

The **Joey** **Journal**

The Texas Clown Association



April - May 2014



*Clowning, it's more
fun together!*

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Purpose of the Texas Clown Association

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

From the President

by Diana “Buttons” McCurtain-Talbert

Hey there TCA Clowns, I hope this note finds you all doing well. These last few months have been very busy for me as I have been very involved with my son's music activities. My life is finally settling down a bit, and I am excited to be able to spend more time preparing for our upcoming convention.

We are doing well; we have met about 50% of the room block (probably more as of the date I write this). And, when last I checked we had 85 people registered for convention... Not too bad considering how much time we have remaining before convention. We also have a great line up of instructors and are about 95% complete with the schedule. Be on the lookout for it to be posted soon. Keep in mind that life happens, and there may be some changes between now and then, but hopefully it will stay pretty close to what I publish in the next month.

In spite of the busy days, I found time to go to WCA. As you know Randy Christensen is our headliner for 2014. What you may not know is that he was just elected into WCA's President Elect position. I believe we are in for a real treat having someone of skill and background as our headliner. If you haven't yet made plans to come, start planning.

If you don't normally go to conventions, I encourage you to come this year. After

every convention I attend, I come back rejuvenated in my clown life. I am more excited than ever and looking forward to ways that I can grow this business I call clowning. Going to convention allows me to see loved friends, make some new ones, take classes and watch and participate in competition. I have never gone to a convention where I didn't come away better than before I got there.

Before I sign off I also want to take a moment to welcome TCA's newest alley into the family. We are so glad to have the Rosy Nose Clown Alley from Tyler, TX join our organization. When you all come to convention, please come by and say hi. I'm looking forward to meeting you!

Til next time,
Buttons



WANT TO DO SOMETHING FOR TCA?

By Judy “Peep” Cornett

So one day in 2010 I was thinking I am a member of TCA, I learn new clown skills and meet a lot of clowns from all over Texas by attending the conventions, and reading the Joey Journal gives me a new perspective around people who clown and ideas for developing my own clown. I am getting all of this but, what am I giving to TCA? \$25 a year. That was it. I thought that isn't enough to deserve the things I get. What can I do for TCA?

Well it just so happens that at the 2010 convention I was approached to run for a board position. Hmm I thought, how much time will it take and am I qualified to perform the tasks asked of me. Four meetings a year, two articles for the Joey Journal, and the ability to help keep the organization in order, why not and said ok. I was nominated from the floor to run for Sgt at Arms. I won the election and my TCA experience took a whole new path. I became more familiar with what it takes to run the organization, how the conventions are run, traveled to parts of Texas I hadn't seen before, and met a lot of great people. I have been on the board for 4 years now and it is time for someone to run for Sgt at Arms. I have had a great time.



So want to contribute to TCA, want to participate in the business end of the organization, make new friends or develop the ones you already have, and get to see Texas? Networking and new friendships are invaluable take aways. Put your name on the ballot for a board position.

Elections will be held at the convention. Check out the website for the different positions and the contact David “Kornpop” Mcullough at kornpoptheclown@gmail.com or 903-571-3089 to get your name on the ballot. It would be great to have you on the board. Please jump in the ring and run for an office.

So to use an old phrase:
“WE WANT YOU!”

TCA Clown Alleys

Panhandle / West Region

Oops Alley - TCA #2

North Central Region

Cowtown Clowns - TCA #9

Happi Tymes Clown Alley - TCA #12

The Clown Arounds - TCA #16

North East Region:

Tejas Klown Club - TCA #1

Texas Mid-Cities Clown Alley - TCA #13

Payasos Latinos de America - TCA #23

Cedar Creek Clowns - TCA #24

South East Region

Space City Clown Alley -TCA #6

Montgomery County Clowns - TCA #11

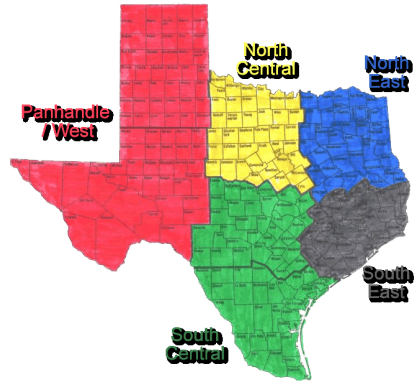
Cheerful Clown Alley - TCA #14

Coastal Confetti Clowns - TCA #18

South / Central Region

Jolly Joey Clown Alley - TCA # 19

The Clown Alley - TCA #15



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Randy Christensen: A Caring Clown

Many know Randy as a circus-styled, multi-talented show performer. He has done performances on stages around the world in auditoriums that hold thousands of people. Few know that he also has a history of engaging the smallest of audiences (one person) in nursing homes and hospitals. In 2001, Randy started the “clown on call program” and “clowns on rounds” for his local regional hospital in Green Bay, Wisconsin. But, to Randy, “caring clowning,” is not just about the venue in which one is relating to an audience -- it’s about the attitude. Randy wrote this piece to share his thoughts on that topic:

The Caring Clown

By Randy Christensen

- a clown who cares...

about children’s feelings
about making others look good
about individual’s displayed worth

-a clown who cares...

about a gentle touch as much, or more, than a slap or fall
about giving joy, rather than getting a cheap laugh
about hurts and heartaches as much as humor and hilarity

-a clown who cares...

about giving value to another’s opinion, thoughts, and personage by listening
about displaying someone’s specialness just by spending time with him
about preparing the way for other clowns by leaving a good taste in observer’s mouths.

-a clown who cares...

in nursing homes, children’s hospitals, daycare centers, churches, schools, prisons, birthday parties, circuses, foreign countries, street corners...

...everywhere showing care

-a clown who cares....



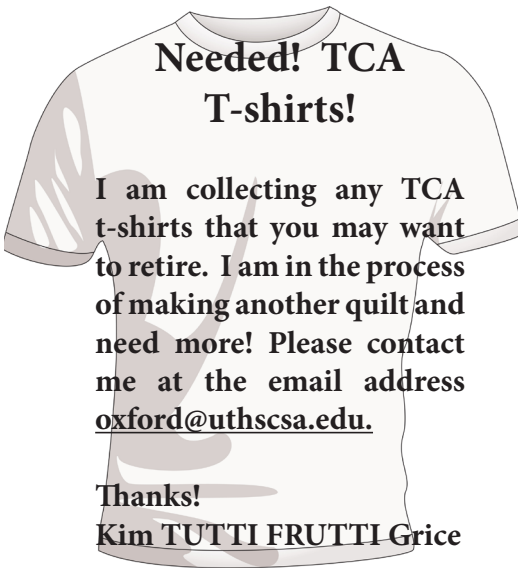
The Caring Clown

Excerpted from “The Director’s Desk,” a manual for clown leaders by Randy Christensen at www.RandysInfo.com.

TCA Spark Plug Award

by Mauri "Binkie" Norris, Treasurer

There is still time to recruit new TCA members and WIN!!! If you recruit the most new TCA members between July 16, 2013 and September 1, 2014, you will WIN the Spark Plug Award. If you recruit 6 or more new TCA members during that period, you are eligible to receive FREE Registration to the next TCA convention (2015). That is more than a \$100 value!! So get out there and SPARK some interest in TCA!!! Be sure all new members put your name as the referral on their applications. The deadline for this Spark Plug year is August 31, 2014.



**Needed! TCA
T-shirts!**

I am collecting any TCA t-shirts that you may want to retire. I am in the process of making another quilt and need more! Please contact me at the email address oxford@uthscsa.edu.

Thanks!
Kim TUTTI FRUTTI Grice



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**PARADE
ABILITY**

A BILLY PRINCE SHOE

Calling All Judges for Kerrville 2014

by Patsy “Glitterbug” McMillan

Before we get started I would like to thank all of the clowns who have judged the competitions in the past years, along with those who are going to help me this year. It takes a lot of courage to critique your peers, but I hope we all do so with the hope of helping each other grow in our craft.

Competition should be educational and beneficial to all who come to be instructed in the art of clowning. This learning experience should be a positive one where they can reap the benefits of other clowns' expertise. All contestants have the right to be judged by qualified, knowledgeable judges who determine how well they present the different aspects of their clown.

TCA judges will be drawn from the ranks of current TCA members in good standing. They should have a minimum of five consecutive years experience in clowning, makeup and competition. Judges with extensive experience in all phases of clowning, performance and competition will be sought.

Judges should not only have participated in competition, but also should have won recognition in the Top Ten at the national, regional or local level. Their ability to do a good job can only be enhanced by having had broad exposure to the art of clowning.

A judge's job is to compare the contestants to the prescribed guidelines, not to one another. Judges should be knowledgeable of the TCA rules ahead of time in order to assist in being aware if the clown was following the rules for a particular phase of competition.

The TCA Competition Manual is posted on the website so you have plenty of time before the convention to review.

Before the competitions at the convention, there will be a Judges and Competitors meeting so that all the rules and guidelines can be reviewed as needed and answer any specific questions about the various competition categories the Clowns are entering. Please remember it is important that we attend this meeting, so look at the schedule when it is posted to plan your time.

Now that I have given you a lot of words please entertain the thought of being a judge . . . if you have been judged and complained about their job, now is the time to step into their shoes and experience the impartial and uplifting job they have done. Along with the guidelines and your desire to help another clown grow, we will make this a painless experience.

Per TCA guidelines all judges should have received training to judge from one of the following: TCA, COAI, WCA, ISCA, or other judging seminar certified by the TCA Competition Director. Going forward TCA will keep a record of all members eligible to serve as a judge.

This is my second time being a Competition Director and I still need all the help I can get. Probably more now than before.

Last Walk Around: Lou HONEY Flowers-Stoddard

by Mauri “Binkie” Norris

When Lou was 49 years old (in 1975) she and her husband Bob started getting interested in clowns – in particular she wanted to paint clown portraits. So they began traveling to visit circuses and fairs where they would find good subjects. Lou painted many clown portraits over the years and her interest in clowning grew. Eventually she developed her own clown persona as HONEY the Clown and began performing all around her home area of Duncanville, TX. Once, while Lou and Bob were visiting with the star of the JoJo Jingles Show (a stand-up comedy revue), the star of the show encouraged them to join Clowns of America (COA). They did and a whole new world of clowning opened for both of them. Not long after Lou became HONEY, Bob became BOPPO and they often worked together around the area at places like the Texas State Fair, Traders Village and Six Flags Over Texas. Honey even began standing in for JoJo Jingles in his traveling shows.

Lou and Bob were involved in forming the first Texas COA alley – Texas Mid-Cities Alley #85 and the alley clowns worked with Dr Pepper Circus and partnered with Emmett Kelly, Jr. Lou and Bob became close friends with Kelly.

Lou still loved painting clown portraits and had numerous prestigious showings but she loved her clown family the most of all. She once said, “The time I spent with my clown friends will always be a bright spot in my life.” Lou and Bob helped to found the Texas Clown Association in 1982. Lou served

in various Board positions over the early years of TCA and she assisted Bob as he Edited The Joey Journal for many years. Lou received many awards over the years, including the TCA Ambassador of Clowning Award in 1991. But according to Lou, “the greatest reward was seeing the smiles of all the little children over the years. That’s what kept me going.”



Lou’s health was failing for the last few years but many of us were lucky enough to get to visit with her briefly at the awards banquet of the 2013 TCA Convention in Irving. A special thanks to Jeanette DUSTI Sanders for arranging to get Lou to the banquet. (Jeanette is Lou’s niece and certainly was inspired by HONEY to become DUSTI the Clown.)

Lou/HONEY was featured in a cover article in the Southwest NOW Magazine for Cedar Hill/DeSoto/Duncanville in the October 2001 issue. She was very excited and proud of this honor.

Lou held TCA membership #10. She passed away peacefully on April 26, 2014 and TCA lost an Icon.

Sculpting A Routine

By Randy Christensen

I believe that it was Michelangelo, after sculpting his figure of David, was asked how he came up with such a masterpiece. He replied, “Cut away the parts that don’t belong until you set the angel free.” (my paraphrase)

During this past summer I performed twenty-four camp programs, numerous Vacation Bible School presentations, Sunday kid’s church services, performances at the kids activities at the Sonshine Music Festival and six programs with DonB! and Ben Christensen on the L.O.L. tour. It’s been invigorating and tiring at the same time!

With the opportunity to share numerous camp programs, and also perform the L.O.L. show multiple times, I was able to begin to sculpt some of my routines. When I first started performing them, they were kind of rough-hewn. I had the ideas, and I knew what I wanted them to look like when I was done, but there were a number of elements that I needed to cut out without touching the integrity of the routines.

For the L.O.L. tour Ben, Don and I shared our ideas of what we believed should happen in the show. It took a while for us to all begin to see what the “angel in the stone” should look like in the end. We had to cut away parts of the show. We needed to drop certain jokes that

were funny—but didn’t fit the flow of the show. We added in short bits and transitions that helped the audience feel the flow between performance segments.

Honestly, it was hard. Sculpting is hard work. And I think, just as an artist working on stone, clown artists need to get a picture of what the final routine looks like. BUT, as a routine begins to flow, the artist must be willing to let go of his pre-conceived ideas and allow the pure, honest comedy to flow from the character and the situation. In that way, many routines can write themselves! The hard part is letting go of the material that I like—because I like it! But in the end, it’s better to chip some of that away so it doesn’t clutter the audience’s view.

Okay. What am I practically saying? Here it is: If a joke doesn’t fit the routine (or your character) save it for a different time. Don’t force it into your performance. If you have a picture of what a routine could be, and you’re not there yet, don’t give up on the routine. Just chip away a part here and a little part there. Add in another bit (like a piece of putty.) See if it fits. Gauge your audience’s response. Most of this work happens in thought and practice, but ultimately you don’t know if it works until you are in front of an audience.

Here's an example: On the L.O.L. tour, Don, Ben and I ended with a 12 minute juggling and object manipulation routine. As we approach the end, I climb up 6 stacked chairs – which places my head at about 20 feet. It's cool. We wanted to have a reason for me to go up the chairs. Something that made sense. So, I had an idea. I came out with a paper airplane and made it fly at the beginning of this sequence. Later, during the juggling, I stood on a chair and pulled out the airplane to make it fly again. Ben, yelled, and stopped me, giving me another chair so I could climb higher before I let go of the airplane. Liking the idea, I stacked that chair on top of the other. This continued on until I reached the very top. Slowly, I stood up straight and pulled the airplane from my pocket, then let it fly down to the audience. Chuckles and cheers followed. I then needed to dismount the chairs so I could get down and get the airplane once again. We headed towards our final choreography, then exited the stage before our final curtain call. Don had an idea. Instead of just running off stage, we held out our arms and acted like we were airplanes flying off stage. That made sense, and simply tied the airplane concept into the performance from start to finish.

You may see part of this routine on video at www.BenComedy.com. Click on the LOL tour link and you'll see it there.

Because we continue to work these types of routines in front of an audience, and are willing to cut away parts—that many would say are “good” -- we are able to come out with a better presentation for our audience. That's our goal.

Don't be satisfied with “good” if you can do “better.” Cut, and sculpt and share the art of clown with your audience.

P.S. To learn more about “sculpting routines” you may want to join Jeff McMullen and me at our “Next Step” workshop in the beginning of September. For more information on that go to www.NextStepworkshop.blogspot.com

P.P.S. To read more of Randy's thoughts and see his resources, go to www.RandysInfo.com



Physicians of the Soul

by John “John John” Luce

Well I’ll admit it, time has slipped up on me again. I have been so busy with the “business as usual” parts of life that I have again waited until the last minute to download all my stored up verbiage.

This has been a month of mixed emotion for most of us. We all feel the pride of living in a country where people will not only fight for our own freedom but will sacrifice their lives to insure the freedom of others. With this patriotism come the concerns of battle. We are all worried about our soldiers and the soldiers of this coalition force.

We fear for their safety and the families they leave behind. We fear for the innocent that may be caught defenseless in the crossfire.

Most of all, as clowns, I think we worry about the children, and I don’t believe that it matters what side of this war they are on.

Recently, I received a telephone call that doubled as an induction notice complete with traveling orders. I was told about a different kind of war. The enemy was cancer and the soldiers were children. The other clowns and I were to be sent directly to the front lines. Upon our arrival, it was clear that the Star Gate Sports Horse Ranch had assembled more talent than a Bob Hope USO show.

The miniature troops were greeted by a host of entertainers from clowns to Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders. After being welcomed, they were all given the same duty assignment: have fun; the place is yours.

If I were asked what part we played in this skirmish, I would say without reservation that we were the medics of the group. Not doctors of the body but physicians of the soul.

We were dispensers of laughter and specialists of humor. An exhibition barn filled with music and merriment replaced the treatment room. For a moment in time stick horses replaced hospital beds and stickers the need for bandages.

Rubber gloves and radiation could not be found. On this day, standard issue protection was a balloon helmet and standard weapon a balloon sword. With knees in the sand, these medics administered the elixir of laughter, seen by the eye, heard by the ear, and made stronger by the touch.

H u g s
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At the end of the day, I realized this battle had not been won. There were no flags to be planted in the ground to signify victory. These clowns did everything they could do, and did it with skill and esprit de corps, but in the final tally only secured a cease-fire. This group of Joey’s walked away knowing that they had done their duty. The children’s hearts were lifted and the

medics had become the casualties, for their hearts were broken.

This scenario takes place day after day, year after year all over the country. Because of clowns like you somewhere someone's spirits are being lifted, laughter is flowing, and somehow it doesn't matter where it hurts anymore. You deserve a standing ovation but thrive on the grateful thanks of a grieving parent, or the first signs of the aged returning smile. I could go on in volumes of how the world has expressed it's admiration of the clown profession and what they perceive a clown to be, but I would rather leave you with this.

The man that said these things is Gary, an American Airlines aircraft mechanic, with a degree in literature.

He expressed his admiration for the profession of clowning by saying, "A clown is a concoction of actor, comedian, illusionist and craftsman."

You stand before a world of strangers weaving a spell of humor. Instead of hiding your flaws, you exaggerate them and by doing so make yourself even more humorous.. You walk a tight rope of failure without a net in the hope of making this world smile. You offer the world what it needs most, a smile, soft touch, a gentle word and a carefree moment".

Yeah that about sizes it up.

Bump a nose.

John "John John" Luce

VP TCA

Dues Renewals

Just a REMINDER that dues were due on 4/1/2014. You should have received a Renewal Notice in March. If not or if you have misplaced the notice, dues are:

--\$25 per person for Regular membership

--\$12.50 per person for Junior membership - UNDER age 16 as of 3/31/2014

--\$15 each for FAMILY members - these are immediate family members of a Regular member living at the SAME address.

Dues can be paid online at <http://www.texasclownassociation.com/> using PayPal and a credit card or you can issue your check to Texas Clown Association and mail to Mauri Norris at 6504 Kenyon Lane, Bellaire, TX 77401.



Martha “Miss Cookie” Warren Member of TCA 1999-2014

By: Kathy “Piccolo” Keaton

Member Spotlight



I think this photo captures Martha’s spirit of clowning. Martha is like the “Energizer Bunny” always excited and giving 100% to everything she does, whether it’s playing with her grandchildren, painting a fence or taking her Aunt Thelma out to lunch.

I met Martha in about 2005 after I wrote an article for “The Hospital Clown Newsletter” Martha called, introduced herself and wanted to know if she could come meet me, pick my brain and shadow me at the hospital. She came and spent the day and we have been friends ever since. Martha is a good friend to everyone. You may not know that she is also a twin!! (Can you even imagine TWO Martha’s??) Martha is always eager to learn

more about her clowning and just as excited to share with and teach others.

Martha became “Miss Cookie” in 1999. A friend had been begging her to attend a clown class with her. Martha finally agreed. She’s been a clown ever since and her friend dropped out. She was working at AT&T at the time and baking and selling cookies as a fund raiser for her daughter. Her friends all called her “The Cookie Lady” so after clown school her friends all decided that “Miss Cookie” was the perfect clown name for her. Martha’s specialty is entertainment for children’s birthday parties and theme parties where she often adds balloons or face painting when requested. She even has a live magic rabbit that goes along for the ride.

For the past three years Martha was the president of Happitymes Clown Alley. Martha monthly writes an entertaining and information filled newsletter, is an active member of three alleys in the Dallas.Ft. Worth area and is currently the North Central Area Director on the TCA Board of Directors. She is also a member of COAI, WCA, member of the local face painting

guild and attends The Balloon Jam in Branson every year. She is also a past member of “The Association of Applied and Therapeutic Humor” In 2012 she was TCA runner up for all around clown at TCA.

Martha more than always does her part when asked and is always an encourager in the alley for others to help out as well. She often co-ordinates non-profit appearances for annual events like “Dark in the Park, at Halloween, helping with the “Adolph Christmas Parade” Painting Faces , helping with costuming and a quick volunteer training, all in the wee hours of the morning.

Martha’s Pet Charity is “The Children’s Clubhouse for Special Needs” in Arlington. She attends most of their events such as their annual banquet, silent auction, fundraisers and annually works with the children planning a show for their families. Her husband Earl creates scenery, she writes the dialog and by the end of the summer the show is ready to go and always an anticipated and appreciated event by all associated with The Playhouse!

What do you like best about clowning?

“Bringing joy to people, especially the children.”

How has TCA helped you?

“There are so many learning opportunities, friendships to make, and classes to expand and improve on whatever you know and what-

ever you want to know. I learn so much being active in TCA!

Words of advice

“I believe as older, more experienced clowns, we should be reaching out and more helpful to new clowns and younger clowns who are excited to learn the art of clowning. Encourage them to join TCA, share our personal experiences.

Anything else you’d like to add?

“Yes, don’t forget about my Aunt Thelma. She is a wonderful seamstress and make just about anything that can make your clown costume fun, colorful and pretty snazzy.”



Ambassador of Clowning Award

By Donna “Donnabelle” Manna

It is time to begin the process for nominations for the 2014 Ambassador of Clowning Award. Recommendations for considering applicants are:

- Nominee must be an active (current in membership) and a participating member of TCA.
- The nominee must be known for his/her dedication and promotion of clowning without personal gain.
- Should be a well-rounded clown, someone who gives to the community, is an active volunteer, and who is professional in the art of clowning.
- Nominee should promote TCA in all facets of clowning, should strive always to be positive, upbeat, agreeable, have a fair attitude, be willing to share ideas, and be available to assist with a smile.

Please send a letter giving the reasons you feel your nominee should be the 2014 TCA Ambassador of Clowning. The letter should include examples of the points listed above and have sufficient details describing the nominee to the Committee members as if they do not know the person being nominated. Some points to address might include:

- How long has the nominee been an active supporting TCA member?
- Have they held any Board positions or worked on committees within their alley or TCA?
- How do they support and promote TCA in their clowning?

- How have they exhibited extra-ordinary clownmanship?
- How has the nominee shown to be positive and sharing? Are they unselfish in assisting others, caring, and most of all, just there when needed with no thought of being reimbursed for their time or efforts?
- How have they displayed being a well-rounded clown; someone who is an active volunteer in the community and demonstrates professionalism in the art of clowning?
- How has this nominee shown his/her dedication and promotion of the art of clowning in assisting others?

Nominations can be accepted from active TCA members only. You may want to verify that your nominee is a current member (TCA annual dues are due on April 1, 2014). The nominations will be considered by the TCA Ambassador Committee which is made up of previous recipients. The award will be presented during the Award Banquet at the annual TCA convention.

All nominations must be submitted in writing by email or regular mail by September 1, 2014. Nominations received and/or postmarked after the deadline will not be considered for the Award.

Nominations for the 2014 Ambassador Award are being accepted by:

Donna “Donnabelle” Manna
9326 Fernglen
San Antonio, TX 78240
dkmanna@satx.rr.com

Premio al Embajador del Payaso

By Donna “Donnabelle” Manna

Casi desde el comienzo de la Association Payaso de Texas (hace mas de 25 años) la membresia establecio un premio anual para reconocer y honrar al miembro que mejor ejemplifico el arte de ser payaso mediante su apoyo y promocion a la APT. Éste es el PREMIO AL EMBAJADOR DE PAYASO. El premio es un “reconocimiento de vida”. Podria uno decir, “ya siendo Embajador, siempre sera Embajador” y ojala los continuen promoviendo y apoyando la APT; payaseando mucho tiempo despues de haber sido nombrados. Mas sin embargo, porque solo es presentado una vez en la vida, se requiere mas que un poco de payaseo y apoyo a la APT para ganarse el premio. El premio es presentado anualmente durante la convencion APT. Los nomindaos deberian de haber cumplido los siguientes requisitos y/o cualidades:

Membrecia actual y active de APT.

- Debe ser conocido por su dedicacion y promocion del payaso sin interes personal.
- Debe ser un payaso bien involucrado; por ejemplo, alguien que da a la comunidad, es voluntario activo, y alguien que es considerado o es un payaso profesional.
- Promueve APT en todas las facetas del payaso, y siempre estriva por ser positivo, optimista, congruente y siempre de buena actitud.

Las cartas de nominacion deberia explicar porque tu candidato deberia ser considerado para recibir el premio, junto con ejemplos de los puntos mencionados arriba. No es suficiente el solo nominar una persona. Las nominaciones seran evaluadas por el comite consistiendo de ganadores de años anteriores. Recuerda, aunque la mayoría de miembros del comite son miembros activos del APT, esto no significa que conozcan a todos los miembros. Asegurate de incluir hechos asi como:

- Cuanto tiempo el nominado ha sido

promotor de la APT?

- Han mantenido posiciones en el area, en el consejo de APT, o como miembro del comite?
- Como apoyan y promueven la APT?
- Como han demostrado y exhibido sus talento extraordinarios de payaso?
- Como ha demostrado el nominado su buena actitud, optimismo, comunitario, etc? son compasivos al ayudar a otros, carinosos y mas importante; estan ahi justo cuando mas se les necesita sin siquiera pensar en reembolso o compensacion personal por su tiempo y esfuerzo?
- Como ha demostrado ser un payaso activo; alguien que aporta a la comunidad como voluntario?. Demuestra profesionalismo en el arte de ser payaso?
- •Como el nominado/a ha demostrado su dedicacion y promocion al arte de ser payaso al asistir al proximo?

Las nominaciones seran solo aceptadas de miembros **ACTIVOS** de la APT (asi que asegurese que la membresia este al corriente, la proxima factura sale el 1ero de Abril.) Los nominados tambien deben estar al corriente con APT (si quieres cersiorarte del estado de membresia, contacte a Mauri Norris). Asegurese de incluir su nombre y numero de miembro APT en tu carta de nominacion. Al igual, incluya el nombre REAL y profesional del nominado. (incluya su informacion personal en caso que el comite desee hacerle algunas preguntas sobre su nominacion). El comite juntara todas las nominaciones y examinara en grupo para poder llegar a una decision final.

Empieza a pensar que miembro de la APT tu crees que se merezca mas el Premio como Embajador de Payaso en el 2014. Ya que sepas, somete tu nominacion entre el 1 de Abril y 1 de 1 Septiembre del 2014. Puedes someter tus nominaciones ya sea por correo electronico o correo regular.

(continued on page 21)



Alley
Spotlight

Mid Cities, Alley 85



Mid Cities Alley hosted a joint alley celebration for alleys in the DFW area on May 6, 2014. The event theme was “Christmas in May” and featured guest entertainment by David “Mr. Rainbow” Bartlett, along with a BBQ dinner.

Mid Cities members were caught Clowning Around with Beautiful Children and Local Celebrities at the Children’s Medical Center Cancer Fund Fashion Show. Boopsie, Dusty, DoWat, Shimmy Giggles, Tater, Tutu, Hanky made balloons, played games, performed music and magic and had an all around wonderful time with the guests.

Mid Cities clowns also had a great time at Six Flags for Children’s Medical Center Family Night. Boopsie, Dusty, DoWat, Shimmy Giggles, and Tater attended the ribbon cutting ceremony, made balloon animals and performed strolling entertainment for the families. We raised \$98.02 to buy toys for the Children’s Medical Center Playroom.

We even got to ride the Carousel... Boopsie’s favorite ride!



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:

1. You get the Joey Journal! It keeps you connected with other Texas clowns and what’s happening in the clown world in our state.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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 sitter and re-member up or encourage someone else to become a member. TCA needs you. TCA needs ALL of us!

(continued from page 19)

Manda tus nominaciones a:

Donna Manna

9326 Fernglen

San Antonio, TX 78240

210-690-8978 / dkmanna@satx.rr.com

Missing Members

Dana Barnum
Janet Ashworth
Gema Anderson
Kelly Ramirez
Briana Maskell
Kevin and Janice Watt
Mary MCarty

Chris Anderson
Ron Martin
Andy and Alejandro Espinosa
Juan Garnica
Barbara Meyer
Cindie Perry
Judy Barker

These folks were on the Dues Renewal mailing list but the Post Office returned their notices as undeliverable as addressed.

Anyone in contact with these folks, please ask them to send in their new address to TCA. By email to me at MauriNorris@yahoo.com or by snail mail to: TCA C/O Mauri Norris 6504 Kenyon Lane, Bellaire, TX 77401. Thanks

Quick Tip: Using Clipart to Make Props

by Greg “Zoots” Stanford

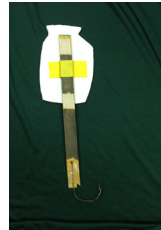
Have you ever been looking for an object to be a prop in your skit, puppet show, or walk around and just couldn't find what you were looking for? I have. Let me share an idea with you that I use all the time.

Instead of looking for an actual object for your prop, why not find a good looking image online and make your prop?

Here's what I mean. I needed a milk carton for a puppet skit. I could have gotten a real milk carton (can you even find cartons anymore?). However, I need a large, flat prop to travel with. So I logged on to my favorite clipart web page, iclipart.com (this is a subscription based site) did a quick search for “milk carton”

and found a good looking image.

I printed it off as big as I needed it. Then using a spray adhesive I mounted it on a piece of foam board and cut it out with an Xacto knife. By spraying both the back of the paper and the front of the foam board, you create a permanent bond. For puppet props I add a paint stir stick that I paint black to serve as a handle. I add a piece of coat hanger to the handle to hang the prop from the stage.



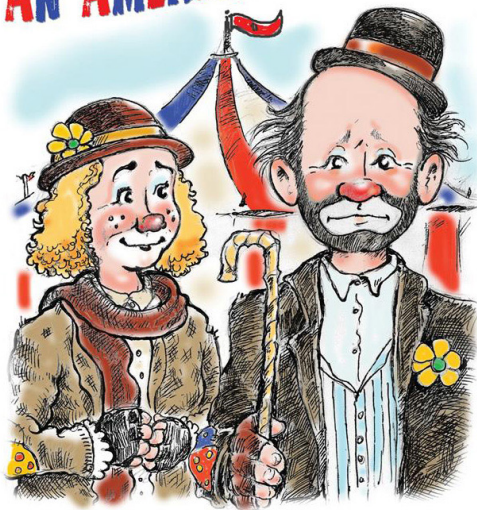
TCA FINANCIAL REPORT AND BUDGET			
Updated as of 12/31/2013	2013 BUDGET	ACTUAL	2014 BUDGET
Three accounts Total			
Main Ckg & Main Sav & Conv Sav	12/31/12 Bal	30413.18	
REVENUE			
DUES	4000.00	5751.50	4500.00
DUES RENEWAL CONTEST	-50.00	-25.00	-25.00
INTEREST	25.00	12.74	10.00
CONVENTION PROFIT	2500.00	10694.95	2000.00
CONVENTION SEED			
SALES - PINS, PATCHES, etc		43.00	
ADVERTISING - JJ	300.00	108.00	150.00
TCA POLO SHIRTS		70.00	
TRFR FROM PAYPAL			
OTHER		575.00	
TOTAL INCOME	6775.00	17230.19	6635.00
EXPENSES			
BAD CHECKS			
BANK/PAYPAL CHARGES		55.17	30.00
BOARD EXPENSES	2000.00	1548.10	1700.00
CONVENTION	2000.00	1550.85	1500.00
CONVENTION SEED		1000.00	
INSURANCE	500.00	520.00	550.00
JJ EDITOR		300.00	300.00
JJ MAILING/POSTAGE	1200.00	382.91	420.00
JJ PRINTING	3600.00	1997.65	2200.00
JJ SUPPLIES / ADVANCE		500.00	
MAILING other/POSTAGE	150.00	146.92	150.00
OFFICE (Mbr cards,labels,ink,toner)	100.00	161.87	100.00
P O PERMIT	62.00	78.00	70.00
PRINTING (dues notices/other)	150.00	40.83	150.00
EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE	500.00	480.00	500.00
AREA DIRECTORS (Welcome pkts)	200.00		200.00
LEGAL/TAX EXEMPT			
WEBSITE			
TCA POLO SHIRTS		380.00	
OTHER		664.95	
TOTAL EXPENSES	10462.00	9807.25	7870.00
NET INCOME/EXPENSE	-3687.00	7422.94	-1235.00
Ending Bank Balance		37836.12	12/31/13
As of 10/13/13 263 current members			
Bank Balance per Wells Fargo	total 3 accts	37836.12	12/31/13
Balanced to Bank stmt/online			
includes balances of 3 bank accts		TCA Educ Fd bal	\$4,438.00
Main ckg, Main sav, Conv sav			
Conv Savings = Educ Fund			

Be sure to check out the TCA website at
www.texasclownassociation.com

The members only password is: sanantonio

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

AN AMERICAN ORIGINAL



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