

Some Things Never Change.

I was thumbing through a Ringling Bros. souvenir program from the early 1970's, when I ran across a wonderful photo of one of my favorite clowns from that era; Mark Anthony. He was lacing his big shoes as a fascinated little girl rings the bell he wore around his collar. The page had the title "Clown Alley - Today". The previous page of the two page spread had a photo of a group of clowns in Ringling's clown alley from back in the late 20's or early 30's. How different they looked from Mark, in their mostly neat whitefaces and starchy white costumes, standard for their day. This page was titled, of course, "Clown Alley - Yesterday". It occurred to me as I was looking at the two pages that the photograph's had been taken forty years apart. Then it occurred to me that the photo of Mark had been taken about forty years ago.

Is our modern era of clowning so different from the 1970's when that photo was taken? In many ways, of course, it is. Mark Anthony is gone, and Lou Jacobs, Otto Griebing, Bobby Kaye, and most recently Frosty Little went to that big circus in the sky. Now there are far more local clowns, both amateur and professional, but far fewer circuses and circus clowns. And the appearance of clowns has changed also, perhaps as much as it changed between 1930 and 1970, when they went from mostly neat whitefaces, odd looking by modern standards, to the predominance of augustes. Nowadays there are very few tramp clowns like Mark left, not many whitefaces either. Most of us lean toward a lighter make-up these days. Some clowns, even in the circus, have abandoned the traditional make-ups entirely. What remains is the humor, a type of comedy that transcends age and language barriers because it is rooted in our universal human experience. And kids, despite some assertions in the mainstream media to the contrary, still love and are fascinated by clowns. Hopefully, that will never change.

David Pitts

The Joey Journal

The Texas Clown Association - Jan-Feb 2011



THE JOEY JOURNAL

Published Bi-monthly for Members of
The Texas Clown Association, Inc.
Kay "Nannie Belle" Quittner, Editor
David Pitts, Cover Art

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.

Publication deadlines On or before January 5, 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 Dues	Regular Membership:	\$ 25.00
	Family (each add'l):	15.00
	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.

SPRING ISSUE
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2011

Index

Joey Journal Info	1
Index	2
President's Message.....	3
Help TCA Help You (Dues Reminder).....	4
What Happened to the Quilt.....	5
SALUTE!!	6
Deadline for Next JJ.....	8
Interesting Science.....	8
Race Fans—Are You Ready.....	9
Why Be a Member of TCA	10
Texas Clown Honored	12
How do I write a Funny Show.....	14
TCA Year End Financial Statement.....	18
A Matter of Heart.....	19
Last Walk-Around-Clara "Raindrop" Virgin	22
Dates to Note/Share Your Talents	26
TCA Board of Directors Info.....	28

A Word from the Prez.....

Hello Clown Friends,

Your TCA Board had its first meeting of 2011 in January. We have some new board members and we were able to get them up to speed. I think they have a lot to offer to our organization. One of the topics we discussed was a TCA Convention Scholarship program. We raised money at the convention with the quilt auction for our Education Committee. Some of this money may be used for scholarships to help our members attend future conventions.

We have a committee that presented ideas for a face painting competition. This may necessitate combining some of the competition categories because of time constraints at convention.

We plan to have some recommendations on the previous topics to present to the members at the General Membership Meeting at convention. This might be an incentive to be there.

Don't forget if you have an idea or comment for the Board contact us. The contact information for each board member is in your Joey Journal and we would love to hear from you.

Bump A Nose

Andy A.

HELP TCA HELP YOU

It's that time again - time to renew your TCA membership, which expires March 31, 2011. TCA is constantly trying to provide its members with the best clown education available. We do this through annual conventions and the *Joey Journal*. And we have continued to do this with no increase in membership dues - not at all during this century (even if the century is only ten years old)!! TCA is healthy, but to keep this up WE NEED YOUR HELP through promptly renewing your membership.

Enclosed in this issue is a membership renewal form (if there isn't one -that's because you are already paid through 3/31/2012) and an envelope to mail the form, and your check, back to TCA.

PLEASE take time to fill out the form (and copy it for each family member) so that we can update our database - especially e-mail (which is becoming as important as any other address).

While you are doing this - SPARK a new member or two as well. The Convention is quickly coming upon us - and the SPARKPLUG AWARD deadline is July 15 - so you don't have as much time as in the past.

Andy "Banjo" Quittner TCA Treasurer

What Happened to the Quilt?

This is a question we've heard from some of the clowns that attended 2010 Convention.

Kim "Tutti-Frutti" Grice made a quilt out of old TCA Convention and other Texas Clown t-shirts and donated it to TCA for whatever purpose the board decided. Since Kim had been involved with the TCA Education Committee, the Board felt it should be used to raise funds for that committee.

In years past TCA would on occasion have a "fun auction". We would have an item that was put on the auction block. The room would be divided in half. An auctioneer would start taking bids and people would "pool" their money to support one bidder or the other to see which side could "win". Of course, people got caught up in the bidding frenzy and didn't actually have as much money as they bid. However, the auction continued until the bidding ceased. Then after a final bid was declared, all the money was collected (from both sides of the bidding) and counted. The money was then given to the designated group, charity etc.

So this year the board decided the quilt would be an "auction" item. The money collected was designated to the TCA Education Fund and \$630.00 was collected. The TCA Board still has the quilt. It may be used in a similar fashion again at future conventions to raise more Educational funds.

The TCA Education Committee is currently working on guidelines for a proposed Education Scholarship to be funded by these quilt auction proceeds. We are hoping to implement this in 2012.

TCA Education Committee

Salute!!!

To: Nelliebelle and all you Texas Clown Mentors, Peggy Barton, salutes you!!!!!!!!!!

When I started clown school, I became really excited as I learned many details of clowning. Then I went to, "Joey to the World" and WOW, I was more excited. There I was introduced to Nelliebelle. She was another clown in my hometown of Granbury, TX. That was neat! Robert and Brenda Whitley had been eager to introduce us, once they realized we were from the same town. We exchanged phone numbers as people will, not knowing what lay ahead. I went home excited. I had bought material for a costume before I left for Joey and now I had incentive to get it done. As I was completing cutting it out, the phone rang. Nelliebelle was there checking on me, and she asked if I had my costume yet? I said, "I just completed cutting it out." She said, "You'd better get to sewing, we have a gig on Thursday about 1:00 p.m." And the rest as they say, "...is history". Janelle Caldwell had only been clowning less than a year when we met, but she pulled me out of the shadows and put me in the game. She told me to show up and she and her sister who was soon to move away, would show me what I needed to do. We were at a volunteer gig at a local assisted living facility. We passed out stickers, played some of our pocket magic, and did the skit, "Black Bart". It was not a complicated day, but it

started the foundation that I needed to know how to relate to people as a clown. I can't stress enough how important that is. As you finish beginner classes, you have a lot of tools, and information that you are not quite sure how to start presenting to people. A mentor of any experience, more than yourself is invaluable. Don't hesitate to get a new clown to go with you, anywhere. Volunteer gigs are great especially for the elderly. They are so receptive and happy that you came. They bolster an ego that might be as solid as mine was on that day in February, seven years ago. It could be described as: "As solid as 3 minute Jello". I needed pushed or drug to begin just mutual silliness. The second performance at the same facility, we did a skit that required me to be surprised. I really was surprised, as I jerked backwards in surprise, my wig continued in that direction as I returned to my earlier position. By the grace of God, I was able to rescue it with one hand and plop it back in place and the show continued. That blessed laughter touched the core of this clown and I've never been the same since. I owe a lot to Janell and her sister Elaine. I know you all have similar stories, please if you want to share send them to Peggy Barton at peggy@funtimeclowns.com and tell me if I have your permission to share them in the Joey Journal.

RACE FANS ARE YOU READY?

The running of TCA's 28th Annual
Convention Classic is coming your way



That's right. The "Race to Excellence" begins on August 9, 2011, and the track will run through August 14. Get ready to pull up to the starting gate and participate with some of the best.

Fill out your registration (a copy is in this issue) and make a starting reservation: Westin Hotel DFW Airport, 4545 John Carpenter Freeway, Irving, TX 75063. Call 972-929-4500 or visit their web page: www.westinhoteldfwairport.com

Are you ready to see some of the best:

Priscilla Mooseburger

J.T. "Bubba" Sikes

Cheri Venturi

Kelly Wilhelmi

Jackie "LollieBelles" Garners

Why Be a Member of TCA?

by Kim Tutti Frutti Grice

Chances are, if you are reading this, you are already a member of TCA. So, it may seem like I'm preaching to the choir here! Even if you are already a member, maybe you haven't really given any thought to the benefits of being a member of TCA.

Our numbers seem to have dwindled in the past few years. Certainly, some of this may be a result of the economy, but possibly it is just apathy. I'd like to raise your awareness of why you should maintain your membership AND possibly, give you some ideas to use when encouraging others in your local alley to join...or even re-join. If someone asks, "why should I be a member of TCA? What is the benefit?", here are some things you can say:

- ◆ You get the Joey Journal! It keeps you connected with other Texas clowns and what's happening in the clown world in our state.
- ◆ You're eligible to attend the annual convention. This is one of the best educational opportunities for clowns and it is usually less than 5 hours from anywhere you live! In addition, you have the opportunity to compete at convention and grow your clown.
- ◆ Being a member of TCA gives you credibility as a clown. You can say so on your business card and stationary. It is a good marketing tool.

- ◆ You are supporting the only state clown organization in our country. By keeping TCA strong, you are helping educate our communities about the art of clowning.
- ◆ You meet some of the nicest people in the world of clowning and make great friends when you are a member, serve on the board, or attend the annual meeting. Just about any city you might visit in the state, you will know someone from TCA that you could look up or get together with. It becomes a huge network of friends who share a common interest.
- ◆ Even if you don't actively clown much anymore or at this period in your life, you are supporting those who do and are spreading fun and happiness in our world. It is certainly needed and certainly worth every dollar of the membership fee.

You get all of this for about \$2 per month! So, get off your patootie and re-member up or encourage someone else to become a member. TCA needs you. TCA needs ALL of us!

Texas Clown Honored

Oops Alley member, Kathy Keaton "Piccolo the Clown" has been selected to be a presenter at the 2011, 24th Annual American Association of Therapeutic Humor Conference in Orland Florida. Kathy was one of only 15 selected out of a field of 60 applicants from multiple countries.



The conference theme is "Humor Health and Happiness - A Laughing Matter"

Her presentation will be on:
Therapeutic Clowning and Hospital Humor Therapy.

The Association serves as a dynamic resource for those interested in the theory, rational, and scientific research of therapeutic humor and the applications of therapeutic humor in occupationally diverse fields.

Kathy has been clowning for 34 years. She has been employed as a "humor therapist" at San Angelo Community Medical Center, for the past 8 years. Kathy will also be attending the AATH year

long *Humor Academy Certification Program*, which will make her not only one of the first Certified Humor Therapy Professionals in the nation, but also one of the first Certified Humor Therapy Clowns in the world.

Oops Alley Clowns of West Texas wishes to congratulate Kathy Keaton for her hard work in the area of humor therapy and her selection for this prestigious honor.

Kathy is proud to have been a member of TCA since 2004 and a member of Oops Alley Clowns of West Texas for 8 years.

Anyone wanting information about the organization, membership, certification or anything else can call Kathy at 325-944-4746

Linda "Greenie" Greene



Old Words – New Definitions

Flabbergasted, (adj.) Appalled by discovering how much weight one has gained.

Abdicate (v.) To give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.

Esplanade (v.) To attempt an explanation while drunk.

Negligent (adj.) Absentmindedly answering the door when wearing only a nightgown

How Do I Write a Funny & Entertaining Show?

Techniques to Increase Your Performance Value

There are 7 key points to creating and performing a great show. Shows as large as a theater venue to a birthday party share these key points.

1. **Group Participation** lets the entire audience know that they are in for a real treat. This first effect will set the stage for the rest of the program. While presenting a small birthday party audience I may ask them to raise a hand if they like (I name these one at a time as they raise their hands) puppets, magic, juggling and storytelling. I then ask them if they like homework. Of course they are used to raising their hands for the other questions and they quickly realize I said homework and they put their hands down. This is hilarious; you have got to try it. By the way, the parents really like it when you put something over on the kids as long as it is not too many times or demeaning. In a larger group while performing on stage or in a theater, I may ask them if they know the rules of a big show like this one. We have just two rules: If you see something funny then clap, if you see something that is NOT funny, clap! This really gets a big chuckle from the moms and dads in the audience.
2. **Individual Volunteers From the Seats** permits the entertainer to control the amount of traffic

coming to and from the stage area. I often brief the children that from time to time, I will be asking children to help me on stage and sometimes I will have them help me from their seats. This technique works well if there are no defined isles or time does not permit volunteers on stage. I remind the boys and girls that I always invite children that are sitting up nice and straight and have BIG brains!

3. **Individual Volunteers to the Stage** is a risk for sure, however, the audience really enjoys seeing them interact in front of the group with the performer. This is an excellent time for photos as well. If there are steps involved onto the stage, it is a good idea to post a parent nearby to assist the child up and down them. If the venue is a theater, then consider an escort from the seat to you via the back of the stage. Back stage is usually dark and cluttered and requires an escort. Be mindful of the size of the helper on stage with you. If they are much shorter, then consider leaning over or better yet, kneeling if possible for most of the routine. The child and the audience will appreciate your attentiveness.

4. **The Opening** of the show must be very impressive to let the audience know right away that it will be an entertaining event. Perhaps some music with a silent opening will work well. After an introduction, I usually stumble through the curtain after having difficulty finding the opening. This sets the tone for my performance persona. I consider this bit to be part of the opening. I then usually invite the entire audience to assist me with some magic works to bring

the magic to the stage. Let me pause here for a moment. Many performers grade themselves on how loud the audience was screaming throughout the program. A successful event should be based on how loud the laughter is, not the screaming.

5. **The Middle** of the program is just as important as the opening in that the performer should demonstrate continuity throughout the show. This would be a great opportunity to emphasize the theme of the event. This area is where I use most of the volunteers as the rules have been stated and the audience members now understand how the assistants have so much fun with the show and that the performer will treat them well.

6. **The Closing** is even more important than the opening. This is what the audience will remember most. This is the area that should also contain some music, bright colors and perhaps a story that has a specific moral for the crowd to remember. My closer has a rabbit puppet that will sum up the show and highlight any theme and even recognize a special guest or two. This is by far, my favorite part of the show.

Point number 7 begins before the show as you are arriving ONE HOUR before the program to review sound, seating, introduction and other details. In addition as you create the show be mindful of time factors. Write so that you know how long a routine will take as they are combined. Be sure to take more than you need but do NOT go over your assigned time. It is best to leave the audience wanting more than

less. In addition, create your show on a post card attached to the inside of your case or write it out with marker and tape the paper down on the stage in front of you. If someone asks what it is, tell them that they are foot notes! So have a great show and break a leg!

Yours in Laughter,

Steve Kissell
ClownJam.com
ClownJamboree.com
KentuckyClownDerby.com

NEW WEBSITE PASSWORD

Please note that the password for the member's only section of the website has now been changed.

The new password is: **musicbox**

2010 TCA Year End

Financial

	2010 BUDGET	ACTUAL
Revenue		
Dues	5,625.00	5,848.00
Memorial/Donation		50.00
Interest - CD	325.00	146.19
Convention Profit	2,500.00	0.00
Convention Seed	0.00	0.00
Sale - TCA Pins etc	0.00	149.00
Advertising JJ	300.00	329.00
Other Income		630.00
TOTAL INCOME	8,750.00	7,152.19
Expenses		
Bad Checks	0.00	40.00
Bank Charges	0.00	10.00
Board Expense	1,500.00	1,570.34
Convention	1,000.00	1,610.35
Convention Seed	0.00	0.00
Insurance	600.00	500.00
JJ Editor	0.00	0.00
JJ Mailing/Postage	1,000.00	1,105.95
JJ Printing	3,600.00	3,850.00
JJ Supplies	0.00	0.00
Mailing other/postage	50.00	175.26
Office(mbr cards/ labels/+)	100.00	73.99
PO Permit	75.00	0.00
Printing other	0.00	52.80
Educational Commit-	500.00	0.00
Area Dir - Welcome Pkts	100.00	0.00
Sales items –	0.00	360.00
Website	142.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	8,667.00	9,348.69

A Matter of Heart

When I first decided I wanted to be a clown the reasons weren't exactly altruistic. My son was 4 years old and the moon bounce was not going to be in attendance after all. In a frenzy I pulled out the yellow pages and I found a clown who would come with 1 hours' notice. I paid 125.00 for a 1 hour party, 11 years ago. I thought, that's pretty good money, I should do that. Many years passed...Five years ago, I took a clown class for very different reasons. I felt like I needed a unique way to do ministry in my church. I knew that there was something inside of me that I wanted to share, but I wasn't quite sure how to share it. After about 8 weeks in our little clown school, Buttons was born. In the last five years, I have had the opportunity to do some really good things, I have entertained and presented gospel with our food pantry, I have been able to participate in Clown Communion, and I've been able to do story telling. I've also had the opportunity to visit the elderly and I have done my share of balloons and face painting at various church picnics. But, what has meant the most to me and to Buttons? I would say of the various activities I have done, the thing that has touched my heart (and Buttons) is the time I have spent in Prison. Yes, that's right, Buttons has been to Prison. I have had the opportunity to attend two Family Days in association with Forgiven Ministries. This is something I never thought I would do, but it has been one of the most rewarding things I have had

opportunity to do. Each experience was very different. The first time I went, I was allowed to enter in clown, with all my props and I pretty much left the same way. I learned that while I was there to perform and to present the gospel through skits and music, I was not allowed to speak with just anyone, and they were not allowed to even look our direction if they were not on the list of attendees who were permitted to attend the day's activities. In my next venture to prison, it was very different; I had to go in people clothes with no makeup. I was careful not to fraternize (I had learned this before). We had a small room to get ready, our items were inspected, we performed, did some balloons, and then went back to the little room to get out of clown, and leave as we had come in. Two very different experiences, but one thing was the same. The faces of the children and the fathers who were separated from their children were the same. The deep appreciation that someone came to that place to make their visits a little better and a little happier was the same from one prison to the next. The eyes of these men who had perhaps made choices in their lives that led them to this place stays in my memory. Knowing that something that I might present to them might bring them to a closer walk with the Father is important to me. It is why I do what I do. I've been asked several times if it is scary to go into the prisons we have gone in to. My response is this, "It cannot possibly be any scarier than being in a room with twenty-five 4 year olds waiting to be entertained." If anyone is interested in

learning how you can become involved with this ministry please feel free to email me, and I will try to get you with the right people. There are prisons all over this great state, which would appreciate a red nose on Family Day. dmccurtain@att.net

Keep Smiling!

Buttons

*Clown Up for an Animated group Photo!!
What's This???*



*Show off Your Alley's Personality!!
Call 817.738.4257 or email tstudio@mesh.net
For all The details*

*Individual photos can be arranged at the same time
View other group photos on our website
<http://dtstudio.smugmug.com>*



LAST WALKAROUND

Clara Katherine *Raindrop*
Scheef Virgin

11/12/1914 – 1/24/2011

Clara Katherine Scheef Virgin left this earth to be with our Lord on January 24, 2011. Katherine, also known as *Raindrop*, was born November 12, 1914 in Houston, Texas to Clara Moy and Richard Louis Scheef as the second of five children.

Coming from a very musically inclined family, Katherine was educated in piano and voice, performing in choirs and musical productions in her youth and throughout her college years.

Katherine graduated from Reagan High School in Houston Texas. She then studied social work and earned a Bachelors Degree from Schauffler College and a Masters Degree from Case Western Reserve, both located in Cleveland, Ohio. She chose social work as a career where she applied her education, organizational skills, and an extraordinary understanding and love of people. She married her husband, Marion Ernest Virgin in 1959. In 1971, she and Ernie moved to Houston, where Katherine worked with Sheltering Arms for the next 15 years.

Katherine will fondly be remembered as *Raindrop* for her creative and entertaining performances as a clown. She joined Cheerful Clown Alley in 1986 and formed the delightful "Kitchen Band" in 1987, which is still in existence, entertaining at retirement homes, hospitals, and other organizations. Her generosity and support of many organiza-

tions has been an inspiration to all.

Phyllis **Daisy** Sheffield says: My first convention, TCA or COAI, I was like a sponge with all the surroundings of red noses, big shoes and infectious laughter. I wandered in to the hospitality room with curiosity of what this was all about. I must have had First of May written all over my face as **Raindrop** approached and introduced herself. As we chatted and the conversation was about to end, she reached out for my hand. I extended and as she took my hand, she placed something in the palm of my hand with her other hand and then gave a little squeeze with both of her hands. She said that here is a raindrop from **Raindrop**. As she turned away, I gazed into my hand and found one of those glass beads like you find in the bottom of a fish bowl or flower vase. That was one of the warmest moments of friendship that only a clown can extend to a fellow clown! I still have that raindrop. Thanks again, **Raindrop**

E'Stella Zany Stern says: I met **Raindrop** in 1992 and joined the Kitchen Band the same year. I have so many fantastic memories of our friendship through the years. I admired her positive attitude. She never had a bad word to say about anyone.

The memories we shared were unique and special to me. I do not have a specific one to convey. She had interesting subjects to talk about and frequently asked about my family. She always told me: "I am so glad our paths have crossed." Yes, I agree with **Raindrop**. I am fortunate to have met her and to have clowned-around with her.

I will miss her very much. **Raindrop** was a very exceptional person; no one can fill her clown shoes.

Aldo **Cheerio** Iglehart says: My first fond memory of **Raindrop** was in clown school. She sang very operatic

"When you come to the end of a lolli....." then in a very doldrum voice said "pop". "And you think of the rest in the candy....." then doldrum "shop". "Of which you are longing to....." then doldrum "lick" We rolled with laughter. She stayed so serious. I was in love from that moment on. My favorite memory of *Raindrop* was at the 1988 Texas Clown Convention in Kerrville, TX. Our group skit won first place and *Raindrop's* part required that her pants drop after "*Mischief*" released her suspenders. It was much more difficult than we imagined. But *Raindrop* worked for over a month and after making silk bloomers (polka dot of course), silk pants, silk stocking and a pocket full of marbles, I am sure she set the world record for pants falling. The audience loved it!

My favorite song will always be "Washing dishes with my sweetie". It was our special moment. "Some boys are romantic, some are full of fun but darn few are domestic, I'm the only one....." then she would put an apron on me. My favorite line was "We hold hands underneath the water." I would make a big mess and try to walk off after the song... She would call me back to help clean the mess up. I believe her last gig out side of the nursing home was at an Alley meeting in The Center. She had recently fallen a couple of times so I kept my eyes on her. The A/C wasn't working and it was hot. I saw her knee buckle and caught her before she fainted. I said gently with a big smile as she came around "I think this is your last gig"..... as usual she smiled. Just before she passed, I was feeding her and I liked to tell her she was "still the leader of the band"..... she laughed and kissed my hand. She would always say "Well.... I think that's just wonderful". Our lives are more wonderful because she shared hers with us.

Dian Moonbeam Lewis: I went to CCA Clown School in 1987 and then joined the Alley. *Raindrop* formed The Kitchen Band that year and the only requirement was that you couldn't have any musical talent. Oh boy that was made for me. The Band was fantastic. Everyone was totally committed. One night we were practicing at Bethel Church. After practice *Raindrop* and I walked out together and I told *Raindrop* that I was raised about 10 blocks away on Scotland Street. She told me that she was also raised right here and her parents had Scheef Grocery just 1 block away. I told her that I went to Ben Milam Elementary School just 1 block from their Grocery and I stopped in there most every day after school to get gum or a piece of candy to eat while walking home. Just think, if *Raindrop* had been 22 years younger we would have gone through school together and visited at the Grocery Store most every day. Then both graduated from Reagan High. Back to The Kitchen Band. We practiced regularly and really enjoyed everyone and all of our gigs. One weekend we did a gig at a Retirement Home. We always did a one hour show and then we would visit with everyone that came to watch us. This day we finished our show and had talked to most everyone and a lady came up to me and said "You have the best band I have ever seen". I thanked her and told her how much we appreciated her saying that. She said "Wait a minute, I really mean it. I have been to every Broadway Play in New York City and your band is the best I have ever seen". Now granted this lady had either Dementia or Alzheimer's, but hey she knew her music. So from that day forward we knew without a doubt that WE WERE THE BEST EVER.

C STEVE ROESKE'S Custom Clown Shoes

**Our Shoes Are
Re-Soleable , And Custom
Made For Complete Comfort.**

Phone : 321-726-8063

Steve Roeske
P O Box 120692
West Melbourne , FL 32912
Fax : 321-726-8063



A BILLY PRINCE SHOE

2011 DATES to NOTE

TCA Annual Convention—August 10-14, 2011

Send in you application now for the best rate!!

PLEASE SHARE YOUR TALENTS

We still need some articles for the Joey Journal. Please help us make this a better newsletter. It is another way to share your talents. Send those articles to Joeyjournal@yahoo.com.

Two great family entertainer conventions at two locations!
Laugh, learn and meet new friends in
Mystic, CT or Williamsburg, VA this February!

18th Annual **Clown Jamboree**

- 12 Teachers and Performers
- 2 Pre-day Intensives
- 20 Entertaining & Educational Classes
- 12 World Class Dealers with Magic & Clown Supplies
- 6 Competition Categories
- 3 Meals Included in Registration
- 3 Hilarious Shows
- PLUS: Clown + Worship Service
- All Events on Site
- Awesome Hotel Right Off of the Highway!

Circus Magic Convention

- 23 Teachers and Performers
- 10 Pre-day Intensives
- 78 Entertaining & Educational Classes
- 20 World Class Dealers with Magic & Clown Supplies
- 3 Hilarious Shows
- Parade Contest
- Banquet & Show Included in Registration
- PLUS: Clown + Worship Service
- All Events on Site
- Awesome Hotel Right Off of the Highway!

CELEBRATING OUR **30TH BIRTHDAY**

www.ClownJamboree.com February 3-6, 2011 Mystic, CT

www.CircusMagicConvention.com February 24-27, 2011 Williamsburg, VA

Contact for a brochure FamilyEntertainers@gmail.com or call (757) 423-3867

The Texas Clown Association—Board of Directors

- President: Andy "Smiley" Anderson—817-282-3339
645 Forest Lane, Hurst, TX 76053
e-mail: kudosra@yahoo.com
- Vice Pres: John "John John" Luce—817-281-2793
7913 Standley, Fort Worth, TX 76180
e-mail: JJClown@sbcglobal.net
- Secretary: Mauri "Binkie" Norris—713-664-7733
6504 Kenyon Lane, Bellaire, TX 77401-3705
e-mail: maurinorris@yahoo.com
- Treasurer: Andy "Banjo" Quittner –512-878-0998
116 Nichols Drive, San Marcos, TX 78666
e-mail: aquittner@grandecom.net
- Sgt. at Arms: Judy "Peep" Cornett – 713-201-8681
8315 Ivan Reid Dr. Houston, TX 77040-1508
nonna.in.texas@gmail.com
- Past Pres.: Christie "Louella" McNeill – 409-727-2044;
2203 Allan Court, Nederland, Texas 77627;
e-mail: cmcneill@gt.rr.com
- Area Director**
- N. Central: Peggy "Minnie Mustardseed" Barton-817-894-1115
3221 Weatherford Hwy, Granbury, TX 76049
e-mail: mmiepb@me.com
- N. East: Jeanette "Dusty" Sanders—972-617-6964
3903 Ovilla Rd., Ovilla, TX 75154
e-mail: txqueen@att.net
- Panhandle/West: Robert Whitley—972-978-4410
PO Box 180663, Arlington, TX 76096-0663
capjames@juno.com
- South/Central: Diana McCurtain-Talbert—210-391-6087
8542 Rita Elena, San Antonio, TX 78250-6524
dmccurtain@att.net
- S. East: Valerie Bandy—936-441-0621
1101 Wilson Rd, # 1007, Conroe, TX 77301
vbandy@consolidated.net