

**First Tyme
Summer Tyme
Texas Clown Convention**

**August 5 - 9, 2009
In Arlington, Texas
Brought to You By**

Happi Tymes Clown Alley

Headliners:

**Leon McBryde,
David Ginn,
Dal Sanders**

Francisco "Tako" Juarez

and many more,

**teaching classes in magic, music, mime,
balloons, storytelling, stiltwalking,
juggling, facepainting, puppets and marketing
for clowns at all skill levels!**

Check the Convention Website

For Lots of Exciting Details:

www.happityimesclowns.vpweb.com

The **JOEY**
JOURNAL
The Texas Clown
Association
Summer 2009



Usable ad space for each page in the 2009 convention book will be the same dimensions as the Joey Journal - 8" x 4 1/4"

TCA 2009 Clown Education Convention Ads

Entertainers registering for the Texas Clown Association education convention in Dallas, receive a reference book. It lists class schedules; lecturers, other convention information and recommend attractions and businesses in the Metroplex. These will be places to visit and shop — such as the fabric and import areas on Harry Hines, supermarkets, auto service centers, drug stores and restaurants. .

Advertising space is available to any business or individual wishing to support TCA's on-going educational activities and recognize our members for their annual contribution of public service time to worthwhile causes.

Our Hispanic clown family is growing state-wide. Dallas now has the first Hispanic TCA clown alley and we have added five bilingual classes for our Latino Payaso members. When purchasing your ad, consider placing it in *English or en Espanol*.

*Make checks to: TCA Convention 2009
1507 Marshalldale, Arlington TX 76013*

DEADLINE FOR ALL ADS IS JULY 1, 2009

Prices are for camera-ready ads:

- 1) (8 x 4 1/4) full color, outside back cover —\$100
- 2) (8 x 4 1/4) full page black inside cover pages —\$75
- 3) (4 x 4 1/4) one half page ad - black —\$50
- 4) (2 x 4 1/4) one fourth page ad - black —\$25
- 5) (2 x 3 1/2) Business card ad black —\$15

Note:
Inside ads print in black ink. The back cover prints in full color.

Questions?
Ask the editor:
Earl Warren
817-275-8644

This area - 2 x 3 1/2" - is the size of YOUR BUSINESS CARD AD.

(A special page is available to businesses wishing to offer **discounts** to TCA members. The listing is **two lines in bold type** — \$10. *Clowns must show their convention book to receive the discount.*

HEY, TCA ISLANDERS!

WISHING YOU WERE IN HAWAII?

Well, the next best thing is the annual TCA convention door decorating contest.

Our 2009 Theme:

"Clowning the Tropical Isles"

All doors must be decorated by Friday midnight, August 7th, to be considered

An international panel of Easter Islanders will pick the winners. The winning room numbers will be announced later by drum beat.

=====

Make sure any decorations used will NOT damage the hotel door!

=====

The Happi Tymes Convention Committer will see you in Dallas!

Support the Convention Raffle!

Happi Tymes Alley is pleased this year to designate Mission Arlington, a division of Mission Tarrant County, to receive proceeds from the Convention Raffle. This facility offers emergency shelter, supplemental food, medical care and other support services to those with special needs, from their building complex in downtown Arlington.

Tickets will be sold daily. You can drop your tickets in the containers beside each raffle item. Winners will be drawn from the containers and announced at the raffle tables. We have some great raffle items donated this year. So, purchase those tickets! And may the Fiji Iland "Tiki" spirit be with you!

TICKETS — \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00

Look for our crazy ticket sellers roaming the halls!

THE JOEY JOURNAL

Published Bi-monthly for Members of

The Texas Clown Association, Inc.

Kay "Nannie Belle" Quittner, Editor

David Pitts, Cover Artist

Read it online via your TCA website: www.texasclownassociation.com

Letters to the Editor, articles and other related items may be mailed to *The Joey Journal*, 116 Nichols Drive, San Marcos, Texas, 78666 or by sent by email to joeyjournal@yahoo.com. Only letters addressed to the Editor which are signed will be considered for publication. Submissions accompanied by a stamped envelope with return address will be returned after publication. Submitted photographs may be black and white or color prints; please, no slides, copies, or Polaroids.

Advertisements: Advertisements must be prepaid and camera ready. Rates: Full page-\$50; half page-\$30; 1/3 page size \$20

Multiple placement discounts on full, half, and quarter page ads are 10% for 2-5 editions and 20% for six editions. Payment must be received in advance.

Clownified ads: Free to members if you have clown-related items for sale or donation. Vendor businesses not included.

Publication deadlines On or before January 5, March 1, May 1, July 1, August 1 (special convention edition) and November 1. Articles can be sent to joeyjournal.com in Word format or in the body of your email for the easiest exchange of information.

Membership and Dues	Regular Membership:	\$ 25.00
Family (each add'l):	15.00	
Junior Membership:	12.50	

Central membership mailing location: Send all membership questions, dues, renewals, reinstatements, address changes and applications to TCA, Inc., P. O. Box 820, Hurst, Texas 76053

Purpose of the Texas Clown Association

1. To promote, preserve, and improve the profession of clowning.
2. To provide the opportunity to study the art, history, and philosophy of clowning.
3. To educate its members and the general public in the wholesome and clean entertainment that is provided by the profession of clowning.
4. To provide news to the members of all clown events in the state of Texas.

FIRST TYME SUMMER CONVENTION ISSUE 2009

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A Word from the Prez.....

I recently had the opportunity of doing a makeup demo at one of our newest TCA clown alleys. After putting a clown face on a new clown and seeing her light up when looking in a mirror it gave me a great sense of accomplishment. Then another alley member, showing me a picture of herself in clown, mentioned she had taken a makeup class I taught at a TCA Convention. I use one of the first photos of me in clown when teaching a makeup class. This is just to let the students know there is hope for us all. We keep improving over the years with training. On the way home I thought of all the people that have helped me grow as a clown over the years. The things I have picked up at Conventions, Alley meetings and just while doing Gigs with other clowns. The persons I've learned from are not always older clowns. We can be pleasantly surprised by the people and places we learn from if we just keep our clown eyes open. We need to remember we all had to start clowning at one point and keep moving forward. Just like the ones that have helped me, I enjoy helping others. A long time ago I was told that the last clown people see is the one they remember and if we help others to be better clowns it helps us. In that light the "Clown Buddy Program" was started a couple years ago by Aurora Krause at the TCA Convention. Contact Aurora and let her know you would like to help out in this program. Then look for your own great sense of accomplishment. Remember "Be one and Bring one".

Bump A Nose

Andy Anderson

MARKETING TCA IN 2009

Earl Warren - Co-chair

With only a few weeks remaining before August 5, the Happi Tymes planning committee is putting finishing touches on the first every Summer TCA convention. We believe we are blazing a path, not only in content, but in methods for publicizing TCA conventions to follow.

Wichita Falls and other alleys have used their website to help get the word out and TCA, COAI and World Clown Association all have sites. But this is the first time, I believe, that a website was created specifically for a TCA convention. The reason: There is so much material to cover it can not be done effectively only in the Joey Journal. And there are opportunities we can offer only on the web such as site links for lecturers and dealers, even music.

As pioneers, we have on-line registration and PayPal for the first time as an alternative to the paper and check method. In future this may be the preferred way of doing business. We are touting it as going "*Green*", which is true! It saves time, postage, paper and printing ink. Of course, we still have forms available for printing on your computer.

On the website we have **forms** you fill-in and **click** to send instantly: Requests looking for a *Room Mate* or for the official photographer to contact you. We have music on the home page, a YouTube video of David Ginn doing magic and photos galore. The Payaso Latino 2009 page is in Spanish, complete with photos and web link.

I was told recently, to paraphrase the conversation: "I have only visited the website once and there is too much there. But if it is in print in the Joey Journal, I'll read it." Have we ignored the Joey Journal? Hope not, but Happi

Tymes is a small alley and we have a limited number of people who can spend the time it takes to write articles. Of course, it takes time for the construction of the website. BUT, there are no **printer's** deadlines and once complete, it can be updated within a few minutes or hours and available at the web address immediately - **happitymesclowns.vpweb.com**.

One more thought on the Joey Journal relates to the article by Andy Quittner in the last Joey issue. Printing costs and postage have risen and the labor intense nature of the "getting it ready" is significant. I witnessed it first hand during my 30+ years in publishing.

That is why we're are using the web and trying alternatives to gain publicity such as e-mail blitzes to web addresses from Wichita Falls and the Texas Association of Magicians. Our mantra for the magicians: "*The convention is not just for clowns!*"

We printed 2000 calling cards with date, headliner names and website address which have been handed out at every opportunity and given in bulk to COAI directors and mailed to their 35 Louisiana members. Every listing site we could find that references clowns has a listing - some linked back to us, such as the official COAI home page, where we have a full page with photos. *The New Calliope* has a calendar listing. We hope to capture attendance from some of their members in Texas and surrounding states.

In this age of electronics -- web, IPod, cell phones or videos -- marketing yourself every day is a necessity. Doing a good job at the event is critical, but we need more than just word of mouth references to grow. So, we're offering expanded marketing classes and asking lecturers to include tips for selling the ideas and techniques they

present: " *What has worked for them ideas*".

Margaret Clauder, owner of Funny Business, has years of experience marketing through every media from print ads to the web. She is doing a class on *Marketing On A Shoe String* - simple, inexpensive ways to gain publicity. Dal Sanders is a dynamo, like David Ginn, in selling himself and his shows. Dal will give sales tips for using the fun magic he is teaching, and Brett Roberts, among one of the most active entertainers in the Southwest, does a whole class on promoting yourself using websites and YouTube.

Margaret has a terrific article in this issue about classes and lecturers and what to do outside the convention, but I want to underscore the Junior Joey class with Susan Keys.

The hope for clowning is in the younger generation so enroll your children - 10 to 16 - who are interested. Call ahead at 972-986-7388 or e-mail merrymakers@juno.com so Susan can save a space for them. If you are clowning and not encouraging your children to enjoy the fun, give it some serious thought! *The family that clowns together stays together is a great motto!*

And finally, David Thomason, TCA photographer has a super studio session price that includes a free CD, photo release and studio time for only \$100. He is taking reservations: 817-738-4257, e-mail tststudio@mesh.net.

Please, visit the website, select the page you find most interesting, and read it before convention. **Bump a nose!**

REMINDER....IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR TCA MEMBERSHIP DUES—PLEASE DO. WE VALUE AND NEED YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

Calling All "Class Clowns" ages 8 to 15

For the first time in the summer time, we will be having classes especially for our Junior Joeys! We are so excited to offer fun classes and activities with just you in mind!

Please let us know you are coming as soon as possible so we can plan more fun activities, classes, competitions, paradability, and more to our schedule.

See ya soon.
Dubble Bubble

Call, text, email, snail mail, telegraph, twitter, facebook, morse code.....
Susan Keys 972-986-7388, merrymakers1@juno.com,
2313 Meadow Crest, Irving, TX 75060.



TROPIC ISLE COSTUME CONTEST

This year's theme party is a hip swinging, ukulele strumming, tropical isle party. As part of the fun, we're having a contest - so, pack your finest (or worst) luau costume! There'll be categories ranging from

Best Dressed to Beach Bum!

PRIZES AWARDED!

TCA In Dallas – Beginning Our 26th Year

By - Margaret Clauder - Co-chair

TCA's First Tyme Summer Tyme convention, sponsored by Happi Tymes Alley, will be August 5 - 9th in Dallas at the Sterling Hotel. And we guarantee it will be full of surprises for the membership, with something for everyone; novice or a seasoned professional. Don't miss it!

The timing is perfect! Consider bringing your entire family for a "tax write off" vacation! The kids won't be in school yet. Most of the summer camps and library shows are over by the first week of August and the busy school year has not started. What a perfect time to take off for a family vacation! Send the kids to Arlington's Six Flags or Hurricane Harbor Water Park while you attend classes and competitions. The Ringling Brothers Circus will be in Dallas the same week as the convention! You or your family could take a circus break on Wednesday or Thursday evening. Or, come early or stay after the convention and enjoy the same great convention room rates and complimentary full buffet breakfast for two registered guests per room (added guests - just \$7.99 each). TCA receives hotel credit for three days before or after convention - so identify your registration as the "**clown convention.**"

We also have great shopping nearby at many wholesale places like the always popular "Sam Moon". Or, hit the wholesale garment district off Harry Hines Blvd. and Perth Street for yards of inexpensive fabric for those new costumes you need! Looking for fancy sequined vests for your magician characters, face painting or balloon characters? You'll find them off Harry Hines for as little as \$25 each in our great underground shopping district.

And for the clown in the family, we have some world-class lecturers coming! Leon McBryde, aka Buttons and Oz, will teach us all about character development and performance skills. Whether you are a beginning clown, someone who does a little clowning, or a clown with years of experience, Leon is someone who can help you attain greater heights. He's a former Ringling Clown and even runs his own clown school - Advanced Studies in the Art of Clowning.

Leon will also teach a makeup class you won't want to miss. He is the founder and owner of ProFace, a line of fabulous clown makeup that is used by top clowns all over the world. He is also the inventor of Pronose, a gorgeous latex foam filled clown nose. He'll have noses of all shapes, colors and sizes so you can pick your own clown nose and have it custom fitted at his vendor table!

You all know David Ginn - one of America's funniest children's magicians with decades of experience and thousands of shows under his belt. Working from his headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, David has been teaching and performing in schools, libraries, at corporate and private functions all over the world for over 40 years. He's authored literally hundreds of books, videos, and articles on different entertainment subjects. For TCA he'll be teaching masterful classes in performing comedy warm ups and how to use audience participation, plus teaching his crazy tablecloth stunt. Ever see someone pull the tablecloth off a table and leave the dishes intact? Was it trick photography? NO! David will teach you his secret in his workshop class! What a hoot! And don't forget, he will be selling some great clown and comedy magic at his dealer table. We'll get to see this great children's magician perform at our Saturday night Awards Banquet as well!!!

Also in the area of magic we have the one and only Dal Sanders, a favorite from 2006, as a key lecturer. Dal is known in the national magic circles but not as well in the clown world. For 2009, we are welcoming him again into the clown circle at TCA. Hey, this is on the QT - but Dal writes ALL the children's school shows for all the Ronald McDonald performers WORLD wide! His shows ROCK! If you ever wanted to be a school performer, Dal can really help put you on the right track. He'll be sharing some of HIS personal comedy magical favorites in his classes, as well as giving marketing and performance tips that any seasoned professional will want to hear.

In the area of storytelling we have Elizabeth Ellis. She'll teach a storytelling class and says everyone will leave with a story to tell. Elizabeth is known nation wide as one of America's premier storytellers. She can rivet an audience with her folk tales and tales of Appalachia. You'll sit spellbound as you listen to her and become motivated to put storytelling - word pictures -- in your own shows.

Francisco Jaurez, aka Tako the Clown, will teach three wonderful bilingual classes. In his make-it, take it class you will learn how to build your own magic tricks as well as unusual clown props with very little money! In his juggling class clowns from novice to advanced can learn something. For the novice he'll teach the basics of juggling balls and rings. For the advanced juggler you'll learn some funny juggling routines while Tako demonstrates the Diablo and how to spin plates and other fun objects. If you ever perform for Hispanic birthdays (as we all do!) don't miss class number three: "How to perform at a Hispanic birthday party!"

Whew! If this wasn't enough to wear you out, there will also be a MIME class by a fabulous mime instructor, Dana Proulx, a puppet class by our own Tricia "Hanky" Gregory and Brett Roberts of Chuck E Cheese fame. Brett did all the voices for the puppets you see at Chuck E Cheese's around the world. There will be lots of fabulous face painting classes by world-class face painter Sharon Hodges, even a face painting jam and balloon classes out our ears!

Did we say balloon classes? Yes! Linda Berman, the queen of the 160 balloon and author of 6 marvelous balloon "how to books", will teach us to twist some marvelous fast and simple creations with those itty bitty, pencil-size balloons just made for smaller hands (like we ladies!). If you are a novice balloonner, Ed Fitzgerald will teach beginning balloons to get you past dogs and swords. But, if you are a 260-advanced twister, watch out! Stretch the Balloon Dude will have your mind spinning with his marvelous creations. Stretch lectures around the country and has produced numerous videos and DVD's on a variety of balloon subjects. If you want some WOW ideas with 260's and the many other balloon sizes and shapes, Stretch is your twister! He will also be demonstrating his creations at his vendor table.

There's more too - marketing classes to help you sell yourself in the current economy; a class on magic misdirection and patter; Christmas characters and a Jr. Joey track for kids interested in becoming clowns like Mom, Dad or their grandparents. There's even a stilt walking class where you can try it and see how you like it! Yes! If you've always wanted to try stilt walking but didn't know how to get started, then attend the stilt walking

class with Ed Fitzgerald and John Luce. We'll have several pairs of stilts on hand to get you up and walking before the class is over!

Local Latino TV celebrity, Maricela, with seven children of her own, is originally from Costa Rica where she began entertaining and writing music at age 14. Her children's TV show called Maricela and Friends airs three days per week on channel 38 in Dallas at 4:00 p.m. where she performs children's songs - she's also an accomplished guitarist -- with her large "family" of puppets. Maricela is bilingual for our Latino payaso friends and will lecture on *Giving the Gift of Laughter*. Once you meet Maricela and watch her perform, you'll say she is a true inspiration! She comes across as warm and friendly and always ready to help you learn and grow as an entertainer.

Now, if you haven't registered for the convention yet - what are you waiting for? The hotel only has a certain number of rooms available at the convention price so don't delay! You can go to the convention website and register on line or fill out the registration enclosed in this issue of the Joey Journal -- and mail it TODAY! Can you think of a better way to spend the hottest and slowest part of the summer than in a beautiful, air conditioned hotel enjoying a tax write off convention/vacation? Don't procrastinate!



Looking for back issues of the Joey Journal?

They are on the web: Password is webclowns

THIS, THAT, AND THE OTHER

The Happi Tymes advertising committee has published a rate card/layout sheet in this issue. As with the website, we are departing from the past to publish a Joey Journal size convention booklet. We will be able to publish this book for less than half the cost of the standard 8 ½ x 11 format in a binder. Plus, it will be easier to fit in a man's pocket or woman's purse.

Advertising rates remain the same - it is not the size of the ad, but the people to whom it is targeted, that dictates the value of an ad. You will also notice we have added a *discounts page* with the hope some merchants will want to solicit business that way. And we are also suggesting Spanish ads for our Latino Payaso friends. Most ads will be sold locally, but anything members can do to help would be greatly appreciated! Remember, this is a state-wide convention, and merchants or organizations outside the D/FW area might want to say thanks to their local clown groups. *Could be!*

Speaking of selling, we are also offering the ever popular business card contest to clowns ONLY!

DEADLINE FOR ALL ADS IS JULY 1, 2009

CLOWN BUSINESS CARD AD CONTEST

Any clown purchasing a business card ad in the 2009 booklet will be entered in a drawing for a valuable gift certificate. This offer is for clowns only, not businesses.

Business card rate is \$15 -- tax deductible

Make check payable to:

TCA Convention Ad 2009

1507 Marshalldale, Arlington TX 76013

Include a phone number and/or email address to contact you.

We can do limited typesetting if needed. For best reproduction we suggest using a line drawing - like coloring page art. The size of the ad is 2 x 3 ½ inches -- any photo or drawing will be reduced significantly. Ads should be ready for us to copy.

SPARK PLUG AWARD REMINDER

This year, because convention is in August, the Spark Plug Award deadline is earlier. But there is still time to recruit new TCA members and WIN!

If you recruit the most members between 9/1/08 and 6/30/09 you will WIN the TCA Sparkplug Award! If you recruit 6 or more TCA members during that period you are eligible to receive FREE REGISTRATION to the next (2010) TCA Convention.

This is approximately a \$100 value - so get out there and SPARK some interest in TCA! Be sure all new members list your name as the referral on their TCA membership application form.

Andy "Banjo" Quittner



Convention Schedule (subject to revision)

NOTE: The TCA photographer will take a group shot of competitors backstage before each competition begins - please be on time!

No morning hospitality rooms are open

++ Indicates Novice Track classes

Wednesday, Aug. 5 - Face Painting Track

8 am to Noon - Vendor room setup

10 am to 1 pm - Registration open

Noon - Lunch on your own

Noon - Photo studio opens

1 to 7 pm - Vendor room open

1 to 2:15 pm Breakout sessions:

Sharon Hodges - Face painting #1

++ Margaret Clauder - Marketing on a shoe string

Tako - Juggling - bilingual

2:30 to 3:15 pm - Breakout sessions:

Sharon Hodges - Face painting #2

David Ginn - Table cloth stunt - workshop

++ Dana Paulx - Mime (one class)

4 to 5:15 pm - Breakout session:

++ Leon McBryde - Character development

5:30 to 7 pm - Dinner on your own

7 pm - Face painting jam

Ringling Bros. in town - Field trip possible!

7 pm - TCA officers board meeting

10:30 pm - Hospitality room opens

Thursday, Aug. 6 - Balloon Track

8 am to Noon - Registration open

++ 8 to 9 am - Novice Clown Orientation

8 am to 1 pm - Dealer room open

++ 9 to 11 am - Novice Makeup and Costume class

10 am - Photo studio open

8 to 9 am Breakout sessions:

++ Linda Berman - 160 balloons #1

David Thomason - Taking good promo photos

++ Elizabeth Ellis - Storytelling (one class)

9:15 to 10:15 am - Breakout sessions:

Linda Berman - 160 balloons #2

++ Ed Fitzgerald & John Luce - Stilts (one class)

++ Brett Roberts - Creative ways to use puppets

10:30 to 11:30 am - Breakout sessions:

++ Ed Fitzgerald - Balloons 101

Stretch - Advanced balloons

++ Tako - Building props - bilingual

11:30 am to 1 pm - Lunch on your own - Hospitality room open

****11:45 Sign up Deadline - Balloon Competition**

****Noon - Competitors and Judges meeting**

1 to 5 pm - Registration open

2 to 5 pm - Vendor room open

1 to 2 pm - Breakout sessions:

++ Brett Roberts - Marketing yourself with on the web

Maricella Allish - Giving the gift of laughter - bilingual

++ Leon McBryde - Makeup

2:15 to 3:15 pm - Breakout sessions:

Maricela - Show performance - All Rooms - bilingual

****3:30 to 5:30 pm - Balloon Competition**

5:30 pm - Dinner on your own

****6 pm - Sign up Deadline - Performance**

7 pm - General Meeting and 2010 Convention Presentation

****8:30 pm Sign up Deadline for Makeup Competition**

****9 pm - Performance Competition**

10:30 pm - Hospitality room opens

Friday, Aug.7 - Magic Trac

8 am to Noon - Registration open

TBA - Photo studio open

9 am to 1:30 pm - Vendor room open

****9 am to Noon - Makeup Competition**

Noon - 1:30 pm - Lunch on your own - Hospitality room open

***1:30 pm - Sign up Deadline - Skits**

1:30 to 2:30 pm - Breakout sessions:

++ David Ginn - Comedy warmups

Dal Sanders - Fun magic parties

Earl Warren - Christmas characters for cash

2:45 to 2:45 pm - Breakout sessions:

++ David Ginn - Audience participation

Dal Sanders - Magic for bookings

++ Andy Anderson - Magic Misdirection and patter

****4 to 7 pm - Skit Competition**

***7:30 pm - Sign up Deadline - Paradability**

7:30 pm - Pool-side Theme party - With Meal

No hospitality room scheduled tonight

Saturday, Aug. 8

8 to 10:30 pm - Registration open

TBA - Photo studio open

8:30 to 9:30 am - Breakout sessions:

Linda Berman - 160 balloons #3

++ Tako - Hispanic Birthday parties - bilingual

9:30 Group Photo

****10 am to Noon - Paradability Competition**

10 am to 1 pm - Vendor room open - **Final sales**

Noon to 2 pm - Lunch on your own - *Hospitality room open*

2 to 3 pm Breakout sessions:

++ Gayle Choate - Clown reading challenge

++ Patricia "Hanky" Gregory - Puppets (bring one)

David Ginn - Table cloth stunt (work shop #2)

3:15 to 4:15 pm - Breakout sessions:

++ Leon McBryde - Performance - All Rooms

7 to 10:30 pm - Awards Banquet with David Ginn

10:30 pm - 2010 Hospitality room opens

Sunday, Aug. 9

8 to 9 am - Worship with Brenda Marshall

9 to 10:30 - Breakfast and Goodbyes

Convention Competition 2009

Hello to all the Joeys in Texas, and, everywhere else for that matter.

I know the upcoming convention is sneaking into the back of your mind. Now is a good time to reflect and consider giving back or contributing time to TCA. TCA doesn't ask much. They keep the dues low, they try to control costs at the convention, each year they bring big name instructors for our benefit. They give us (the clowns attending the convention) an outlet to publicly express our talents and show off the skills we have acquired and have honed, in a forum of friendly competitions designed to further our skills. These competitions are currently and have always been judged by our peers. Translation: We judge ourselves. The judges used are past competitors that have placed high in the categories they are judging, thus we use past balloon "winners" (or close to winners) to judge the balloon competition, we use past skit competitors (that have placed high) to judge skits, and so and so on. I hope by now you all see where I am going with this, if not I'll spell it out. WE NEED JUDGES. Every year I see a lot of the same clowns at the conventions, I'm sure a lot of you have competed in the past and probably placed high which qualifies you to be a judge. Please consider helping out. The judges are treated like ROYALTY, as a judge you will be given a front row seat, supplied with all the water you can drink, or hold depending on how you look at it. Our judges are supplied with the finest

hard candy that is sold in bulk, and they are attended to by minions whose only job is to keep the area around the judge free of any completed judging forms.

If this sounds like heaven to you, I am accepting volunteers for judging in all categories. As I said before TCA doesn't ask for a lot, please consider being a judge, it will help ensure the continuation of the high quality of our competition.

In the past I have received helpful comments about what the judges should do, or what they (the judges) should write in the comment area. Well, there is an old saying "if you want something done right you have to do it yourself". How about "put your money where your mouth is". What I'm getting at here is, if you want the system to change sometimes you have to help change it.

Last year I had to scramble around to find judges for each competition not finding enough until the last minute. This year I hope things will be different, I know most of you have quit reading by now, so for the few of you left please pass the word that WE need judges I am accepting qualified clowns right now for the upcoming convention and will be accepting volunteers anytime between now and August 5. Please don't expect someone else to step up, it's up to each and every one of us to ensure the continuation of our competitions. Having to cancel a competition due to a lack of judges is not an option.

Please help out, TCA needs YOU. If you want to contact me my cell number is 817-905-0881, or my email is ekefitzgerald@sbcglobal.net Thanks in advance.

Last year a couple of situations arose in the way entries are processed. This allows us the opportunity to review and modify the way we handle your entries. This year I would like everyone to turn in your entry to myself or my representative at the competition table. This small change will ensure that everyone will be entered in the competition they want to be entered in.

Thanks again Buckle

DAY PASS OFFER

For only \$75, you can purchase a one day pass. No TCA membership and No pre-registration - just show up. The pass provides a whole day of quality education: Mix or match classes and workshops of you're choosing, visit the Vendor room, watch competitions and enjoy the convention fellowship.

Don't miss TCA's 2009 convention!

Four days or one day - it's great!

WHAT ON EARTH IS A TRACK DAY?

A first time convention attendee asked what we meant by "track", when we were explaining breakout sessions. Experienced convention goers know *track* days are days devoted to top flight education in a **single** subject. That's it!

For first timers and new, 1st of May clowns, we have an orientation class presented by the Education Committee, headed by Aurora "Bebop" Krause, on Thursday, 8 to 9 pm. A novice makeup and costume class runs from 9 to 11 am. All through the daily schedule we have classes identified as Novice Track classes. These are highlighted with pluses (++). Skills taught in these classes can help improve your clowning and build self confidence. Of course, you are free to pick any class that interests you, but we recommend these classes.

A track day helps you plan your convention time and focus on subjects that interest you. But track days are not limited to just one subject. Wednesday, for example, is your track day for face painting. Sharon Hodges teaches two great classes and there is a face painting jam later in the evening. Plus, there are other terrific classes that day: Immerse yourself in face painting but also attend marketing or juggling classes, McBryde's performance class or mime class.

Saturday is not a track day, but it is a great day for clowns working puppets or anyone wishing to learn the "how-to" of Latino parties or the secret of David Ginn's tablecloth stunt. For ballooners, you can catch Linda Berman teaching her final 160 class at 8:30 A.M.

We're offering three track days: *Face painting* - Wednesday; *Balloons* - Thursday and *Magic* - Friday. Super! But you say you can't attend the full convention this year. Don't sweat! If you can attend one day, use the track designation as a guide and attend a day showing classes that interest you most.

Que es una Convencion Track?

Un dia Track es un dia con varias clases con un solo tema. Tres Dias "Track" son ofrecidas en 2009- Globos, Magia y Pintar Rostros

Cada uno de estos dias tienen otras clases de entrenamiento a las que usted puede atender. Las clases estan agrupadas en "tracks" para que las personas que que solo pueden atender solo un dia de la convencion puedan seleccionar el tema que les interesa.

El precio de un pase diario es de \$75.00 como admision para cualquier dia. *No es necesario ser miembro de TCA o de registrarse por adelantado.* Con este pase usted puede atender las clases o talleres, comprar en el local de ventas, mirar competencias y disfrutar del companerismo con otros payasos durante todo el dia.

Adicionalmente a otros temas, tendremos cuatro clases bilingues para ser impartidas por Maricela Allish y Francisco "Taco" Juarez, Ambos maestros presentaran demostraciones y tambien clases. Planee desde ahora atender la convencion completa en Dallas o un dia pues lo que aprenda enriquecera sus destrezas como payaso

Ambassador of Clowning

TCA's most prestigious honor is the Ambassador of Clowning. In 2007 I was pleasantly surprised to be the recipient of this great award. My sincerest thanks go to those whose letters of recommendation sold the committee on me. I am blessed and humbled to receive this gift. Standing in the big clown shoes of some of the best of the best: Rags, Wynky, Whispers, Flopsey, Superstar, Klynky, Sugar Plum, Poppins, Honey, Boppo, Grits, Mr. Sunshine, Pookie, Flower, Citronella, Tutti Frutti, Dubble Bubble, Cha Cha, Roly Poly, Smiley, Greenie, Buckle and BeBop is an unparalleled honor, as I respect and admire each I have known. Thank you to my friends who have helped to make me the clown I am today and thank you to TCA and the Ambassador Committee for giving me this honor. I love you all.

Now it's time to start considering who you would like to nominate for the 2009 Ambassador of Clowning. Both the clown recommending as well as the clown recommended must be current members in good standing of TCA. This honor, when given, is awarded at the banquet at our annual convention.

Who has gone above and beyond? Which clown has a heart of gold and an unparalleled volunteer spirit? Who has mentored you? Why is this person so special to you? What special contributions have they made to the art of clowning?

Please take a few minutes and jot down pertinent

information about your clown sage and friend. Let us know when he/she started clowning, where they clown, what type of clowning they do. Have they served on the board of your local alley or TCA? Do they teach at clown school? Why should the Ambassador Committee consider your friend as the 2009 Ambassador of Clowning? Make sure to include as many details as you know. Some of the committee members may be unfamiliar with all of this clown's accomplishments and will be making their decisions on your letters alone.

Please send your letters of recommendation to Lisa "Twinkles" Ezell at twinkles88@comcast.net or via snail-mail to 2530 Pomeran Dr, Houston TX 77080. The deadline for receipt of your nomination has been extended to July 1, 2009. The Ambassador committee will review all nominations and make a decision based on your letters. Should there be a recipient this year, his or her name will be announced at the banquet at the 2009 Convention in Dallas.

Hope to see you at the First Tyme Summer Convention

Lisa "Twinkles" Ezell

GREAT PHOTO OP AT TCA 2009

Texas Entertainer's Photographers, **David and Donna Thomason** will be at **TCA 2009** to do what they do best, take your pictures! You might remember them from the 2006 in Irving. If you missed them or just want to see terrific clown pictures, check their website: <http://dtstudio.smugmug.com> You'll see photos taken at convention and others taken at their studio in Ft. Worth.

David started doing magic at eight and bought his first camera at twelve to photograph magicians, then continued into a career as a commercial photographer. Besides having taken hundreds of photographs of professional Clowns, Magicians and Entertainers, David is a Certified Professional Photographer. In college Donna became his magic assistant and the *magic* turned into a thirty five year relationship. David added clowning to his resume six years ago. Donna became the clown she always was about four years ago while traveling with Susan "Double Bubble" and WT "Pepper" Keys in Cozumel, Mexico. So, this year, you'll find "Whistle" and "Marsha Mellow" Thomason doing their photography *day job at convention*.

One of the best times to get your promotional pictures taken is at convention. Plus, David will lecture on, "*How to Take Your Advertising Photos*"; how to get your picture taken; what to expect on your photo shoot and how to spot experienced versus

amateur, etc. Also, he's offering a terrific "**Early Bird Special**". Anytime before Aug. 5 & 6, you can pre-register for a 30 minute photo session and receive a **Copyright Free**, High digital resolution CD of your best pictures for only \$100. Have you ever tried to get copyright free pictures from a photographer just to use one for a business card? Ask around, this is truly a GREAT DEAL! Go to the TCA website: www.texasclownassociation.com for an easy "click & send" reservation form or phone: 817-738-4257. Email: tstudio@mesh.net

HAVE YOU MADE THE DECISION YET?

Are you planning to enter competition? TCA has a wide selection of competitions from skits and one person performances to balloons, makeup and parading; there's something for every clown (or group). Part of the convention experience is becoming involved. It matters not whether you win or lose - you learn! By involving yourself, you take that step to the next level of becoming a well rounded entertainer.

And competitions are about getting your brain to think "clown," then put that thinking to work creating. New ideas, prop building, practicing and performance are all measures of your growth as a clown - and it's fun! The convention is about learning: **Get up to your neck in learning - Compete!**

2009 DATES to NOTE

Brenda FLOWER Marshall, is coming to San Antonio. The Jolley Joeys will be hosting an all day workshop on Saturday, July 11, 2009. It will be held at the University United Methodist Church, 5084 DeZavala Rd, San Antonio, TX 78249 Time: 9am to 4pm Cost: \$15.00 for non-Jolly Joeys Clown Alley members. All are welcome.

Bubba is on his way to Houston — Cheerful Clown Alley will be hosting J.T. "Bubba" Sikes at The Center Serving Persons with Mental Retardation (Susan Vaughn auditorium) 3550 W. Dallas St. On Friday June 26 and Saturday June 27. Free for Cheerful members, for all others the fee is \$35.00 until June 15, and \$50.00 after that date.

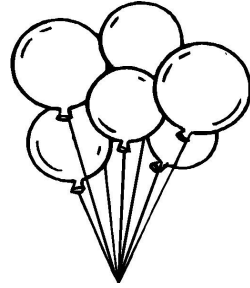
Next JJ Deadline is August 15, 2009

TCA Minutes and past Joey Journals

may be found on our website at
www.texasclownassociation.org

Last Walk Around for Sherry Bangs

By Peggy Barton



Our hearts were saddened recently by the word, that we lost a much beloved member of The Clown Arounds in Wichita Falls, TX , Sherry Bangs. I had the privilege of getting to know her personally this year on a visit I made to the Alley monthly meeting. She had not been unable to clown, but it was clear that her heart was still a clown. As I spoke to Kathie Jamison I learned how talented Sherry was in crafting items. How valuable Sherr had been in helping the alley in many ways, but especially as a person to critique their alley skits. She evaluated from a directors perspective and gave useful comments to make them all better and do it again until it was funny enough. She used her talents especially in gospel skits at her church. Often she involved a lot of her family to fill needed characters. She called into service their daughter Krista, son, David, and daughter-in-law Charmaine to perform as clowns to deliver the message and fun. There again she made sure it was a great performance.

Sherry started her clown life as a Bag Lady called "Ms. Bab Zee". Later she evolved into an Auguste named, "Poptart". She has made another costume change now, and her clown shoes her are empty. As a diabetic person with difficult restrictions on earth, she assured her family and friends that when she was absent here, she'd be in heaven wearing her red dress and eating all the donuts that she wanted. A sudden infection sped up her schedule for her donut feast. She was celebrated at her passing with a punch and cookie event, that would have made her day. She was a loving wife of Roger Bangs, "Junkmail", mother of 4 children, grandmother of 2, and a member of Colonial Baptist Church. All these people will need to be remembered in our prayers as they are suddenly without her. Sherry, on the other hand, is decked out in her finest clown garb and celebrating as she prepares to show us around her new gig. We salute a marvelous clown and person that gave her best and shared her life with all she knew, "Bump a nose, Sherry Bangs."

The Texas Clown Association Board of Directors

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A few reminders:

TCA values all of its members....if you haven't already gotten to it, please renew your membership ASAP. The membership roster will be updated before the next Joey Journal is mailed....and you don't want to miss an issue!

Speaking of the next issue...remember the survey that was included with the membership renewal? Well, the results of that survey will be published in the next issue, along with the comments that I received. Not only that, the comments will be addressed—some are very good and deserving of discussion .

In the meantime, remember to visit our website: www.texasclownassociation.org and the password for the member's section:

Webclowns

Bump a Nose

Andy "Banjo" Quittner

Treasurer