

The Joey Journal

The Texas Clown Association



April - May, 2013

Gearing up for the 2013 TCA Convention



THE JOEY JOURNAL

Published Bi-monthly for Members of
The Texas Clown Association, Inc.
Greg “Zoots” Stanford, Editor

Letters to the Editor, articles and other related items should be emailed to greg@joeyjournal.com or addressed to The Joey Journal and mailed to 1818 11th St., Wichita Falls, TX 76301. 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, or copies. The preferred format is a digital copy in the “jpg” or “png” format.

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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.

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From the President

by Diana McCurtain-Talbert

Hello TCA Family,

I hope this note finds you all doing well. We are just a little over 4 months away from convention (didn't we just get back?) Anyway, I wanted to take a moment to update you guys on some happenings within TCA and in regards to our convention this year. So, bear with me as I share more business than heart this time around.

First, let me start by saying thanks to our great Committee which is being headed up by Andy Anderson this year. He and his team have already spent countless hours on bringing you the best possible convention they can. I do want to let you know that this comes on the heels of the Board (all of them were on the Board last year) hosting 2012. I say this to let you know that they have worked very hard for two years putting on convention. We desperately need any alley or a group of people willing to become a committee to consider helping with this work for 2014. I really want this great group of folks to be able to take next year to relax and have their turn at having some fun. If your alley or a group of folks is interested in being part of a convention committee please let me know. We can never start planning for convention too soon... As we speak we are already looking at sites for

2014 so that piece is already in the works... More to come on that!

The second thing I wanted to share was that we will very likely be moving our convention back out of the summer months and into the September-October timeframe... If you remember, back at the 2008 convention meeting we had discussion around measuring the success of moving to the summer. Some of the criteria included having higher turnout or at least not decreasing in number of attendees by more than 5%. Also used as a success measure was the number of juniors we would have in attendance. Based on these criteria, we have not seen the success we hoped for. Due to difficulty in getting accommodations at a reasonable rate during the summer we are looking at moving back to the early fall time frame.

Third, as promised at convention last year, I am hoping to have an updated competition manual on the web soon. Please be looking for that sometime in the middle of May.

Like I said, this isn't the most heartwarming message but I did feel I needed to share these very important things with you. Feel free to contact me if you ever have need.

Keep Smiling,

Buttons

dmccurtain@att.net

Ads For Convention Book

Maximum space on each page 7 1/2" x 4 1/4" - no bleed. (Final trim size: Same as Joey Journal). Rates are for camera-ready ads (over size ads will be reduced to fit ad space).

- 1) Inside Front & Outside Back Cover-Color: \$125 (7 1/2" x 4 1/4").
- 2) Inside Pages - Color: \$100 / Blk&White: \$75 (7 1/2"x 4 1/4").
- 3) Half Page Inside - Color: \$75 / Blk&White: \$60 (3 3/4"x 4 1/4").
- 4) Quarter Page Inside - Color: \$45 / Blk&White: \$30(2"x 4 1/4")
- 5) Business Card Ad - Color: \$25 /Blk&White: \$15 (2 1/2"x 3 1/2")

(Note: For best results, submit an original calling card.

Card quality will determine the appearance of your ad in the program book).

Traditionally, alleys have purchased full page ads while individual clowns have invested in quarter-size or business card ads; dealers insert half-page or full page size ads.

Deadline is June 15, 2013.

Make checks to: TCA Convention 2013

Mail your checks to: Andy Anderson, 645 Forest Ln, Hurst, Tx **76053**

Ads may be submitted by mail, but e-mail is preferred.

Picture format is also preferred (jpg or similar files). [If you have any questions please call Andy Anderson - 817-247-8879.

His email address is: KUDOSRA@YAHOO.COM



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Whassup With TCA 2013?

Christie "Louella" McNeill

Hello to my TCA family. I hope you are busy planning your TCA Convention trip (July 31 thru Aug 4). If not, well times-a-wasting

Since my last update we have added and subtracted a few lecturers and venders for TCA 2013. As you know, things in life change causing us to alter our plans.

We are excited to have Carol Coleman who is a costumer from Delaware coming to vend and lecture for us. Also that "wild and crazy guy" Dave Hill will be there. YEE HAW!!!! Also joining us to lecture are Lana Sue Fridge, Maggie Clauder, Mike "Splatter" Ford, Wendell "Stretch" Clendennen, Andy Anderson, Voncille Hardy, Sharon Hodges and Ali Rayo. Please check out the TCA website www.texasclownassociation.com we have posted the tentative schedule, lecture descriptions and lecturer bios.

Please do your very best to arrive in Irving Wednesday afternoon, vender room shopping starts at 4pm, and there are 2 sets of great classes scheduled at 4pm and 6:30pm. I know that you want to glean very ounce of clown knowledge that you can. The registration desk will be open from 12pm til 6pm, so come early.

Also planned is a judging seminar, so that anyone wanting

to learn to be or to become a better competition judge can do so. TCA has not had this opportunity for a number of years, so we are excited about it. A make-up demonstration with 4 of your TCA Board members applying their make-up (all at the same time) is scheduled. These demos are always great for the First of Mays and the seasoned veterans, there is always something to be learned watching how others apply their face.

Now for the sad news David and Donna Thomason (our photographer), have decided not to be with us this year. We wanted everyone to know that you may not be able to have your pictures made while there (if we are unable to find a replacement). We are working to find another photographer, so if you know of someone who is qualified and interested please contact Andy Anderson or I.

We look forward to seeing each and every one of you at TCA 2013 July 31 thru August 4, 2013. Please register early and make those hotel reservations too.

Keep smiling.

Personal Ad Contest

We are having the Personal Ad contest again for the 2013 Convention Book.

By placing a personal business card ad in the book you will be entered in a drawing for a cash prize. For best results, submit an original calling card. Card quality will determine the appearance of your ad in the program book.

Please make the check payable to: TCA Convention 2013.

Mail to: Andy Anderson, 645 Forest Lane, Hurst, TX 76053.

Advertising can be mailed to the above address or e-mailed to kudosra@yahoo.com.

Any questions call Andy @ 817-282-3339.

Business Card Ad - Color: \$25 /Blk&White: \$15 (2 1/2"x 3 1/2")



TCA Dues Reminder

Your TCA dues were due on April 1st. If you have not already sent in your payment, please take a minute to do it now. You can pay online via PayPal using your credit card or issue your check to TCA and mail it to me at: Mauri Norris, 6504 Kenyon Lane, Bellaire, TX 77401.

Regular membership is \$25, Family members each pay \$15 and Junior members (under age 16 as of 3/31/2013) each pay \$12.50. Also, if you want a TCA membership card, please provide a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope with your payment. TCA membership cards will also be available at the convention. If you have any questions, please email me at maurinorris@yahoo.com or call me at 713-201-9995.

Please do not delay, or you might be dropped from the mailing list and miss issues of The Joey Journal and critical convention details.

(Note: to pay using PayPal, go to the TCA website at <http://www.texas-clownassociation.com/> and click on About TCA and then Membership and follow the links for your membership category.) Don't forget to include any Address Changes or Name Changes with your payment.

Thanks, Mauri / Binkie

Ambassador Of Clowning Award

Patti "Patticake" Gilbert

It's time to think about whom you would like to nominate for the 2013 Ambassador of Clowning Award.

Past Ambassador recipients are: Rags, Whispers, Flopsey, Superstar, Klynky, Sugarplum, Poppins, Honey, Boppo, Grits, Mr Sunshone, Pookie, Flower, Citronella, Tutti Fruitti, Dubble Bubble, Cha Cha, Roly Poly, Smiley, Greenie, Buckle, BeBop, Twinkles, John John, Binkie, Tinker, Cricket and Patticake.

Recommendations for considering applicants are:

Nominee must be an active (current in membership) and a participating member.

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.

Send a letter giving the reasons you feel your nominee should be the 2013 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 your nominee is a current member (TCA annual dues are due on April 1, 2013.)

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 snail mail by July, 1, 2013. Nominations received and/or post-marked after the deadline will not be considered for the Award. Nominations for the 2013 Am-

bassador Award are being accepted by:

Patti "Patticake" Gilbert
7055 Hollister #826, Houston,
TX 77040

Email: pcake-gilbert@comcast.com

Welcome New TCA Members

Please welcome these new TCA members.

Gilma LUVY Forero of Houston TX
Debbie SUNNY Gordon of Ft Worth TX
Julie McCullough of Chandler TX
Lico STAR Reyes of Arlington TX
Dee Kirkpatrick of Tyler TX
Reyna Judith FRECKLES Barnes of Ft Worth TX
Amy MS OWL Barnes a JUNIOR clown of Ft Worth TX
Brent SNICKERS Draper of Azle TX
Barbara PETALS Draper of Azle TX
Donna Hathaway of Hereford TX
Melissa TAFFY Eckeberger of Ennis TX
Terri TAIL-LIGHT Tyner of Ennis TX

We are excited to have these new members in TCA.
If you need contact information for any of these new TCA members, please contact me at maurinorris@yahoo.com or 713-664-7733h or 713-201-9995c.

DO YOU KNOW PROFESSOR OWL?

By: Mauri Binkie Norris

Al Yates was over 70 years young, retired and his first wife had passed away, when in the spring of 1990 he decided to take a clown class. He showed up for class on the first day in a 3 piece suit and tie. I am not sure what really happened with that class, but Al says he “failed” that course. So he took the class again in the fall of that same year and it must have worked the second time around, because Professor Owl was born. Everyone called him Big Al, but after someone said he was ‘pretty sharp’, like a WISE AL, Prof. Owl just seemed like a natural choice for a clown name. Prof Owl is an Auguste clown and his clown idols were Red Skelton and Bob Hope.

Prof. Owl clowns regularly in the Hurst/DFW area. He visits at two hospitals and makes monthly visits to a nursing home. In his nearly 23 years of clowning, he has performed at several birthday parties but he has never done a paying gig. He does many gigs for volunteer organizations. The group dearest to his heart is Challenge Air, which provides a day of fun for special needs children including a ride in an airplane.



Al has a special love for flying. He graduated from Oak Cliff (now Adamson) High School in Dallas in 1937 and then graduated from SMU in 1941. Universities were offering Civilian Pilot Training classes free, so Al signed up and earned his pilot’s license. During the course, after his dual flight training, he made his first solo cross-country (3 legged) flight on December 7, 1941. He took off from Dallas, landed in Ft Worth and then Denton and returned to Dallas. Upon landing in Dallas he learned that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor in Hawaii that same day. Al’s dad was a fireman and he had a friend with an Oscillator. So Al and a friend taught themselves Morse Code before heading off to join the

service. While in training, they learned that the guys who knew Morse Code or picked it up quickly were being sent directly overseas – so Al played-dumb (perhaps there was a little clown in Al even then). He went to join the Army Air Corps, but they didn't have any openings so they told him to wait 30 days. That kept happening for 4 months but he was finally accepted and sent to San Antonio. They saw that Al had a scar over his eye and required him to take a medical physical. He explained that he had been hit on the head in high school and was semi-conscious for 24 hours. Unfortunately, when the Army Air Corps heard that – they grounded him. This was sort of ironic, since Al already had his pilot's license. He was sent to Wichita Falls Texas for Basic Training.

Al married Faye in Dallas before they headed to Avon Park Florida where Al was stationed. He worked in the Control Tower in Tampa at McDill Field. Faye stayed home to take care of their two children – Beverly and Charlie. Eventually he was sent back to Wichita Falls and

then put on a troop train to head north. The train passed through Salt Lake City, then Seattle and moved on into Canada and then headed for Alaska. There they were transferred to a ship to Adak, Alaska, and later a smaller ship to the Allusion Island chain. Al says there was a lot of military training going on in that area, but the guys didn't realize why. As it turned out, they were getting ready to invade the Creel Islands and mainland Japan when the Japanese surrendered and the war ended. While the military guys were waiting to be sent home, they had to live in small huts that were VERY COLD. Finally Al made Tower Chief and was able to move into a nice hut that was WARM. When he got his orders to go home he had the option to go by boat again or wait for a flight and of course 'pilot Al' waited and flew home.



After the service Al applied for the Civilian Aeronautic Association (CAA which is now the FAA) but was on a waiting list. Meanwhile, his dad encouraged him to go into business, so Al opened a Variety & Hardware store in Dallas. It was long hours working seven days a week for quite a while until Al decided to sell the business. After that he worked for Sherwin Williams Paint in the Charge Credit Department. Then he finally got into the CAA in the Airways Communications Station at Love Field. That was back when the pilots were briefed by teletype. He later transferred to the Air Traffic Control Center, where he completed his career, retiring in 1985. Just imagine the changes Al saw in his many years in aviation - from Morse Code to the teletype to the technology of 1985 and today - Wow!

Al holds 2 records in the Guinness Book of World Records: first - on November 18, 1976 Al and his friend Bob Phoenix made the most take offs and landings at different airports in a single daylight day. That was 98 take-offs and landings in Al's 4-seater single engine prop plane. Then someone broke their records so they had to do it again. The second time, they had 193 take-offs

and landings on June 15, 1979. That was in a twin engine Seminole Piper airplane. That took them 14 hours and 57 minutes. What a day!!!

After he retired from the CAA/FAA he was a designated examiner for the FAA at Magnum Field in Denton. And Al also taught flying in Denton for a while. In 1993, Al married Lou (a widow). Lou had three children (Chip, Cathy and Tim) and together Al and Lou have 9 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren (with #11 due in September 2013). Sometimes Lou clowns with Prof. Owl when he doesn't have another partner handy, a very supportive wife indeed.

Clown awards for Al include the Ceslee Conkling Award in 2007 which is the highest award by CowTown Clowns. He also received the Frist Humanitarian Award, Volunteer of the Year from the North Hills Hospital in 2011. He has been the recipient of the Annual Participation Award at CowTown Clowns several times, meaning he did the most clown gigs for those years of all the CowTown members.

A most special honor for Al is to be part of the Honor Flight to Washington D.C. on April 23, 2013. To be included in this

flight, you must submit an application and be chosen from there. There are 27 WWII vets selected for that Honor Flight and Al is the oldest. Al's son Charlie is making the flight with him and that just so happens to be Charlie's birthday (a very special birthday indeed). The flight is to leave DFW airport at 6:30am and land in Washington DC. While there the vets and guests will be taken to see the World War II Memorial and the National Cemetery. Then they head back to the airport and arrive back in DFW at 10:00pm that same evening. (This article was completed and submitted prior to the actual date of the honor Flight. I hope it was a great trip for both Al and Charlie and all the other WWII vets.) This certainly is a wonderful honor for someone who has given so much for our country.

But as you might have figured out, Al is not 'all business' – as Prof. Owl he loves making folks laugh. One time while clowning at North Hills Hospital, he was entertaining some young patients when he felt as if he was going to faint. He put his hands down on a table to steady himself, but it was a rolling tray table and it started to roll. He fell and hit his back and the teen-

age patient started laughing! He thought it was part of the clown act! Fortunately Al was just fine, but he still got his laugh! He says he also thinks it is funny when he is clowning with lady clown friends and folks ask them if they are married.

Prof. Owl might be only 23 years old, but Al is a spry 94 this year. His advice to the rest of us:

“I enjoy what I do. Don't get old!!”

Well, if we are lucky, we will get to live a great long active life like Al, but since we cannot control the years, we better get to enjoying ourselves right now! I do not know Al personally, but after learning all of these things about him, I feel like he is a very good friend and hope I will get to meet him face-to-face someday soon. Special thanks to Rhea Anderson for gathering the details of this interview and to Al for allowing us to spotlight him and for his service to the USA.

(Please feel free to send me ideas for subjects for future spotlight articles. You can reach me at <maurinorris@yahoo.com>.)

Calling All Judges

Patsy “Glitterbug” McMillan

Before we get started I would 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.

We are in the process of updating the TCA Competition Manual and hope to have it posted on the website soon 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.

In addition to the competitors and judges meeting there will a training class offered to anyone

who has never judged and would like to judge. 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.

Remember this is my first time being a Competition Director and I do need all the help I can get.

Thank you,
Patsy "Glitterbug" McMillan

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A Career Day Presentation...Educate & Entertain

Aurora "Bebop" Krause

Career Day presentations at Elementary Schools are not the most typical of clown gigs. I've done these for the past five years and I greatly enjoy doing Career Day events. My presentations are usually requested for children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade, ages range from five to eight years old. Before I started doing these Career Day presentations in clown I'd had experience in doing them as a Banker for many years. I guess you could say I believe in giving children choices when selecting a career; Banker or Clown...Hmmm. One thing I can tell you for sure, with children under the age of eight I get a lot more attention as BeBop than I ever did as a Banker.

Most Career Day presentations are morning events at the

schools, so I show up along with all the other presenters for the day. We gather in the Library to get our

instructions. The presenters usually include a Policeman, Meteorologist, Banker, Soldier, College Professor, Nurse and me as "BeBop." I'm always certain that I'm the happiest one in the bunch. Someone will usually ask me why I'm there...Soooo, I tell them that children ought to know about having choices in life. For a young child to learn about the "Art of Clowning" could mean opening doors to a world of joy and entertainment, after all that's the point of Career



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Days opening their minds to a world of opportunities.

As for the actual presentation, your contact will want you to provide the children with an informative and educational presentation, so you'll want to meet their expectations.

Below I'll share with you a brief outline that I follow for doing a Career Day presentation. Keep in mind that these children are Kindergarten through 2nd grade and the presentations are 20 to 30 minutes long, so we must be mindful of the attention span we're working with. My presentations most often go as follows:

- Introduction of BeBop and the "Art of Clowning"; some history w/photos (Jesters/Harlequin—Whiteface/Auguste/Hobo). I show beautiful books on clowns and talk about learning to read and using computers by visiting the Library.
- Where do Clowns work? Circus, Rodeos, Stage, TV, Festivals, Parties
- Clown Skills/Props? Juggling, Puppets, Musical Skills, Magic, Comedy Antics.
- Learning skills requires going to class and being responsible for doing homework, for clowns homework

is practicing skills and learning their show.

- The big responsibility that all clowns have is to make people happy.
- Before closing, the children have an opportunity to ask questions.
- I end with a little magic, juggling, dance or a music sing-a-long.

My presentation is done with a bit of an academic format yet light and up-beat. I enjoy the opportunity to provide the children with some real information regarding the "Art of Clowning." Many times the teachers are just as pleased to have been educated and entertained. I think it's an excellent venue for promoting a positive image of clowning.

If this type of a presentation is of interest to you let me know if I can answer any questions. I enjoy hearing from my Clown Friends!

See Ya!...bebopclown@hotmail.com

Join Us for TCA's 30th Clown Round-up!

Mauri "Binki" Norris

Yee! Haw!! We are rounding-up clowns for TCA 30th Round-up (you may know it as a convention)! It will be here before you know it. We want to remind you of a few things and inform you of some other things to make sure you won't have to 'circle the wagons' for this TCA Convention.

The Board has been working hard to put together a full and fun convention for you this year. Aurora BeBop Krause is our main Headliner for the 2013 convention. If you have never had the pleasure of seeing Aurora perform or lecture before, well you are in for a real treat! If you have seen her before, then I don't have to say anything more – you will want to see her again - I KNOW! She is a most talented lady and a wonderful clown! She has performed some of the most entertaining skits at TCA Conventions year after year. She is also an excellent teacher. You can learn more about Aurora by reading the articles she has submitted to The Joey Journal.

Aurora isn't the only talented lecturer that will be on hand to teach you new things. Brenda Marshall, Maggie Clauder, Bombin and many other will also be there – information about the headliners and lecturers will be posted on the TCA website as plans are finalized.

We are hoping to have more social time too! We all really enjoy

visiting and we do understand that sometimes the Hospitality Room can get a bit too crowded. The hotel will not allow us to bring food into the ground floor meeting rooms, hence the Hospitality Room is one of the suites upstairs. But we sure can use those large ground floor meeting rooms to VISIT! So hang around and get to know some new TCA folks and catch-up with some old friends too! Watch for folks with the FIRST TIME Ribbons – they probably could use a little guidance and some TCA friends.

There will be classes on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. You should try to arrive early on Wednesday (sat around Noon?) to get the most of this TCA convention. A tentative convention schedule is also posted on the TCA website or will be there really soon.

Saturday evening the Awards Banquet starts at 7:00pm. Typical attire for this event is smart casual-to-dressy ('churchy' for some). The winners of all the various competitions and the Best All Around Clown, the Spark Plug Awards, and the TCA Ambassador Award will all be announced during the banquet. The Hospitality Room will be open after the Banquet so we can all continue to enjoy the moment.

Sunday morning wraps up the whole affair with a worship service and a Breakfast. At that time the baton will be handed to the next

convention hosts.

Of course, in between all of this fun we have crammed more than 35 classes (some of them will be fun too! There is nothing better than having fun while you learn something!) and all of the various competitions – remember TCA also has Face Painting Competitions now – 2013 will be the second year. So you can see it promises to be something you do not want to miss!

If you cannot come for the whole convention – we have a Day Rate of \$75 (it includes all classes that day and Dealer Room entry but no meals). Watch the convention schedule to see which days might be of most value to your clown. There are classes offered during the convention for all levels of clowning expertise, from the novice or beginner clown to the seasoned performer.

If you have not already registered for the convention, please preregister. This saves you money and allows the host to know how many folks will be on hand and better plan for the crowd. Also, book your room at the convention hotel – you can see the schedule is jam-packed so you do not want to miss anything by leaving the hotel. Be sure to pay your TCA dues (you will have to pay when you arrive if you have not paid in advance – better to take care of that before you arrive). Then once you check-in at the convention – review your program and the convention schedule to decide how best to spend your time to your own advantage. Check out your Goodie Bag and put anything you do not

want into the Recycle Box at the Registration desk. Be sure to Sign-Up for the Competitions EARLY - do not miss the cut-off times (you can cancel later if you have to, but you cannot sign-up later). Be sure to READ THE RULES as posted on the TCA website for each category you plan to enter. Nothing hurts more than being disqualified or penalized because you didn't follow the rules (remember the TCA rules may be different than those for other clown organizations). Sign-up for the Banquet and Breakfast too – as soon as the sign-up boards are posted.

Just like last year – we are working with the hotel for them to sell box lunches on Thursday and Friday (and maybe Saturday too). These lunches were reasonably priced and some folks said that they were big enough to share. So you can save time by buying the box lunches. Sign-up sheets might be necessary to give the hotel an idea of how many lunches to prepare – so watch for that and sign up each day. We will be having lectures during the lunch hours, so watch your schedules. The Hospitality Room will be open each morning with light eats and drinks and every late night for snacks and smiles. Hopefully, between the hospitality Room and the Box Lunches, you will not have to spend much money on food during the convention, but the hotel does have a restaurant on site and there are some fast-food places not too far away (one eatery right across the street).

Casual clothes (or clowny clothes) are typically worn during the day at convention (sometimes the classrooms are very cool – so a sweater might be a good idea too). While you are packing, if you have a leftover lanyard (name tag holder) from a previous convention, please bring one along. We have some but they are in short supply and if you have one of your own that will help the hosts. We will be happy to take any extra lanyards you no longer want. Most folks do not get into clown (make-up and wardrobe) unless they are competing or having photos made. However, being in make-up might make you feel more involved – so feel free to wear your make-up and/or wardrobe during the convention. And hopefully we will take a Group Photo too – so you might want to be in make-up for that event. And speaking of photos – this is a GREAT time to have professional photos made of your clown. So check the program and schedule and plan your budget accordingly.

There are always lots of ways to spend money at convention – starting in the Dealer Room – we will have lots of dealers on hand to sell you the things that clowns need most. Also, there are TCA-logo polo-style shirts available, but only if you PRE-ORDER (if you want one, send your Registration form and payment as directed on the form – the form is or will be posted on the TCA website). Do not wait until you arrive at the convention – it will be too late! Of course,

there is also lunch (and dinner on your own) and photos and RAFFLE tickets! So I hope you have been saving your pennies (and nickels and dimes and dollars too) so that you can stock up on all of the goodies we will have to offer at the 2013 TCA Round-Up

Now if you are the gambling kind, there is a contest for Program Ads too – each individual (no businesses or commercial ads will qualify) business card sized ad you buy in the convention program will receive one chance to win a \$100 CASH PRIZE! Larger ads get multiple entries (chances). So you might be able to get some more convention spending money just by spending a little bit. See article about the Program Ads in The Joey Journal. Hurry, there is a deadline coming soon!

So get a-long little doggie and join the wagon train to the 2013 TCA Round-up!



THESE FOLKS ARE MISSING!!!

Well they are not really missing, just lost from TCA. Their dues renewal notices were returned to me as undeliverable. This could mean many things, but likely they moved and failed to let TCA know their new address. If you know any of these folks, please let them know that TCA misses them and would like to have them back.

Have them contact me via email (maurinnorris@yahoo.com) or by phone (713-664-7733 or 713-201-9995) to update their mailing address in the TCA records. I have listed the last known city that TCA has on file.

Chris CAN DO Anderson
formerly of Keller, Texas
Gema ESTRELLITA Anderson
formerly of Mesquite, Texas
Missy SNAZZI Dunbar
formerly of Humble, Texas
Andy and Alejandro Espinosa
formerly of Arlington, Texas

Juan TRAMPITA Garnica
formerly of Dallas, Texas
Ron ROCCO Martin
formerly of Mesquite, Texas
Mary MS LADY BUG McCarty
formerly of Burleson, Texas
Bil UNCLE WILL and Van
BLOSSOM Chauvin Pinney
formerly of Natchez, MS
Craig COASTIE Potts
formerly of Houston, Texas
Kelly Ramirez formerly of Van
Alstyne, Texas
Don HAPPY PAPPY Roberts
formerly of Baton Rouge, LA
Sharon DAFFY DILLY West
formerly of San Antonio, Texas
Kevin IRISH Watt formerly of
Cibolo, Texas
Philip BILLY BUBBLES Wright
formerly of San Antonio, Texas

I hope you can help me find these missing members.
Thanks you for your assistance.
Mauri Binkie Norris

Wanted - beginning August 2013

Education Chair for TCA. If interested in serving in this role please contact Diana Mccurtain-Talbert at 210-391-6087 or dmccurtain@att.net



ROOMMATES WANTED

TCA 2013 Convention

Irving Texas

July 31 - August 4

**Anyone looking for a roommate for the convention,
should contact Mauri 'Binkie' Norris at
maurinorris@yahoo.com or by phone at
713-664-7733h or 713-201-9995c**

**She will attempt to match up folks whenever possible.
Sorry, but we cannot promise to find roommates for everyone.**

