



The Joey Journal

The Texas Clown Association

April - May, 2020

Last Walk Around: Joe "Tiny" Luce



(Article on Page 18)

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Purpose of the Texas Clown Association

1. To promote, preserve, and improve the profession of clowning.
2. To provide the opportunity to study the art, history, and philosophy of clowning.
3. To educate its members and the general public in the wholesome and clean entertainment that is provided by the profession of clowning.
4. To provide news to the members of all clown events in the state of Texas.

THE JOEY JOURNAL

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The Texas Clown Association, Inc.

Greg “Zoots” Stanford, Editor

Letters to the Editor, articles and other related items should be emailed to greg@joeyjournal.com or addressed to The Joey Journal and mailed to 5407 Hooper Dr., Wichita Falls, TX 76306. Only letters addressed to the Editor which are signed will be considered for publication. Submissions accompanied by a stamped envelope with return address will be returned after publication. Submitted photographs may be black and white or color prints, please no slides, or copies. The preferred format is a digital copy in the “jpg” or “png” format.

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Central membership mailing location: Send all membership questions, dues, renewals, reinstatements, address changes and applications to TCA, Inc., P.O. Box 820, Hurst, Texas 76053.

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A Word from the President

By Judy “Peep” Cornett

It is with a heavy heart that I have to make this announcement but in short, the TCA Convention for 2020, due to the Coronavirus outbreak, is cancelled. We pursued as many different options as we could and returned to the same conclusion. I'm sorry, and please know, no one is more disappointed than I.

My official statement is as follows:

"In light of the current situation around the world and the devastation being thrown upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic and the uncertainty of the next few months, the Board of Directors have, in the best interest of the members and the association, decided to cancel the TCA 2020 Convention. We apologize, but with the continual changes hour by hour, we felt this was the best decision for both the membership and the association."

We will now focus all our efforts on having an amazing 2021 convention which will be held in Killeen, Texas August 5th - 8th 2021. All hotel reservations for this year have been cancelled by the hotel. If you would like to confirm this you can reach out to the hotel.

At this point in time we can either credit anyone who registered for 2020 to the 2021 convention early bird rate and refund the remainder or simply process a full refund. Mauri Norris will be sending information to those of you who have already registered as to how the process will work. Please understand this may take time to process due to current circumstances.

Please continually watch both your email inbox and our website for information updates. Please pass along to others that you may know that are involved in the TCA. Whilst we will not be having a convention, please plan on attending convention next year. The schedule for this year was exciting and I believe that using it for next year will keep the excitement. We can't wait to get together again next year for a "Clown Family" reunion".

A Message From The VP

By John “John John” Luce

Well I have been your Vice President for about nine months now and I thought this might be a good time to drop you a line and let you know that I am settling in well.

The other board members are as always, accommodating and as always I find my duties are only marginally outside my capabilities. When I first joined the TCA Board back in 2002 as Vice President I found it a big step to go from writing an article for my Alley newsletter to penning a composition for the Joey Journal. I found it easy to write to and about people that I knew well and had worked with but, realized early in the term that TCA was a totally different ballgame. I am glad to report that this is no longer the case for you are not just the membership; you have become family because I know you well. You are no longer just clowns I know but, are friends with which I have shared my heart. That being said I have spent many an evening pondering what I might have to share with you that might be of some worth or value. I am not after all a master illusionist or a certified balloon twister. My story telling skills are moderate at best and I face paint with a four inch roller.

I guess I could start off by thanking you for granting me another year as Vice President. For this means I can proudly wear once more the membership guy badge. This makes me very happy indeed.

Recently I received a note from the Grand Pooba of this organization announcing the re-enlistment, of some of the old members and the addition of some new recruits. To those returning members I say welcome home for we have missed you and are glad you are back. To all the new members I would like to extend a warm welcome and tell you that you could not have picked a better time in clown history to be part of TCA.

If I could speak to each of you clowns old and new my message would be simple. I would tell you just how valuable you are too TCA. I would assure you that you are unique in your talents and that you posses the ability to do something no one else can do...BE YOU. your face, costume, talent, and demeanor is or will be what you are known for and will serve as the cement that will bind you to TCA for years to come.

I am here to help, I'm in the book and I am proud to be.

Ramblings from the Web-Editor: Video

By Greg “Zoots” Stanford

I will be launching a new TCA website in early June. This is a re-design that hopefully is a better layout, easier to navigate and able to provide us with some great new tools.

I recently renewed my Fellowship of Christian Magicians membership when I found out about their video section on their website. Wow! I'd love to see us add a similar section of workshops and instructions for clowns to our TCA site. These would be added to our password protected members section. I think this could be a great encourager for new and renewed membership.

I can imagine a section of how-to's for our new clowns, especially those who struggle with finding an alley in their area. Areas like magic, presentation, prop construction, skit development, etc. would be great to refresh what you know and learn some new things.

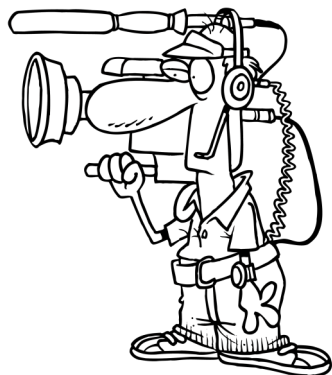
We would want quality presentations in content, and video-quality. If you can't see or hear what's going on, that would defeat the purpose, so we would probably need to work on simple standards but with modern cell phones, that shouldn't be a problem.

If you have presented a class or workshop, would you be willing to share it with TCA? If it's something you are currently presenting, maybe you would want to do a trick or a section from the lecture—at the very least it might get you an invite to present at an alley or convention.

If you would never get up in front of an audience and demonstrate how to sew a costume, build a puppet, walk on stilts,....would you do it in front of a camera?

If this would interest you, drop me a note sometime and we'll see where we are in the idea. I would be more than willing to help you put together a polished video.

Perhaps when our world settles down, we can have a video party somewhere and assemble some fantastic videos and enjoy each other's company again.



Book Review: The Clown Egg Register

By Abigail “Gummy Bear” Robles Membrez

The Clown Egg Register is a coffee table book that facilitates a fun light reading experience featuring a variety of pictures of prominent Clowns painted on Eggs! *The Clown Egg Register* showcases members of Clowns International as it serves as a record of copyright for the members of Clowns international. “The unwritten rule within clowning that no clown should copy another clown’s look. As such, The Clown Egg Register acts as the record of copyright for the carefully designed faces of the members of clowns international.”

I really loved this book! As a newer clown it was really interesting to see the variety of clowns throughout the ages and learn more about the history of clowning. Each egg includes a short biography of the clown it is representing. After reading about each clown, I found myself scouring the internet for more information on them. From musical clowns to math clowns to drag clowns, the sheer diversity of the various types of clowns showcased in this book really inspired me. I love how all different types of clowns come together in this colorful and quirky book. Check out *The Clown Egg Register* By Luke Stephenson & Helen Champion. Chronicle Books LLC ISBN # 978-1-4521-6968-2



The Sad Face Clown

By Patsy “Glitterbug” McMillan

The following is from the book “When God Winks at You” – it is a book about all the times God winks at us to let us know he is in our life by sending little messages. I do not have permission to copy but am plagiarizing what I have read. The information can also be found on the internet.



This story is about an encounter Emmett Kelly's daughter had with a photographer who took the one and only picture of Emmett Kelly smiling. As we all know he was the sad faced hobo, Weary Willie which was his trademark. All other clowns wore big silly grins but it was the sad faced hobo that made him stand out from all the rest. Traveling with the circus was a lonely life for a bachelor, but in his fifties he spotted an acrobat from Germany whom he₁₀

would later work up the courage to ask her to marry him. In conversations with his daughter he stated that was the happiest day of his life, except for when his daughter, Stasia was born. On this particular day Stasia remembered the family legend that her father the sad-faced clown never smiled to protect his trademark except on one special day. It happened when Weary Willie was doing a publicity interview with a UPI photographer when the telephone rang. It was a call from his wife's doctor congratulating him on being the father of a baby girl. At that moment Weary Willie burst into a smile when the photographer immediately clicked his camera. The photographer stated that was his best shot ever and it went around the world to newspapers everywhere.

Stasia, Emmett's daughter had this encounter with the photographer on the day her father died and she was traveling home for the funeral. Stasia pulled out a photograph of her father smiling and began to cry. The gentleman sitting next to her asked if she was OK. She then pointed to the picture and said her father died this morning. The man looked at the picture and stammered to her, saying he was with her father the day she was born and took that one and only smiling

picture. He explained he was the UPI photographer that took that wonderful picture. Stasia immediately felt peace as though she was getting a wink from God letting her know her daddy was at his side looking down on her. Stasia and the photographer became good friends and later discussed another God wink, that Emmett Kelly died on the most important day of the year for any clown – March 28th – the day the circus opened its show every year at Madison Square Gardens in New York.



Try to look for all the times God winks at us in our everyday lives and in our world of clown.

Be sure to check out the TCA website at

www.texasclownassociation.com

The members only password is “backntime”

The password will be updated on June 15 to
“iluvclowns”

Be sure to connect to our official TCA Facebook page from our website and follow us to stay current with what is going on.

Dal Sanders

The Magic Maniac



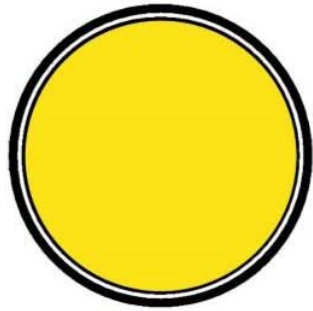
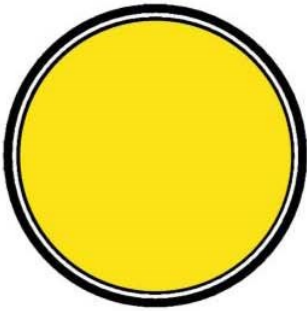
Several years ago I wrote a themed show for my favorite entertainer...Cinde, my wife. She has a natural charisma that children really respond to. When we got married she planned on running the business side of our company and I would handle the performance end. She soon got tired of hiring other entertainers to do things that she felt she could do. Her first (and longest running) character was Boopsie The Clown and then, someone hired her to do balloons as a Dr Seuss character. She decided to become "Sister Cat". She learned how to apply a cat face similar to the ones in the musical *Cats*. She put on her black Tux with a cat tail, ears and a "Cat in the Hat" hat. The minute I saw her I knew that I had to create a show that encourages children to read and celebrates Dr. Seuss. Since March 2nd is Dr. Seuss' birthday I thought I would share one of the routines from that show.

Sneeches



This lesson is talking about diversity and equality. Dr. Seuss talked about this in the story of the Sneeches. There are two kinds of Sneeches, the star bellied Sneech and the plain bellied Sneech. When the Star Belly Sneeches go to Sneech Beach, they would not talk to the Plain Bellied Sneeches. The plain bellied Sneeches didn't mingle with the Star Bellied Sneeches. They stayed separated. Until the day that Sylvester McMonkey McBean came out with his Sneech Star Belly Machine. They all

paid their money and all went into the machine. When they came out some had star bellies and some did not. No one could tell who was who. From that point on they treated each other as equals and all got along.



Effect:

The magician will attach 6 picture cards a length of rope. These cards will represent the various Sneeches. Three will have stars and three will not. They will be segregated with stars on one side and plain cards on the other side. The magician will hold both ends of the rope and dip them into a box without letting go. When he removes the rope the cards have changed and are now alternating star, plain, star, plain, star, plain.

Setup:

You need a piece of rope about five feet long and some small binder clips. Put the clips about five inches apart on the rope. You also need the Art-work included on page 14 of this newsletter, glue and scissors. After copying the cards on a color copier, cut the border along the dotted lines. Then fold two of the sheets of paper lengthwise in half. You cut them in half at the line. You glue them together so there is a picture on both sides. You will do this until you have two double sided stars and two double sided circles. On the third printed sheet you will fold in half across the page. Cut the paper in half and glue them together so that you have two cards with a star on one side and a plain circle on the other side.

Clip the cards to the rope. The front will show three stars and three plain circles. The back will show a star belly, a plain belly, a star belly, a plain belly a star belly and a plain belly. You can take the two end cards off to show them that they have the same picture on both sides. When they see that the same picture is on both sides they won't question the fact that you might have something different printed on the others. Then you begin telling the story and hook them all on the rope. Then you take a box (any box will do) and you drop the rope with the cards attached into the box. Take both ends of the ropes in one hand. Switch the ends of the ropes to turn it around so when you take it out the rope end that was in your left hand is now in your right and the one that was in your right is now in your left. When you pull it out you show the other side to reveal that they are all magically intermingled with each other.

Routine:

Today I want to discuss one of the great philosophers of the 20th century, Theodore Geisel, also known as Dr Seuss. He has lots of advice for young readers, advice that I still follow today. With verses like “A person’s a person, no matter how small” and “Will you succeed, yes indeed, yes indeed, 98 and $\frac{3}{4}$ percent guaranteed”. And of course, one of my favorites, “Today you are you, that is truer than true, there is no one alive more you-er than you”.

In Sneeches the good Dr wrote...

The star bellied Sneeches had bellies with stars.

But the plain bellied Sneeches had none upon thars.

So when the Star bellied children went out to play ball,
could the plain belly children play. No not at all.

Until one day Sylvester McMonkey McBean,
put together a very peculiar machine

to make plain bellied Sneeches without stars
into Star Bellied Sneeches with stars upon thars.

Through the machine they raced round and about again, changing their
stars every minute or two.

They kept paying money they kept running through. Until no one
knew what was what and who was who.

The Sneeches learned something very important that day. They learned
that Sneeches are Sneeches and no kind of Sneeches are the *best*
on the beaches.

That’s all for this month. You will find the artwork you will need to
make the cards on page 13. I hope enjoy this routine and...

Always believe in magic—

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Del Sanders". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Greetings To All TCA Members and Family

By L.J. "Wiggles-d-Clown" Lomenick-Luce

Life after Covid-19 arrived has left us in a whole new world that has changed the way we think and the things we do. It has changed the way we learn and our children and grandchildren are taught. It has changed not only the things we do but how we do them. With all of these changes how do we cope? I believe that the answer lies in the way we look at the situation, not as you would a jail sentence but as a chance to learn and bond with the one or ones you are sequestered with.

Food for thought, for the cooks out there it could be trying that new recipe that you never had the time or courage to try before. It might be going back in your mind and finding that tried and true recipe for that comfort dish your family loved and that will fill in the gaps of the trips to the local drive thru and take out or from your local pizza place. And we all know that good food is a big part of our lives, having to shelter in place or not. We want to keep it yummy!

Some of us have taken on a new adventure, learning new words like Zoom, TikTok, Instagram, Facebook live, FaceTime, Twitter, and other modes of communications.

For some of us this is difficult but remember most things worth learning generally are, and some are fun!

Lonely? Sure we all long to reach out to shake a friends hand, or give them a long over due hug and know that we can't. But with the use of modern media we can connect with those we love. Sometimes just a simple phone call can provide us the joy of hearing the voice of someone dear to us. A friendly note in the mail or how about a fun drive by for someone you care about to catch a glimpse of their happy faces, with a rolled down car window you can offer a friendly wave, throw them an air hug, or blow them a kiss, followed by a heart felt shout of "Hey we love you". Then with a beep of a horn you've made everyone's day a little better.

Yes, for sure our world has changed but look, our clown hearts are still the same for they are still filled with thoughts of new ways of making others laugh. Clown minds have been consumed by thoughts of new ways to entertain, teach classes, hold meetings and make a connection with a troubled world desperately in need of humor.

Yes, it is a different world and yes, Bump-A-Mask Covered Nose!
it is a little scary and uncertain, but Oh wait make sure your at a safe
if you just walk out side you will distance.
see that not everything has And let us not forget the new Baby
changed. In the midst of all this Shark song “Wash Your Hands”!
social confusion you will find that
the birds are still singing, trees are
budding, flowers are blooming, the
rain comes and goes and makes
way for the sun to illuminate all the
beauty nature has to offer. Maybe
we should take a lesson from nature,
for if it can flourish in this
new world then with the help of
friends and family we can too.
May you each be blessed and stay
safe.

Thoughts on Time Sheltering in Place

By Voncille “Dimple” Cox

This time of confinement has been a costly time for all our working clowns. We are having to find new ways to work. I've seen some very innovative ideas that seem to be working for some. I personally have used this time to repair some of my props and go through my face painting supplies to clean and reorganize. All my clients who had to cancel their events were offered tentative rescheduling for 2021 and accepted. I believe our clowning will not be the same after this is over but we need to find ways to spread the happiness however we can.

Last Walk Around: Joe “Tiny” Luce

By Aldo “Cheerio” Iglehart

“Our wonderful Tiny is gone!” Those were the first words I heard March 28, 2020. Joe “Tiny” or “Dr. Tiny” had passed away from a stroke that morning. I cried... But laughter was quickly mixed in with tears as his wife and I exchanged countless funny stories.

Tiny was one of those special people that had to be a clown. He always had his “clown eyes” open! He was devoted to teaching and helping other clowns open their “clown eyes.” He was a master at collecting and building props... especially “Tiny props!” Such as his “Tiny Briefcase”: A fancy cardholder with squirrel underwear.... Yes, they sell underwear for squirrels and Tiny found a pair. Or his “Thumb Drive”: A plastic thumb glued to a tiny car! He had countless ideas for skits. In 2017 he convinced me to perform a group skit. He put everything he had into it so we had to take some things out! At the 2017 TCA convention Tiny and Cheerio won 1st place in group skits with “The Best Little Hair House in Texas.” He was on top of the world because “We got more laughs than any other skit!”

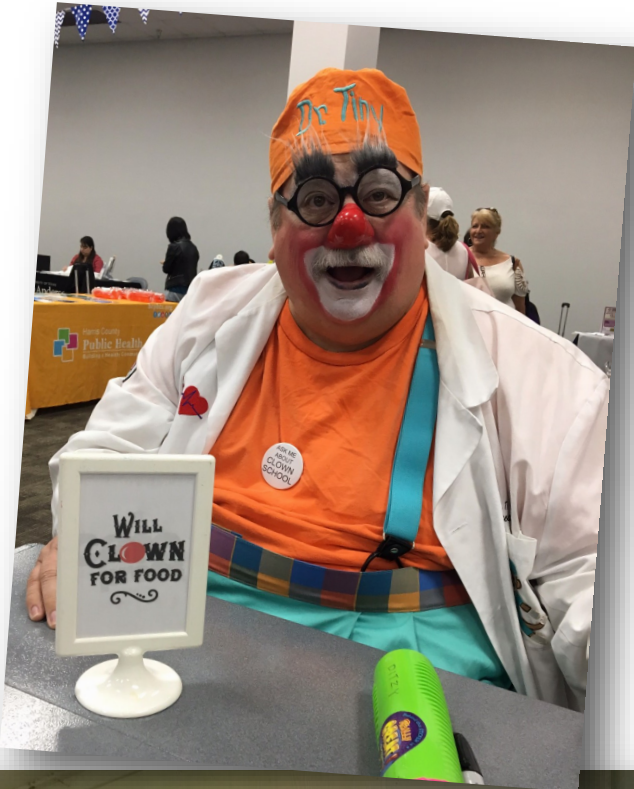
Tiny was one of the top volunteers in the Cheerful Clown Alley #166. He had a real heart for volunteering and eye for clowning. He was a member of the Board of Directors for Cheerful Clown Alley but he never needed a title to give his time and support to the alley. His reward was in smiles.

Everyone knew we were close. As they called to console me, I have heard countless funny stories about our wonderful “Tiny!” It was no surprise to me that so many will remember him. He has left us with smiles, laughter and tears.

Tiny was also a hospital caring clown and the CCA Kitchen Band. He loved every minute of clowning. Our “Tiny” will be sure be missed by our own Cheerful Clown Alley, but also by so many more others in TCA, COAI and WCA. Tiny was one of a kind!

Our prayers and heartfelt love go out to his “bride”, Donna. She knew how much he loved clowning and backed him up in all things clown.

“Bump as Nose Tiny!”



Help Wanted

By Andy “Smiley” Anderson

This year TCA convention has been canceled. This gives all of you a new year to consider running for a Board position. Well it will be that time again just next year to put the help wanted sign out. It’s time to invite our members to place their name on the ballot. You can email me at kudosra@yahoo.com . I would love to hear from any of you interested in being a part of the group that governs our great organization. Or if there’s anyone that you think would be an asset, please send me their information so I can contact them.

The term of each board member is one year and we have four board meetings each year. One is at the convention and the others are in different parts of the state so the same people do not have to travel for every meeting.

Below are the Job descriptions of the board positions. I look forward to hearing from all.

Thanks

Andy Anderson

TCA BOARD POSITIONS

Job Descriptions

President:

The President’s job includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Presiding over all Board meetings and General Membership meetings
- Supervising the affairs of the corporation
- Appointing committee chairs as needed
- Acting as an ex-officio member of all committees
- Serving as a secondary signer on the checking account
- Serving as part of the Executive Committee to act on behalf of the Board of Directors in the event of an emergency
- Contributing to *The Joey Journal*
- Promoting TCA in the great state of Texas

Vice President:

The Vice President's job includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Attending all Board meetings and General Membership meetings
- Fulfilling the duties of the President in his/her absence
- Coordinating alley applications and reports
- Acting as the primary point of contact between the Board of Directors of TCA and the General Membership of TCA
- Serving as part of the Executive Committee to act on behalf of the Board of Directors in the event of an emergency
- Willing to perform other duties as assigned by the President
- Being willing and available to work on TCA committees
- Contributing to *The Joey Journal*
- Promoting TCA in the great state of Texas

Secretary:

The Secretary's job includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Attending all Board meetings and General Membership meetings
- Keeping all records and correspondence of the corporation
- Recording the minutes from each Board meeting and General Membership meeting, copying and distributing said minutes to each board member and the Editor of *The Joey Journal*
- Sending out to and receiving proxy statements from each board member before each quarterly Board meeting
- Answering correspondence for the corporation when requested by the President and keeping an accurate file of all correspondence
- Serving as part of the Executive Committee to act on behalf of the Board of Directors in the event of an emergency
- Preparing voting ballots as needed
- Holding the corporate seal
- Willing to assist the President where needed
- Willing to perform other duties as assigned by the President
- Being willing and available to work on TCA committees
- Contributing to *The Joey Journal*
- Promoting TCA in the great state of Texas

Treasurer:

The Treasurer's job includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Attending all Board meetings and General Membership meetings
- Maintaining the financial records of the corporation including quarterly financial reports and budget reports
- Preparing and mailing annual membership Dues Renewal notices and membership cards; notifying Area Directors of new members in their respective areas
- Maintaining complete membership database
- Providing a bi-monthly list of current membership to the Editor of *The Joey Journal* so that labels can be printed (or providing printed labels)
- Serving as the primary signer on all bank accounts and making deposits in a timely manner
- Holding the corporate credit card
- Paying all expenses in a timely manner
- Preparing the annual budget
- Filing an annual tax return (if applicable) and/or any other federal, state or local government forms in a timely manner
- Providing coverage for the TCA table at annual conventions for new member registrations, dues payments, membership status, etc.
- Willing to perform other duties as assigned by the President
- Being willing and available to work on TCA committees
- Contributing to *The Joey Journal*
- Promoting TCA in the great state of Texas

Sergeant-At-Arms:

The Sergeant-At-Arms' job includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Attending all Board meetings and General Membership meetings
- Maintaining order during TCA Board meetings and General Membership meetings
- Enforcing Roberts Rules of Order at both TCA Board meetings and General Membership meetings
- Keeping track of all TCA merchandise
- Running bi-annual elections, including balloting
- Handling any vote at the General Membership meeting
- Willing to perform other duties as assigned by the President

- Being willing and available to work on TCA committees
- Contributing to *The Joey Journal*
- Promoting TCA in the great state of Texas

Area Director:

The Area Director's job includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Attending all Board meetings and General Membership meetings
- Taking pertinent information from those meetings to their region
- Voicing concerns to the Board from regional members
- Sending out a Welcome Packet to new members in their region
- Following up with members who do not re-up to determine reasoning
- Promoting TCA merchandise and maintaining an inventory for proper accountability of same
- Providing the Board with input regarding trends and popularity of merchandise
- Encouraging alleys to exchange newsletters
- Introducing First-time convention attendees from their region at the Annual Convention
- Encouraging new clowns in their growth in the art of clowning
- Encouraging each member to attend TCA conventions
- Willing to perform other duties as assigned by the President
- Being willing and available to work on TCA committees
- Contributing to *The Joey Journal*
- Promoting TCA in the great state of Texas

Neck Rub Conga Line!



Miss Creativity 2019



Cricket says it's her birthday and she is 39!! We all know she is really 40!!!



Does Greg know it's a USED tissue?

Scrapbook pics from the 2019 Convention.

Captions by Linda Greene