

Texas Clown Association

Board of Directors Meeting

Date: February 9, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 10:01a.m. by Judy Cornett at Tierra Linda Ranch, 3759 Oak Alley, Kerrville, TX.

In attendance were the following:

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| <u>X</u> Judy Cornett | <u>X</u> Voncille Cox | <u>X</u> Susan Keys | <u>X</u> Shirley Hamilton |
| <u>X</u> Linda Greene | <u>X</u> Andy Anderson | <u>X</u> Pam Blacklock | <u>X</u> John Luce |
| <u>X</u> Patsy McMillan | <u> </u> Susan Butler | <u>X</u> Cynthia Rice | <u>X</u> Susan Keys |
| <u>X</u> Greg Stanford | <u>X</u> Diana McCurtain-Talbert | | |

The following board members were absent: Susan Butler

- Guests** were: Rhea Anderson W. T. Keys, Jane Wilson, L.J. Luce and Rick and Mauri Norris.
- Minutes:** The minutes from 09-01-2009 board meeting were sent out by Voncille Cox via email. Cynthia Rice made motion that we accept the minutes as presented, Patsy McMillan seconded and all approved unanimously. These will be sent to Greg Stanford to be posted on the website.

3. **Treasurer’s Report:** Cynthia Rice gave the following report:

Checking Account	\$41,381.75
Deposits :	
Dues, Interest & Amazon Smile	\$ 60.00
Expenses:	
Bank Charges, Board Expenses	\$ 556.95
Insurance, Joey Journal Editor	
Printing & Supplies	
Ending Balance	\$ 40,884.80
Checking Account Balance	\$ 9,646.46
Money Market Account Balance	\$31,238.34

John Luce motioned to approve treasurer’s report and Linda Greene seconded – all approved.

4. **Reports:**

- 2019 Cowtown Convention Report** –Andy Anderson reported there are 43 preregistered. Angel Ocasio is the headliner for this year’s convention. Lecturers to date: Tricia Manuel, Aurora Krause, Bruce Chadwick, Steve Roeske, Linda Greene, Suzy Wall and John Luce. Thirty-five classes are planned and some will be repeated. There will be a class called

“Balloon Jam” and one called “Face Painting Jam”. Each will have a leader, be organized and earlier in the day.

Vendors to date: Tricia Manuel- “Mooseburger Originals”, Steve Roeske- “Custom Clown Shoes, Bruce Chadwick “Illusion Warehouse”, All American Balloons, Sonya Durden-“Party Hats”, face paints, and Pam Muenchow-“Clown Jewels-N-More”. Instead of a theme party “An Evening with Angel” on Friday night is planned. There is a possibility that the banquet dress to be Back in Time if anyone wants to be in costume.

- **Committee Reports:**

- **Ambassador** – Patsy McMillan set the deadline as 8-1-19 for the information and letters to be sent to her.
- **Education** – Scholarship Results – Linda Greene: Deadline for entries to scholarship fund is 8-1-19. All requirements are on the website. Must be a member of TCA for at least one year before can apply. Linda said for everyone to Pump It Up at their Alleys
- **Historian** – Susan Keys: No report. Was asked to bring the photo books to the 2019 Convention
- **Membership** – Alley Report Page
- **Nominating** – Elections 2019- Andy Anderson: President: None, Vice-President- John Luce; Treasurer-None; Secretary- Voncille Cox ; Patsy McMillan-Sergeant at Arms; -; L.J. Luce- North Central: Susan Butler-; Pam Blacklock-Southeast; Diana McCurtain-South Central .; Susan Keys – North East
- **Competition**- Susan Keys/Susan Butler
- **Alley Report** : Linda Greene. Need entire roster of Alley roster to identify who is a member of TCA and who is not and this goes to Vice President.
- **Membership Activity** including Non-renewal reports-Shirley Hamilton. Being able to identify members . Greg going to update the renewal form with a line for alley affiliation. Shirley reported that we have 189 members, 29 new members this year,2 new registrations and forms. Shirley printed up a list of past members who did not renew for 2017-2019. 2019 will probably renew. Renewal cards will be sent to all non-members for 2017-2019.
- **Sunshine Fund** – Andy Anderson: Balance: \$208.48
- **Spark Plug** – Cynthia Rice reported there are six at this time.

- **Joey Journal** – Greg Stanford reported that the Joey Journal looks rough because the printer we used had problems with his equipment. Need articles for the journal and have only 2 days to get it in.
5. **Website** – Greg Stanford –rebuilding the site to make it user friendly. We are moving to WordPress soon.

6. **Area Director Reports:**

- ❖ North Central – John Luce gave the report. This is a report about three alleys with one purpose:
 Happi Tymes – Merry Christmas! This is when most of the alleys activities picked up. Happi Tymes was busy as usual with all the events leading up to Christmas ending with “Christmas for the Poor” on Christmas day. There were six amazing clowns in attendance to entertain forty-five grateful guests at the benefit. This was followed by a number of Happi Tymes finest clowns twisting balloons for the annual Pantegto Lions Club Pancake breakfast in January. The alley has been spending their time wisely planning for events that are rapidly approaching. Members from Happi Tymes and Cowtown are all a tingle about leaving on a Clown Cruise in Marech. The alley is making preparations for the annual joint meeting which brings Happi Tymes, Cowtown and Mid-Cities alleys together for a night of food, fun and entertainment. The them this year is : LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION. The rest of the Alley’s time has been spent at their alley meetings where they have had programs on magic with Doc Grimes, skit perfor4mance and function, and the Christmas banquet.

Cowtown – Cowtown has also had their share of events and activities these past few months. Their members have participated in many of the annual Christ events that took place at churches, nursing homes and their Christmas banquet. Cowtown has the honor of having at least two Santa’s that found time in their schedules to do some volunteer work and make the holiday spirit a little brighter in the community. The alley has also spent their time planning for all the events soon to come. These events are the Easter egg hunts, collecting food for local food banks and raising money for local charities. There are balloon jams held at local restaurant to help all perfect their balloon twisting skills and how to use those skills at hospitals, nursing home and community health events. The Cowtown Convention planning committee is busy working out the details of the upcoming TCA Convention and it seems this will be a convention for the record books.

Clown Arounds – The Clown Arounds enjoyed the past months pursuing as many activities as their smaller numbers would allow. They did whatever they could whenever they could to entertain and bring smiles to the families of their community. They also enjoyed a Christmas gathering of clown and their spouses for a holiday meal and celebration.

- ❖ North East –Susan Keys gave report.

- ❖ Mid Cities – We started our Year off with a fun banquet and entertainment by Kurt Gunz. Delicious BBQ was catered. Officers were installed for 2019 by Ed Fitzgerald. Officers for 2019: President- Susan Keys, Vice President – Matthew Spraggins, Secretary-Jane Graham, Treasurer- Tricia Gregory, Sargent At Arms, W.T. Keys Board members- Brittney Miller, George Tripp, and Nancy Aarent. We are having some awesome programs this year. First Quarter, February program balloons with Ray Walsh, March- Make and Take puppets with Rudy Rosales, and April- YoYo with Nicole Hodges. We will be doing the Easter event with the church once again as well as the Children’s Cancer fund gala in April.

Rosy Nose –This fun group of clown is putting on a Clown Fun Time show on April 6, 2019, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. The newest alley, Memory Makers, will be joining them for the fun. Shannon Greene, president, says this will be a community event with a joining fund raiser for the First United Methodist Church at 204 Hwy 31 in Chandler. There will be a two-hour show featuring clowns, magicians, acrobats and more.

Memory Makers-Sulpher Springs. Our newest Alley meets on the second Monday at The Rock which is the community center with the Baptist Church. They are really growing and have 10 members already. They will be joining Rosy Nose Alley with the event on 4-16-19. Darris Cross is the president. They have a fun event monthly called the Random Acts of Kindness. They go to the square on movie night and randomly twist balloons. Darris is going to the Philippines in April to do ministry work.

- ❖ Panhandle West –Linda Greene gave the report . We all do community events. Linda Greene, Voncille Cox, Susan Butler and Kathy Keaton are going to World Clown this year. Linda Greene was called by TV station to talk about Scary Clowns. Use every opportunity to talk to people that scary clowns are not real. HEB does a Feed the Community and walk around clowns were there. Members of our alley have participated in individual opportunities and group activities at Odessa Country Club at Christmas and Sewell Ford at Andrews where there were about 2 thousand kids in line for face painting. Voncille Cox face-painted at Hearts Abide, a community of people who have lost babies. It is a healing time for the families. They get to celebrate the child/children’s birthday that was never celebrated.
- ❖ South Central –Diana McCurtain-Talbert gave report. Jolly Joeys Clown Alley (JJCA) 218 Holiday /Christmas Party: A new award was added to the JJCA. The Donnabelle Award Excellence in Clowning. The first recipient was Inez ”Pandorfus” Esquivel. This award is for the clown who did the most gigs during the year. Gig participation was near and dear to Donnabell’s heart and this was award is definitely part of the legacy in clowning she left behind. The JJCA is hoping to get more clowns from a clown school which is being offered in San Antonio beginning in March. The clown school will go for 9-weeks and is being offered by Diana “Buttons” McCurtain-Talbert, through her business, “Buttons Party Events”. Our newest clown, Abi “Gummy Bear” Robles-Membrez is the JJCA’s new Education Director for 2019. She has also taken over the newsletter. She has become a very active member of JJCA. Because of her youth, she brings a lot of energy and new ideas to the alley. Our hope is that she can find more people of her age

group who might find an interest in clowning. This will definitely add more energy and life to our group. She has updated our newsletter to online/interactive format. She is also looking at how we can use more social media to bring awareness to what we do as a group. Gigs: We only had one gig in January and we have a few scheduled for February. Donnabelle was our ticket to many volunteer opportunities. Pandorfus has done a great job of taking over as our vice president and gig coordinator. We hope we can continue the wonderful relationships we had with many in our community. The platform Diana "Buttons" McCurtain -Talbert has taken on for her 2019 Presidency is Professionalism, and Standards. The goal is to make sure that when in clown it meets a standard of excellence. Makeup and costuming will be visited over the year to ensure that standards are high. A spring educational event is in the works and date to be announced. We will do a 6-hour class on improv. This will be taught by Comedy Sportz. More information will be sent out to Regional Directors so they can share with anyone who might want to make a trip to San Antonio. Cost is currently estimated at \$30 per person which is subject to change.

- ❖ South East –Pam Blacklock gave report. Cheerful Clown Alley #166 Membership renewal is in process. Reminders and notices have been sent out. In December of 2018 CCA had a "Silly Sock Swap" hosted by Linda "Noodles" Cooper. It was held in a meeting room at La Madeleine. Approximately 30 people participated. It was a great success and tons of fun was had! In January of 2019 at the CCA Board meeting met at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center. The address is 1414 Wirt Road, Houston, 77055. CCA will be having the Board and General Membership meeting at Mendenhall until further notice. Board meetings are on the first Thursday evening every month at 6:30 p.m. and the General membership meets on the second Thursday every month. That meeting starts at 7:00 p.m., but there is a meet and greet that begins at 6:30 p.m. If you are in Houston at that time, we would love for you to come and sit a spell! Membership Director, Faith (Rainbow) Stone will be adding a line on the renewal form for an Emergency contact name and phone number. We hope to not ever have to use it, but good to have! Cheerful Clown Alley #166 had their Annual Awards Banquet hosted by Mary (Charmin) Whipple and June (Cricket) Hinkle. They did an amazing job. There were several door prizes! The banquet was held at Maggiano's on Post Oak in Houston. This was the fourth year in a row at Maggiano's. The 2019 CCA Board of Directors were introduced. They are: Past President: Pam (Touche') Blacklock; Gig Coordinator: Annemarie (Cupcake) Crowley; Membership Director: Faith (Rainbow) Stone; Treasurer: Linda (Noodles) Cooper; Secretary: Mary Alice (Diva) Owen; Vice President and Acting President: Aldo (Cheerio) Iglehart. The recipients of the "Clowning from the Heart" awards went to Jean (KitCat) Pirtle and to Faith (Rainbow) Stone. Both doing excellent jobs! The STAR Award went to Joe (Biscuit) Holton. STAR – Steps out of the comfort zone; team player; alley supporter and responds and takes action. The Gig Awards for 2018 were given out by Annemarie (Cupcake) Crowley. The estimated gigs done for 2018 was 49. CCA presented a donation \$200 to the Grace Presbyterian Church for kindly allowing us to have a couple of all day (Saturday) events such as our Clown Garage Sale and the Educational Workshop. The donation was received by Mike (Boo) Vinson, Johnnye (Chatty) Vinson and Ruth (Goofus) Weatherall. They are part of the "Frown Busters" group from Grace. Pam, Blacklock was presented with a very special T-Shirt by Charmin and Cricket. On this T-Shirt are the words, "HELP! I'M TALKING AND CAN'T SHUT UP!" Truth!!!The last award to be

given out is CCA's most prestigious award; the Whisper Award! Named in honor of Charlie (Whisper) McBride. The previous recipient gives the award out the most recent one. Last year was Aldo (Cheerio) Iglehart. The 2019 recipient is Pam (Fluffy) Wegenka!! A most deserved honor! Cheerful Clown Alley has already started jumping into 2019 with our volunteering at several different hospitals and other events. The CCA Kitchen Band is working hard to get ready for nursing home and senior center shows! Thanks to Jean (KitCat) Pirtle!

7. **Old Business:** Andy Anderson 2013-2018 stated that numbers from competitions have been going downhill. He was asked by Judy Cornett to organize a committee to bring new ideas to the members at the general meeting. Members from around the state were asked to help as they have been involved in every aspect of conventions. Some have been on committees that hosted conventions, taught classes, judged competitions and some are present or past TCA board members. Numbers competed in 2014-98, 2015-95, 2016-66, 2017-66 and 2018-47. Make up competition has been combined. Think Outside the Box was initiated to get ideas on what can be done. Some ideas were shorter days, no classes during competition and maybe competition every other year. Have longer classes and only class given at that time. Jams will be individual with some structure. Theme party was of time and money. Consolidate makeup. Makeup might be videoed and judges view privately. Maybe eliminate balloons and face paint competition. Get feedback after this year's convention. Keep classes in day and competitions in evening. Cut back on entertainment at the awards banquet. If you have any ideas contact the committee members, Andy Anderson, Mauri Norris, Patsy McMillan, Linda Greene, Susan Keys and Aurora Krause.

8. **New Business:** Judy Cornett made announcement that Diana McCurtain-Talbert was moved to South Central area rep and John Luce to North Central. Presentation of charter for new alley will be determined. Pursue looking for logo for shirts. Andy Anderson presented TCA award bid for 2019 awards at \$325.40. Thirty-nine medals at \$6.50, one Spark Plug Award \$28.95, one All-Around Clown Medal \$7.50, one Ambassador Award \$35.95 and TCA Badges if needed, \$3.00. Pam Blacklock made motion to accept the bid and Patsy McMillan seconded motion to accept. Motion carried.

9. **Other goings-on:** Thank you to Mauri and Rick Norris for hosting this meeting. Food was delicious and watching the exotic animals was a treat.

10. **Next meeting(s)**
Next meeting: Abilene, June 22.

Bring your calendars.

11. **Adjournment:**
Patsy McMillan made motion to adjourn the meeting and Linda Greene seconded. All agreed and meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Voncille Cox, Secretary