

## Texas Clown Association

### Minutes from the 2008 General Membership Meeting

The general membership meeting was held on Thursday, October 2, 2008 at during the 25<sup>th</sup> annual convention held at the Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel, 401 Broad Street, Wichita Fall, Texas 76301.

The Meeting was called to order by Lisa Ezell, President at: 3:40

Lisa introduced the current board members.

Andy Quittner presented the minutes from the September 27, 2007, general membership meeting.

**Motion No. 1:** The minutes were approved as presented by unanimous voice vote.

Mauri Norris, Treasurer, presented a report on the 2008 finances and the 2009 budget.

Copies of the 2008 financials and 2009 budged were passed out. Mauri went over the 2008 financials, and asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Mauri presented the budget proposed for 2009. She talked about office expense being higher due to the possibility of purchasing a new computer with software. She also talked about an expense for use to change the organizations tax exemption status from a 501(c)(6) to 501(c)(3).

**Motion No. 2:** The 2009 budget was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Lisa recognized the Clown Rounds for the outstanding job they had done getting the convention together. She then asked the convention co-chairs, Greg Stanford and Kathie Jamison to come forward. Kathie talked told the members that due to the hurricane and other needs, the area Food Bank was chosen as the charity for this years convention. She also talked about one of the Food Bank's programs, Power Pak for Kids. Power Pak for Kids is a special program that provides food for kids that virtually have not enough food to eat over the weekends. This program provides food for them during the weekend. It takes \$170 to provide food for a kid for each weekend for an entire school year.

Kathie then requested that anyone, or any alley, that would like to participate in extra mile giving, they could sponsor one kid.

Kathie reminded the group that tonight is the trolley tour to restaurant row. The trolley will drop you off at the restaurant, and then pick them up later. The trip is part of the registration, but you must pay for your own dinner. The trolleys will circle around until all are back and will be back before the start of the performance competition. If you are participating in performance, you may not be back in time to get dressed.

The videographer is here and will be taping performances.

Kathie thanked the board for their help with the convention

Lisa reminded the members to buy raffle tickets and challenged each alley to sponsor one kid at \$170.

Membership report: John Luce is chair. He reported that the alleys are doing well. A couple of the alleys have come around, for example the Coastal Confetti Clowns. The best news is a request for a new clown alley, in the Maybank area, the Cedar Creek Clowns. John expects that the application will be processed for approval at the January Board meeting.

Competition announcements – Ed Fitzgerald, competition chair, stated that, at that time, the number of entries was good, but that we could use more single skits and makeup. He reminded the group of the deadlines for signing up for each competition.

Ed also stated that he has an urgent need for some more judges – especially a couple more for makeup; three more for skits, and 4 more for parades.

Buddy/Mentor program – Aurora Krause, education chair, told the group that there were two programs going on. The clown buddy program, noted by those participants wearing “Buddy” badges is doing well. She also reported that about 15 attendees were present at the orientation and the makeup demo. So far the support is good and very much appreciated.

Lisa called all of the persons who were attending their first convention to the front for recognition. They were each presented with a red ribbon to wear.

By-law revisions vote – Banjo, By-Law Committee chair presented the bylaws for approval:

## **ARTICLE II      MEMBERSHIP**

*Section 1. Regular Membership:* Regular Membership shall be open to any person resident of the State of Texas who is sixteen (16) years of age or over desiring to pursue the ancient and honorable art of clowning, and who is dedicated to its advancement, provided the provisions of the by-Laws are fulfilled.

Regular Members will have voting rights, may hold a position on the Board (if the member is a resident of the State of Texas and is at least twenty-one (21) years of age prior to taking office), will pay annual dues as set forth by the Board of Directors and will receive The Joey Journal.

All prospective members must submit an application for membership that includes their home address and age.

~~*Section 2. Associate Membership:* Associate Membership shall be open to anyone over the age of sixteen (16) desiring to be a part of this Association with the rights of a Regular Member, with two exceptions: (i) Associate Members will not have voting rights and will not hold a position on the Board, and (ii) Associate Members will pay annual dues in an amount less than Regular Members as decided by the Board of~~

~~Directors. This includes anyone out of the State of Texas or anyone with an interest in the art of clowning.~~

Sections 3 through 8 will be respectively renumbered as Sections 2 through 7

### **ARTICLE III      BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Section 1. Qualifications:* All Members of the Board of Directors must be regular members, in good standing, of the Texas Clown Association and a resident of the State of Texas. A potential board member must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age at the time the person is nominated for a position on the Board of Directors. No single person may hold more than one position on the Board of Directors.

*Section 2. Numbers:* The Board of Directors shall be composed of eleven (11) ~~thirteen (13)~~ members. Those members shall be: President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, Immediate Past-President, and five (5) ~~seven (7)~~ Area Directors.

References to "area representatives" in Article VII and Article XI will be changed to "area directors"

*Section 2. Principal Office:* The principal office of this corporation shall be any convenient address in the State of Texas as set by vote of the Board of Directors during one of its duly noticed meetings ~~located at 4502 Gardendale, Houston, Texas 77092.~~

**Motion No. 3:** It was moved and seconded to accept the by-law revisions. The Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Lisa called for the election of officers. She announced that the persons nominated, to date, by the nominations committee were:

President – Andy Anderson  
Vice-President – Kim Grice  
Secretary – Mauri Norris  
Treasurer – Andy Quittner  
Sergeant-at-arms – John Luce, Ed Fitzgerald, Peggy Barton.

Lisa then introduced Andy Anderson as nominee for president. She announced that the TCA president must have served one term on the board.

Lisa called for nominations from the floor. None were received.

**Motion No. 4:** It was moved and seconded to accept by acclamation Andy Anderson as president. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Lisa then introduced Kim Grice and called for nomination from the floor for the office of vice-president. No new nominations were received.

**Motion No. 5:** It was moved and seconded to accept by acclamation Kim Grice as vice-president. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Lisa then introduced Mauri Norris, and called for nomination from the floor for the office of secretary. No new nominations were received.

**Motion No. 6:** It was moved and seconded to accept by acclamation Mauri Norris as secretary. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Lisa introduced Andy Quittner and called for nominations from the floor for the office of treasurer. No new nominations were received.

**Motion No. 7:** It was moved and seconded to accept by acclamation Andy Quittner as Treasurer. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Lisa introduced the three candidates for sergeant-of-arms. Each gave a short statement of why they were running. There were no nominations from the floor.

Ballots were passed out, and the members voted by written ballot.

John Luce was elected sergeant-at arms.

The five areas got together to each elect their respective area directors. The following were elected to the board as area directors:

Central and South - Dale Flashberg  
North Central – Peggy Barton  
Southeast – Steve Dilsworth  
North East –Jeanette Sanders  
West and Panhandle – undecided.

Lisa had all of the new officers come to the front to be recognized.

Presentation of 2009 Convention: Earl, Miss Cookie, Maggie, Susan Keys, and others presented a musical introduction to the first Summertime TCA Convention that will be held at the Sterling Hotel in Dallas, at the end of clown week. Deal Number One is a super Hawaiian pool party including a DJ and karaoke plus hula dancers, full meal (hamburgers). Deal Number 2 is five days of fabulous friendship, lecturers, and dealer room. Deal Number 3 is five days ending with a super Sunday breakfast. Deal Number 4 is five hospitality rooms and Saturday awards banquet; Entertainment for banquet will be David Ginn and the other headliner is Leon McBryde, who will present his new character OZ. Some of the other lecturers to date are: Sharon Hodges, Ed Fitzgerald (stilt walking) and Brent Roberts (magic and puppets, Brent does all the puppetry for Chucky Cheese). The Super 21 offer is if you register before the end of the year the price is \$105 or \$ 21 dollars a day (x5). Hotel is flat rate of \$89.00 for up to four persons.

Pets are accepted. The Convention website is functional. Registration begins on Saturday night.

Lisa reminded the group that tomorrow night is the TCA 25<sup>th</sup> birthday party, complete with games, fun, bouncy house, cake etc. Lisa further reminded the group that TCA is trying to pay for the party with buttons and mug sales, which are still available. (15.95 mug/7 for badge).

The Clown Arounds have asked that other than tonight, it is encouraged that we eat here in the hotel because it helps with space requirements.

Cheri Venturi, COAI education director, came up to say something from COAI. TCA members Claudia Keener is Treasurer, and Cricket is a regional ambassador. Cheri brought the President of TCA and president of the Clown Arounds to the front and gave them a plaque for the efforts in this convention.

The WCA convention is in Denver in March. Theme is live the cowboy movie.

COAI convention is April 21-26 in Clarksville IN which is across the bridge from Louisville.

Joey to the World is Feb 5 in Houston.

Payosos Latinos de las Americas gave a t-shirt to share. Lisa drew a name for the shirt and Ken Kitchens won.

Lisa then appointed John Luce as official Chaplain of TCA noting that TCA isn't a religious organization but just like the military sometimes a chaplain is needed.

No other business was conducted.

Door prizes were than given away

Lisa announced that immediately following this meeting the new board will quickly meet to set a date for the January Board Meeting; and the ambassadors will meet in the front corner of the room

The meeting was adjourned at 5:19

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Quittner, Secretary