

Meeting was called to order at 10:00am on 5/7/2011 by President Andy Anderson. The meeting was held at the Westin DFW Airport Hotel in Irving Texas (site of the 2011 TCA Convention). Board members attending: Andy A, John Luce, Andy Quittner, Mauri Norris, Christie McNeill, Judy Cornett, Peggy Barton, Valerie Bandy, Robert Whitley and Jeanette Sanders. Guest: Rhea Anderson, Education Committee Chair. Earl Warren and Margaret Clauder joined the meeting to report on the upcoming 2011 TCA Convention status and plans.

Peggy moved to approve the minutes from the January 2011 board meeting as distributed via email prior to this meeting. Motion was seconded by Judy and passed unanimously.

#### **2011 TCA Convention Report – Earl Warren and Margaret Clauder**

As of May 7, 2011 there were 75 people pre-registered for the convention. Postcard reminders were sent out to try to increase registration and a second mailing is planned. The convention website is up and running and there is also a Facebook posting. A tentative schedule was provided showing 24+ classes being held in 4 classrooms. The dealer space will have two categories; Dealers which will be located in a lockable space and Day Vendors who will be set up in an open space. The layout of where the lecture rooms and the Dealer room will be located in the hotel was provided. The goodie bags are going good. They still need to communicate information about the ads for the convention book/program. No ad is planned for *The New Calliope* (COAI) due to the late timing however, the TCA Convention is on the COAI Calendar. The ad should be developed and submitted to *The New Calliope* earlier in the future. The committee wants to contact all Texas and Louisiana COAI members about the TCA Convention. They have some good door prizes and/or raffle/auction items. There was some concern about the timing on the schedule of some competitions especially the late time for the balloon competition on Saturday at 4pm (to have scores completed and tallied and ready for the banquet that night). They are excited about how things are coming together and the Theme Party too. Margaret noted that the hotel room rate will go up on July 10<sup>th</sup> so book your room soon. Then the hotel associate – Jan – came in to discuss some reservation issues and lead the board members in a tour of the hotel facilities. Jan can be reached directly at 972-510-2420 or [jjacobs@westindfwairport.com](mailto:jjacobs@westindfwairport.com).

#### **Treasurer's Report – Andy Q**

Andy reported that the dues revenue was a bit lower than hoped but that otherwise the budget was on track. The current Checking balance is \$7,615.61 and the Money Market Balance is \$20,182.03. We currently have 147 paid members. Andy reported he had done some investigating regarding opening a PayPal account so that TCA could accept credit card payments for membership dues. The cost is 2.2% + \$.30/transaction.

Robert would have to set-up a web page to allow this option and he will look into what that will take. It is critical that the specific member information be linked with each payment received. Robert and Andy Q will check into what actions and expenses are related to opening a PayPal payment option. They will report back to Andy A within the next 3 weeks.

**Boosting Membership** – Andy A asked COAI if they could provide mailing addresses for all COAI Texas members. COAI is not sure that they can supply that information but we can work through our Area Rep – Dale Flashberg to get information to the Texas COAI members. Andy would like to send a letter to all of the Texas COAI members who are not already TCA members.

**New Member Packets** - Andy Q sends out membership cards and a copy of *The Joey Journal* to all new members. We need to refine the packet contents. Area Reps need a sample letter to send to new TCA members in their area. Andy A and Mauri will try to send them a sample of letters used in the past.

**Competition Committee** – Robert Whitley, chair

Congratulations to Robert – he just received his PHD in Communications.

There was a question about possibly having 2 judges/competitors meetings or 2 separate meetings – 1 for judges and 1 for competitors or 1 combined and one for just judges or competitors. Robert mentioned that the Competition Manual is posted on the TCA website. He asked all board members to review it and send any concerns or suggestions/changes to Robert. Robert will be coordinating directly with the host alley (Maggie Clauder). Also there is a question about the 85% Rule – was that only for the make-up categories or for all competition categories? It is only for make-up! Robert is simplifying ALL of the score sheets to make the judging faster and easier. Judges Comments should be REQUIRED!

**TCA Ambassador** – Susan Butler, chair

Andy A has been in touch with Susan and she is on track for gathering nominations. She sent an article to Andy Q for *The Joey Journal*.

**TCA By-laws Committee** – Andy Q, chair

There are no bylaw changes proposed at this time.

**Education Committee** – Rhea Anderson, chair

Other committee members are: Linda (Greenie) Greene and Bonnie Fritsch. Rhea sent the board (via email) some proposed guidelines and an application form for a TCA Educational Scholarship (to be paid for by the Educational Fund). After some board discussion and questions, Rhea will revise these items and send out again and then it will be presented to the general membership at the meeting during the 2011 convention.

Also, Rhea mentioned that of the 75 people pre-registered for the 2011 convention – 5 of those are First Timers and she will be in touch with them regarding the Buddy Program.

**Historian** – Susan Keys

Andy A spoke with Susan and she does want to continue with this committee chair position. She will be sending Andy some pricing for putting together some historical TCA stuff on CDs.

**Membership Committee** – John Luce

John noted that 3 alleys have not sent in their alley report from last year. 1) Tejas Clowns is no longer meeting and only have 2-3 members. They are trying to decide what to do with their remaining funds. It was suggested that they could gift the funds to the TCA Educational Fund. They will be considered inactive until further notice. 2) Cedar Creek Clowns – do not have enough TCA members to make a full board and qualify as a TCA alley. They asked to be considered inactive for now due to member illnesses, as well as some financial issues. 3) The Clown Alley – Danny Lanky Kollaja reports that this alley is dying, literally. Several long-time members have died and some are very ill. There will be no clown school this year by that alley. Danny asked for a report form and indicated he will make every effort to submit the report to remain an active TCA alley. They were considering having a 1-day clown school and John offered some TCA assistance (as instructors, etc).

May 15<sup>th</sup> is the time to send out the Alley Reports for this year. John plans to snail mail the reports and ask that they be returned to him.

**Spark Plug Award** – Andy Q, chair

Andy Q reported that he put an article in *The Joey Journal* and July 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to recruit for this award period.

**The Joey Journal** – Andy Q reporting

The Mar/Apr issue just went out. Next issue will be the Convention issue (May/June) and the deadline is 6/17/11 and the issue should be mailed around the end of June. The July/August issue will have a deadline of 8/1/11 and will be mailed by the convention date. The Sept/Oct issue will be the Convention Reports/Competition Results/Roster – the deadline is 9/15/2011 and should be mailed around Oct. 1st. The Nov/Dec issue will be a regular issue and the deadline is 11/15/2011 to be mailed around Dec. 1st. Andy Q reports he needs articles. Board members are reminded they are to submit at least 2 articles per year. Andy Q will contact **Ickle Pickle** for articles. Steve Kissell sent several articles at once. Andy Q will also ask Ralph Dewey for articles. Peggy B is writing a “Dear Minnie” column and would like the board to submit questions. Andy Q will also ask **Keedo** to send some of her articles.

**Website** – Robert, chair

Andy Q gave Robert the most recent issue of The Joey Journal to be posted on the website. John asked Robert to be sure that the TCA Annual Alley Report form is posted on the website.

**Sunshine Fund** – Christie, chair

Christie explained the purpose and origin of the fund and the current balance is \$134. No collection was taken at this meeting. (Note: these funds are donations by board members to cover expenses that are not appropriate to pay out of the TCA treasury – such as the Ice Cream Social or sympathy flowers for board members or their families).

Further Old Business –

**Face Painting Competition** – At the 2010 TCA Convention, Andy A appointed a committee to review and advise the TCA Board regarding the possibility of adding Face Painting Competition to the TCA Conventions. Mary Morris, chair, Phyllis Sheffield and Missy Dunbar submitted a very comprehensive plan for the new competition. They also suggested that the Balloon Arrangement Category be eliminated. NO CHANGES WILL BE MADE UNTIL AFTER THE 2011 CONVENTION. After much board discussion – Christie moved to present the following ideas to the general membership at the meeting during the 2011 TCA Convention -- 1) Drop the Balloon Arrangement Category of competition 2) Add TWO categories of Face Painting Competition (cheek art and full-face). Valerie seconded the motion and the motion passed with one board member abstaining.

**TCA 2012 Convention** – Andy A

Since there is no host alley – the board will have to host the convention and make up the convention planning committee. The following committee positions were assigned. Some committees have assistants but there are no co-chairs.

Convention Chair – Andy Anderson

Lecturers/Vendors – Christie, chair assistants: Valerie and Judy and Andy A

Registration/Treasurer – Mauri, chair

Convention Program Book/Ads/Marketing – Andy Q

Raffle/Goodie Bags/Auction – Rhea Anderson, chair assistant: John

Hospitality/Banquet – Peggy assistant: Jeanette

Web Master – Robert, chair

Hotel Liaison – Judy, chair

Competition (host alley responsibilities) – Diana, chair

Convention will be held at the same hotel as the 2011 TCA Convention. Andy agreed to talk to the hotel about the exact dates for the convention – preferred dates are August 1-5, 2012. The board brainstormed some Theme ideas – perhaps: Engineering Better Clowns – Get on the TCA Train/Railroad. The Charity of Choice will be determined later – possibly the TCA Educational Fund.

Mauri will prepare a Convention Registration form to have on hand at the 2011 Convention. The AT CONVENTION ONLY registration rate will be \$110. Andy Q will check with the current TCA bank about opening another checking account for Convention use only. What is required to avoid any service fees?

**New Business ----**

**TCA Ad for the TCA Convention program** - Peggy Barton will put together an Ad from TCA for the 2011 Convention program. She will send to 2011 Host alley and Andy Q will send the check for the ad. Peggy will check with the host alley regarding the inside cover full page availability and cost.

**TCA Patches** – Mauri

TCA still has 44 patches for sale at \$6 each. Any Board member who wants to have patches to sell, must BUY them and then resale them.

**TCA Membership Benefits** – Judy

Judy compiled a list of the benefits of being a TCA member and presented the list to the board for review. After a few suggested changes, the final list will be posted on the website and added to the TCA membership application form (online). Also, the list will be published in The Joey Journal. Judy will update the list and forward to all board members.

**TCA Brochure** – Andy Q agreed to check on pricing for a TCA brochure.

**Area Reports –**

Peggy reported nothing going on in her area right now and that Wichita Falls alley is having some membership decline.

Jeanette – nothing to report

Robert - reported he had spoken with some clowns in his area. Also, he has some clowns who MAY be interested in starting an alley.

Diana – via phone call – mentioned that she had sent some information to a lady wanting to start an alley in New Braunfels. There are about 10 active members of The Jolly Joeys Alley.

Valerie – Cheerful membership is lower than normal. The Cheerful Clown School starts in June. She plans to send letters to the new COAI members in her area (from the 2010 Cheerful Clown School) to make sure they know about TCA, encourage them to join TCA and attend the convention.

**Awards for 2011 TCA Convention** - Andy A/Kudos submitted a bid to provide the awards (trophies and ribbons and plaques) for the 2011 TCA Convention. Andy Q moved to approve the bid with an expense of up to \$400 for the 2011 awards. The motion was seconded by Christie and passed unanimously.

The next board meeting will be at the 2011 TCA Convention on Wednesday August 10, 2011 at 5:00pm. The Ice Cream Social follows this board meeting. All board members should bring at least one ice cream TOPPING and an ice cream SCOOPER (and maybe an apron).

The Fall board meeting will be in Houston on November 5, 2011 – 10am. Mauri will secure a meeting room.

Valerie moved to adjourn the meeting; Peggy seconded the motion; the meeting adjourned at 4:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Mauri Norris, Secretary  
May 24, 2011