

Date: September 27, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 6:37 PM by Judy Cornett in Pisa Room of La Torretta Lake Resort and Spa, 600 La Torretta Boulevard, Montgomery, TX 77356

In attendance were the following: Judy Cornett, Linda Greene, Patsy McMillan, Cynthia Rice, Voncille Cox, Andy Anderson, Susan Butler, Viviano Pena, Shirley Hamilton, Patti Gilbert, and Greg Stanford.

Lana Sue Fridge was absent.

1. Guests were Pam Blacklock, Mary Whipple, Christie McNeil and Susan Keys.
2. Minutes: The minutes from the July board meeting were sent out by Patsy McMillan via email. Voncille Cox motioned that we accept minutes as presented, Susan Butler 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 \$4,267.50 in dues and \$3,732.15 in profit from last year's convention. The checking account has \$8,797.53 and \$30,499.07 in savings. Cindy presented the proposed budget for 2018 and stated that it is less than what the 2017 budget was. Voncille Cox motioned to accept the budget as presented and Susan Butler seconded – all approved. The financial report will be filed for audit.
4. Convention Reports:

- **2017 Cheerful Clown Alley Convention Report** – Mary Whipple and Pam Blacklock thanked the Board for choosing Cheerful to host this year. They then passed out report saying they had 125 paid registrants including lecturers and vendors, and have pre-sold 66 T-shirts. Reminded us of all the different contests along with the prize amounts and drawing times to be done at this year's convention. They were also encouraging winners to use their prize money in the vendor room.

They were really pleased with the outcome of the Yearbook/Program and the amazing Silent Auction & Auction items. Said they are so excited and glad that it is now "show time". It has been a year and a half of talking and planning and they hope that everyone has a great time. Also noted that during the last 30 days, the TCA/CCA websites had 984 views – Facebook had 820 – 1,000 hits and Lovely Buttons received 1,250 hits – all in the effort to promote the convention.

- **2018 Mid-Cities Convention Report – August 1-5, 2018**

Will be at the Westin Hotel again and has been remodeled. Gave the official bid to Judy Cornett (TCA President) saying room rate is \$99, and \$145 to \$200 max for registration. Theme is a puzzle combined with the greatest show on earth. All local Ringling clowns are coming in to join them. Will have registrations ready for Sunday morning. The Lone Star Circus will be coming to the banquet for the entertainment. Some of the headliners will be: Leon McBride, Kelly Ballaugh, Melody Lenz, Grainger Etch, Dick Monday, Tiffany Riley – with a maybe for Chagy, Manny Cassalino, Bombin and Kelly Brown. Hope to have it all figured out soon.

5. Committee Reports:

Ambassador – Diana McCurtain-Talbert received nominations for 5 separate people and had several letters for each of them. She has put packets together and will get to the ambassadors tomorrow so they can review before the ambassador meeting after general meeting.

Education -- Linda Greene - She received 3 letters with 1 of those not qualifying at this time. Of the other letters, it was for a father and daughter and she decided the scholarship should go to Savannah Canales (the daughter) to promote Junior Joeys. Savannah is supposed to write a letter to describe her experience at convention. Linda had 5 new people in her class at the beginning of the convention with more mentors than usual. Joe Luce sent out letters to encourage the new people. The new people in her class didn't want to be connected with a certain mentor but just wanted to be able to talk to all the mentors for the input.

Historian -- Susan Keys - Susan says she has a lot of old stuff, but hasn't had time to get with Greg yet about the new stuff. Will put all the historic stuff out at the theme party.

Nomination -- No election this year. Andy Anderson said he would do the nominations if no one else steps up to do so -- at the general meeting we will have a vote on the bylaw change to change the tenure of a board member. He then polled the present Board to see if any of them will be willing to run for office again.

Patsy McMillan said she is term limited as secretary, but will run for sergeant at arms

We will need area director for NE area

Linda Greene will run for VP again -- and hopefully education

Cindy will not do treasurer again --

Voncille Cox is term limited and may consider running for secretary

Judy said no on president but may consider if term goes to 1 year

Viv Pena will not run again for area rep

Patti Gilbert will probably run for S Central area rep again

Greg will continue as JJ editor

Susan Butler says she will run for area rep again

Competition: Susan Keys/Susan Butler -- Said they know nothing but are willing to jump in with both feet -- Susan will ask Mauri Norris for the registration database to download into the competition program.

Membership: Linda Greene -- Linda received all of the membership reports and Greg Stanford said he was going to take the downloadable form off website.

Sunshine Fund: Andy Anderson said we had \$245.44 and was given \$20 which brings our total to \$265.44. He mentioned that 4 containers of ice cream was purchased last year, and was asking how much ice cream was needed for tonight. Spent \$30.71 last year and expects to spend approximately the same this year. Polled the board and it was decided to purchase 4 again this year - vanilla.

Spark Plug: --Cindy Rice -- Goes to Mary "Charmin" Whipple for bringing in 3 people.

1 person sparked 2

1 person sparked 1

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 the next deadline is October 1st which is mostly roster and - should have ambassador and scholarship articles along with award winners in the December JJ.

6. Area Director Reports:

- ❖ North Central – Lana Sue Fridge, represents Cowtown, Happi Tymes & The Clown Arounds.
Lana Sue had health issues and unable to be at convention.
- ❖ North East – Shirley Hamilton, represents Mid-Cities & Rosy Nose – NE seems to be doing ok and has done lots of volunteer work including working with evacuees in Tyler and Dallas. Rosy Nose went to an evacuee center in hotel where a nursing home had been sent.
- ❖ Panhandle West – Susan Butler, represents Clowns Under Construction (7 members) & Oops Alley (11 members) -.
Oops Alley meets the 3rd Monday of each month at Linda Greene’s house in Midland. They have been working on competitions and getting ready for convention. Working together as a team helps them to improve their clowning skills. Kathy Keaton worked National Clown Week and she is doing stress management talks for 1st responders and anyone else who deals with family violence or abuse. Kathy has written a book “Prescription Humor Rx – Get Well Soon” to educate and promote therapeutic clowning – the compassionate application of medicinal humor. Kathy has been chosen to be a presenter in San Diego at the Association of Applied and Therapeutic Humor meeting. Voncille Cox has been working face painting gigs for several corporate events; and Wilma continues to clown at several nursing homes and hospices weekly sharing her love and witnessing for Christ.

Clowns Under Construction has been very busy doing the following:

St. Anthony’s Catholic Church fundraiser
Face painted at Camp Alphia Cancer kids
Clown Ministry for Girls Mission Camp High Plains Conference
Cuc Buckners Childrens Home Back to School Amarillo
St. Johns Back to School Bash
Special Friends Retreat Floydada
Hot Air Balloon Glow Up in the Air for Family Care
Face Painted at Childrens Miracle Network

- ❖ South Central – Viviano Pena represents Jolly Joeys - Jolly Joeys volunteered at Gary Sinise foundation doing balloons and face painting and many other volunteer events.
- ❖ South East – Patti Gilbert represents Cheerful Clown Alley (100 members) - The biggest thing Houston had was a hurricane and because of that Cheerful has lost our meeting place and not sure if we lost any of our paperwork. Had our meeting in temporary location – several members were displaced with water in their houses. Two of our members recently passed away; Peggy “YoYo” Leslie and Diane “Moonbeam” Lewis. And everyone else was working on convention.

7. Old Business

- Membership – Ways to increase membership – nothing for now.

8. New Business

- Need to start working on getting possible candidates for 2018 election
- Future Convention Structure – Christie McNeill

Christie said her responsibility for this convention is lecturers & vendors and is sick that we only have barely 100 people attending. Suggesting we drop competition every year and maybe do every other year since the numbers are dropping at convention. At the general membership meeting we will ask the members opinion on this subject hoping to get input to help with direction on this matter. Do electronic straw poll if only educational as opposed to competitions. There will be more conversation over the next year to see what feedback is given to determine if the current format will continue. Table discussion for now and make an inquiry at general membership meeting as to what the course shall be.

9. Other goings-on:

Voncille Cox motioned that we recognize Mauri Norris for all her years of service on the TCA Board and give a \$250 gift card to her and Rick for all their support in TCA, along with a TCA Appreciation Certificate. This will be announced and given to her at the banquet. Linda Greene seconded and it was unanimous.

10. Next Meeting(s):

January 6, 2018 at the Westin in Irving at 10:00 am

11. Adjournment:

Voncille Cox motioned to adjourn the meeting and Patti Gilbert seconded. All agreed and meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patsy McMillan
TCA Secretary 9/27/17