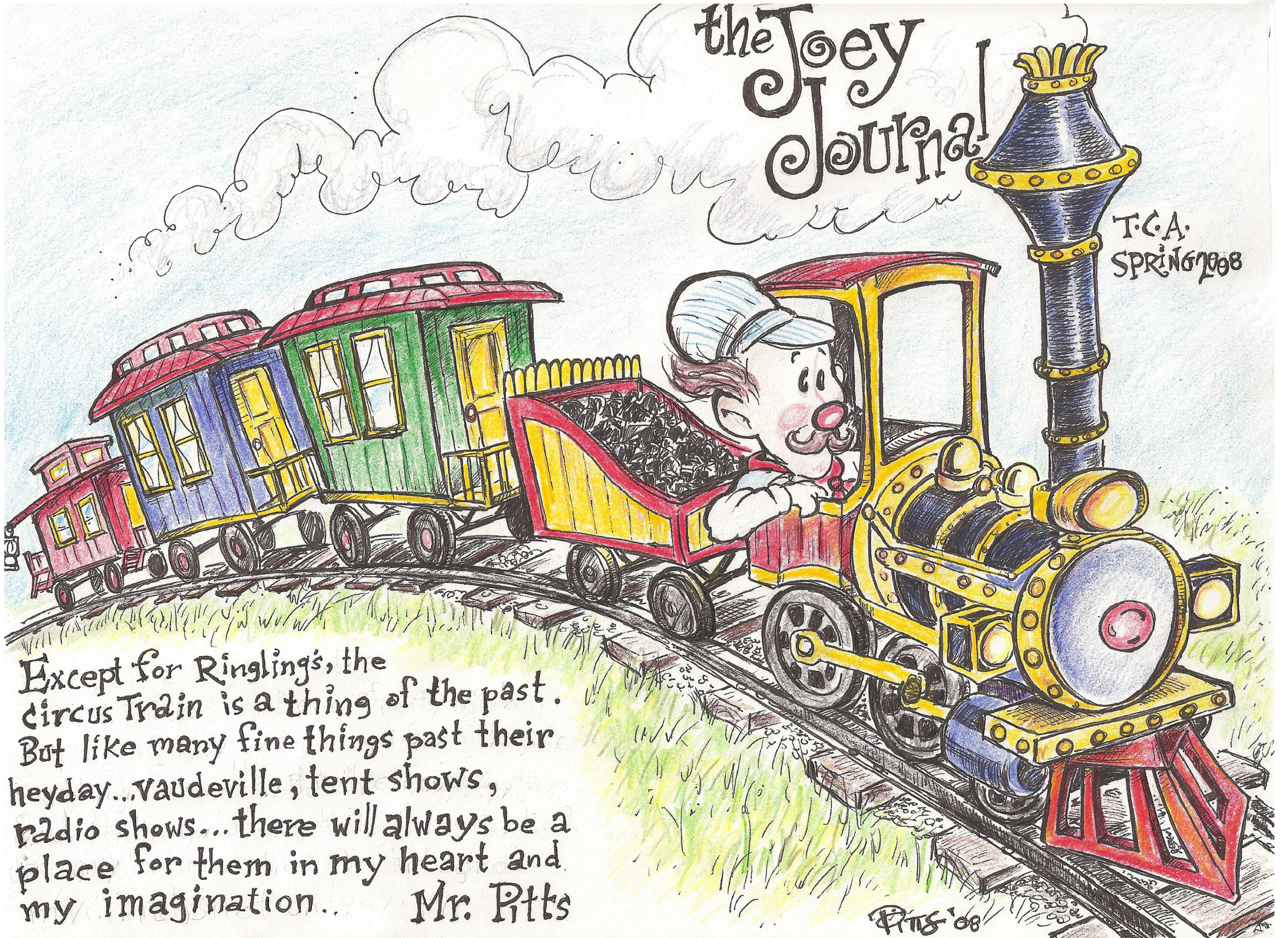


the Joey Journal

T.C.A.
SPRING 2008



Except for Ringling's, the
Circus Train is a thing of the past.
But like many fine things past their
heyday...vaudeville, tent shows,
radio shows...there will always be a
place for them in my heart and
my imagination.. Mr. Pitts

Pitts '08

THE JOEY JOURNAL

Published Bi-monthly for Members of

The Texas Clown Association, Inc.

Kay "Nannie Belle" Quittner, Editor

David Pitts, Cover Artist

Read it online via your TCA website: www.texasclownassociation.com

Letters to the Editor, articles and other related items may be mailed to *The Joey Journal*, 116 Nichols Drive, San Marcos, Texas, 78666 or by sent by email to joeyjournal@yahoo.com. 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, copies, or Polaroids.

Advertisements: Advertisements must be prepaid and camera ready. Rates: Full page-\$50; half page-\$30; 1/3 page size \$20

Multiple placement discounts on full, half, and quarter page ads are 10% for 2-5 editions and 20% for six editions. Payment must be received in advance.

Clownified ads: Free to members if you have clown-related items for sale or donation. Vendor businesses not included.

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Membership and Dues	Regular Membership:	\$ 25.00
Family (each add'l):	15.00	
Associate Membership:	20.00	Junior Membership: 12.50

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

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.

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A Word from the Pres



Have you ever wondered why the Texas Clown Association exists? Our by-laws state that we are here to 1) promote, preserve and improve the profession of clowning; 2) provide the opportunity to study the art, history and philosophy of clowning; 3) educate our members and the general public in the wholesome and clean entertainment that is provided by the profession of clowning; and 4) provide news of clown events to our members. So, the question is, "How are we doing?"

As we look back over the past few years, I see that we have been attempting to satisfy our stated purpose through *The Joey Journal* and the annual Texas Clown Association Convention. We've made some changes like adding a Novice Track at convention and by adding more weighty articles in *The Joey Journal*. We sought and obtained your input on changing the timeframe of our annual convention. Our website is more user friendly and contains more information. But really, "How are we doing?"

Part of our stated purpose is that we are here to "improve the profession of clowning." What does that mean? Merriam-Webster.com states that improvement means to make more useful, profitable or valuable; to raise to a more desirable quality; to become better; to make beneficial additions or

changes. It usually implies remedying a lack or a felt need.

Only YOU can answer the question. So, I'm asking you, "How are we doing?" I welcome your feedback. You can email me at twinkles@52sunflowers.com or snail-mail me at 2530 Pomeran Drive, Houston 77080. Tell me such things as: Where do we stand to improve? What are your ideas to assist with the improvement process? How can we better meet our goals? What will make TCA more useful and valuable to you? What need can this organization meet for you? You also might note: What are we doing well?

We seek to be the best there is; to try for anything less would be counter-productive. As I've often heard, the biggest room in the world is the room for improvement. Help us get there.

Let me hear from you.

Lisa "*Twinkles*" Ezell

Spoiler Alert! A "spoiler alert" is a warning that reading further may reveal information that you don't want to know yet about the upcoming 2008 TCA Birthday Celebration. You have been warned!

******We have 2 International Clown Hall of Fame inductees coming to this year's convention. Stay tuned for more info coming soon.....**



Editor.'s Note'

Sorry this issue is out later than usual. As we all know sometimes "life happens" and things can get out of control in a hurry. To get the next issue of the Joey Journal out in early May, the next deadline for publication is on or before May 1. Joey Journal DEADLINES are on or before the first day of that issue so that it can be in the mail as soon as possible. By the way, the contributors have written some outstanding articles which make our journal more than just a book of dates.

Jan/Feb issue deadline — Jan 1

March/April — March 1

May/June — May 1

July/August — Membership Roster — July 1

September/October-Convention Issue — Sept 1

November/December — Nov 1

Evolution

Evolution n. The act of evolving, adapting, or changing for the purpose of improving.

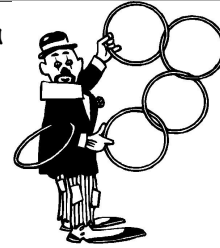


We should strive to keep evolving. Don't think of it as change, no one likes change, everyone tries to avoid that. We all get comfortable having familiar things and friends around us, but we should seek out the unfamiliar. We should all try to do things that are different. New things keep life exciting. It is said that if you always do what you've always done you will only get what you've always got. Sometimes we should try to do things differently, even if it's only a little different. Often the results will be surprising. Next time you clown up try changing the order, or the way you apply your makeup. Next time you do a birthday party or a stage show use a different order of items in the show.

Try to learn a new skill. If you have never face painted, or are afraid of balloons give them a try.



Do you juggle? If you do, learn a new pattern or add another object. If you can't, take a seminar or get a friend to help you learn the ropes.



If magic is your interest, pick up a new trick or give an old favorite a new twist or ending.

Sure, what you're doing probably works, but maybe it could work better. You'll never know unless you give it a try. Experiment, make an effort to do things you wouldn't normally do. Maybe at the alley meetings you should attempt to speak and interact with everyone attending, not just your close clown friends. Strive to do this in your everyday routine. Smile and say hello to EVERYONE. It sounds easy but... Well, I digress, if we keep experimenting and then sort out what works and what doesn't we will determine the best way to meet our goals (entertaining kids of all ages). The methods and ways we come up with will also be the easiest, fastest, and most entertaining way of doing things.



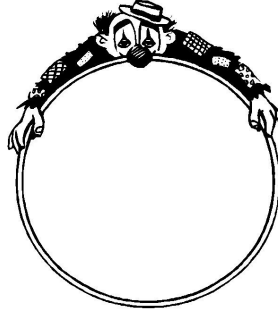
We should all try to evolve, and thank heaven for evolution, because if it wasn't for evolution I would look like I did when I first became a clown, and that was scary.

Buckle

Last Chance

This may or may not be the last chance for you to step up and take a leadership role in TCA. We are looking for some good people to run for the TCA Board. The elections will be at the General Membership meeting at the convention in Wichita Falls. If you want to throw your hat in the ring or just more information contact Andy Anderson at kudosra@yahoo.com or 817-282-3339

Thank you very much Andy Anderson



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TCA DUES

TCA dues were due April 1, 2008.

Look for your renewal notice or, better yet, mail it now.

Send payment to:

TEXAS CLOWN ASSOCIATION

c/o Mauri Norris

6504 Kenyon Lane

Bellaire, TX 77401

Membership Rates:

Regular membership	\$25.00
Family *each add'l	15.00
Associate	20.00
Junior	12.50

Note: If you joined TCA (for the very first time) after 7/1/07, your 4/1/08 thru 3/31/09 dues are pro-rated (less than above) Call the TCA treasurer for your dues amount or see your renewal notice.

Thanks for being a part of TCA!

*****TCA Minutes and past Joey Journals*****

may be found on our website at
www.texasclownassociation.org

HELP!!! SOME MEMBERS are MIA

Dues renewal notices were mailed in late February to all current TCA members (memberships expire 3/31/08) and to past members whose memberships expired on 3/31/06 or 3/31/07. If you have already sent your payment - thanks for your prompt response. If you have not mailed your payment, please do so soon so that you will not be dropped from the mailing list and will not owe a \$5 late fee.

Remember, membership cards are only mailed if you provided a self-addressed-stamped envelope with your payment. If you know *any* of the TCA members listed below - please contact them to remind them about their TCA membership - their renewal notices were returned as undeliverable - so we must not have current addresses. Or contact me to let me know where they are now! Thank you for your assistance. You can send address updates to the Treasurer at: 6504 Kenyon Lane, Bellaire, TX 77401 or by email to: MauriNorris@yahoo.com,

JENNIFER BENTLEY	DEBBIE SHIELDS
PETER CRONK	JOHN BIGGERS
DALE DePRIMA	MARY J. HONEYCUTT
ANDY GARNER	ROBERT MARSH
BARBARA HAINES	JANICE MARSH
ELIZABETH HART	MARCY POLAND

Memories of Lou Jacobs

No one expects to run across a family member of a famous person—least of all at an elephant's watermelon-eating contest at the Permian Basin Fair in Odessa, Texas. Yet that is just what happened in 2007 when Kay "Klynky" Henry struck up a casual conversation with the elephant wrangler. Lou Ann Barreda and her husband run Elephant Encounter, a traveling educational show featuring four orphaned African elephants. Lou Ann thought she would ask if Klynky knew her father, Lou Jacobs. Klynky was amazed—she had met Lou in the mid-1980's at Clown Camp in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. "I never thought I'd meet anybody that belonged to Lou Jacobs," said Klynky. She asked Lou Ann for an interview, and was excited when Lou's daughter agreed to meet with her the very next day.

Klynky met with Lou Ann in her family's lodgings at the fairgrounds. Lou Ann happily discussed her father's background and experience with the Ringling Brothers Circus.

"My father came over from Germany in his early twenties," recalled Lou Ann. "As a young boy growing up, he used to be a comic, clowning around all the time. He joined Ringling Brothers as a contortionist before going into clowning." He also looked for a normal life for his family, allowing his children to travel with him when they were young but sending them back to Florida for school. As a result, they were not with him all the time.

He was very strict and stern with Lou Ann and her younger sister, whom he wanted brought up properly. At home, he was "all father." "When the makeup came off," said Lou Ann, "he wasn't always joking around the house." Their mother was a top model who appeared on the cover of *Pageant* magazine, twice. Also a circus performer, she suffered a fifty-foot fall-with no net-during a performance at the old Madison Square Gardens. She broke several vertebrae, ending her circus career.

During his sixty-year career with Ringling Brothers, Lou was best known for traveling around in a tiny car. When he emerged, he unfolded his tall frame to the amazement of the crowd. His canine sidekick, Knuckle Head, "was the sweetest dog," Lou Ann remembered. Lou even appeared on a United States postage stamp in the 1960's.

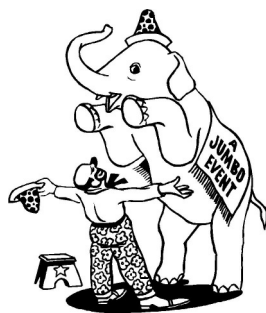
Lou "made so many people laugh in his lifetime because Ringling Brothers traveled everywhere." His daughter says he didn't even realize how wonderful and special he was; he just loved his job. He also loved fishing and camping. Lou died about 1993 at age 89.

Lou Ann Barrera was very proud of her father, never ashamed. "He made a lot of people happy." He was a soft-spoken man who didn't like to brag. In fact, Lou Ann followed in her parents' footsteps, doing trapeze and contortion. Being in the traveling entertainment industry is "like sawdust in your blood," said Lou Ann.

Lou Jacobs was the first clown Klynky ever remembered hearing about. She's been clowning with her late husband following their retirement in 1981. They read an article about clown school in Houston and signed up. Klynky, an Odessa resident since 1983, was so excited to find out who Lou Ann Barreda was. "I could hardly contain myself last night," she admitted, in anticipation of the interview. She recalled watching Lou put on his clown makeup. "He put on all of his makeup with his finger."

Klynky is constantly amazed at the luck that brought her to Lou Ann that day at the fair. She never expected to meet someone famous there, and is so grateful that Lou Ann agreed to her request for an interview. Klynky even got the chance to ride one of Lou Ann's elephants during their stint at the fair, truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Klynky is following in Lou Jacobs' footsteps, continuing her clowning well into later life.



by Kay Henry



Hello from Wichita Falls

It's the site of the 2008 TCA Convention. We are excited to have everyone join us here for the 25th Birthday Celebration. We are working hard to make sure this is a convention to remember, so don't you dare miss it!

I wanted to share a little information on the Convention, and also on Wichita Falls . This year's convention will be held at the Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel. If you were at the 2007 Convention in Houston and picked up a registration form, you will notice that our host hotel has changed. After the Houston convention, we decided the hotel we had selected would not adequately provide the services and room we needed to host a great convention. So we found a great hotel with lots of space, and a staff that seems excited to have a bunch of clowns come take over their hotel.

You'll have also noticed that we left out information on a convention shirt. This year we are planning on a nice, polo style shirt with the new TCA log embroidered on the front and we just didn't have all the kinks worked out before the convention. These are going to be nice shirts that you'll be proud to wear when you are out and about, and they will also be great ways to promote TCA. The shirts will be \$25.00 for small to XL, adding a dollar for each additional size increase (\$26.00 for XXL, \$27.00 for XXXL, \$28.00 for XXXXL).

Wichita Falls is a city of around 100,000 people. Sheppard Air Force Base adds to the diversity of the city bringing in people from all over the world with their NATO training. Wichita Falls is the annual host for the international bicycle race, the Hotter Than Hell One Hundred. Some fun sites to see in the city include the city's own man-made waterfall that is just across the highway from our host hotel. You'll also want to check out the world's smallest skyscraper which was built in the 1920's by a con man who came through town promoting it. Too bad no one noticed the tiny decimal points on the plans (for example, instead of 40 stories, they got 4.0 stories). And for all you Starbucks fans, a brand new store has just been completed right up the road from the hotel.

So, don't waste another minute and get registered today. The longer you wait, the higher the registration will be. So save a buck and get signed up today. While you are at it, why not go ahead and make your hotel reservations. We look forward to see you, October 1-5, 2008 in Wichita Fall, Texas.

Greg "Zoots" Stanford, President

The Clown Arounds

Wichita Falls , Texas

www.theclownarounds.com

Your Clown Heart

One day a lady came into my store and said she was looking for a book on clowning for a friend. Her friend wanted to be a clown and she was in the hospital so she was going to take the book to her for a gift. We talked about clowning and as we did I mentioned a clown class that would be starting in a few months. Well, she bought the book and left.

A few weeks passed and another lady came in looking for a book on clowning for a friend. You guessed it, this lady was looking for a book for that same lady. We talked and I picked out a different book and she was on her way.

A time passed and a couple came in the store looking for some clown supplies. This was the lady that had been in the hospital and her husband. As we talked I thought what a nice couple and she really seemed to me that a clown was inside her. We talked about a class that would be starting soon among other things while they shopped. She seemed so excited to finally get the opportunity to become what she wanted to be for so long.

A few weeks later on a Friday evening Rhea was working late and since I had some paperwork to do I left the store open past closing. The door opened about fifteen minutes later and in came a man with two small girls. The man was a Doctor. He said he wanted a clown wig for one of his patients that was in the hospital. As we talked I found out it was this same lady. I told him she had been in and that she

was going to take our next clown class. The next thing from his mouth just floored me. He said she probably would not make it to the class. I asked him if she could have visitors and he said yes. I got paper and pencil and wrote down the hospital and room number.

A year before this happened one of the people that helped start the Hurst Clown Arounds moved. She was not a clown so we made a Certificate making her an honorary clown. On Saturday after the Doctor came in I had an idea so I called Hubba to see if he still had that certificate on his computer. He said he did and I asked him to make one up with this lady's name on it because I was going to take it to the hospital. The first thing he said was yes and asked if he and Twinkle Star could go. I said yes and while we were talking another clown came in heard what was going on and asked if she could go also.

The next day five clowns loaded with fun things and a certificate stormed the hospital. We found the lady's room and we just had a wonderful time with her husband, son, sister and a brand new clown. As we were leaving different ones asked us to visit rooms on the floor. Getting on the elevator to leave Sweet Pea said it seems like I'm forgetting something but not being able to think of anything we were on our way.

While clowning around in the parking lot a car pulled up and asked what we were doing. We said we had visited a clown friend and they wanted to know if we would go see their father. While waiting for them to park, the son of the lady we gave the certificate to came out. He was going to buy a frame for his mom's clown certificate. He said to bad they didn't have a camera to take pictures. Rhea popped up and said she had one in her bag. We told him we would be there as soon as we go see these girls' father. We got back to the room and there she was with her clown wig and red nose waiting for us.

Three days later I saw in the newspaper that the lady had died and in the obituary it said she was a member of the Hurst Clown Arounds. For some reason beyond me I told Rhea we need to go to the funeral home for visitation. As Rhea signed the visitation book the sister we saw at the hospital came by. Rhea told her we were two of the clowns that came to the hospital and her face just lit up. Walking inside at the head on the casket we saw an easel with the framed certificate on it.

We as clowns never know when something we do or say will give a person a memory of a moment that will last a lifetime. Never leave home without your clown heart.



Andy Anderson

DATES to NOTE

Clown School Presented by Cheerful Clown Alley

June 17-August 9

For more information call Bunny at 281-449-6981 or visit their website at www.cheerfulclowns.com

Summer Balloon Class for kids 10-16

Saturday, July 12

For more information or a student registration call the Cheerful Clown Alley telephone number at 281-437-0999.

Face & Body Art International Convention

Doubletree Universal in Orlando, FL

May 21-25, 2008

For more info www.faceandbodyartconvention.com

Advanced Studies - The Harvest

August 18-23, 2008

Camp Bethel (near Roanoke) VA

Space is limited

For more info www.AdvancedStudies08.com

or call 540-473-2271

***TCA Convention-25th Anniversary Celebration**

October 1-5, 2008—Wichita Falls, TX www.theclownarounds.com

For more learning opportunities check out www.clownevents.com or to list your event, contact this editor.



Doris Fletcher—(254) 716-4930 or (254) 662-4129

600 Retoma Park - Robinson, TX 76707

email: clowncloset@hotmail.com

www.theclowncloset.com

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MUGS \$15.95

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ORDER FROM KUDO'S on page 12 of this issue.

Andy "Banjo" Quittner

The Logo



Welcome Steve Roeske

We all love those comfortable Billy Prince shoes and now it is so easy to get them with the new ad in our Joey Journal. Many of you know already that Steve Roeske, Billy's nephew, has "stepped into Billy's shoes" and now is supplying us with that walking comfort we have come to love. Billy has had some serious health problems and we wish you continued improvement Billy Thank you Steve.

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Fax : 321-726-8063

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HOW TO STAY YOUNG

After the first of the year we all make a list of our New Year's Resolutions and then promptly forget about them.

I received the following from my niece and thought "these are ones I would like to live by every day." As clowns, some of these fit right into our lifestyles. If you have already seen these, then this will be a gentle reminder.

1. Throw out nonessential numbers. This includes age, weight, and height. Let the doctors worry about them. That is why you pay them.
2. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down. (Keep this in mind if you are one of those grouches).
3. Keep learning: Learn about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain get idle. "An idle mind is the devil's workshop." And the devil's name is Alzheimer's!
4. Enjoy the simple things.

5. Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath. And if you have a friend who makes you laugh, spend lots and lots of time with him/her.

6. The tears happen: Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person who is with us our entire life, is our self. Live while you are alive.

7. Surround yourself with what you love: Whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge.

8. Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.

9. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county, to a foreign country, but NOT to where the guilt is.

10. Tell the people you love that you love them at every opportunity.

Have a Happy and Healthy 2008 and beyond!
Donna "Donnabelle" Manna

THE HEALING POWER OF HUMOR

I was privileged recently to be invited to participate in a brainstorming session at M D Anderson Cancer Center (MDA) - Place of Wellness (Houston, Tx) to discuss ideas and ways to add HUMOR to the MDA health care system. Dr. Moshe Frenkel, from Israel and now an Associate Professor and Medical Director, Integrative Medicine Program, Department of Palliative Care and Rehabilitation Medicine at the Place of Wellness, gathered several people to talk about this topic. He included some of the clowns that visit the hospital from the Cheerful Clown Alley. Sue "Hot Dog" Gortemiller and Joe "Biscuit" Holton also joined the group.

Dr Frenkel shared a story about an opportunity he had several years ago, to attend a lecture by "Patch" Adams (in Israel). He said the topic sounded interesting to him and since he was not busy that day he decided to attend. He was amazed at the number of people who traveled very long distances to attend. He said that it was a standing room only crowd and this demonstrated to him that there was a great interest in adding humor to the health care process (at least in Israel). In fact, in Israel the hospitals now have persons on staff to assist the doctors and other staff members with adding humor to the day-to-day health care of the patients.

We discussed a number of ideas for ways to add humor and laughter to the patient experience. And we described some of the things that the clowns do during their patient visits. Another member of the session was a young cancer survivor, now an artist-performer, and he shared his own experiences and explained how important humor was to him during his illness and how important he believed it was to his survival. He said that humor was his primary coping mechanism for healing.

While our session did not yield any final results, I am very excited that this is a seed planted toward implementing some programs to acknowledge that Laughter really is *GOOD* medicine. If you have any ideas or know of any other Humor Programs that might assist Dr. Frenkel with his efforts, please let me know and I will be sure to share them with him.

You can reach me via email : maurinnorris@yahoo.com or call me at 713-664-7733.

Mauri "Binkie" Norris



A good laugh and a long sleep are the best cures in the doctor's book. An Irish proverb

Dear God

Today I got back from Houston where I got to be at your big gospel clown convention. I always wanted to know what kind of a clown you wanted me to be and all my friends said that if I went to JOEY TO THE WORLD there would be some people there to tell me. I had to take the grown-up I live in with me because he has the drivers license and the checkbook.

The first person I got to meet was on Friday and his name was Sam T. He talked funny so I guess he really was from Malasia. He was really funny and he taught me how to make neat crosses and hearts that you can stick your head through and make funny faces so other people can laugh. Next he taught me how to tell stories using those balloons to tell people about you and your son and all the great things he did for us. I really liked the stories and I learned a lot so I guess I could be a story telling clown, if that's ok with you. Mom always told me not to be telling stories but I don't think she meant this kind. Mr. T told us another story about how he came to America and they put him in jail. It must have been because of his credit card because they told him his Visa had expired. He said he was scared for a while but it came out real good and he got to stay. He met a guy from his home and he got to tell him about you. So maybe I could be a clown at the jail but I would like my own set of keys.

Then I got to go to the big room with the soft chairs and the tall stage. That's where I got to see a man named Dave Mitchell. He was a clown just like me and he did a play about his dog and some mean kids but it was mostly about how you got to always do your best cause if you do and you treat people nice when you get heaven you get a prize and a pie in the face. I guess I could be a actor clown if you made me good enough. I will need a big room and soft chairs for sure.

And then it was the next day and I meet Ralph Dewey. He was a different kind of clown because he did'nt try to make me laugh. He taught me how to teach people about you with neat balloons He likes you a lot and when he was'nt looking I laughed anyway. He knew so much stuff about balloons that he had to write books to put it all in. Maybe if I read his books and your book and learn a bunch of stuff someday I could write a book about being a Gospel clown.

Then it was later and I went to Mary Lou Stasiek's class. She was teaching other clowns how to be new. I remembered when I was new and so I listened real good in case I missed something the first time. She told us about always keeping our clown clothes and noses on when we are with people and that we should always look the way we want people to remember us. Then she taught us about all the things clowns need to know before they start to learn about the things they need to do.

That makes sense. Right?

When I left her class my heart felt real good and I thought maybe I could be a clown school teacher. I'll need the big desk and maybe an apple if that's what you want me to do. I saw a lot of other people there and learned so much that when I left I still didn't know what you wanted me to do so all this time I have been just going out doing clown stuff, you know the stuff I learned. Then today in Sunday School it hit me like a dodgeball. This is what you want me to do.. Everything, and the really neat thing about it is that it's just what I have been doing all along. Now my heart really feels good cause I know that all you ever wanted me to be was just what you made me.. A CLOWN

John-John

We cannot really love anybody with whom we never laugh. *Agnes Repplier*

WORLD CLOWN ASSOCIATION REPORT

FUN in the Sun April 13 -17, 2008

The Hat Class— by Karen Bell

Karen Bell was the headliner for the World Clown Association annual convention in Orlando, Fl. On her website, www.kbclown.com, she recommends another website for learning all about hat tricks. It is www.TrickswithHats.org. Judy Holloway of Lakeway was there and said this about the class. "She had an auditorium stuffed full of clowns in roller hats which she had made. She taught us some cool hat tricks and at the end, she put them all together as a routine in which we participated. It was really FUN!!

The Texas Clown Association Board of Directors

Officers

President: Lisa TWINKLES Ezell – 713-460-4544;
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