

Texas Clown Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes -- August 10, 2011

President Andy Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:15pm on Wednesday August 10, 2011. The following board members were present: Andy Anderson, John Luce, Mauri Norris, Judy Cornett, Christie McNeill, Valerie Bandy, Jeanette Sanders, Peggy Barton, Diana McCurtain-Talbert and Robert Whitley. Board member absent: Andy Quittner  
Guests: Maggie Clauder and Susan Keys

2011 Convention report – Maggie reported they have 138 pre-registered including 5 junior Joeys and they have had 10 walk-ins so far, including another 6 junior Joeys. Total at this time = 148 which includes 11 juniors and 31 1<sup>st</sup> timers. They have Channel 5 news coming out and also a reporter from the Al Dia newspaper was on hand doing an interview of Gema Anderson. Also, they need folks to pre-order box lunches for the luncheon classes on Thursday and Friday.

Minutes from the May 7, 2011 board meeting – Valerie moved to approve the minutes as previously distributed via email. Peggy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Valerie asked about the responsibilities of the Area Reps and how they could contact new Texas COAI members. Andy A explained that COAI would not release addresses to TCA, but the Regional Director for Texas, Dale Flashberg, has agreed to promote TCA to the new Texas COAI members.

Treasurer's Report – Andy Q was not attending. Andy A mentioned that TCA has changed banks to avoid new service charges being implemented by the old bank. Also, special Convention accounts have been opened and funded with a \$1000 initial deposit. We have 4 accounts total – 2 for the general operating fund (one checking and one money market) and 2 for convention activity (one checking and one money market). Also, we are now set up to accept PayPal payments. It may not be practical to use it for convention items as it might be difficult to keep the funds segregated.

Note: Andy Q sent the financial report and proposed 2012 budget, but the copies were not located until after this board meeting. At that time board members approved the proposed budget for presentation to the membership for approval. The proposed 2012 budget was only slightly different from the 2011 budget.

Need more efforts to increase our membership and bring back our unpaid members. A separate dues notice needs to be mailed next dues time. A notice in *The Joey Journal* alone is not sufficient. Andy Q recently mailed a letter from Andy A to unpaid members to try to get them to come back.

2012 Convention – the board has formed a committee of board members to plan the 2012 convention. Christie is the chair of the Lecturers/Dealers and reported that she has spoken with Angel Ocasio and he is available and willing. She is still checking with some others and will talk with Tony Jones again, as TNT has been moved to May 2012 (away from the same dates of the TCA 2012 Convention). More discussion will happen at the Convention Committee meeting later this evening.

Competition Committee – Robert W, chair --- he reports that he still needs judges for the various competition categories.

#### Committee Reports –

Ambassador – Susan Butler, reported to Andy A that she has received nominees and will be meeting with other ambassadors for a vote after the general membership meeting tomorrow.

By-Laws – Andy Q, chair – no proposed changes at this time

Education – Rhea Anderson, chair – Rhea presented the final guidelines for a TCA Convention Registration Scholarship to be paid by the Educational Fund. There is over \$600 in the fund now and the TCA Quilt will be auctioned again during the awards banquet to raise more funds. Also, the Buddy program is in place and she has contacted the 31 first timers registered for convention and 6 asked for buddies. She has matched these folks with available buddies.

Historian – Susan Keys, chair – no report

Membership – John Luce, chair – John reported that of the 11 TCA alleys, he has received 7 alley reports from the following alleys: The Clown Alley, Oops Alley, Happi Tymes, Cheerful Clown Alley, Mid-Cities, Jolly Joeys and Cow Town. He is still trying to get reports or more information on: Tejas Alley (they have few active members and are struggling), Clown Arounds (are inactive), Payasos Latinos (have not reported), Cedar Creek (is inactive). Andy A asked John to form a committee to develop a plan for boosting the TCA membership. Also, we need to get a New Member packet together. Need new ideas to encourage TCA membership. Also, we need to find a way to identify which counties are in which TCA region so the area directors can better determine if new members are in their areas. Christie and Judy will work to compile a list of the counties in each regional area. Need to ask for COUNTY of residence on the membership application. Robert should make this update to the application online and provide Judy and Christie with the electronic map of the TCA regions. John will draft some guidelines for the New Member packets for board review at the November board meeting. Also, the area directors should consider communicating with new members (and existing members) via email.

Nominating Committee – Diana, chair -- Andy reminded Diana that she needs to start at this convention to talk to members to encourage them to consider running for a board position. All positions are available and some current board members are term limited. Andy A mentioned he would love to see multiple nominees for every board position on the slate. A proposed slate of nominees should be published in *The Joey Journal* prior to the 2012 convention.

Spark Plug – Andy Q, chair – Andy A reported that there will be a winner announced at the awards banquet.

*The Joey Journal* – Kay Quittner, Editor – Andy A reminded all board members that they need to write articles – at least 2 every year.

Website – Robert W, chair – Robert distributed copies of proposed guidelines for how to get items posted to the TCA website. IT is important to note that all items posted or changed, MUST be board approved.

Sunshine Fund – Christie, chair – reported the fund balance is \$134 and we will spend some money for the ice cream for tonight's ice cream social. No collection taken at this time, but will probably be needed at the November board meeting.

Old Business –

Face Painting Competition – Andy A reminded the board that we will propose to the membership to eliminate the Balloon Arrangement category and add two face-painting categories (cheek art and full face). Effective at the 2012 TCA Convention.

Continued on page 3

Membership Benefits – Judy reported that the list has been completed and is posted on the website and attached to the membership application.

TCA Patches – Mauri reported – 37 left in inventory for sale at \$6 each. The sale of 64 patches has generated enough revenue to cover the cost of the 101 patches, so all patch sales now are full profit.

Ice Cream Social – board members were reminded to be at the hospitality room tonight with their ice cream scoopers and toppings. John will purchase 6 containers of ice cream – vanilla.

New Business –

TCA Convention Guidelines – Andy a reported he will have more discussion on this topic at the convention meeting later.

Area Director Reports –

N. Central – Peggy Barton – reported that Happi Tymes had an alley garage sale and she has tried to reach Kathy Jamison in Wichita Falls but no report so far. Also the DFW area joint alley meeting was held recently in Irving.

N East – Jeanette Sanders – reported that Mid-Cities is flourishing and has a new meeting place and new meeting day. She reports that there is a good convention turn-out so far (2011).

Panhandle/West – Robert Whitley – reported that Oops Alley is coming back (getting stronger) and he has called everyone in his area that he can find.

South/Central – Diana McCurtain-Talbert – reports the lady wanting to start an alley in New Braunfels area doesn't have anyone else so the idea has fizzled out for now. Also, the Jolly Joeys are not strong right now. The last couple of clown classes (by Kim Grice) didn't make for lack of students.

S East – Valerie Bandy – reported that Cheerful Clown Alley has 189 members and they had a group go to the RBBB circus recently. Also, their clown school was cancelled this year for the first time since 1983 due to lack of students. Also, the Katy clowns cancelled their school this summer.

The next board meeting will be held on November 5, 2011 in Houston. Mauri will arrange a meeting place to be communicated to board members once confirmed.

Judy moved to adjourn and Peggy seconded the motion and there being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Mauri Norris, secretary  
August 14, 2011