

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 <u>The Joey Journal</u>, 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.

Publication deadlines On or before January 1, March 1, May 1, July 1, August 1 (special convention edition) and November 1. Articles can be sent to joeyjournal.com in Word format or in the body of your email for the easiest exchange of information.

Membership and DuesRegular Membership:\$ 25.00Family (each add'l):15.00Associate Membership:20.00Junior 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.
- 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.

What's in this Issue?

Joey Journal Info2	2
Index3	3
President's Message4	4
Sparkplug Reminder5	5
Editor's Note6	5
Convention Contests6	5
Ambassador of Clowning7	7
Hysterical, I mean historical	9
Making Your Own Wardrobe10	C
Competition13	3
Final Dues Notice14	4
John Luce VP Report15	5
Wanted-Pictures of All Clowns17	7
Ads18	3
TCA Budget19	9
Get Them While They Last20	C
Update to the Membership Roster2	1
Dates to Note24	4
The HarvestAdvanced Studies '0826	5
TCA Board of Directors Info27	7
TCA Convention Registration Pullout Center	r

A Word from the Pres

A delicious meal. Time together. An unexpected note. A kind word. A sweet embrace. A helping hand.



What do all these have in common? To me they are things that mean so much, but cost so little. Most of us are tired of hearing about the price of oil and groceries soaring to record highs. Add to that the recent increase in postage and you have a formula for overextending your budget. So what can we do that doesn't cost much? How can we share our love for others without breaking the bank?

Many of our alleys sponsor Clown School during the summer months. Get involved! Make it your job to recruit new students. Offer your time to help with classes. Perhaps you're the encourager to cheer new joeys on. Whatever your gifts or talents, use them to support your organizations. It doesn't cost much and is very rewarding.

The list at the top is another good place to start. Can you cook a meal for the single mom down the street? Can you move off your pew to sit with the lonely older gentleman to make him feel special? Can you write a note or email someone who's been missing from your alley meetings? Change a flat tire for a coworker? Speak kindly to the checkout clerk? Give a "happy meal" to the homeless guy? Each of these can be done with little or no expense and can go a long way to make someone's day. Think about it! What can you do to make this a better place?

Never pass up an opportunity to make someone smile. Spend time with those you love. Extend a little kindness... we can all do that.

Have a happy summer!

Lisa "Twinkles" Ezell



SPARKPLUG REMINDER!

There is still time to recruit new TCA members and WIN! If you recruit the most members between 9/1/07 and 8/31/08 you will WIN the TCA Sparkplug Award! If you recruit 6 or more TCA members during that period you are eligible to receive FREE REGISTRATION to the next (2010) TCA Convention. This is approximately a \$100 value - so get out there and SPARK some interest in TCA! Be sure all new members list your name as the referral on their TCA membership application form.

Note: since the 2010 convention will be held in the new July/August schedule, the next Sparkplug period will be shortened to 9/1/08-6/30/09 (just 10 months). So we all need to work harder and faster.

Mauri "Binkie" Norris



Editor:'s Deadline

July/August—Roster — July 1

September/October — Sept 1

November/December - Nov 1

TCA Minutes and past Joey Journals

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

Convention Contests

This year there will be a couple of contests where you might win something fun, useful and interesting. First, for all of you shop-a-holics, the first five persons who bring \$250 in receipts to the TCA table you will receive a special Anniversary Mug that will have both TCA logos emblazoned on it. For those who bring receipts to the TCA table showing they spent \$75 in the vendor's room you will win a TCA license plate bracket. This give away is first come, first served until we run out!! The second contest is comes from the generosity of Steve Kissell and Tom King who, respectively, donated 3 registrations for the 2009 Clown Jam in Branson, Missouri and one registration for the Family Entertainers Convention in Las Vegas. registrations will be given away at the general membership meeting, but you must be present to win. Each member attending the meeting will receive a ticket. The winning ticket will be drawn from a bucket at the conclusion of the meeting. The winner must be present when the tickets are drawn, and the winning ticket gets a choice of which convention registration they want (at least until the Family Entertainers is chosen).

See you at the Convention - and Good Luck!!

Ambassador of Clowning

It's time to start considering who you would like to nominate for the prestigious honor of being the 2008 Ambassador of Clowning. Has someone you know gone above and beyond? Is there a clown with a heart of gold and an unparalleled volunteer spirit? Who has been a mentor to you?

I want to encourage you to take a few minutes and jot down some pertinent information about your clown guru and friend. Let us know when he/she started clowning, where they clown, what type of clowning they do. Why is this person so special to you? Have they served on the board of your local alley or TCA? Do they teach at clown school each year? What special contributions have they made to the art of clowning? Make sure to include as much detail as you have, as if the committee doesn't know this clown at all.

Please send in your nominee's recommendation to Lisa "Twinkles" Ezell to twinkles@52sunflowers.com or via snail-mail to 2530 Pomeran Dr, Houston TX 77080. The deadline for receipt of your nomination is September 1, 2008. The Ambassador committee will review all nominations and make a selection based on your letters. The recipient will be announced at the banquet at the 2008 Convention in Wichita Falls. Hope to see you there!

CLASSICS by Barbi

Clown Costumes & Accessories

Unique Designs — Excellent Quality—Satisfaction Guaranteed

Makeup

ProKnows Our costumes are proven winners!

Vests

View some of our favorites at

Socks

www.classicsbybarbi@homestead.com

Gloves

Barbi & Jim Nippler

12735 Deforrest, Houston, TX 77066

(281) 580-9118

email: barbiclowns@hotmail.com

Celebrate National Clown Week by Clowning Around with

Chagy!

One day workshop hosted by the Jolly Joeys of San Antonio

Saturday, August 2, 2008

Cost - \$15

Contact Kim TUTTI FRUTTI Grice for more info – 210-698-8820 or tuttifrutticlown@sbcglobal.net



Hysterical, I mean, Historical Preservations

Hello Texas Clown Association Alleys.

As Historian Co-Chair with Kay Henry I would like to request a favor from each alley in TCA. We would like to compile a complete written history of each and every group in our big state. In order to do this, I would like to either have a contact name from each alley to call on for a phone interview or each alley could submit their information in written form to us.

Some things to consider including in the history could be year founded, charter members, how often you meet, how many members currently, group activities, pictures, some programs you have, clowns schools, any awards or recognitions, etc. (Unlimited in other words)

You can snail mail to Susan Keys at 2313 Meadow Crest, Irving, TX 75060 or e-mail to merrymakers1@juno.com.

Kay Henry has put together a wonderful scrapbook that will be available for viewing at the convention in Wichita this year. If we receive the Alley Histories we can include them with this display at convention. But if not, we still want to put this together for our future generations.

A "How To" Guide -Making Your Own Clown Wardrobe

If you are a new clown, a clown on a budget, or a very creative clown, you might be wondering how to make your own costume without spending a bundle. Do you sew or know someone who sews? If you do, here are some tips for putting a new clown wardrobe together.

Start with a pattern. If you look in the Simplicity or McCall's pattern books, you'll likely not find a clown costume pattern other than the Halloween variety. What you have to do is shop with clown eyes. What pattern would make a good pair of pants or bloomers? Look at pajama pants or shorts with an elastic waist. What about collars? Look at blouses or dresses with large collars or bows. Baby doll tops are very popular right now. They can be made from bright fabrics, add some pockets, and Voila! You've got a clown top. How about a vest? Typical vest patterns can be made with fun fabrics to become quite "clowny." Look at apron patterns. Those can be adapted to become overskirts or pinafores.

You probably want to consider purchasing your pattern in a larger-than-usual size. Traditionally, pajama pants, aprons, and many skirts don't have pockets. Add side seam pockets as well as patch pockets to make your wardrobe pieces more functional.

What about fabrics? Poly/cotton blends are easiest to care for. Lighter weight fabrics can be used for blouses, but if they are thin, you must line them. Stay away from: 1) rayon and rayon blends - limp, 2) open weave fabrics - stretch out of shape and shrink, 3) 100% cotton - fades, wrinkles, and must iron, and 3) anything needing to be dry cleaned - expensive.

For pants and vests - Trigger (a durable poly/cotton blend) seems to be the most resilient. It comes in a variety of bright colors and washes well. You will probably want to line your pants or vests with cotton broadcloth for comfort. Don't forget, shorter makes for more fun clown pants. You want them to see your socks!

Remember to add "back interest" to your costume. Large buttons or bows on the back of your vest will add some pizzazz. Pin these on for ease in laundering. Striped, bright colored, or checkered suspenders will add fun to your wardrobe as well.

When you make your vest, keep in mind that you'll want inside pockets and large armholes. Use snaps, frogs or hook and loop closures. Shirts go on AFTER you are in makeup, so watch necklines - maybe add a zipper.

Hat examples are available in the pattern catalogs or try using a hat form and covering it with a complimentary fabric. Add ribbons, ric rack, bows, feathers, flowers and bling.

These hints work well for Whiteface and Auguste clowns, but what about Tramps or Hobos? Visit your local resale shop and search for old suits. You can probably get one for under \$10. Several things can be done to distress it: wash it in the washing machine, run over it with the car, use sand paper on it, splatter paint on it. I've even heard of shooting it with buckshot. Sew on elbow and other patches of mismatched fabrics. Add a frayed piece of rope for a belt, holey socks, worn out shirt, and an old hat to finish it off. Don't forget to make the inside of the jacket distressed, too. The key here is to look old and dirty, not be old and dirty.

If clown shoes are not in your budget right now, start with decorated sneakers. Use fabric paints, sequin patches, beads, bright laces, lacy laces, etc. Wait on buying your clown shoes until you find your true character.

Hopefully, these hints and tips have been helpful in getting you on the right path to making your own clown costume. Now . . . put your face on, get out there and clown!



Competition

Just a quick note about competition. Due to the large number of participants in the performance category T.C.A. is making Performance a permanent competition at the convention.

Judging will be modified by adding 2 judges for a total of 5 to reduce tie scores. Judging criteria and awards will be similar to skit competition with the exception that there is only one category for performance, not separate single and group categories. That's it! Pretty simple huh?

I hope the interest stays high. We (the convention attendees) have had the pleasure of witnessing some very entertaining and clever acts that would not have "fit" into the skit category. The clowns performing in this competition are truly innovative and talented. I would like to urge everyone to participate, or at the very least attend this competition to support the clowns performing. You won't be sorry.

Buckle

My Competition Plans are: What should I do? Who with?

FINAL NOTICE -DUES ARE DUE

If you have not paid your dues - this will be your last issue of The Joey Journal. Please send payment right away to avoid being dropped from the mailing list. TCA membership year is from 4/1 - 3/31 - pay before June 1st to avoid additional \$5 late fee.

Send your payment to:

Texas Clown Association
C/O Mauri Norris
6504 Kenyon Lane
Bellaire, TX 77401

Rates:

Regular Members \$25

Family Members \$15 (each at same address as Reg member)

Associate Mbrs \$20

Junior Members \$12.50

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

Dear Membership,

It is not in my nature nor do I take any pleasure in the conveyance of bad news of any kind. Those of you that know me would attest to the fact that I neither read the newspaper nor watch televised news reports for that very reason, It's all bad news. Bad news and stories of tragedy are the life blood of such venues. Bad news is everywhere and to receive your daily allocation all one must do is to venture out into the world. It is fortunate for we clowns that bad news seldom enters our world which brings me to my point. The Texas Clown Association has recently received official notification that the Space City Clown Alley has disbanded. The assets have been dispersed, the old meeting place abandoned and the book closed on another chapter of T.C.A. history. If this was one isolated case we might be inclined to let this event pass by with a heartfelt "Oh Well," but this is just the latest in a number of alleys going inactive or disbanding all together. The board members of T.C.A. recently addressed this issue and came to this conclusion. The cause of this growing problem is not that we no longer care about clowning but rather that we are all aging to the point that some of our members can no longer withstand the physical demands of this profession. The second problem is that there fewer clowns coming up through the ranks to replace them. The alley structure is built on leadership and numbers and when there is a decrease in either the alley starts to wither. This problem is

sometimes more prominent in places of greater geographic area but smaller population. Another possibility is that some alleys are positioned in suburban areas consisting of older neighborhoods and as a result housing fewer youth. With fewer children there are fewer schools and libraries where the clowns can present their talents and gain exposure. There are probably many things that can lead to the demise of a clown alley and only one solution that comes to my mind...Recruitment. That's right we must take a lesson from our own Uncle Sam. How many people have you met that expressed an interest in what a clown does or remarked on how much fun it must be to be a clown. Well, that's when you set the hook and start them on the road to clown school. This will take some persistence on your part but with enough gentle nudges from enough eager clowns you might just find the old alley a little less numerically challenged. The next thing to do is to take care of the people you do have. Do things together, market your members, show up at places in costume— just for the fun of it! Strong alleys flourish where camaraderie exists and that encourages others to join in. Please do not get me wrong, I am not the Guru of alley regeneration and make no claim of having all the answers but, if by chance one of my ideas (or better still one of yours) could help save this from happening to another alley, then that would be good news indeed....And I like good news. Bump a Nose John Luce— V. Pres. T.C.A.

Wanted: Pictures of All Clowns

Be a part of our wonderful history review by sending in pictures for our slide show presentation during our 25th Anniversary Celebration. I am compiling all the pictures I receive (unless the response is overwhelming) into a video presentation to be shown during the TCA Convention in Wichita Falls this year.

To make sure you are included, please submit photos via

(best way) e-mail attachment PDF format (next best way) snail mail with your name and address on the picture

Please label the clowns in the photo and the year if you know it.

Please submit ASAP so you don't forget. Be a part of the next 25 years by joining us in Wichita Falls in October!

E-mail address is <u>merrymakers1@juno.com</u> and snail mail is

Susan Keys
2313 Meadow Crest
Irving, TX 75060
Thanks
Dubble Bubble
Historian Co-chair

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★ Hurst, Texas 76053

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Revenue	BUDGET	ACTUAL \$16,593.32	12/31/07 Bk Bal
Dues	7500	\$4,641.75	
CD Withdrawal			
Interest - CD	250		
Convention Profit	3200		
Convention Seed			
Sale - TCA Pins etc	50	\$94.00	
Advertising JJ	200	\$144.00	
Other Income			
TOTAL INCOME	11200	\$4,879.75	
TOTAL INCOME	11200	\$4,075.75	
Expenses			
Bad Checks			
Bank Charges			
Board Expense	1200	\$400.00	
Convention	2400		
Convention Seed	1000		
Insurance	600	\$500.00	
JJ Editor	150		
JJ Mailing/Postage	1000	\$359.60	
JJ Printing	3200	\$808.09	
JJ Supplies	300	\$92.29	
Mailing other/postage	250	\$128.38	109.44 renewal cards
Office(mbr cards/			
labels/+)	100	\$97.36	
PO Permit	100		
Printing other	75	\$18.40	
Educational Committee	500		
Area Dir - Welcome Pkts			
Website	180		
Trf to C/D		\$7,372.28	C/D Bal = \$15,000
TOTAL EXPENSE	11055	\$9,776.40	
NET (rev less			
expenses)	145	\$11,696.67	Bank balance

GET THEM WHILE THEY LAST

TCA 25th BIRTHDAY MUGS AND BADGES

PROCEEDS WILL HELP SUPPORT TCA'S THE BIRTHDAY BASH (at convention.)
MUGS \$15.95
BADGES \$7.00

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

Andy "Banjo" Quittner



Update to your Membership Roster:

Address Changes for:

Rosalie Perryman
P. O. Box 469
Marshfield, MO 65706



Carolyn Thacker 20419 Springlake Court Cypress, TX 77429

Welcome these new TCA Members:

TCA#1988
Sally Papasan "SASSY"
4902 Sundown Circle
Midland, TX 79705-2525
432-520-3512

TCA #1989
Terry Denson "BOBO"
318 Dyer Circle
Mabank, TX 75156-9131
930-451-3570

TCA#1990

Michael Miller "WHISKERS" 8827 Park Vista Drive San Antonio, TX 78250-5243 210-542-0112

TCA# 1991

Cathy Lorusso "HAPPY" 6295 East Peden Road Fort Worth, TX 76179 817-236-5073

TCA#1992

Stephen Dilsworth "BUZZ"
P. O. Box 2821
Porter, TX 77365
713-305-6455

TCA#1993F

Coleen Dilsworth "STAR" Same as above.

TCA#1994

Charles Graham "CRACKERS" 10902 Mesquite Dr. LaPorte, TX 77571 281-627-0706

TCA#1995 A

Theda Leonardo "SCRAPS" 7126 Dakota Dr. Mabank, TX 75156-6342 903-880-8463

TCA#1996

Calvin Lawrence "JAZZ" 2330 Boxer Palm San Antonio, TX 78213 210-541-8753

TCA 1997 F

Tanya Lawrence "KiIPPY GIGGLES" Same as above.

DATES to NOTE

JUNE 17-AUGUST 9

Clown School Presented by Cheerful Clown Alley. For

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

JULY 12

Saturday-Summer Balloon Class for kids 10-16

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

JULY 26

Cheerful Clown Alley workshop with Leon "Buttons" McBryde See page 20

AUGUST 1-7

National Clown Week-Go out and clown!!!!!

AUGUST 2

The Jolley Joeys of San Antonio are hosting a 1-day workshop presenting "CHAGY" See page 20

AUGUST 10-23

Advanced Studies - The Harvest

Camp Bethel (near Roanoke) VA Space is limited For more info www.AdvancedStudies08.com or call 540-473-2271

OCTOBER 1-5

*TCA Convention-25th Anniversary Celebration

Wichita Falls, TX www.theclownarounds.com

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

NOTE: A special honor is being paid to Cheerful Clown Alley, and we want to be able to share it with all TCA members.

Saturday, 26 July From 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m

Leon "Buttons" McBryde will be

guest lecturer for Cheerful

Clown Alley, Houston, TX

Interested in attending please go

to our website

www.cheerfulclowns.com,

Contact Steve "Buzz" Dilworth

(h) 713-305-6455

(w) 281-831-6228

Alternate,

Patty "Patticake" Gilbert

Advance registration is encouraged!

(w) 713-680-7646

ADVANCED STUDIES '08

In the Performance Art of Clowning August 18th - 23rd, 2008

Over the last two years we have been preparing the next crop of performing clowns. We started with "Ignite the Fire Within" rekindling the desire to carry the torch of clowning to the next level. We followed that with "Planting the Seeds", taking new members of the clown community and encouraging them to grow into performers.

"The Harvest '08" will be the last of a three-year project - - where we will see the results of the last



two years. Each phase "Ignite the Fire Within",
"Planting the Seeds" and
now "The Harvest" has
been a complete training
program within itself, and
this year is no different.
If you missed the first
years programs, you can
catch up with this year's
camp.

I encourage you to come and take advantage

of the most incredible staff assembled in the Art of Clowning. I look forward to personally welcoming each one of you to "The Harvest '08".....Leon McBryde

To register online: www.advancedstudies08.com or call 540-473-2271.

The Texas Clown Association **Board of Directors**

Officers

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

2530 Pomeran Dr., Houston, Texas 77080-3825;

twinkles@52sunflowers.com

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e-mail: aquittner@grandecom.net

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6504 Kenyon Lane, Bellaire, Texas 77401-3705

e-mail: mnorris@kanaly.com

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Past Pres.:

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