

Texas Clown Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
02/16/13

Meeting was held at the Convention Visitor's/Chamber of Commerce building in Sequin, Texas. Meeting was called to order by President, Diana McCurtain-Talbert at 10:10 am. Board members present: Diana McCurtain-Talbert, John Luce, Olivia Adamson, Mauri Norris, Patsy McMillan, Charles Anderson, Martha Warren, David McCullough, Kim Grice, Kathy Keaton, and Judy Cornett. Guests were Andy Quittner and Rhea Anderson.

**Minutes** from last meeting on November 8, 2012 were discussed with recommendations for corrections made by Judy Cornett. Motion was made by Andy Anderson to accept the minutes as corrected. Seconded by Kathy Keaton.

**Treasurer's report**-Mauri distributed two reports to board members to include end of year's final financial report and this year's updated account report. Last year we brought in \$9900 and spent \$8700 and ended with a positive net \$1149.62 for the year. Net income expense stated on hard copy should read negative \$3687.00. The education fund/Kay Henry memorial fund has \$2150.00 from contributions with additional pending. Currently, we have 249 paid members but additional members have recently been added as of today. TCA has a regular checking, regular savings and 2<sup>nd</sup> savings account that is designated for education fund account that all add up to the financial reports. Budget for 2013 has already been approved from last meeting. Tax exemption status has been reinstated by the IRS, Federal government, and the state of Texas. The IRS allowed for retroactive status but the state would not secondary to state laws, due to this no tax refund was granted on the hotel from previous convention. Mauri has filed a 2012 990-N e- postcard at that is required for our status with the IRS. All TCA membership dues renewal notices are prepared in advance for the board members today. All renewal notices are ready for past members dating back last 3 years with expiration dates of March 31, 2011, March 31, 2012, and March 31, 2013 which is approximately 300 members. A drawing/contest for two awards for early due renewal by April 1 was discussed. Members who paid dues early would be eligible to receive a refund of \$25.00 and it was decided to have one award. The contest is published in Joey Journal. Board members were instructed to contact Mauri if renewal or if new members join before the deadline if money/application cannot physical reach Mauri by April 1. Andy recommended that alleys inform their members of the contest renewal and deadline. Stipend was declined by David McCullough and Kim requested only ½ payment. All other stipends were given.

**Convention Report for 2013**-Andy Anderson reported on 54 classes lined up for the convention, schedule is being prepared and will be posted on website soon. Lecturers are still needed, and board members may fill in gaps if more lecturers are needed. Christie will contact board members. Swinger has been established and the theme party is 30<sup>th</sup> birthday party Thursday night. 54 people have pre-registered thus far. Recommend reminding clowns to preregister at the reduced rate as rates will increase as time passes. Hotel reservations are at minimum and members are encouraged to reserve hotel rooms as soon as possible. David Thomason has been contacted by Diana Mc-Curtain-Talbert about the video information. 2012 convention DVD's distribution have been delayed with report by Richard that they will be mailed February 18<sup>th</sup>. Richard (the videographer) stated he has had difficulty getting them finished and distribution and would not be able to do it any longer. David Thomason told Andy he could not do a video of all the competitions, but can take pictures of everyone competing like

he has done in the past and put it on a DVD for everyone to purchase. David could also video the awards banquet, and interviews of clowns with distribution in adequate time frame.

Diana and Bebop (convention headliner) plan to have David video an introduction to the headliner and put it on YouTube and the website as a "teaser" to the convention. Judy suggested that the chair person be included on the introduction.

Hotel at convention will offer free Wi-Fi, no food allowed on 1<sup>st</sup> floor due to health regulations. We can bring our own cake for the theme party; however, punch would cost \$80.00 a gallon. Committee is pursuing other options for beverages.

Ice cream social was discussed. Mauri motioned to have ice cream social at 2013 convention; seconded by Martha Warren. Motion passed unanimously.

**Competition:** Updates to manual made by Diana and committee regarding a host alley which has not been done in the past few years. Competition director with team was recommended for changes in the verbiage of the manual. The updates will be sent to the board members by Diana and she asked them to give her feedback once reviewed.

**Convention 2014:** Discussion of having convention in Sequin, Texas. Convention committee will discuss options for location. Andy Quittner discussed time frame of convention as a concern for hotel rates.

Andy discussed options for moving date of convention to late September-October with feedback given about attendance with junior joeys and general attendance in the past prior to the summer dates that conventions were held. Judy Cornett made a motion to have 2014 convention to late September-early October. Martha Warren seconded motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Tyler, Texas as discussed as possibility as site for convention of 2015.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Ambassador:** Revised guidelines for Ambassador of Clowning Awards were read by Diana. Committee had revised guidelines in November 2012. Mauri recommended changes. Kim Grice motioned to adopt the amended guidelines, Andy Anderson seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. Andy Anderson stated that once amended, guidelines will be posted in the Joey Journal.

**Education:** Rhea Anderson reports no scholarships applications received to date for 2013 convention. Deadline is April 1, 2013 for applications.

**Historian:** Susan Keys was contacted by Andy Anderson and she stated that she will have scrapbooks at the convention.

**Membership:** Kathy Keaton showed samples of posters design to promote clowning with TCA. The portion of the poster which allows for the picture and contact information can be changed to accommodate any alley. This will be posted on TCA website to members only in a Jpeg. Kathy also reported on face book video published by another clown organization promoting their convention and scholarship as a suggestion for TCA.

John Luce met with Voncille with his committee discussed that using the media as a means to advertise during events with an interview. He suggested a way to advertise by utilizing radio stations at the events we clown at. Interviews with clown about clowning, and clown school, TCA and/or local alleys would be great information to share in an interview.

**Sparkplug:** No report.

**Joey Journal:** Greg Stanford did a great job. Diana reminded us to send articles to Greg. Andy Anderson suggested changing password to website. He will put it in the next issue of the journal.

**Website:** Andy Anderson spoke to Greg Stanford regarding website. Mark Kent and Greg will make changes as needed.

**Sunshine Fund:** Kim reported that we have \$207.00 in the fund and ice cream social will be deducted from this fund at convention.

#### **Area Directors Reports:**

**South/Central-**Kim Grice: Bubba Sikes is coming to San Antonio March 8 and 9, 2013 for Bubba University. Topics will be Light August, character development, birthday parties, gospel and variety of things.

**North Central-**Martha Warren reports her efforts on promoting TCA. She has a joint meeting with combination of area alley meetings coming together in May with entertainment at the gathering.

**Southeast:** Patsy McMillan reported that Cheerful Clown Alley has 99 members. TCA membership encouraged and patches received.

**Northeast:** David McCullough teaching a clowning class to increase his alley membership. No other information to report.

**Panhandle/West:** Kathy Keaton reported that a new clown member had gotten bit by a dog and asked for recommendations/suggestions for writing an article for the Joey Journal relating to animal bites, etc.

**TCA Polo Shirts:** Minimum order had to be 12; 15 were ordered and distribution of shirts was discussed. Additional orders can still be done but again the minimum of 1 order must be 12. Board members decided to wear shirts on Thursday at convention.

**Other stuff:** TCA business cards were discussed and board decided against them. Kay Henry memorial fund/general education scholarship fund has \$2150.00 to date. Board members signed a card for Linda Green in sympathy of the death of her family members

TCA Award bids by Andy Anderson discussed being 39 Metals at \$6.50 each, Spark plug award \$28.95, All Around Clown \$7.50, Ambassador Award \$35.95, TCA badges \$3.00. Judy made motion to approve bid of \$355 for awards from convention budget, seconded by Kathy Keaton. Motion was passed unanimously.

12:03 lunch was had at barbeque diner down town. Tour of coliseum given to board members with floor plan reviewed.

Meeting resumed with board after lunch.

Next meeting was noted on to be June 1, 2013 in Tyler, Texas. Location TBA. The next one will be November 2, 2013 in Houston, Texas.

Convention policies: Diana made recommendations to amend "Host alley" to "host" in the verbiage due to moving away from host alleys. Mauri agreed to make the changes and correct a typo. Patsy made a motion to amend the policies, and Judy seconded it. Motion was passed unanimously. Convention guidelines/Recommendations were approved as is with motion made by David and seconded by Kim. Motion was passed unanimously.

Mauri discussed holding a convention in Sequin and gave a total of \$2850 for the coliseum alone. Food would need to be considered with caterers. Discussion was held among the board members regarding convention expenses. Hotel expenses and room blocks were also discussed. Andy Quittner stated he has some contacts that would contact regarding hotels.

Kerrville remains an option to have the 2014 convention. Kim will give Mauri a contact for information. Board will decide at the June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting when the next convention will be held in order to secure the convention center.

Meeting adjourned at 2:53 pm with the motion made by Diana McCurtain and seconded by Kathy Keaton.

Respectfully submitted,  
Olivia Adamson, Secretary  
02/17/13