

## “Keep ‘Em Believing”

With each passing year I find that I must resolve ever more firmly, and ever earlier in the season not to be so Scroogy. I don't know when this tendency toward “Scrooginess” started in me. I think it was somewhere around the age of seven or eight when I realized that... how can I put this delicately so as not offend believers.. when I realized that when it came to the presents under the tree, Mom and Dad were doing most of the footwork for Santa. There, I said it. Now don't get me wrong, the magic wasn't completely gone, nor is it now, but... I think many of us share this wistful longing for the blissful ignorance of our childhood.

So, what then can be done? The genie cannot be put back in the bottle, so how can we suspend disbelief to feel that way again? I realize of course that many of us never lost the ‘magic’, but for those who have, I have three words...

“KEEP ‘EM BELIEVING.”

These words are borrowed from the work of a dear friend of mine, David Bartlett.

These words are the theme of his show “Santa Class”. I have only read the show script myself, and it is wonderful.

The magic for me in these words is this... when we can help a child to hold onto the magic for just a little longer, we get to share in that magic with them, however briefly. Now that is a great Christmas gift.

David Pitts

# The *Joey* Journal

The Texas  
Clown Association

Holiday Issue 2008



# 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](http://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](mailto: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.**

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<b>Membership and Dues</b>	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.

# November-December 2008

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*Wishing you an e-VENT-ful  
Holiday Season!*

## A Word from the Pres. . .

This is the first word from your new President but that doesn't mean Lisa Ezell is our old President. Lisa will be our Past President and will still be on the Board. Lisa will be there for support and I hope I can be half the President she has been. TCA has moved forward in the last four years under her leadership and I for one think she did a great job. I do promise you that I will do the best I can to help this organization keep moving forward. You have elected a good group to represent you on our TCA Board and I'm looking forward to working with them.

What a wonderful time we had at the TCA Convention in Wichita Falls. I would like to take a few seconds to tell the Clown Arounds of Wichita Falls what a great job they did putting together a super convention. They may be few in numbers but they were everywhere when needed. I would like to thank all the ones that helped as judges, runners, stage hands, time keepers and so on. I could not begin to try and remember everyone that jumped in to help. That's what clowns do they help each other out. I saw clowns at the convention helping each other with balloons, skits and magic tricks. I saw some great looking clowns in makeup.

Our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration was wonderful. Looking at the slides we could see where we came from and how far we have come in the past 25 years. It was good to see some faces that we haven't seen in awhile.

All of you that attended the convention should spread the word to your clown friends that were not there. We should be one and bring one. You may ask "What does that mean?" Next year be one clown at the convention and bring a clown with you. Happi Tymes has some great ideas for the first TCA convention in the summer. Yes, I said summer - the dates are August 5-9, 2009.

Bump A Nose,  
Andy "Smiley" Anderson



## YOUR NEW TCA OFFICERS

2008-2009

President: Andy Anderson

VP: Kim Grice

Secretary: Mauri Norris

Treasurer: Andy Quittner

Sgt. At Arms: John Luce

Past President: Lisa Ezell

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Dearest TCA Family,

Thank you so very much for joining us in Wichita Falls for the 25th Birthday Celebration of TCA. We had a great time hosting you wonderful people. With the help of your TCA Board, the convention was a success. The presenters were fabulous, the vendors brought some super merchandise, the competitions were outstanding. Thanks to the alleys who hosted the Hospitality Room. The munchies were greatly appreciated! Thanks to those special people who pitched in and helped us at registration when we got swamped, who helped with competition, who helped with decorations. You all were so supportive. We hope you enjoyed being here as much as we enjoyed having you here. Thanks again for making this year's convention a memorable time.

Love ya!

Greg & Kathie

Co-Chairs TCA 2008

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*The Greatest Magic is in Christmas*



Next JJ Deadline is January 5

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

may be found on our website at [www.texasclownassociation.org](http://www.texasclownassociation.org)

## DATES to NOTE

### Coming soon...

February..5-6, 2009—"JTTW"

Joey to the World

Sagemont Church

11300 S. Sam Houston Parkway

Houston, Texas 77089 USA

Call 281-481-8770



### And for Next Year...Summer Fun in the DFW Area!

August 5-9, 2009

Sponsored by Happi Tymes Alley

Mark Your Calendars NOW!!!

### Memories from Convention '08



# ***FIRST TIME SUMMER TIME***

Texas Clown Convention

**August 5-9, 2009**

Register now and SAVE!

**\$105 until 12/31/08**

(pay now, deduct from 2008 taxes)

Check the convention website for details!

[www.happitymesclowns.vpweb.com](http://www.happitymesclowns.vpweb.com)

Please add the website address as

A signature line on your emails.

Help us advertise the convention to everyone!

## **Testimonies from Convention**

Taken by Kay "Nannie Belle" Quittner

As your Editor of the JJ, I took a few comments from some of the convention attendees. Below are a few of them:

"I have been part of TCA for 24 years. 1985 was first convention. Lots of memories but this is the BEST. Thanks. "  
Ms. Dolly.

"What a privilege to be a part of TCA's 25th anniversary. And so good to see old friends and to make new ones. See you in Dallas in 2009." June Hinkle

"Made balloon arch at banquet. My feet hurt, back hurts, but was FUN. Wouldn't miss it for the world." Pedals

"So Entertaining!!!" Amy Dee

" A lot of fun and learning. I'm slightly older than Klynky and have been in as long as Glitterbug. Enjoyed the whiteface clowns." Laurel Grandstaff

"Best part to me is competition. Being judged whether wrong or right, how to fix it." Gema Anderson

"Glad to be here!" Double Bubble



## CONVENTION 2008

### COMPETITION

Congratulations to all the competitors who participated in Wichita Falls. I know how intimidating it can be to perform for your peers. It is/was not an easy task conducting a competition of that size with a shorthanded staff. I want to complement the Host Alley on their efforts; it truly was an exceptional and memorable experience. The purpose of holding competition at the convention is one of instruction, it should be a learning experience for all. I know from being on all sides of the competition that if you pay attention you can learn a lot! The audience can and do see a lot of new ideas, and maybe a new twist on an old one. The judges are forced to examine more closely certain aspects of the performance as a whole and maybe appreciate how to apply it to their clowning. The people back stage (the ones no one see's) can absorb how to put on a show, and how to move people on and off stage smoothly. No matter what vantage point you choose there is always something to learn.

Even my position provided plenty of opportunity to learn I hope I can and do apply it to next year's convention. I personally want to thank all the people who helped me at the convention. I am reluctant to name names for fear of forgetting someone. The people who helped know who they are and they have my gratitude.

The number of competitors remained high this year. The numbers are as follows; Make-up 37, Single skits 10, Group skits 16, Single parade 21, Group parade 13, performance 10, Single balloon 10, multiple balloons 9, Balloon arrangement 7, all this for a grand total of 133 separate entries! we must remember that all the group entries and some of the performance entries contained more than one clown, so at the convention attended by less than 150, we had — **202 participants!!!!!!**. — Truly exceptional numbers!

If you were a part of this year's competition thank you I hope it was a pleasant experience for you, if not let me know how we can make it better next year. Thank You for allowing me the opportunity to serve as

competition chairman. I'll see all of you next year in the metroplex for our first-time summer-time convention.

Bump a nose, **BUCKLE**



# 2008 Competition Winners

## *Single Balloon*

3rd Place: #10 Susan Keys  
2nd Place: #4 Margaret Clauder  
1st Place: #8 Francisco Jaurez

## *Multiple Balloon:*

3rd Place: #1 Dale Flashberg  
2ndPlace: #4 Susan Keys  
1stPlace: #3 Margaret Clauder

## *Balloon Arrangement:*

3rd Place: #7 Earl Warren  
2nd Place: # 3 Susan Keys  
1st Place: #6 Francisco Jaurez

## *Whiteface:*

3rd Place: #7 Stephen Dilsworth  
2nd Place: #8 Alexa Bodine  
1st Place: #1 Mauri Norris

## *Auguste:*

3rd Place: #6 Debbie Garcia  
2nd Place: #5 Diana McCurtain-Talbert  
1st Place: #1 Mary Morris

## *Character:*

3rd Place: #8 Kim Grice  
2nd Place: #6 Margaret Clauder  
1st Place: #2 Francisco Jaurez

*Senior:*

3rd Place: #2 Bob King

2nd Place: #7 Andy Anderson

1st Place: #8 Lisa Ezell

*Single Parade-ability:*

3rd Place: #8 Francisco Jaurez

2nd Place: #15 Bob King

1st Place: #7 Kathy Keaton

*Group Parade-ability:*

3rd Place: #6 Alec Dunbar Missy Dunbar

2nd Place: #12 Margaret Clauder Bernadette Kelly  
Sandee Findley Joyce McKelvey

1st Place: #7 Linda Green Kathy Keaton

*Single Skit*

3rd Place: #6 Life Lessons Alec Dunbar

2nd Place: #8 Past Due Susan Keys

1st Place: #7 Music Box Clown Francisco Jaurez

*Group Skit*

3rd Place: #3 Matthew 21:22

Third place Participants Francisco Jaurez Martha  
Warren Alejandro Espinosa

2nd Place: #15 Customer Complaint

Second place Participants Missy Dunbar Alec Dunbar

1st Place: #5 C N D.

First place participants Margaret Clauder Susan  
Keys Tricia Gregory

*Performance:*

3rd Place: #2 Where did Rocky go

2nd Place: #9 write it down

1st Place: #4 Robo-clown

*Best All Around Clown:* Margaret Clauder

*Ambassador of Clowning:* John Luce

The Whiteface Contestants



## **TCA Salutes John "John John" Luce the 2008 Ambassador of Clowning**

John is not only a good clown, but also a good and honest person. He is always at the ready to help a new or seasoned clown be the best they can be without wanting or needing any recognition for doing so. When you look up mentor in the dictionary, you'll find a picture of John John.

He is an active supporter of TCA and believes that Texas clowns are the best. John has taught classes with his local alley, at TCA, COAI and at the local college.

John John is wonderful in the art of ballooning, but he doesn't just make balloons, he entertains the children with special balloons. Each child in front of John John is the most special of all at that time.

You should see John John on stilts! This 9-foot cowpoke can mosey with the best of them with pocket magic and stickers. Even at 9-foot it is hard to imagine how he has room in his body for such a huge heart.

John has been clowning for over 19 years and is truly committed to the art. While not usually a competitive clown, he is a willing participant when called on to step in.

His clowning has taken him to Canada, the Bahamas, Mexico and throughout the U.S. He has recently developed a love for the Sioux Tribe children in North Dakota from his last four mission trips. He has clowned for Make a Wish and Give Kids the World in Florida.

John has won several awards at the local alley level including the Cowtown's top award, The Ceslee Conkling Award. He has been presented the Founder's Award from

the Something mAAgic Foundation for his support of the organization and his work with WishFlight.

And now, he can add Ambassador to his impressive resume'. It is my privilege to introduce to you the 2008 Texas Clown Association Ambassador of Clowning:

**Ambassador John “John John” Luce**



Congratulations “John John”



## **Kids will love these December Games**

### **Rudolph Run or Red Nose Relay**

Supplies:

- Large jar of Vaseline
- Popsicle sticks
- Wet-Ones
- Red pom-poms

Trash bag



Kids line up in 2 or more even teams. At the other end is a small table, TV tray, or chair holding the jar of Vaseline with popsicle sticks and red pom-poms.

One child from each team runs to the other end, smears Vaseline on his/her nose using the sticks. Then with hands behind his/her back, the child bends forward into the pom-poms. They now have red clown noses (or Rudolph noses) stuck to their face. They run back to their team, tag up, and the next child repeats the process until the whole line has run. Once the entire team is back in place, they all must sit down. The first team sitting is the winner.

Wet-Ones are on hand to get the gooey Vaseline off their little faces.

## Dixie Cup Relay

Supplies:

- 2 empty 1-liter plastic bottles
- bathroom sized Dixie cups (with kid friendly designs)
- 2 buckets
- water

trash bag (for all the Dixie cups)

Divide kids into 2 teams. Ask for a volunteer from each team who doesn't mind getting wet. (There's always someone willing, especially in the summer heat.) The volunteer lies down at one end of the playing field. He/she holds the empty plastic bottle upright on his/her forehead.

The remainder of the team lines up at the other end. Each member dips his/her Dixie cup into the bucket of water to fill it.

Once filled, each team member in turn, runs to the other end, trying not to spill any water. Then, holding the cup waist high, they pour the water into the bottle positioned on their teammate's head, then run back. Once the teams have completed their rotation, they sit down. The team with the most water in their bottle is declared the winner.

## **He was a Gentleman and a real Prince to TCA members.**

Billy was born in Holladay, TN on October 30, 1931. He was one of four children. He graduated from Holladay High School. He is survived by Clara "the love of his life" whom he met at the movie theater in Camden, TN. They were married on October 30, 1951, and recently celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary. He is also survived by daughter and son-in-law Denise and Sam Ferguson and grandson, Josh Ferguson.

During their first year of marriage Billy was drafted into the U.S. Army. He served in Korea. After the war he returned to Camden and went to work at the local Genesco shoe plant. This is where he learned the skill of shoe making.

In 1962, he and family moved to Nashville, TN and there he started selling the machinery and supplies to make shoes. He later went into business for himself as Prince Machinery and Supplies.

During this time Billy became a Shriner Clown. As he was putting together his costume he couldn't find any clown shoes that were comfortable, so he made a pair for himself. Little did he know at that time that making himself a pair of clown shoes would create such a stir. Other clowns noticed the shoes and asked him to make them a pair. From that Billy Prince

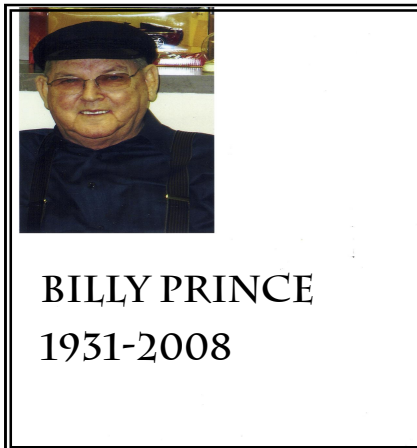
Custom Clown Shoes was born and one of the first pair of clown shoes he made was for professional clown Jack "Freckles" Anderson.

Billy started attending clown conventions. First without Clara, and then later with her. He would come home and tell stories of the conventions and all the fantastic people that he had met. Even as Billy's health declined he still loved the conventions. He went to his last convention in early October, 2008.

Billy passed away early on Monday, November 24, 2008. He was a man that loved life and loved telling people how much he loved them.

Billy, you will be missed but never forgotten. Thanks to all of you who loved and supported my Dad.

*Denise Prince Ferguson*



*Editor's Note: I interviewed Billy at convention and here are his words. "We have enjoyed this immensely. Couldn't find any more hospitality and love...Hope and pray God willing, I will be in Dallas '09."*

*I believe we all would agree that Billy will be there in our hearts.*

## WELCOME NEW TCA MEMBERS

Inez Esquivel *Pandorfus*  
Liz Mitchell *Jeep-hers*  
Diana McCurtain-Talbert *Buttons*  
Jody Ruhl *Hopscotch*  
Antonia Negrete *Burbujita*  
Theda Leonardo ( )  
Sally Papasan (*Sassy*)  
Terry Denson *Bobo*  
Michael Miller *Whiskers*  
Corey Seidel *Rufus*  
Janie Caldwell *Bootsie*  
Trina Mathews *Happy Feet*  
Eddy Grizzaffi *Miss Lucy*  
Jim Franklin *Mill Dude*  
Bill Fritsch *Corn E. Dawg*  
Bonnie Fritsch ( )  
Cynthia Lauthers *Kisses*  
Kurby Johnson *Petunia*  
Roger Bangs *Junkmail*  
Sherry Bangs ( )  
Charles Cherry *Luki Loki*  
Mary Cherry *Bongee*  
Sue Cherry *Neekie*  
Betty Vanlandingham ( )  
Tammy Daulton *Lucy Lou*  
Krista Ferrell *Paddy Paws*  
Michelle Lewis *Seachell*  
Charles Barrett *Chuckles*



Cathy Lorusso *Happy*  
Stephen Dillsworth *Buzz*  
Coleen Dilsworth *Star*  
Charles Graham *Crackers*  
( ) *indicates no clown name yet*

## And these new junior members

Alexa Bodine *CoCo*  
Melody Dolpher *Sunflower*  
Aubre Barrett ( )

### **A special Welcome to Charter Member #31—**

Don *Ducko* Steifel Don was the only other Charter Member attending the 25th Birthday Celebration of TCA besides Kay Henry. Don also donated back to TCA the \$50 incentive/subsidy that TCA offered to each charter member. What a guy! He was very pleased to have been contacted with a special invitation to attend the 25th Anniversary Convention and he really jumped in and participated—even judging several competitions.

When interviewed, he commented, "It's a pleasure to be here meeting old and new friends. Friendship means a lot— and I go to a lot of conventions. Clowning keeps me 80 years young."

The membership roster with full information is kept on the TCA website and updated on a regular basis for members only.

To view, go to  
[www.texasclownassociation.org](http://www.texasclownassociation.org)

The new password is "webclowns."



## SPARKS ARE FLYING!!!



The Sparkplug award is presented by Association each year to the member who "sparked" (recruited) the most new members the year. That member receives a plaque for their efforts. Also, if they recruited SIX members or more, then they receive a PAID REGISTRATION to the next TCA convention. (Only one paid registration is awarded, so if more than one TCA member recruits 6 or more new members, they must share the free registration.) Each member sparking one or more new members will receive a TCA Certificate of Appreciation. The Sparkplug winner for the period of 9/1/07-8/31/08 was: Lisa TWINKLES Ezell - sparking EIGHT new members.

Sharing in the paid TCA convention registration will be Donna DONNABELLE Manna, as Donna sparked SIX new members in the same period. And sparking FIVE new members for this period was Andy SMILEY Anderson! Wow! That's NINETEEN NEW MEMBERS just from the efforts of 3 TCA members - imagine if we were all out there recruiting like these 3 folks. And yes other members were busy too.

Sparking TWO new members each were: Pauline Moore and Larry Kibbey

And sparking ONE new member each:

Kay Quittner  
Barbara Meyer  
Carolyn Kerr  
Cheri Schlosser  
Daniel Leon  
David Raymond  
Eduardo Dolpher  
Gema Anderson  
Jennifer Howard  
Judy Holloway

Susan Radke  
Lauren Donaghey  
Linda Greene  
Mauri Norris  
Missy Dunbar  
Roberta Denson  
Roger Barnes  
Sue Sawyer  
Susan Keys  
Jim Nippler

Congratulations and thank you to each of these TCA members for helping to promote TCA throughout the year. Keep up the great work!

Now the list above accounts for 43 new TCA members - however there were in fact SIXTY-SEVEN new members to TCA during that same period. This simply means that 24 of the new applicants failed to write in the name of the referring member on their application. As you can see above - it is very important for the new members to identify the person who referred them to TCA. Be sure while you are recruiting, that you remind your recruits to put your name in that spot on the application - it could make the difference between a certificate of appreciation and FREE convention registration! I know which one I would prefer!

Also, since the 2009 convention will be in August, the time frame for the next Sparkplug Award had to be shortened. There is less time to get those new recruits signed-up (cut-off will be June 30th) - so as soon as you finish reading this issue of The Joey Journal - get out there and start some sparks!!

See you all next time,  
Mauri Binkie Norris



*And the DOOR DÉCOR WINNERS were...*

The door decorating contest at our 2008 convention was a lot of fun to view and I bet a little more than challenging to judge as there were so many good ones. Below are the doors our judges thought were the best at representing 25 years of TCA.

No. 1 — Judy Holloway and Alexa Bodine

No. 2 — Dale Flashberg and Donna Manna

No. 3 — Kay and Andy Quittner



Check out our 2009 special offers  
and What's Happening Page.

Something added every month

[www.happitymesclowns.vpweb.com](http://www.happitymesclowns.vpweb.com)

## 2008-2009 BUDGET —INCOME

Category	2007 Actual	2008 Budget	2008 Actual	2009 Budget
Revenue				
Dues	\$7,823.38	\$7,500.00	\$6,544.25	\$7,000.00
CD Withdrawal				
Interest-CD		\$250.00	\$481.63	\$750.00
Convention Profit	\$7,728.18	\$3,200.00		\$2,000.00
Convention Seed				\$1,000.00
Sale-TCA pins, etc	\$69.00	\$50.00	\$94.00	\$0.00
Advertising JJ	\$160.00	\$200.00	\$360.00	\$400.00
other income	\$581.50			
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$16,362.06</b>	<b>\$11,200.00</b>	<b>\$7,479.88</b>	<b>\$11,150.00</b>

## TCA Budget — Expenses

Board Expense	\$1,075.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,500.00
Convention Expense	\$1,226.95	\$2,400.00	\$455.73	\$1,800.00
Convention Seed		\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Insurance	\$500.00	\$600.00	\$500.00	\$600.00
JJ Editor		\$150.00	\$90.00	\$100.00
JJ Postage	\$970.77	\$1,000.00	\$885.80	\$1,000.00
JJ Printing	\$2,593.71	\$3,200.00	\$2,284.74	\$2,400.00
JJ Supplies	\$226.48	\$300.00	\$198.12	\$300.00
Mailing other/ Post	\$147.72	\$250.00	\$141.92	\$250.00
Office (member)	\$76.29	\$100.00	\$107.36	\$1,000.00
PO Box/ Permit	\$268.00	\$100.00		\$56.00
Printing - Other	\$77.02	\$75.00	\$18.40	\$200.00
Education Committee		\$500.00		\$500.00
Area Dir. Welcome Packet				\$100.00
Legal/Tax Exempt				\$200.00
Website		\$180.00		\$142.00
Trf to C/d			\$7,372.28	
Total Expense	\$7,164.94	\$11,055.00	\$13,454.35	\$11,148.00
Net (rev- Expense)	\$ 9,200.12	\$ 145.00	\$ 10,618.85	\$ 2.00
Bank Balance		CD \$ 10,618.85	Bal=\$15,000	



## The Texas Clown Association Board of Directors

### *Officers*

President: Andy SMILEY Anderson – 817-282-3339  
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twinkles@52sunflowers.com

### *Area Directors*

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N. East: Jeanette "Dusti" Sanders—972-617-6964  
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Panhandle/West: To be announced

South/Central: Dale "Patches" Flashberg—830-537-5704  
117 Saddle View Dr., Boerne, TX 78006

S. East: Steve "Buzz Saw" Dilsworth—713-305-6455  
P.O. Box 2821, Porter, TX 77365

