

Date: July 15, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 9:45 AM by Judy Cornett in the Mary Lib Saleh Euless Public Library, 201 North Ector Drive, Euless, TX 76039.

In attendance were the following: Judy Cornett, Patsy McMillan, Cynthia Rice, Voncille Cox, Andy Anderson, Susan Butler, Lana Sue Fridge, Shirley Hamilton, and Greg Stanford.

Linda Greene, Patti Gilbert and Viviano Pena were absent.

1. Guests were Jane Wilson, Wanda Carter, Cinde Sanders, John Luce and LJ Luce.
2. Minutes: The minutes from the May board meeting were sent out by Patsy McMillan via email. Voncille Cox motioned that we accept minutes as presented, Cindy Rice seconded and all approved unanimously. These will be sent to Greg Stanford to be posted on the website.
3. Treasurer's Report: Cindy Rice gave the treasurer's report stating that TCA has collected \$3,118 in dues and \$75 for Scholarship. The expenses for this quarter were for the Joey Journal and postage to mail out 255 renewal cards. We currently have 150 members registered; 78 non-renewals for last year and 68 for 2016. TCA has \$10,195.49 in the checking account and \$30,497.39 in the Money Market.

Cindy said she has received comments from several people that are over 90 years of age that the dues may be too high for them and were asking if there could be a discount for seniors. The Board had a discussion whereas Shirley Hamilton made the motion that the new rate for seniors is \$20 and Andy Anderson seconded the motion – Passed unanimously.

The Board then discussed what was considered the appropriate age for the senior discount. Patsy McMillan motioned that the senior age should be 80 years old and Lana Sue Fridge seconded – Passed unanimously.

- Insurance update – already renewed and paid.
- Financial report was reviewed and will be filed for audit

4. Convention Reports:

- **2017 Cheerful Clown Alley Convention Report** – Mary Whipple and Pam Blacklock were unavailable to attend meeting, but sent in the following report:

They have 77 registrants; have pre-sold 34 T-shirts, 2 extra banquet tickets and 1 extra breakfast ticket at this time.

They have exceeded their budget for Ad revenue and continue to sell more ads. Three alleys have submitted ads for the Yearbook (Cowtown, Happi Tymes and Oops Alley). Reminded us the deadline for ads is August 1st.

They have some amazing collectible items for the Silent Auction/Raffle such as RBBB Circus items. They are still taking items for both at this time, but if you have something you would like to donate please check with Leslie (Bubbles) Locke and Pam Blacklock. They will be letting us know the cut-off date for donated items. Cheerful is excited and asking for everyone to come and join the fun.

Some added convention notes from Christie McNeill –

- The tentative schedule is out for review and will be posted as soon as corrections are made.
- Have 12 vendors and currently have 46 lectures scheduled
- Julie Varholdt and Regina Wollrabe are teaching 11 of the 46 lectures

- They will be auctioning a 1 hour 1-on-1 session each with Julie and Regina
- There will be some people vending and lecturing that haven't been in around TCA in a while; Clarence "Mr. Sonshine" Bull, Becky "Skeeter" Deltenera and Teri "Happy Heart" Stokes.
- 2018 Mid-Cities Convention Report – August 1-5, 2018
Cinde Sanders who is the co – chair of 2018 convention gave a report saying they have the hotel which is The Westin DFW Airport. They are still negotiating contract and hope to have this completed next week. Rooms are \$99 with free parking and internet. Have their committees up and running, and their theme subject is "Puzzled" (mystery). Cinde asked Greg questions about doing a website to promote the convention. No headliner has been chosen yet.

5. Committee Reports:

Ambassador — Diana McCurtain-Talbert sent in a report saying she has a couple of nominations with the deadline of September 10th.

Education —Linda Greene - Linda sent in the following report that she sent reminders to the area about the scholarship program. Linda also communicated with Greg Stanford to update the website with the correct information on how long you have to be a clown for in order to obtain a scholarship.

Historian - Susan Keys was out but let Greg know that she has purchased a new flatbed scanner to put the pictures in a flip book – and hopes to be putting things together soon.

Nomination: No election this year

Competition: Susan Keys/Susan Butler – nothing at this time.

Membership: Linda Greene – Linda wasn't there but send in the notation to make sure the individual alleys are filing the annual membership report – it is all online and much easier than it used to be. When completed online it automatically goes to Linda. Membership reports need to be done by July 15th but may have been extended to August 15th. Will be checking on this.

Sunshine Fund: Andy Anderson said we had \$245.44 and was given \$20 which brings our total to \$265.44.

Spark Plug: –Cindy Rice – said most of the applications she receives do not have a sponsor listed. Andy needs to have the information by September 15th in order to engrave a plaque. Voncille Cox motioned that if there was only 1 sponsor it would be a certificate given instead of a plaque. Cindy Rice seconded. All approved.

Joey Journal: Greg Stanford said the current issue of JJ is at the printer and asked when the JJ should be coming out. It was suggested that it should be mailed out around the 15th of the month following the deadline for submission which appears in the Joey Journal. Example: June 15th for the June/July issue. Will be working on getting ads for the JJ.

Website: Greg Stanford said he is now using Adobe to build the website and is finding it much easier to work with than what has been done previously. It is a free program with a lot of add on capability. He is still working on improving it.

6. Area Director Reports:

- ❖ North Central – Lana Sue Fridge, represents Cowtown, Happi Tymes & The Clown Arounds.

The Clown Arounds – (5 members) - sadly Kathy Jamison who started the alley over 20 years ago, moved and retired. The alley is currently focusing on having a clown clinic to increase interest. They are connecting with churches and youth groups.

Happi Tymes – (30 members) – Miss Cookie held a 1 day clown school for Rosy Nose Alley on May 20th in Chandler. On May 25th – Big Red Nose Day, they visited several nursing homes to promote clowning. The alley participated in a 4th of July parade in Arlington. The alley will have a meeting on July 25th in Terrell with Rosy Nose Alley at the Applebee where they will share talents, magic and antics.

CowTown - (50 members) – on July 29th they will be having their Hubba Memorial annual food drive for a beloved clown of 13 years ago. Usually during Clown Week, a group of them go to the Branson Jam. Cow Town holds monthly balloon jams at a local restaurant – new & seasoned clowns love it. On August 12th, they will be doing a Huge Back 2 School event assisting 300+ kids with their school supplies. And, the Alley Caring Clowns continue monthly at two area hospitals

- ❖ North East – Shirley Hamilton, represents Mid-Cities & Rosy Nose – have a lot of activities going on as follows:

Training Day June 20th – Miss Cookie did training at West Lake Baptist Church for anyone who wanted to come out to Chandler for the day. Good turnout, for a successful day

July 22 Colfield Unit - Malachi Man Graduation and family day. Balloons, face painting, lunch, games, testimonies and graduation ceremony

Joint meeting on July 25th at 6:30 in Terrell at Applebees. Skits, magic, sing along and balloons etc. Each person buys their own dinner

Aug 4 at Breckenridge Village of Tyler is a caring residential community for adults with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities. Afternoon party includes balloons, face painting, crafts, magic, puppets, and snacks

- ❖ Panhandle West – Susan Butler, represents Clowns Under Construction (7 members) & Oops Alley (11 members) -.

Clowns Under Construction appeared at Trinity Day Care Circus for 75 preschoolers in March.

Twinkles went to Alabama to lead a conference in Sharing Your Faith from behind a Red Nose; they visited nursing homes, did an end of school for Hereford Day Care, Day Camp Missions

Jamboree. Twinkles and Happy Hearts went to Vancouver to work Block Parties for Church Planters to assist the missionaries, they will all spend a week at an Associational Girls Camp, and a Special Friends camp for September. Their 7 members logged 51 hours of service as of the end of June.

Oops Alley meets the 3rd Monday of each month at Linda Greene's house in Midland. In May they had a swap meet with items donated by Sally Papason, a former member. They have been working on skits and getting ready for convention. They did 4th of July at the Odessa Country

Club, VBS and NICU Party at Odessa Regional Hospital, The Boys and Girls Club. Harlin does balloons and magic at Music City Mall in Odessa every weekend, and library shows. Since the Medical Center Hospital has changed their rules, Susan Butler is waiting to re-do her orientation. Wilma Cunningham who is 84 years old clowns every week at two different nursing homes. Kathy Keaton was quoted in an online publication in New York on therapeutic clowning and is almost finished writing her book. Whew – they are a busy group of clowns.

- ❖ South Central – Viviano Pena represents Jolly Joeys - absent and did not send in report.
- ❖ South East – Patti Gilbert represents Cheerful Clown Alley (100 members) – Patti was out but sent the report that basically all are working on the convention with a lot of gigs thrown in to the mix.

7. Old Business

- Convention Time Line – Judy Cornett helped re-work the time line for convention and passed it out so everyone could see the basics of putting a convention together.
- Membership – Ways to increase membership – The Board had a discussion and suggested that we mentor new clowns and encourage participation in gigs along with putting together clinics.
- Board Member terms – Andy Anderson did research and found that at the 2001 General Membership we changed the terms from a 1 year to 2 years. After a brief discussion, the Board is proposing we change the terms for each position back to 1 year in the hope of getting more participation from the general membership. We will have to vote on a By-law change as follows: Article 5 – Section 3 Andy Anderson made a motion to change the By-laws to be a one year term for each office with the ability of 3 consecutive terms in one position – this was seconded by Voncille Cox. All approved. This will be posted in the Joey Journal for 30 days prior to vote.

8. New Business –

- a. Amazon – smile.amazon.com (0.5%) – please use it. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support TCA every time you shop, at no cost to you. TCA has been added as a charitable organization – so all you have to do is choose them the next time you do your shopping.
To shop at AmazonSmile simple go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may want to add a bookmark to make it easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.
- b. Convention Ad – Full Page? Color?
Full page color picture – inside back cover is \$125 and the – inside full page is \$100
Andy Anderson made a motion for TCA to have the inside back cover for \$125 – if the back cover is not available, we will then do the inside full page at \$100. Lana Sue Fridge seconded. Passed unanimously.

9. Other goings-on:

- a. Judy Cornett asked if anyone had questions and Shirley Hamilton wanted to make sure there will not be hospitality after the prom on Friday night. Judy confirmed Shirley was

correct and that everyone needs to let their alleys know not to expect hospitality after the prom.

- b. Lana Sue wanted to know if there were any other awards at prom besides king and queen and Judy said she would check on this.
- c. Reminded the Board members to bring their scoop and topping for the ice cream social.

Next Meeting(s):

September 27th La Torretta Lake Resort and Spa in Pisa Room

10. Adjournment:

Voncille Cox motioned to adjourn the meeting and Susan Butler seconded. All agreed and meeting was adjourned at 2:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patsy McMillan
TCA Secretary 7/15/17