clowns in a skit can make more fun; example: the *Emergency Broadcast* skit works well with many clowns.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, October 24th • Klown Klub meeting –
 We will be meeting at the Lorentz home, 14 Green Hedges Lane, Blauvelt, NY at 2:00pm. Please contact Uncle Dippy at grantimes4@aol.com or at 845-365-0238 to let us know whether or not you are coming. Purpose of the meeting is to go over our skits, check out some new skits and get ideas that might work for more skits. Dutch treat pizza.

Saturday, November 13th • Potentate's Ball –
 The affair will be at The Manor, 111 Prospect Avenue in West Orange, NJ. Gala buffet reception, open bar from 7:00-8:00 pm; dinner and dancing, Henry Boothe Orchestra, from 8:00-12:00 pm.

Saturday, December 18th • Montrose VA Hospital –
 Santa Claus and the Klowns will be entertaining the veterans at the Hospital. More information to follow.

Sunday, December 19th • Children's Christmas party –
 Santa Claus and the Klowns will entertain children at the John M. Perry Post. More information to follow.



Sloppo, Uncle Dippy, Paul "Fuddi-Duddy" Kleinberger, Blaze with Blaze, Jr., Li'l Ralphie and Mel Birnbaum, the president of NYOSA, waiting for the start of the parade.



Blaze hitched a ride on the Kalurah fire truck because of his bad back.



The Kalurah 1920s fire truck.



Avery Toledo, Uncle Dippy, Li'l Ralphie and our Illustrious Potentate Ted Jacobsen with the Mecca Temple banner at the parade.



NYOSA DINNER

NYOSA dignitaries' table (back row, l-r): Tom "Uncle Dippy" Lorentz, Al McConnach, John McAloon, Marty Kanter and Murry Cohen; (front row); Marcia Kanter, Deputy Imperial Potentate Mike Severe, Barbara Cohen, Mel and Joan Birnbaum.



NYOSA DINNER

Klown Klub's table (back row, l-r): Joan "JoJo" Miller, Tom "Uncle Dippy" and Lorraine "Laurie Lou" Lorentz; (front row): Bob "Blaze" Miller, Marge and Ralph "Li'l Ralphie" Edwards, Martha and Rolf "Sloppo" Schuetz.